



Seminole Color Guard

2022-2023 Member Handbook

Winter Season

PHILOSOPHY

Seminole Color Guard is a competitive performance ensemble with membership in the Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit (FFCC). We strive to pursue artistic endeavors that challenge our staff, members, and audiences to grow and stretch the boundaries of our pageantry activity. Through consistent and positive instruction, it is the goal of the staff is to provide our members with a life-enriching and rewarding experience, as well as a highly competitive, and equally entertaining performance opportunity.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The membership dues for the 2022-2023 season will be **\$150**. These fees are calculated based on the number of members cast versus the total budget for the current season. These costs include your uniform, show shirt, flags, instructional staff, FFCC membership, and show entry fees. Team jacket and backpack are mandatory to purchase to maintain the program's brand and professionalism at events.

Failure to adhere to the payment schedule (or modified/individualized, if needed), could result in a member being pulled from the show or termination of their membership. If a situation arises, and you are unable to meet a payment deadline, please contact us and we will work to assist you. Please be aware, that participation is only possible through the payment of membership dues.

Payment Schedule:

- 1 - \$90 due Fri December 9th (non-refundable payment)**
- 2 - \$60 due Fri January 27th**

If you are released by Seminole Color Guard prior to December 15, any fees paid—beyond the \$90 non-refundable deposit—will be fully refunded. If you are released after December 15, fees will be refunded at a pro-rated basis, based on items and fees already purchased on your behalf. If you choose to quit after December 15, no fees will be refunded.

If you are dismissed from Seminole Winter Guard at any time due to: violation of federal or state law; violating a Seminole Winter Guard rule or policy; or for any disciplinary reasons; no refunds will be given.

FUNDRAISERS

Options for fundraising to assist with membership dues will be available throughout the season. Fundraisers will be available to assist with some payment of these fees. You may choose to fundraise or not, but your membership fees are still due based upon a set payment schedule, and you must adhere to that payment schedule in order to remain a member in good standing.

COLOR GUARD CLASS

All members of the Seminole Color Guard are required to be enrolled for the guard class at Seminole High School. 6th Period (Tue, Wed, & Fri). Members that are not enrolled in the class are still able to be on the team, but this may affect their position for the show. Attendance will be a part of their grade. It's imperative for members to be in class where we will be working on the show.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals, camps, and shows/competitions. Excused absences are for extreme circumstances only. Any conflicts with the rehearsal schedule must be communicated and cleared with the Directors by **Wednesday, Dec, 14th**.

Even if an absence is excused, your position in the show may be modified until the staff evaluates whether or not you are competent with the material that you may have missed. If you are injured, please come to rehearsals and observe, so that you will, at least, be aware of what is being taught at rehearsals. Any unexcused absence is grounds for dismissal.

Performances are mandatory under all circumstances. As always, we realize that emergencies do come up, and we will deal with those on a case-by-case basis. Please realize that EVERY rehearsal is important, and it is debilitating to the overall success and growth of the group if there are breaches in attendance commitments. The rehearsal schedule is given out with plenty of advance notice with which to plan.

**Please arrange with your place of employment so that this will never be an issue. Knowing these attendance expectations in advance should help you prepare for any situations that might jeopardize your position within the unit. Do not plan conflicts on top of the rehearsal schedule. In addition, you may want to communicate with family or friends to not purchase gifts of events that conflict with your rehearsal commitments. These will not be excused absences. If absence for doctor's appointment, please show coaches doctor's note to be excused.

**All rehearsals are closed to everyone except the staff and members. This will allow us all to remain focused and use our rehearsal time to its fullest. There will be scheduled events that we perform specifically for alumni, friends, and family, and announcements will go out regarding those events.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Tuesdays: 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Wednesdays: 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Rehearsals hours may change after January to be earlier

Event Dates:

- **Sat. Jan. 21th Premiere @ Deland HS**

- **Sat. Feb. 18th @ Oviedo HS**

- **Sat. Feb 25th @ Freedom HS (Orlando)**

- **Sat. Mar. 4th @ Melbourne HS**

- **Fri. Mar. 24th Championships @ Daytona Ocean Center**

Show day schedule will be given the week prior to the event.

