



**MEMBER MANUAL**  
**2024 Version 12.28.2023**

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## EXPECTATIONS FOR MEMBERS

Welcome to the Troopers Drum & Bugle Corps! You are now part of one of America's oldest and most respected drum & bugle corps and a founding member and creator of Drum Corps International!

We are honored that you chose the Troopers and will endeavor to offer you the best educational experience, the best drum corps experience, and the top health, safety, and well-being experience. You are important and valued. Why? Because what you offer is unique. You bring your strengths, your life experiences, and your talents. Now, you will be expected to bring these attributes to the corps, and become enveloped into something much bigger.

The Trooper organization and its members value a mutually reciprocal relationship. Knowing what is expected of you is helpful in life, as well as in drum corps. Knowing what the Troopers value is equally as important.

As a Member, you have a responsibility not only to the Troopers, but your fellow Members, and, most importantly, yourself. Some of these responsibilities are in this manual, and others are less tangible, but still within your control. These include a positive attitude, engaging with your fellow Members in a positive and supportive way, participating in self-care opportunities when they are offered, ensuring you are eating and hydrating appropriately, going to sleep at "lights out", and taking care of your mental and physical health.

**DRUM CORPS IS INHERENTLY HARD.** It just is. You will have good days and bad days....easy days and trying days. There will be hot days, bus breakdowns, days you question your abilities, and days you discover strength you never knew you had. And through it all, you will be expected to bring your best, no matter what. That's tough, but we chose you because we know you have what it takes to be a part of the modern drum corps experience.

**As a Trooper, you will be expected to uphold, live by, abide, and demonstrate:**

- The Troopers "The Saber Standards"
- The Troopers "Traditions of Excellence"
- The Troopers motto, "Honor, Loyalty, and Dedication"
- The Troopers "Code of Conduct"
- The Troopers Policies
- The Troopers Pathways of Resolution

The **Sabers Standard** is a creed that you will be expected to live by and bring to the Troopers. The **Traditions of Excellence** are a list of values that all those who came before you built and you will maintain as well as receive. The corps **Motto** means something different to every member. The **Code of Conduct** is how you will be expected to act, the **Policies** you will observe, and the **Pathways of Resolution** will guide you.

## **THE SABERS STANDARD**

To uphold the Troopers' motto, "Honor, Loyalty, and Dedication".

To win and lose with grace and dignity.

To know my best qualities can lie in a purpose greater than my own.

To exemplify the high standards of the Troopers.

To represent the corps with integrity and decorum.

## TRADITIONS OF EXCELLENCE

### INNER STRENGTH

Troopers learn that self-discipline and self-motivation are areas of personal growth that are invaluable traits. Having these two qualities allows for a lifetime of personal achievements and provides a resoluteness of will needed as a member, and more importantly, in life.

### PERSEVERANCE

Troopers learn that hard work builds achievements that instill perseverance. Perseverance and persistence, as an individual as well as a group, build strengths that give members confidence in their capabilities. Striving to surpass yourself is a way of life in the Troopers.

### PRIDE

Troopers promote the innate personal standards necessary to live within the fold of the corps as well as on the field. The expectation of precision leads to personal standards unique to each member. Pride as a member of the Troopers results in meaningful and healthy self-pride.

### IDEALS

Troopers not only represent ideals, but they also strive to live their ideals. There are numerous principles the corps endeavors to encapsulate. The corps motto, "Honor, Loyalty, and Dedication" along with dignity and respect, are the foremost ideals.

