



**Glen Ridge**

**MARCHING BAND PARENT'S**

**SURVIVAL GUIDE**

**2019 Season**

**Marching Band Traditions and Terminology**

**Dinkles** – Black marching band shoes

**Uniforms** - New band members are fitted for uniforms during the week of band camp. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that their uniforms are clean and wrinkle free before each competition. Additional uniform care instructions can be found in handbook given out during Band Camp.

**Half Uniform** – consists of the black t-shirt, band pants, dinkles, and black socks. The jacket and accessories are to be carried in a labeled suit bag (ideally).

**Shako** – Marching band hat. A shako box will be provided which must be used for storage. Please label box

**Chicken**- feather plume that goes on top of the shako. Chickens are distributed by the band director before a competition and collected immediately thereafter. "The chicken is in the coop" means it has been returned.

**Breakfast** – Prior to each competition a band member's family hosts "breakfast" for the band and staff. No matter what time of day it takes place it is always called breakfast. Students sign up in the beginning of the year to host. Priority is given to upperclassman.

**After Party** – after each competition a band member's family hosts a party for the band. This is an important bonding time so please try to let your child attend even for a little while. Parties have a two hour time limit. They are supervised and very wholesome. No monkey business goes on at marching band parties. Student's sign up to host at beginning of the year with priority given to upperclassman.

**Night Before Competition Sectional Parties** – The night before competitions individual sections of the band i.e. Brass, Lower woodwinds etc. tend to get together at a member's home. This is all organized by the kids and is a long standing tradition.

**Step off time** – The time that our band will be performing at a competition. The times are generally very accurate.

**Air Grams** - announcements where families can send wishes of good luck to their children that are announced over the loudspeaker as the band takes the field in competition

**Candy Grams** - candy you can have sent to your child after their performance at a competition.

**Competitions** – prior to each competition parents will receive an email from GRMPA with the address, step off time and directions. You can also visit the US Bands website at <http://trigonroad.com/yea/schedule.cfm> for information. Glen Ridge families always sit near the 50 yard line. We distribute noisemakers to cheer on our band as it takes the field. Please make sure you have joined Dr. Gage's GRMB Parents REMind list by texting @grmpa to the number 81010 . He will notify parents of the arrival time of the band at the high school after the

competitions. It is nice to have a crowd greeting them as they exit the bus. Please note that after they arrive back at the school they still need to put their instruments away so they cannot leave with you immediately.

**Home Football Games** – The band will march from the high school to Hurrell Field before each home game. This is a very impressive sight and a special part about living in Glen Ridge. They perform their show at halftime and play in the stands during the game.

**Snack Shack – (PARENT OPPORTUNITY)** During home football games, the GR Marching Band parents serve concessions at the Snack Shack. This is a lot of fun--as well as a great way to raise funds, meet other parents, and enjoy the games!

**Roadies – (PARENT OPPORTUNITY)** the all-important speedy carrier of our marching band props and equipment on and off the field. This year we especially need many hands. You can volunteer on a week-by-week basis. One perk besides our sincere appreciation is Roadies get free admission to competitions.

**Marching Band Dinner – (PARENT OPPORTUNITY)** This is the dinner that officially ends the marching band season. All marching band and color guard members and their families are invited to attend. Varsity letters will be handed out during the dinner and each senior will give a brief goodbye speech.

**Prop Master - (PARENT OPPORTUNITY)** Our Prop Master is a leader who works with the music director to create and build the props that will be used for the Marching Band show. If you've got construction skills and would like to help design our award-winning productions, let us know. Those who just want to help with building or painting are welcome too!

**KEEP UP TO DATE BY CHECKING OUR WEBSITE [GRMPA.org](http://GRMPA.org) and “like” our GRMPA facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/grmpaorg/>**

## **Financials**

- GRMPA will collect a payment from all marching band families to help cover the costs of the 2019 Marching Band T-shirt for each member, a Nalgene water bottle with a band

logo, pre-competition "breakfasts," post-competition celebrations and the pool party. Parents that host may submit receipts to GRMPA and are reimbursed up to \$200 for a pre-competition "breakfast", and \$300 for a post-competition after party.

