



SOUTHWIND

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

2022 Member Handbook

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PART III. 2022 MEMBER HANDBOOK

WHAT IS SOUTHWIND?

Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps, based in Mobile, AL, is a competitive musical marching unit (similar to a marching band) consisting of brass, percussion, and color guard performers between the ages of 14 and 21. Beginning in November, performers practice on weekends throughout the winter and spring before completing a two-week competitive tour during the summer months. During the tour, the corps plays to thousands of drum corps fans at shows across the south and eastern United States. Since its founding in 1980 in Montgomery, AL, Southwind has won two back-to-back DCI World Championship titles. Southwind is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status.

2022 SOUTHWIND ADMINISTRATION AND CAPTION HEADS

Lawrence LeClaire, Corps Director	lawrence@southwind.org
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2022 SOUTHWIND FEES & DUES

Corps Tuition - \$3500. Vets of Southwind receive a \$200 discount if contracted by February 1, 2020.

Deposit of \$600 is due when contracted. The total amount is paid in monthly installments with the balance due no later than July 1, 2022.

Alternates: A Touring Alternate is a member who participates in ALL Southwind rehearsals for the season, attends all-day rehearsals, and tours with the drum corps for the summer. The tuition for a Touring Alternate is \$1000. When required, the alternate will fill positions as needed in the marching unit. If a fully contracted position becomes available, a Touring alternate may inherit the position by paying the balance of the contracted spot (less the \$1000 alternate tuition).

A member is required to fulfill the annual tuition. Donations made towards a member's tuition that are above and beyond the tuition balance are forfeited to the Southwind Operations account.

It takes money to meet the operational expenses of the corps. Southwind provides members with professional instruction, instruments, uniforms, transportation, practice facilities, breakfasts, and snacks at camps, PLUS food during every-days and on tour.

The tuition you are charged only partially pays for the tour. We budget this amount as revenue and if we do not receive the whole amount, the organization has a financial deficit. It is very important that you take care of your financial responsibility to the organization. If you anticipate having any problems, contact the Membership Coordinator immediately. Please do not wait until after the payment deadlines to let us know you will be having problems meeting your obligations. **WE CAN HELP YOU BUT YOU MUST ASK!**

If you fail to pay your camp fees, you will not be allowed to participate in the camp. You will be allowed to observe only. If you fail to pay for an additional camp at any point, you will lose your position as a member and forfeit all money paid to the corps. If you fail to pay and/or fundraise your corps tuition, you may automatically forfeit your membership and all money paid to the corps. **PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

Outstanding Financial Obligations

No prospective member will be allowed to participate with Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps if they have an outstanding financial obligation, or unreturned mallets/equipment with any Drum Corps International, Drum Corps Associates or Winter Guard International organization.

As a member, veteran, or alumnus of Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps, you must not have any outstanding debts to the corps. You will not be permitted to join another DCI, DCA, or WGI organization until your debt is paid in full. The Southwind Administration will contact any organization where a member-not-in-good-standing with Southwind plans to audition or is soliciting membership.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

In order to maintain the high level of performance excellence, full attendance at Southwind rehearsals is **MANDATORY**. The audition process will include a consultation with the staff on which rehearsals you will be required to attend.

Please clear your personal schedule so you can attend all practices and camps. A list of staff phone numbers and email addresses will be made available to you.

IF THERE IS A WINTER GUARD PERFORMANCE OR INDOOR DRUM LINE PERFORMANCE THAT CONFLICTS WITH A SOUTHWIND REHEARSAL, YOU MUST CONTACT THE MEMBER COORDINATOR 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE FOR PERMISSION TO MISS A PORTION OF CAMPS.

IF THERE IS A SCHOOL CONFLICT (prom, spring concert, parade, ACT SAT test, etc.), YOU MUST CONTACT THE MEMBER COORDINATOR 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE OR YOU WILL BE EXPECTED AT CAMP.

YOUR SCHOOL/HOME BAND FUNCTION IS YOUR FIRST PRIORITY!