### DECORUM AND GRACE

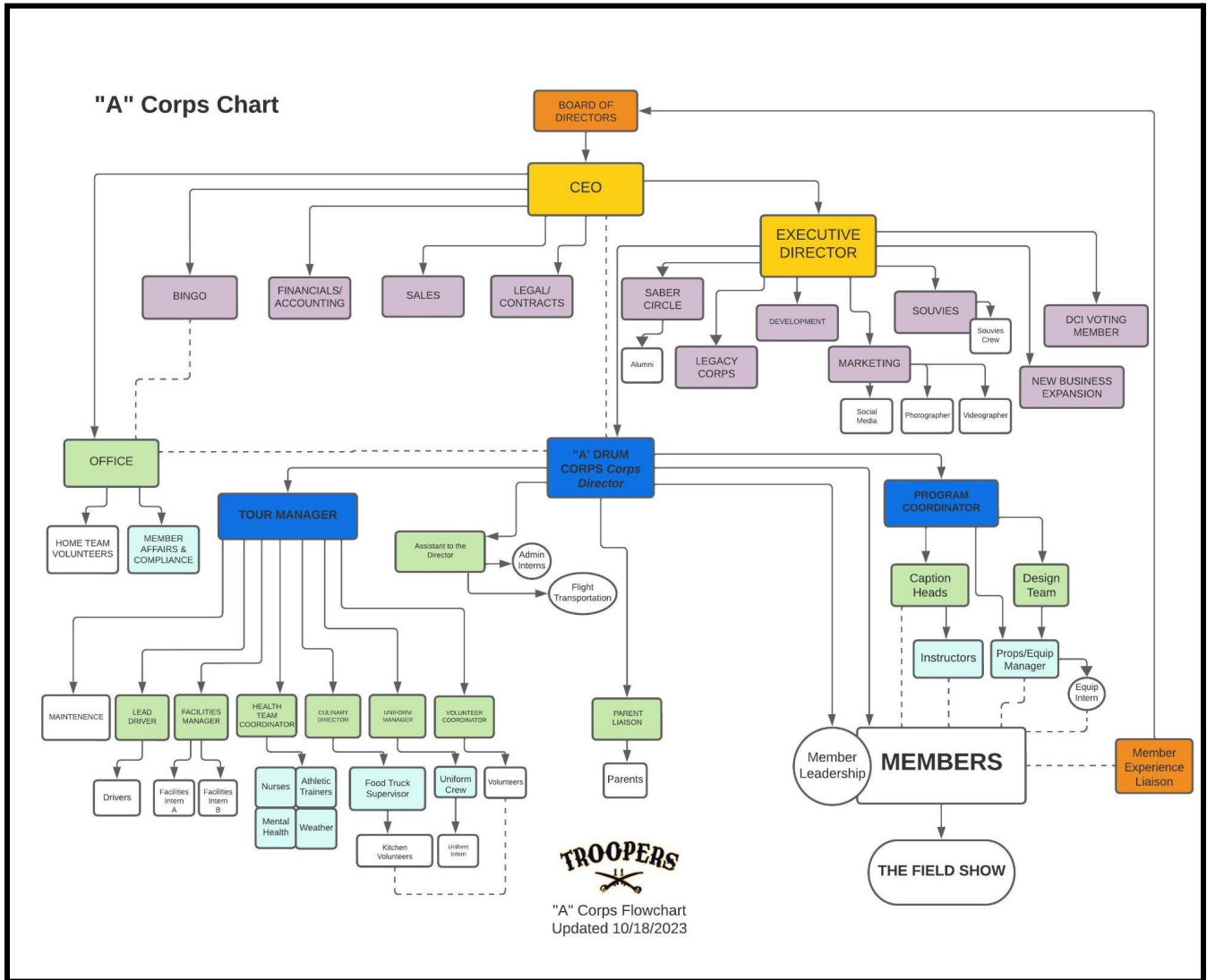
Understanding authority when learning how to take criticism, as well as give meaningful criticism, is a gift in life. By truly understanding the role of leadership, whether as a teacher or as a student, members can understand decorum. The grasp of this insight is beyond measure.

### ACCEPTANCE

Inclusion promotes understanding which leads to acceptance. The Troopers have practiced this premise from the beginning. Learning and depending on one another for a common purpose gives the life-breath necessary to accomplish goals.