CODE OF CONDUCT

In order for any group of individuals to achieve success, all members must agree to adhere to a standard set of rules and procedures. It is important that the members of the program truly desire to be a hard-working, disciplined ensemble, willing to work together towards common visions, standards, and goals. All members are expected to adhere to the following rules, without exception. Failure to do so, could result in the member being pulled from the show, or one's membership terminated.

BEHAVIOR

It is very important to the staff of Seminole Color Guard, that our reputation be one of class, dignity, and maturity. We will not tolerate inappropriate behavior at any time. The directors hold the right to dismiss any member, at any time, who is representing the guard in an inappropriate manner, no questions asked. You will represent yourself as a member of Seminole Color Guard always, and never speak ill of another member, performer, judge, or colorguard, at any time—THIS GOES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA, AS WELL! You are expected to always treat your fellow members and staff with the utmost respect and courtesy. Please instruct your friends and families to do the same. If you cannot refrain from making comments of a negative nature, you do not need to participate in, nor support this activity, where diversity is embraced and encouraged. In turn, we applaud and support the efforts of all performers in every organization for their hard work and dedication to this activity.

RULES AND POLICIES

- SCPS Student Code of Conduct will be in effect for all Seminole guard rehearsals and events.
- NO Smoking is not permitted around public school facilities by law. This includes e-cigarettes.
- NO Drugs or Alcohol during rehearsals or competitions. Drugs are illegal, regardless of age. For your safety and health, you do not need these burdens in your life. You will be dismissed from the guard, no questions asked, if you do not adhere to these policies.
- NO Jail. If you are arrested and proven at fault for any crime, for any reason whatsoever, you will be dismissed from the Seminole Color Guard.
- NO destruction of school/rehearsal/performance facilities or guard property. You will be charged to replace anything you destroy. This includes taking property that does not belong to you!
- Clean up after yourself (PRE-BUS and clean up your space before rehearsal ends!!!). No one is dismissed until a facility is clean.
- NO gum while you are rehearsing.
- Phones are to be put on silent and off of you while you are rehearsing.
- NO rings or watches while you are rehearsing. Small earrings are acceptable.
- Equipment must ALWAYS be sufficiently padded and taped to protect each other and our performance floor.
- Wear appropriate dance wear to rehearsals.(all black form fitted attire on staging days).
- NO disruptive talking during rehearsals. Pay attention so you don't miss important information!
- NO arguing with fellow members. Handle issues maturely outside of the rehearsal setting.
- Do NOT aggressively question your instructors within rehearsal. Address any concerns you may have outside of the rehearsal setting.

- Occasionally, members will be asked to take on leadership roles or carry out leadership responsibilities. They are to be extended proper respect and your willingness to assist.
- NO use of inappropriate language at any time.
- Everyone loads and unloads. The floor/props are everyone's responsibility.
- Be on time! It is disrespectful to everyone to limit their success by not allowing the group to function efficiently and cohesively on time.
- Gloves are a piece of equipment and are required ALWAYS.
- We will practice as scheduled unless otherwise informed. This applies to any inclement weather or other situation.
- If you are sick...you need to notify at minimum 2 hours before the beginning of a scheduled event, via Band App. If you are not experiencing an emergency and can make it, you need to be there to at least watch what you are missing. Failure to adhere to these policies may result in your dismissal from the guard. Due to the nature of the pandemic, if you are experiencing a fever above 100.3 for any reason, you are not permitted to attend rehearsal.
- Reply to information that is sent to you through text or email. A simple "got it" will show that you received correspondence.
- Be aware of your social media presence! Any member of Seminole Color Guard is a representative of our program. We expect ALL MEMBERS to be professional at all times. With regard to photos and posts or use of Seminole Color Guard "likenesses" or "Seminole High School Color Guard" logo, nothing is to be shared online that does not have the approval of Staff, or isn't already a shared post from Seminole Color Guard. We are careful and cautious of our image and online presence.