WORK, VACATIONS, TRIPS, OR "I FORGOT" **ARE NOT** ACCEPTABLE REASONS OR EXCUSES FOR MISSING REHEARSALS.

FALURE TO ATTEND REHEARSALS WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION MAY RESULT IN YOUR REMOVAL FROM THE DRUM CORPS.

KNOW YOUR SCHEDULE. PLAN AHEAD. MAKE A CALENDAR.

Southwind is an extension of your educational experience and should similarly be treated with the respect it deserves. We are professionals, and we expect our members to be professionals.

CORPSDATA

Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps uses CorpsData (www.corspdata.net) to keep members and volunteers informed about everything from camp dates to financial obligations, horn assignments, music and drill. Every member of Southwind is required to have and check their CorpsData account on a regular basis. Required forms will be posted for download there as well.

VIDEO EXPECTATIONS

Practice is an essential part of your success in the Southwind family. We use video and submissions as a tool to help you improve as an individual performer and to aid in the corps' musical growth between camps. These submissions are in addition to attending camps. The Program Director and/or Caption Head will provide you with a due date list for these submissions.

Items you will need for these submissions:

- Computer with microphone or iPad
- Phone with video capability or other device to digitally record your performance
- YouTube/Google Drive/Dropbox Account (Your caption head will inform you as to what format is best)

If you fail to submit any of your required videos, you will receive an email from your caption head. You will be given 24 hours to submit your missing video(s).

Members who fail to submit a video or smart music assignment may not be permitted to continue as members of Southwind.

COMMUNICATIONS

The essential ingredient to creating a successful drum corps is COMMUNICATION: Southwind - to and from Members; Members - to and from Parents; and Southwind - to and from Parents. This handbook is an effort to help us all communicate.

It is not the responsibility of the Southwind organization to call you or remind you about rehearsals or commitments (unless there has been an unscheduled change of time or venue). It is your responsibility to remain current on all communication posted via the corps website, e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, or verbally announced at rehearsals. Communication is vital to any organization's success, and there are many ways to communicate with our membership.

CONDUCT

"I DID NOT KNOW" IS NEVER AN EXCUSE

Online Conduct

Members are not permitted to post media, divulge corps policies, practices, complaints, or negative comments regarding Southwind or other groups in any public forum whether on the internet, intranet, or at public functions. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in dismissal from the organization. It can be detrimental to the

organization and to the morale of the corps as a whole. Conflicts are better resolved in person with the Corps Director or Administration.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones can be plugged in and charged when we get into a school while everyone is getting some "floor time" - sleep. Sections should coordinate who brings a power strip on tour. Once rehearsal starts, cell phones are to be in the 'off ' or 'silent position' and put away so there are no interruptions. Please make sure your family understands that you will have limited access to your cell phone. You will be able to use your cell phone during meals and scheduled downtime. Water breaks and short breaks in rehearsal are not considered scheduled downtime.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

Use of illegal drugs is STRICTLY forbidden by all members, staff, and volunteers of the organization and is grounds for dismissal. Use of alcohol is forbidden by all members, even if the member is of legal drinking age. The management of Southwind reserves the right to search personal belongings in the event that drug or alcohol use is suspected.

Tobacco Use Policy

Use of any tobacco products is forbidden by all members at all corps functions. The corps relies on the use of public schools for rehearsals and housing while on tour. Members must respect the school prohibitions on the use of tobacco products. We promote physical fitness and health for all members. Your good health and physical fitness are required for Southwind to be successful.

General Conduct

We are judged by our every word and action. The language you use can sometimes be offensive. Profanity is not allowed at Southwind rehearsals, functions, and when in uniform.

Southwind encourages courtesy and manners. We are very fortunate to have many hard working volunteers. These people put in many long hours for no other reason than for the love of the organization. Please take the time to THANK the people who make all of this possible.

Stealing is illegal and will not be tolerated in Southwind. Examples are: taking other people's shoes, plumes, uniform parts, clothing, wallets, school property, etc. These and any other offenses will be dealt with severely.