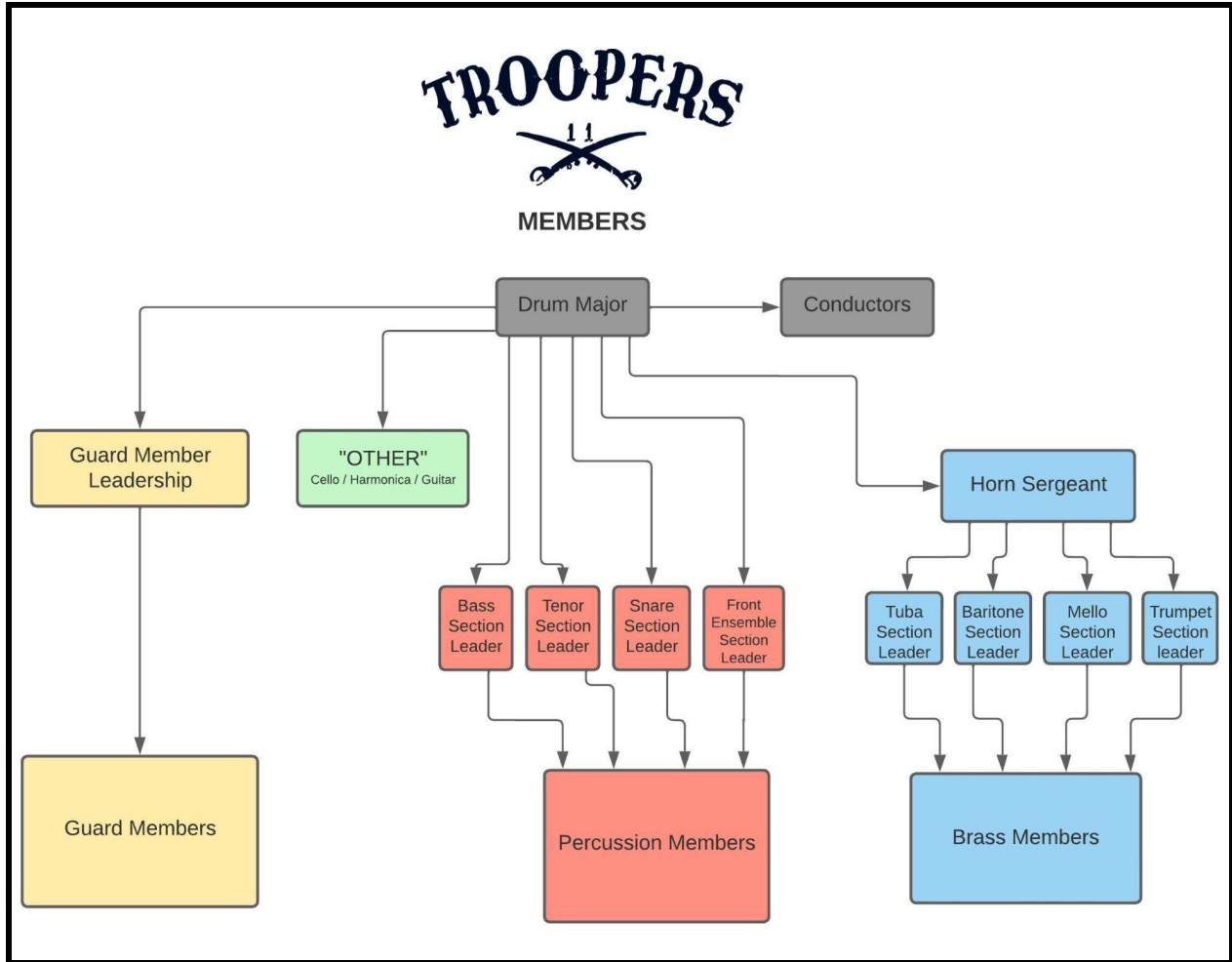
## **TROOPERS DRUM & BUGLE CORPS CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. Members are to conduct themselves in a professional and respectable manner at all times. Appropriate and mature language, demeanor and interactions are expected.
2. Treating others with dignity and respect is the responsibility of each individual.
3. Punctuality is expected.
4. If you are in need of assistance, help, or advice, it is your responsibility to seek the confidential council of your Member Experience Liaison, Staff, Administrator or Volunteer.
5. If you have concerns about any action, behavior, or situation that you witness, have experienced or have knowledge about, it is your responsibility to speak to the Member Experience Liaison, Staff, Administrator, or Volunteer.
6. Members shall conduct themselves in a respectable manner at all times, in uniform or not, at rehearsals, outside of rehearsals, and contests, guided by the Sabers Standard, Traditions of Excellence and Code of Conduct.
7. Members are to treat all locker rooms, rest rooms, housing sites, buses, and all other property with respect. Members must leave all facilities and grounds cleaner than when the corps arrived.
8. Any misuse of Corps' equipment or any public or private property is not allowed. Any Member or prospective Member stealing, defacing, or destroying property will face consequences, up to and including immediate termination from the Corps. Such action may also subject the individuals involved to legal action by law enforcement authorities.
9. Corps' Members are to sleep in designated areas at all housing sites, and shall be in their sleeping bags at "lights out."
10. Insubordination or disrespect toward management, staff, member leaders, or any volunteer is not allowed.



**ORGANIZATIONAL FLOWCHART**

Members should refer to this Flowchart to understand the entire picture of the Troopers organization.



### MEMBERSHIP PATHWAYS OF RESOLUTION

Members should pursue these Methods of Resolution for:

- Help with any kind of basic information such as scheduling, and clarifications.
- Help with understanding the ins and outs of drum corps.
- Help with understanding the Pathways of Resolution.



## **A BIT OF TROOPER HISTORY**

The Troopers Drum & Bugle Corps is an activity composed of youth ages 16-21. Members audition from all over the world to take part in the Troopers known as “America’s Corps”. Founded in 1957 by Casper contractor Jim Jones, they are the only drum and bugle corps in the state of Wyoming. The Corps has been serving the youth of America for over 65 years and during that time have held eleven national championship titles and is currently ranked as one of DCI’s Top 10 world class competing units. Aside from competition, the Troopers have been a popular attraction at events, including the Denver Broncos, Philadelphia Phillies, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and are the first drum corps to participate in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. In 2021, the Troopers became the first world class drum corps to perform at Graceland, the home of Elvis Presley. They represented the state of Wyoming at the 1993 and 2001 Presidential Inaugural Parades, and have performed in concert before World’s Fair attendees, NATO Defense College delegates and Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Reagan, Clinton, and George W. Bush.