EQUIPMENT AND PROPS

Once you have accepted a position with Seminole Color Guard, we will provide you with equipment for the show, or approve your personal rifle/sabre if necessary. All equipment MUST be cared for properly so that we do not damage our floor mat or any floor surfaces at our rehearsal and performance facilities or injure ourselves or others. No spinning on bare gym floors! Every member should have his/her own gloves always. It is imperative that you take good care of your equipment and always travel with your flags in a protective flag bag. Loss and/or damage to your equipment or other show items are your sole responsibility, and you will be responsible for any replacement or repair. The loss of any of these items may result in your removal from the show.

Our floor mat and/or props are everyone's responsibility. Everyone will assist with the setup/breakdown of equipment, floor mat, and/or props for every rehearsal and show. No one will be released until all setup/breakdown is completed.

UNIFORM

Once you have accepted a position with Seminole Color Guard we will take your measurements and provide a costume for our show. It is your responsibility to see that it is well taken care of and does not get lost or damaged. Please transport your costume in a garment bag or some other type of protective covering with your name on it. Loss and/or damage to your costume is your sole responsibility, and you will be responsible for any replacement or repair. The loss of your costume may result in your removal from the show. Make sure to keep costumes clean as well. Washing instructions will be provided. Please follow those instructions after every performance. Makeup and hair instructions will also be given out by the staff. It is imperative that your hair and makeup be perfect, and as instructed, for every performance. Don't forget your supplies when we travel. It is your responsibility, not your fellow members. Follow instructions to the letter. Consistency is the key to our success as a unit.

TRAVEL

Seminole Color Guard will be participating in competitions that require traveling. We will do everything in our power to ensure that the travel cost is limited for these shows and that you have safe and comfortable travel and accommodations.

Parent Driver Volunteers will be the transportation method for competition events.

Drivers will have to fill out form.

Members are NOT allowed to drive, All drivers are responsible for and assume liability for those individuals riding in your vehicle.

- Members are to report to the rehearsal/show site at the predetermined call time, and remain with the unit until the competition is over and are released by the staff. Leaving the show site before the release without permission from staff, is never permitted.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Basic rule: Practice is what you do on your own (to develop individual needs and work through any deficiencies), and Rehearsal is what we do together (to develop ensemble needs and strengthen group performance). Because we are a competitive unit, we expect 100% commitment and effort from every member, 100% of the time. If we find that you are unable to maintain a high standard of performance in the show, you may be moved to another spot, or removed from that portion of the show, without prior notice. You may also be placed on alternate status until you can bring your performance level back up to the level of the others. The instructors are committed to assisting you reach your peak performance and maximum skill level. Thorough evaluation and critique of your individual performance is not a personal matter, and one should not let feedback create an ill attitude, or awkward atmosphere in a rehearsal setting.

Do not take criticism as anything other than a means to make you a better performer! Work with your staff and learn from them. We know that no one is perfect, but you must strive for perfection to achieve success. If you always give your best, it will reflect in your growth and performance. Develop and/or maintain positive practice habits and perform in rehearsal with the same effort that you would perform in competition. Consistency is ALWAYS key!!!

COMMUNICATION

Seminole Color Guard will be using the platform of via BAND APP to communicate and share information among the team. Parents are welcome to join the page to get the latest updates on any information given out to the team. Please communicate to the staff with everything (being late/leaving early, sick, injuries, family, emergencies, etc.)

Scan QR code to Join "Seminole Guard" Band App group.



SEMINOLE GUARD



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I, _____ (Guard member), have read, understood and agree to follow the Seminole Color Guard Member Handbook.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____