The attitude you bring to and develop in Southwind is very important. The staff will consider your attitude as you audition. In order to succeed in this activity, we must all have the same positive approach.

Southwind is a family. You will make friendships in these years that will continue long into the future. Do not overreact to things you do not have any control over. Concern yourself with your own efforts. There are many memories waiting for you – don't cheat yourself out of them.

We are an extremely competitive group, but we are respectful of our competitors. DO NOT disrespect your fellow drum corps. Show them the respect you expect from them. They work and sweat just as much as you do. **LEAD BY EXAMPLE.**

HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The treatment of all with respect and dignity are important to any organization. Harassment of any kind and other forms of discrimination are strictly prohibited.

Southwind has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment, bullying, or discrimination on the basis of sex or gender of any member, volunteer or staff member. This zero tolerance for harassment or discriminatory conduct also applies to harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, marital status, religion, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law. Any conduct which is inappropriate, demeaning, or disruptive will not be tolerated. We expect everyone to act with mutual respect and concern for each other and in compliance with our policy prohibiting discrimination.

Violation of the Southwind policy of non-harassment or discrimination will result in immediate expulsion from the corps. Expelled members are responsible for arranging their own transportation home regardless of the location of the corps and will forfeit all monies paid.

For updated harassment policies and our reporting mechanisms, please visit:
<http://www.southwind.org/harassment-policy/>

PARENT & FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

The Southwind organization strongly encourages parents, family, and friends in supporting the activity. This support is important not only to the individual member but also to the corps as a whole. The Southwind volunteers and alumni are a vital part of the organization's success. Volunteers provide support and assistance to the

membership in the form of sewing, baking, cooking, food preparation, and logistics on an as-needed basis. They also coordinate sales of souvenirs and corps memorabilia at performances. One of the most important aspects of Southwind is the feeling of belonging to the Southwind family. We warmly embrace each member's family as well. A member whose parents and family participates and understands the organization will have a successful and fulfilling drum corps experience.

Dear Moms and Dads,

We need your help! Come, get involved. We always need help with drivers, cooks, seamstresses, repair/maintenance, and fundraising. Please help us out! At any time, you are welcome to observe your sons and daughters at practice, volunteer with camp preparations, or volunteer your unique skills to promote the corps.

SOUTHWIND-BRANDED APPAREL, EMBLEMS, LOGOS, AND PHOTOS

The Southwind logos are copyrighted. The corps will, at times, supply members with free or deeply-discounted shirts, hats, jackets, etc. We ask that you only purchase Southwind merchandise from Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps. When you promote outlets that sell any unauthorized Southwind merchandise, the corps cannot control the quality or presentation of our emblems. In addition, the corps loses funds on those items. Therefore, if you have ideas about Southwind merchandise (new clothing, hats, etc.), please let the administration know and we will do the work to produce the merchandise you desire.

Volunteers, parents, members, or alumni may not sell Southwind-branded or represented merchandise or use photos or video of corps rehearsals or performances for profit.

NOTE: We will make every effort to have Southwind merchandise available online, at all camps, and during tour for purchase.

REHEARSAL/CAMP/TOUR ETIQUETTE

All members are expected to be on time for all camps, rehearsals, and scheduled events and should be prepared to begin at the designated time. **IF YOU ARE LATE ARRIVING FOR CAMP, PLEASE US KNOW!**

Early is on time. On time is late! (EVEN FOR THE START OF CAMPS) The Southwind schedule is set for efficient and effective use of time.

Practice - Practice is what you do at home in between camps and your personal time. Rehearsal is where we strive to improve as a group.

PRACTICE AT HOME.

WE CANNOT STOP REHEARSALS BECAUSE YOU DID NOT PRACTICE.

During the winter and spring months, Caption heads will ask members to submit audio or video of warm-ups, music segments, pieces, marching techniques, and/or routines in between camps.

Caption heads reserve the right to not allow a member to attend camp or continue as a member if they are not practicing or submitting required assignments.