Members that are accepted into the Troopers get the opportunity of a lifetime to compete all over the United States during a summer tour that lasts nearly two and a half months. Competitions take place in venues of all sizes, from high school stadiums to NFL stadiums with an estimated 400,000 plus fans in attendance throughout the annual tour.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide a youth activity with a positive educational experience that promotes the growth and development of specific life skills consistent with the Trooper Tradition of Excellence



## Troopers Corps Song

Sung to the tune "How the West Was Won" by Alfred Newman

Lyrics by Fred Sanford & Dave Shaw

[CLICK TO SEE VIDEO OF THE SONG](#)

Promised land, where dreams are big and hearts are bold,  
Land of the Troopers, we're second best to none.  
Bound for fame, across the land our legend rolls,  
Hell bent for victory, that's How The West Was Won.

And we dreamed of the day when we would hear our name,  
As they called out the FINEST in the land.  
Where the dreams of the Troopers would lead us to fame,  
Spreading seeds for the future that would grow,  
And grow, and grow, and grow!

Stride by stride, we march across this noble land,  
Ever determined, our name will never die.  
Side by side, we stand together hand in hand,  
We're the Troopers, we're How The West Was Won.

We're the NATIONAL CHAMPION! It's our proudest boast,  
It's an honor we worked for and we won.  
Just to be a Trooper, is what means the most,  
Should we rise or fall we'll still be proud,  
We're proud, we're proud, we're proud!

Troopers rise, and stand up for the corps you love,  
Casper Troopers, we're from the Promised Land.  
Set your sights on something that is far above.  
We give meaning to HOW THE WEST WAS WON!

DigeeDigeeDum! DigeeDum!

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### History of the Corps Song

One night in the summer of 1967, aboard Troopers "Yellow" bus, as the corps traveled through the heart of Nebraska's cornfields, Fred Sanford and Dave Shaw collaborated to craft the Troopers Corps Song. Fred's musical genius and Dave's linguistic gift converged in the lyrics, resonating with the melody of "How the West Was Won" by Alfred Newman. Later, Gene Monterastelli transcribed the lyrics to a computer, and Melanie True distributed copies to rookies. This historic song has been passed down through the generations ever since. Both through our glory days, and our hardest moments, the lyrics "should we rise or fall we'll still be proud" has touched every Trooper since.

## **TROOPERS DRUM & BUGLE CORPS MEMBER MANUAL**

You are the latest in a long line of individuals who have over decades built an unmatched reputation for discipline and honor. While these rules establish minimum standards of conduct, as a Member of the Troopers, you are expected to conduct yourself with the highest standards of personal dignity and respect towards others at all times.

The policies and rules outlined in this manual will provide helpful guidance for staff and members in order that fair and equitable treatment is assured in the event of disciplinary issues or conflicts. While it is not possible to outline every specific scenario that could arise, there are many resources available that can provide appropriate guidance toward resolution.

## **STRUCTURES AND RESOURCES**

The Troopers organization is committed to providing the best possible conditions for its Members. Part of this commitment is encouraging an open and comfortable environment in which any problem, complaint, suggestion, or question receives a timely response from Staff and/or Management. We encourage all Members to initially attempt to resolve interpersonal conflicts with each other or with Staff on their own with dignity and respect. However, we understand that this may not always be possible. If a situation occurs when you believe that a condition you are experiencing or a decision affecting you is unjust or inequitable, we encourage you to discuss it with your Member Experience Liaison. Your interaction with the Member Experience Liaison is confidential, and they will guide you through every avenue and resource available. However, it is important to know that from time to time, information gathered and statements taken may be shared with others on a need-to-know basis only. Appropriate action will be taken where warranted. You will not be penalized, formally or informally, for voicing a concern.

### **Your Voice Card**

As a Member of the Troopers, it is important that you have a voice and that your voice is heard. To that end, you will receive a card that will fit in your wallet that details how to make suggestions, voice concerns, or file formal complaints. It also lists important contact information. Please keep this with you and use it as appropriate.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

*The General Information and Policies stated in this Handbook are subject to applicable COVID-19 restrictions that may be in place. Due to the ever-changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions are likely to be dynamic and change quickly. We will endeavor to provide you with as much advance notice of changes to the rules, expectations, and policies as possible, and will do so in writing as soon as possible. We ask that you remain flexible and patient.*

### **Membership Criteria**

Each year there are 165 marching positions available. Members join the Troopers organization with a wide range of talents and abilities. Some Members, who attend the camps regularly and practice diligently throughout the winter, join without any prior experience.

Auditions for the Corps take place over several off-season, winter camps, or through virtual events and video auditions. At each event or camp, you will be auditioned by an instructor and given feedback. Attendance allows for the fairest evaluation of your progress and therefore can directly affect a contract offer. Member contracts are offered continuously until all positions are filled.