- **Checks should be made payable to GRMPA with your child's name in the memo and submitted by October 1. Have your child give it to a Drum Major, or send it to GRMPA treasurer, Pam DeLuca at 21 Madison Street, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028.**

#### **Additional costs that may come up during the season**

- Extra pocket money for your child to purchase snacks and drinks at competitions
- Competition entry fees for parents (unless you are a Roadie)
- End of Season Marching Band Dinner – GRMPA does subsidize the event but there will be a per person fee
- Sectional T shirts or sweatshirts– sometimes the different sections of the band decide among themselves to make a t-shirt representing their group. This is organized and implemented by the students.
- Competition programs: sometimes included in entrance fee; sometimes a separate fee, lists all the bands that are competing.
- Air Grams and Candy Grams

#### **FINALLY....A note about homework**

Marching band is a huge time commitment. Students learn to prioritize and maximize their time. Most band members cope with the busy schedule quite well. Upperclassmen are always available to help with a math or science problem. They may not be able to practice other music, do their laundry or clean their rooms, but they can fit in homework successfully. Many parents have commented that their kids actually had a better handle on school work during marching band season than other times during the school year.

If you are feeling overwhelmed by all this information, just remember the season is over by early November! It will fly by and you find yourself counting the days until the next Marching Band Season!

#### **SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

**[No practices are mandatory, but if you are in town, please attend]**

Weekday after-school Practices -

June 4-18 -- Tuesday & Thursday, 3:15 - 5:15 pm

Summer Practices -

June 25 - July 30 -- Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30-3:00 pm  
No practice week of July 4  
August TBD

### **Band Camp**

**[all practices are mandatory]**

August 25 - 30

Typical schedule:

Sunday 12:00 - 2:00 - Rookies, captains and seniors

Monday - Friday 9:00 - 9:00 with lunch and dinner breaks

Wednesday sectional breakfast and team building and GRMPA sneak peak in evening

Friday Preview performance on the back field for GRMPA; rookie initiation and pool party

### **FALL PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

**[all practices & performances are mandatory]**

Weekday after-school Practices -

Tuesday - Friday, 3:30 - 6pm

Mondays are off

Weekends - Practice and/or Performance schedule varies

### **MARCHING BAND LEADERSHIP 2019**

DRUM MAJOR - Erin Duckett and Garrison Huddleston

DRILL SERGEANT - Avery Poster

WOODWIND CAPTAIN - Emma Levy

BRASS CAPTAIN - Sam Lauterbach

PERCUSSION CAPTAIN - Joseph DeLuca

SOUND AND ELECTRONICS - Matt Gomez

COLOR GUARD CAPTAINS - Marc Borgenicht and Chloe Waldt

### **GRMPA OFFICERS 2019-2020**

Co-President : Patricia Drudy - [patriciadrudy@gmail.com](mailto:patriciadrudy@gmail.com)

Co-President: Kellie Huddleston - [kdhuddleston@yahoo.com](mailto:kdhuddleston@yahoo.com)

Co-Vice President: Tom Eaton - [tom.eaton@umusic.com](mailto:tom.eaton@umusic.com)

Co-Vice President: Vince Kozlowski - [approachretreat@verizon.net](mailto:approachretreat@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Pam Deluca [pjpdeluca@verizon.net](mailto:pjpdeluca@verizon.net)

Secretary: Tracy Sullivan - [tracymatt98@verizon.net](mailto:tracymatt98@verizon.net)

Event Coordinator: Carolyn Oliner - [caro4414@gmail.com](mailto:caro4414@gmail.com)

### **GLEN RIDGE MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION - GRMPA**

**Is the umbrella organization that supports music programs in our schools grades 7 - 12.**

All parents with students involved in any of the music programs are encouraged to attend GRMPA monthly meetings which are held the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the chorus room.

### **Other GRMPA Parent Opportunities (outside Marching Band)**

Throughout the year, there are numerous GRMPA fundraising and performance opportunities to get involved. We will be looking for volunteers to help with:

**Fruit Sale: ALL HANDS ON DECK EVENT** This is our BIGGEST fundraiser of the year, and we will need help driving students for the door-to-door sale, calculating money brought in from the sale, organizing refreshments on the morning of the sale, and delivery of fruit to homes after the sale. You'll have fun helping students raise the money that's crucial to our music programs throughout the year.

**Pancake Breakfast: ALL HANDS ON DECK EVENT** Every Spring, the music students host the Glen Ridge community during the annual Pancake Breakfast. This year will mark our 50th year. We will need parents to flip pancakes, cook sausages, prep and clean up as the students serve as the waiters and waitresses for the morning!

**Publicity:** We're always looking for help writing press releases, pitching ideas to local media, and design and display ideas that will bring our message to the community.

We'll also be looking for volunteers to help with the Jazz Band Coffee House and Cabaret Night, two evenings of music put on by the students. All Music Parents are encouraged to take part any way they can!