Do not criticize your fellow corps members. Be constructive and supportive! Please let **our instructors** do the teaching and provide correction for members.

You will receive assignments to increase your physical stamina and health (regular exercise!). You will be asked to post your progress and goals. These assignments are not optional. You must be in excellent athletic shape to survive the summer tour.

YOU MUST TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODIES! That includes being properly hydrated prior to and during rehearsals. You must use **SUNSCREEN!** HATS are mandatory for outdoor rehearsals. You must use any joint support/braces required by your physician. You must keep your body clean! **TAKE A SHOWER** when given an opportunity.

YOU WILL BE A MUSICAL ATHLETE.

Injuries can ruin your experience.

BE SMART!

And the corollary, DON'T BE DUMB!

Performance Etiquette

Members will wear half uniforms (bibbers and shoes) on the way to the performance. Upon arrival, we will unload equipment from the truck. Cases will be neatly stacked according to the instruction of the leadership crew. It is your responsibility to make sure

your equipment and uniform is on the truck and secure from damage or theft before and after the performance. Do not play your instruments unless instructed to do so. From the time we arrive at the performance site to the time we leave, we are always performing and representing Southwind. We will march as a unit to our designated warm up area. Once in the warm up area, focus on proper technique, whether it is playing or marching.

Drum Majors

Drum Majors shall be auditioned during the winter camps. A Drum Major/Assistant Drum Major(s) will be chosen by the instructional staff and confirmed by the Corps Director. These members should possess leadership qualities, be a member in "good standing," show exemplary behavior (past and present) as it relates to building a positive team environment, and be well- respected by their fellow members. This individual shall be a role model to the membership and shall lead by example. Drum Majors shall receive instructions from the Corps Director and instructional staff and will be in charge of implementing those instructions throughout the rest of the membership. All members will follow the Drum Major's instructions without question.

Vehicle Etiquette

Southwind charters buses. Therefore, we must abide by the charter company's rules as well as those developed over the years by our dedicated drivers. Any observance of your failure to adhere to the following rules WILL result in disciplinary action:

DO NOT JUMP ON THE SEATS!

DO NOT WALK ON THE ARMRESTS!

Do not place any items in air conditioning or vent holes.

Do not open, activate, or pull down any emergency window releases except in the case of fire or accident. The air conditioning system works much better if all the windows are closed while the bus is running.

No object which could cause damage to the vehicle or injury to any person is to be tossed out of or thrown in the bus.

Trash is to be carried or passed up to the front of the bus. This includes cans and bottles. Deposit ALL of your trash in the trashcans when leaving the vehicle.

Items are not to be hung from the overhead racks while the bus is running. No item in excess of 2 pounds is to be hung from the overhead rack at any time.

No one is to stand forward of the bus driver's seat while the bus is in motion.

No item is to be laid upon or propped against the side of any vehicle regardless of whether it is owned and operated by Southwind or someone else. Nothing is to be hung on the side or any exterior part of any vehicle.

Tour Conduct

Below are few things to keep in mind before we depart. There will be more information given to you throughout the year regarding the summer tour.

Keeping travel time to a minimum and sleep time to a maximum is an important priority. We will travel over 5,000 miles this year. Therefore, it is important to keep all rest stops to a minimum. You will be given a specific amount of time at each stop. Please work to keep these stops within those parameters. There will be a bus captain on every bus. These captains will have specific information on time of departures, preparation for shows, etc. Please follow their instructions.

Every day there will be a loading team for each bus. During the entire tour, you will probably have to load the bus only once, so take care of business and get the job done in a timely manner. Time spent sitting and waiting for the bus to be loaded will only minimize rehearsal and sleep time. There will be limitations on what you can take on tour including: the number and size of your luggage, sleeping bags/foam pads, etc. Please understand that we have limited room. We strive for speed and efficiency.