### **Personal Data**

The Troopers are required to keep current information regarding names and contact information for all Members. You are responsible for notifying the Troopers of any changes in your personal data. Personal mailing addresses, telephone numbers, emergency contacts, and other such status reports should be accurate and current at all times.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is an extremely important part of becoming a Member of the Corps. We expect everyone to attend all camps and virtual functions. However, bad weather or school conflicts sometimes prevent perfect attendance. It is vital that you communicate these conflicts with your caption head with as much advance notice as possible to ensure your absence is excused.

### **Contracts**

In order to be considered for a contract, you must:

1. Be recommended by Troopers' instructors for a position in the Corps;
2. Attend camps and online activities;
3. Pay all necessary fees;
4. Complete and turn in all necessary forms;
5. Verify your birth date;

6. Submit a signed commitment to pay all tuition and fees (tuition and fees do not have to be paid in full at the time a contract is offered);
7. You may not have any outstanding debt owed from a previous season or with another corps.

Termination of a contract also results in complete forfeiture of all money paid to the Corps. Members are responsible for their own transportation arrangements home.

### **Camps**

Please consult the website for all information on camps.

### **Membership Fees/Tuition**

Once a member has been offered a contract to participate in the season, the member must submit these forms within 15 calendar days along with a \$400 non-refundable Participation Deposit.

Members are expected to follow the payment schedule as outlined. NOTE: This tuition schedule has been established based upon the tentative summer tour model as currently outlined.

\*In the event that circumstances (such as new, unexpected COVID protocols) cause a substantive change or reduction in that tour model, the final tuition installment may be adjusted and/or reduced accordingly.

### **BRASS, PERCUSSION, CONDUCTORS, AND CONDUCTORS**

Monday, February 5th, or within 15 days of receiving the contract offer - \$400 Non-refundable participation deposit due when registering for CampDoc

Monday, March 4th - \$1,200 Tuition Installment

Monday, April 1st - \$1,200 Tuition Installment

Monday, May 6th - \$1,200 Tuition Installment

Monday, June 3rd - \$1,200 Final Tuition Installment

TOTAL: \$5,200

### **AUTO-CONTRACTED MEMBERS & COLOR GUARD (If contracted before January 1st)**

Monday, December 22nd, or within 15 days of receiving the contract offer - \$400 Non-refundable participation deposit due when registering for CampDoc

Monday, January 8th - \$960 Tuition Installment

Monday, February 5th - \$960 Tuition Installment

Monday, March 4th - \$960 Tuition Installment

Monday, April 1st - \$960 Tuition Installment

Monday, May 6th - \$960 Final Tuition Installment

TOTAL: \$5,200

### **COLOR GUARD (If contracted following the April camp)**

Monday, May 13th, or within 15 days of receiving the contract offer - \$400 Non-refundable participation deposit due when registering for CampDoc

Monday, June 10th - \$2,400 Tuition Installment

Monday, July 8th - \$2,400 Tuition Installment

TOTAL: \$5,200

**What does tuition cover?** Tuition covers uniforms/costumes, busing, housing, equipment, spring training expenses, instruction, and a portion of the Troopers annual food budget. Tuition only covers about half of the corps annual budget and does not include the winter camps.

**Why is tuition so expensive?** Tuition is more expensive this year due to it being a full season, plus the state of inflation, fuel prices, and external expenses outside of our control. However, we are doing a coast-to-coast tour, traveling over 8,000 miles, performing in over 20 events with some pretty incredible free days being planned in major cities along our tour. All busing, food, housing, and fuel is included in this price. When you break it down, this is actually a pretty good opportunity to see the whole country at half the cost it would take to do on your own. In fact, the total actual expense per person is over \$10,000. We're starting you off with a pretty hefty scholarship. Plus you have some of the greatest instructors in the world, and you'll be performing in some of the most spectacular venues in America. To see where we are traveling, [CLICK HERE](#).

### **What do the fees include?**

- Summer instruction
- Housing
- Uniforms
- Equipment
- Transportation while on tour

- Food
- Various Corps insurance policies

**Tuition for the this season does not include:**

- Laundry money
- Snacks and drinks outside of the Food Truck
- Spending money on souvenirs, etc...
- Spending money during laundry days meals
- Spending money on your days off.
- Transportation to move-in.
- Transportation home after the season is over.

**Your payment schedule may look different if you sign at a later date.**

**Tuition Refund Policy:**

For cancellations made on or before May 6th, a full refund will be issued minus the nonrefundable deposit of \$400.

Cancellations made after May 6th will be subject to the following reductions and are based on payments due as outlined within the 2024 Tuition & Fee Schedule Payment Schedule.

For cancellations made between May 7th and June 3rd, a 50% refund will be issued minus the nonrefundable deposit of \$400.

For cancellations made between June 4th and July 8th, a 25% refund will be issued minus the nonrefundable deposit of \$400.

No refunds will be issued for cancellations made on or after July 9th.

Note: Refunds will be made directly to the member for direct payments made by members/guardians. Monies collected through sponsorships are nonrefundable and will be converted to credits in the Troopers' yearly scholarship fund to benefit another member.

