

Friday, May 17, 2024

RV Drum Major Tryouts

Thank You for taking interest in trying out for Drum Major for the 2024-2025 **Black Bear Marching Band!** Here is a brief explanation of what will be required for your tryout. We will have you direct to the recordings (see website link) and also ask you the interview questions before you leave the try-out.

Additional practice/tryout requirement will take place during our parade practice on Tuesday, May 21st, 2024. Drum Major selection will be announced on Monday, May 27th, 2024 in circle up after the Warsaw Memorial Day Parade.

Tryouts are made up of two parts. Part one will be a chance you have to march and direct the band at parade practice on Tuesday, May 21st, 2024. Be prepared to Direct marching backwards. Part two is the clinic on Thursday, May 23rd from 2:45-4:00PM.

For Try-Outs on Thursday, May 23rd

Wear your GOLD band T-shirt and Black Shorts with comfortable shoes.

SECTION 1 Verbal Commands

Set - In a confident voice say: "Band is Set"

Horns Up and Down - No claps - three (3) counts "ready-horns-up/down"

1 2 3

On the word "up", put hands & arms in conducting position.

On the word "down", put hands & arms by your side (non-clinched fists).

SECTION 2 Conducting Patterns - right and left are "mirrored"

3/4 : Down(1), Out(2), and Up(3) - **National Anthem**

4/4 : Down(1), In(2), Out(3), and Up(4) - **Alma Mater**

Remember: don't cross hands on "2"!

2/4: Down(1) and Up(2) (make an outward, lowercase "J") - **Fight Song**

4/4: **America On Parade** (in 4/4 like Alma Mater) - Marching practices only

Continued...

SECTION 3 Conducting Expectations

For Music, please use the provided recordings on Band Website UNDER "RESOURCES"

Readable Patterns - can the we read what pattern you give (clarity).

Cues - Pretend to cue different sections (instruments) as they enter.

Dynamics - Steady LH (up & down) while pattern continues in RH.

Posture - Body posture like marching performance

Confidence - how assured you are

SECTION 4 Interview

4A - Basic scenario questions: what would you do if...

Mr. Watson and Mr. Wagner will both ask you questions.

4B - Ask yourself the following questions (don't write the answers):

- 1. Why do I want to direct / lead our band?**
- 2. Do my peers respect me as a _____ player?**
- 3. Am I willing to come early and stay late?**
- 4. If the band was told I am going to be the Drum Major next year, would they be excited?**
- 5. Will the band be better because I am Drum Major? Are they better currently because I am in my section?**