

## **The Athens Drive High School Band**

1420 Athens Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606

919-233-4077; [www.AthensDriveBand.com](http://www.AthensDriveBand.com)

Dr. Jerry Markoch, director

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### **ATHENS DRIVE MARCHING BAND BAND CAMP RULES & POLICIES**

Band camp is the most important and intensive time for the marching band. It is during this week that the students learn much of the music and maneuvers of the field show, experience the discipline required to be a first-rate organization, and build lasting relationships. It has been our tradition to spend this week “off-campus.” Working away from home is advantageous for many reasons including the following: it provides an atmosphere free from everyday distractions to facilitate efficient instruction; the hours spent together in rehearsal, the dorms, the dining hall, and in recreation provide experiences for the students to “bond”; the entire experience strengthens the students’ level of maturity and responsibility and generally sets the standard of behavior for the remainder of the year. We are very fortunate to be able to spend this week together as it represents much sacrifice and trust from the parents and administration. The following information is intended to make this experience safe, rewarding, and enjoyable. Your adherence to all directions and guidelines will insure that we will be able to continue offering this type of camp in the future.

#### **General Information**

**1) Camp Checklist:** Provided under separate cover.

**2) General Behavior:** You are expected to behave in a manner reflective of the importance of this event and the people you represent at all times. Specifically, you are to be on time for all rehearsals, behave respectfully toward all chaperones and camp staff, and follow all rules concerning recreation and evening activities. Treat everyone the way that you would like to be treated. Words like “please” and “thank you” show others how special you are and how proud you are to be a member of this band.

This is a school function and all school rules apply; any action which violates the school’s code of conduct will be dealt with accordingly. Do not even think about drinking, smoking, engaging in any sort of vandalism, staying up past curfew, or behaving in a manner that you know is wrong. Common sense is absolutely expected; if in doubt; don’t do it!

Minimum penalties for minor infractions include loss of recreation time (i.e. kitchen duty!). More serious infractions which jeopardize the reputation or safety of the group can result in a trip home with no financial refund and expulsion from the group.

**3) Dormitory Behavior:** Above all, use good judgment and respect the rights of others. The following rules must be observed:

- Loud noises, running in halls, and general “rowdiness” will not be tolerated.
- No boys in the girl’s dorm and no girls in the boy’s dorm. Socializing in the lobby of one (or both) may be permitted (TBA).

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- Rooms are to be kept in neat condition at all times; carefully store foods to prevent insects.
- No noise is to be heard outside your door after lights out. All students must rest each night in order to remain healthy and contribute to their fullest potential throughout the duration of the camp.
- Rooms are to be left in satisfactory condition; any vandalism will be paid for by all room members before we leave campus.

**4) Rest Periods:** Each afternoon the students will receive a brief rest period. During this time, students may rest in their rooms, lobby areas, or the Harness Student Center; students may also walk around the central part of campus. Although this is a relatively safe campus and security is tight, no student is to walk alone. Upper classmen should be especially watchful that underclassmen get acquainted.

**5) Tee Shirts:** All students will receive this year's show t-shirt during the week of camp. We will wear this shirt when we perform Friday evening. The cost of the shirt has been included in your camp fees.

**6) Family and Friends:** On Wednesday evening of band camp, parents, friends, and alumni may visit the band during our evening rehearsal from 6:00pm-9:00pm. Students will have a brief period of time to socialize following this rehearsal, after which we will ask all visitors to leave so that we can prepare for the evening's activities. In general, we ask that the students not have any other visitors during the week.

**7) Initiation:** For the past 20+ years, we have scheduled a SAFE, well-chaperoned "initiation" of new band members. There are many benefits to be derived from such an activity including the following: 1) it "breaks the ice" in establishing new relationships—i.e., it encourages the rookies to "open up, to get over the fear of not being accepted, to laugh, and to be themselves; 2) it promotes unconditional unity among the entire group—i.e., we are going to like you no matter how you look or what you are asked to do; and 3) it eliminates the occurrence of any non-chaperoned initiation. We have been practicing this type of welcoming ceremony for 19+ years with fantastic results! Everyone wins! More specific guidelines appear at the bottom of this file.

### **8) General Safety:**

- Drink plenty of liquids the weekend before camp and during camp whether you are thirsty or not (water/sports drink always available).
- Limit consumption of soft drinks.
- Eat something at all meals.
- If at any time you seriously do not feel well, contact a chaperone immediately; do not attempt to be a "hero."
- Get plenty of rest before camp and use "down-time" or recreation periods to relax. You may even wish to take a nap!
- Wear a hat or visor during outdoor rehearsals; apply sunscreen (even if you have a base) and wear light, comfortable clothing.

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### **9) Miscellaneous:**

- Students who elect to drive to and from band camp must submit a note signed by a parent/guardian. Students will not be permitted to drive during the duration of camp. Upon arriving on campus, students will receive a permit to be displayed on the dash.
- All students must remain on campus during the week unless prior arrangements have been made with the director.
- Only staff and drum majors are permitted on the scaffolding.

Above all, take care of each other! Most problems can be prevented if someone is not afraid to speak up! If you see someone who needs assistance, or behaving in a manner which is wrong, it is your responsibility to do something. In this way, everyone will have a much more enjoyable experience.

### **ATHENS DRIVE BAND CAMP**

**All students must provide their own transportation to and from camp.**

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### **Initiation Activities Policy**

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of initiation-type activities is to develop constructive bonds among members and to build morale. Any behavior that demeans, harasses, or otherwise harms students will not be permitted.

#### **Guidelines:**

- 1) All social activities will be monitored by adults at all times. No activities are permitted without an adult supervisor present.
- 2) Although participation is encouraged by all members, any student who chooses not to participate will be allowed to abstain with no repercussion.
- 3) All activities will be conducted with respect for the integrity and self-esteem of the students involved. If an activity appears to be having a negative emotional effect, it will be ceased immediately.
- 4) Permitted activities include moderate exercise drills, light "chores," games involving speaking, singing or dancing, wearing costumes and/or make-up, and light sports or contests.
- 5) It is permissible for upperclassmen to be given preference when waiting in line, procuring special favors, or assigning clean-up duties.
- 6) Comments or actions which may be construed openly or covertly as racially, culturally, sexually, or religiously offensive are prohibited.
- 7) Costumes may not be sexually revealing. Cross dressing (outer garments only) may be done only with the advance approval from the new band member.
- 8) No activity which may be construed as physically dangerous is permitted.