**Sponsorships**

The Troopers support a sponsorship program to help Members raise money for tuition. The Corps will provide sponsorship forms to Members who can use them to solicit donations from friends, family, local businesses, and civic groups. These donations are not tax-deductible. Sponsorships can be made at [TroopersDrumCorps.org/membersponsor](https://TroopersDrumCorps.org/membersponsor)

## **Spring Training and Summer Attendance**

Attendance during Spring Training and beyond is expected every day unless you are under the care of the Health Team, in which case you will be following the treatment necessary to get you back to health and back to rehearsals. Punctuality and readiness is expected.

Please see our Absence & Tardiness Policy for details.

## **Volunteers:**

The Corps depends on volunteers to help with many of our programs, and they are vital to our success and your well-being. Volunteers can be neighbors, friends over the age of 21, and parents who are committing their time to you. They help at camps as well as on tour. The commitment they are making toward the daily operations of the corps is vital. Get to know them! Ask how their day is going. Take a moment to lend a helping hand if you have the time. We're all in this together!

## **Injuries and Illnesses:**

Should you have any health issues, your place to go to is your Health Team at the Troopers. Here, you will be diagnosed, treated appropriately, and given a path to healing and recovery.

## **Medications**

Beginning with Spring Training, all Members will discuss their medications with the Health Team to determine who and how administration of your medications will occur.

## **Medical Treatment Release**

Anytime a Member's participation is restricted by a medical professional, it is necessary for them to also have a full written release before resuming activity. A medical note shall be given directly to the Health Team who will retain a copy for documentation. The Medical Team will interpret the document and communicate with relevant Staff the participation status of the student.



## POLICIES

These policies are in place from your arrival at each camp through your departure from each camp. These policies then apply continuously beginning the first day of Spring Training through the completion of your season with the Troopers at Championships in Indianapolis. The completion of your season is defined as “once you have left the property of the final housing location, and/or once you have stepped foot off of the shuttle bus to the airport. These policies are also in effect when wearing a member corps jacket at any time.”

All corps policies can be found at [www.troopersdrumcorps.org/membersafety](http://www.troopersdrumcorps.org/membersafety) and must be read prior to signing your contract.

Corps Policies include:

- Cross Sabers
- Tobacco, Vaping, Alcohol and Drugs
- Absence & Tardiness
- Use of Communication Devices
- Concussion Protocol
- Sexual Harassment
- Personnel and Member Relations
- Member Relationships
- Hazing
- Bullying
- Contraband
- Harassment
- Violence
- Duty to Report Violations
- Cooperation with Investigation
- Retaliation
- Costs and Indemnity of Civil Actions
- Disciplinary Decisions
- Reporting Crimes Against a Minor to Law Enforcement
- Non Discrimination Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Whistleblower Policy

The Troopers Drum & Bugle Corps reserves the right to add and amend policies.

## **Whistleblower Policy & Platforms**

Any Member may raise a concern about compliance with Troopers' policies or applicable law, as well as member health, safety, and welfare at any time. Concerns may be voiced to the Member Experience Liaison, Staff, Corps Director, Executive Director, or CEO through whichever avenue the Member feels the most comfortable with. Members may also make a complaint via whistleblower platforms with:

**DCI Whistleblower Platform:** <https://www.dci.org/static/complaints-and-concerns>

Or

### **Troopers Whistleblower Platform**

1. Call the Direct Access hotline, 866-494-3161 or log onto [eniweb.com](http://eniweb.com) and
2. Click on "DirectAccess Login"
3. Enter PIN number 4762
4. Provide a detailed report of witnessed activity including date and location in a secure and confidential voicemail.

These whistleblower platforms will be used:

- To provide information, cause information to be provided, or otherwise assist in an investigation regarding any conduct which the reporter reasonably believes constitutes a violation of state or federal law applicable to the Troopers or the Troopers' policies and procedures, when the information or assistance is provided to, or the investigation is conducted by:
  - any state or federal regulatory or law enforcement agency;
  - any lawfully constituted investigative body; or a person with supervisory authority over the individual, or such other person working for the Troopers who has the authority to investigate, discover, or discipline misconduct.
- To file, cause to be filed, testify, participate in, or otherwise assist in a proceeding filed or about to be filed relating to an alleged violation of state or federal law applicable to the Troopers.

Reports of real or potential violations of law or violations of the policies and procedures of the Troopers shall be reported to the CEO, Executive Director, Corps Director, or Member Experience Liaison.

Retaliation against any individual for the good-faith reporting of real or potential compliance and policy violations is cause for immediate and appropriate actions, up to and including summary dismissal from the Troopers. No staff, volunteer, member, contractor, subcontractor, or agent of the Troopers shall discharge, demote, suspend, threaten, harass, or in any other manner

knowingly and intentionally discriminate against any individual in the terms and conditions of their relationship with the Troopers because of any act done by the individual:

## **Investigations**

Corps members, staff, and volunteers are required to report any violations of Troopers policies and procedures, as well as potential violations of the law. If a formal complaint is made either through DCI's whistleblower system, or through DirectAccess, the following process will occur:

### **If complaint was made through the DCI Whistleblower Platform:**

- The Troopers will receive notice of the complaint. The Troopers will be required to provide a written response and final report to DCI.
- The Troopers have no control over how or when DCI chooses to contact complainants or what information they share.

### **If complaint was made through the Direct Access Platform:**

- The Member message is transcribed into a text document by the DirectAccess Team.
- The Member's anonymous report is provided to the Corps Director, Executive Director, CEO, Corps Attorney, and the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.
- The Troopers will not share the results of any investigation with any other entity than DCI or law enforcement, if necessary.

### **Next steps:**

- The Troopers will refer the complaint to an outside attorney having no affiliation with the Troopers, who will conduct as thorough an investigation as possible based on the information in the complaint. This attorney will review the allegations, interview the complainant (if they choose to identify themselves), interview those individuals mentioned in the complaint and any witnesses who may come to light as a result of the investigation, and review Troopers policies and procedures and applicable laws.
- The attorney will then generate a report with a determination of whether the allegations are substantiated, unsubstantiated, or impossible to determine.
- This report will be provided to the Troopers Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, and the Corps Attorney.
- The Corps Director, in consultation with the Corps Attorney, Executive Director, CEO, and Executive Committee of the Board of Directors will determine what, if any, actions need to be taken, including but not limited to appropriate discipline of Members, Staff or Volunteers, as well as reporting any potential crimes to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Troopers will cooperate with any law enforcement agency that conducts an official law enforcement investigation based on such a report. If the complaint concerns the Corps Director, Executive Director, or the CEO, the Board Chairperson, in

consultation with the Corps Attorney and the Executive Committee, will follow this same process.

- A copy of any report will be forwarded to DCI.
- Once the report has been reviewed by the Troopers Board and/or DCI, the complainant will be contacted (if the complainant has chosen to identify themselves) and given the report's conclusion. To the extent allowed by applicable law, other parts of the report may be revealed to the complainant as appropriate.

All complaints are treated as confidential, and all those interviewed are instructed not to discuss the allegations with anyone who does not "need to know" (i.e. their own legal counsel, a spouse, a parent) or a law enforcement agency when appropriate or required.

### **Limitations**

It is important to understand the limits of what the Troopers can and cannot do in an investigation.

- Troopers can only require current members, employees, staff, and volunteers to participate in an investigation.
- While the Troopers can make their own internal decisions regarding discipline, it cannot control or make any decisions for DCI, any other corps, or any outside agency.
- Thorough investigations take time, and often solutions cannot be implemented immediately.
- If an emergency situation exists, or if someone's health, safety, and welfare is at risk, the Corps Director is empowered to make on the spot decisions. However, other solutions may take additional time to implement.
- The Troopers respect your right to make a complaint in whatever manner you are most comfortable with, anonymously, through Direct Access, through the DCI Whistleblower platform, or with your Member Experience Liaison. However, if you want to learn the outcome of an investigation or want someone to speak with you directly, the Troopers will not be able to provide that closure without knowing who made the complaint.

## PACKING LIST FOR SPRING TRAINING AND TOUR

Please Note: There is very limited space available under the buses. Lists may vary. Please consult with your section leaders for additional items that may be needed. This is meant to be a general guide.

### **General - Whole Corps**

- Sunscreen-30 SPF minimum-No Spray
- ChapStick -- 15 spf (DCT recommended)
- Backpack (durable for the summer)
- A trash bag for backpack on rainy days
- Large bug spray
- Laundry bag
- Detergent Pods (5 laundry days)
- Roll of quarters (laundry)
- Sleeping bag/blanket/pillow
- Air Mattress (twin size)—NO COTS PERMITTED
- Bus bins (shoe box size for overhead shelf on bus)
- Extra dot book w/ string
- Pencils
- Sunglasses (Polarized)
- Cell Phone Charger
- 1 Gallon Blue Coleman Water Jug

### **Toiletries - Whole Corps**

- Shampoo (& conditioner if needed)
- Soap (gel) (2-n-1 is great)
- Deodorant
- Comb/brush
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Nail clippers
- Shaving supplies
- Advil/Ibuprofen
- Braces if needed (plan ahead)
- Prescriptions
- Contacts/Glasses
- 2-3 Bath Towels

### **For Women**

- Hair spray, hair gel, and hair nets (best match for your hair color)
- 100+ bobby pins (you will use and lose them all)

- Alligator clips and 20+ hair ties
- Hair dryer and other accessories
- Small mirror
- Make up
- Uniform (Brass & Percussion)**
- Troopers Under Armour (no longer provided by our sponsors. See next page)
- 3-4 pairs of tall cotton black socks—NOT NYLON
- Compression/spandex shorts, both women & men (black. See next page for ordering)

### **Brass Only**

- Please consult your brass manual for details on what equipment you need to bring on tour.

### **Percussion Only**

- A couple rolls of White stick tape, practice pad, multiple pairs of sticks, and earplugs.

### **Clothes - Whole Corps**

- Baseball hat - May need a couple
- 14-16 pairs of short, thick white socks
- 14-16 pairs of underwear
- 3-5 pairs section shorts
- 5-7 WHITE t shirts/tank tops & 5-7 other t shirts
- Flip-flops (for shower and off-time)
- 1-2 pairs athletic shoes (will need to be replaced mid-tour)—ASICS RECOMMENDED
- Light jacket (rain/wind resistant)
- Sweatpants/something warm on the bus
- 2 sets of casual clothes (laundry and free days)
- Backpack for your “Emergency Overnight Bag” (Details will follow later)

### **Be sure to have your ATM Card & Insurance Card**

\*\*\*The Troopers are NOT RESPONSIBLE for cell phones, iPads, chargers, personal jewelry, wallets. Etc....

# DANCE WITH THE DEVIL

## 2024 TOUR

The dates and locations below are always subject to change. For the most current and accurate information concerning the 2024 tour schedule, visit [www.dci.org](http://www.dci.org)

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	EVENT NAME
June	TBA	TBA	Spring Training
Early July	TBA	TBA	Preview Event
Fri, July 5	Portland, OR	TBA	Northwest Youth Music Games Portland
Sat, July 6	Seattle, WA	TBA	Northwest Youth Music Games Seattle
Mon, July 8	Pasco, WA	TBA	Drums Along the Columbia
Tue, July 9	Boise, ID	TBA	Northwest Youth Music Games Boise
Wed, July 10	Utah	TBA	Corps Encore
Fri, July 12	Cheyenne, WY	TBA	Drums Along the Rockies - Cheyenne Edition
Sat, July 13	Fort Collins, CO	TBA	Drums Along the Rockies
Mon, July 15	Olathe, KS	TBA	Brass Impact
Tue, July 16	Hutchinson, KS	8:30pm CT	DCI Hutchinson
Sat, July 20	San Antonio, TX	1:30pm CT	DCI Southwestern Championship
Tue, July 23	McKinney, TX	8:00pm CT	DCI McKinney
Wed, July 24	Monroe, LA	8:00pm CT	DCI Monroe
Fri, July 26	Birmingham, AL	7:30pm CT	DCI Birmingham
Sun, July 28	Winston-Salem, NC	TBA	NightBEAT
Tue, July 30	Annapolis, MD	7:15pm ET	DCI Annapolis
Thu, August 1	Lawrence, MA	TBA	DCI East Coast Showcase

Sat, August 3	Allentown, PA	7:00pm ET	DCI Eastern Classic
Mon, August 5	Edinboro, PA	7:00pm ET	TBD Erie
Thu, August 8	Indianapolis, IN	7:00pm ET	DCI World Championship Prelims
Fri, August 9	Indianapolis, IN	7:00pm ET	DCI World Championship Semi-Finals
Sat, August 10	Indianapolis, IN	7:00pm ET	DCI World Championship Finals
Sun, August 11	Lebanon, IN	7:00pm ET	Awards Banquet



## FAQ'S

QUESTION	ANSWER	PAGE
How do contracts work?	A contract will be offered to you after you audition for the Troopers. Each person's situation is different depending on which audition package you choose.	11
How much does it cost?	2024 tuition is a total of \$5,200. This does not include travel to and from the drum corps activities or winter camps. There will also be items you will need to purchase while on tour.	12
When are the camps?	Camps are held each month from December through early May. Visit <a href="https://www.troopersdrumcorps.org/troopshows">https://www.troopersdrumcorps.org/troopshows</a> for camp listings.	
What should I pack for tour?	Please consult our complete list on page 20	20
Do I need to bring this Manual?	Yes. This Manual is as important as your equipment and your biggest resource. Having a printed or digital version is good.	
What is our tour schedule?	This typically is a part of the Member Manual that may be added later. Information will be on the website as well.	22-23
Where will we be staying?	Once housing is finalized, you will be given the info to add to this Manual and let your family know.	
Can I smoke or drink even if I am of legal age?	No.	16
What about my medications?	Once you arrive at Spring Training, you will go over your meds with our Health Team.	
How does the Whistleblower Policy work?	If you need to file this report, you will use DirectAccess, or go to the DCI website.	17-19
What if I have a problem?	Any problems should be directed to the Member Experience Liaison or the Corps Director.	
What if I have a special diet?	No problem! See our Food Truck Manager once you arrive. Be sure to note this in the appropriate field during registration for camp and spring training.	