Because of the number of miles we travel, and the fact that many of these miles will be night drives, horizontal sleep is a prime consideration. When we do have an opportunity to stretch out and sleep at night in a gym, take advantage of it. When lights are out, be considerate and keep the gym quiet. Please make sure that you are in the gym, preferably in your sleeping bag, when lights are out. If you need to take a shower, clean your horn etc., do not wait until five minutes before the lights go out. If you wake up before lights are on, be considerate of those who are still sleeping. If you must get up, do what you must quietly so as not to wake those still asleep.

The gym is your summer tour home, treat it accordingly. **NO FOOD IN THE GYM** – particularly in the south where it attracts ants, cockroaches, and all kinds of crawly things. If you spill anything, please clean it up immediately. If you clean as you go, it will make the clean-up job at the end of each stay much easier. With a corps on the road, the amount of garbage we can generate is overwhelming. Take responsibility for your own trash and litter.

It's just as easy to throw things away when you pass a trash can as it is to leave it where you have eaten. Sections will be assigned by the Drum Major to clean the facilities. We will not leave the school/camp until it is clean. Our rule is to leave it cleaner than we found it.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

Southwind is committed to providing a safe environment for our members. We have adopted the following guidelines to ensure the safety of our membership:

Sneakers and socks should be worn at all times during rehearsals! We are athletes. Athletic clothing is required for rehearsals. We will run, move, perform, and SWEAT! Think GYM! Footwear must be worn when you are outside! No bare feet in parking lots, sidewalks, etc. You must protect your feet at all times. One piece of glass in your foot can ruin your summer!

Aggressive or hostile behavior (direct or indirect) that creates a reasonable fear or injury to another person, or subjects another individual to emotional distress, is prohibited. Damage or theft to another person's property is prohibited. "Horseplay" or other conduct that may be dangerous to others is prohibited. Insubordination of any kind will not be tolerated towards staff, administration, or board members.

All members shall sleep in designated areas segregating male and female members. Curfews and lights-out shall be implemented to ensure the safety of all members. No member under the age of 18 shall ride in another member's vehicle without written permission from their Parent or Guardian.

Yes, you are going to have to shave, gentlemen. Members are not permitted to wear other drum corps hats, shirts, or paraphernalia during camp, everyday, or on tour.

Energy Drinks

"Energy Drinks" are commercially available beverages (usually carbonated) that typically contain caffeine and other ingredients (as taurine and ginseng) intended to increase the drinker's energy. These products have been linked to nervousness, irritability, insomnia, rapid heartbeat, and increased blood pressure. Worse yet, some ingredients in these products are not defined and have not been evaluated by the FDA. The combination of energy drinks with a physically- demanding activity such as drum corps is not recommended. The effects of energy drinks when used in activities where dehydration is possible could lead to loss of consciousness, heart problems, and in extreme conditions, DEATH. Even branches of the U.S. military have BANNED the use of these products when soldiers are on active duty, performing missions, and in ALL areas of aviation.

Therefore, we have **PROHIBITED** the consumption of energy drinks by the members of the corps at all rehearsals. Consumption of energy drinks outside of corps activities is **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED**.

One of our main duties is to protect the members and students of Southwind Drum & Bugle Corps and to promote healthy lifestyles. We strongly feel that this action is to the benefit of the health of our members.

Forms and Electronic Databases

Each member must provide information to the corps. Some of that information will be provide by paper forms and at other times, electronic format.

Member Information Form (Corpsdata)

Medical Release/Consent Form (during the registration process)

Financial Agreement

Family Information Form Membership Agreement

DCI Performance Agreement Media Release Form

CampDoc Heath and Wellness Information

No equipment will be assigned to a member until all forms are filled out properly, signed and submitted to Southwind administration. The Medical release is the most important piece of paper the corps can collect from the members. No member can travel anywhere with Southwind (including camps) until this form is submitted. All information will be kept confidential and will travel with the corps to all functions.

ALL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MATERIAL COVERED IN THIS HANDBOOK SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CORPS DIRECTOR OR ASSISTANT CORPS DIRECTOR

AMMENDEMENTS

The Directors and Staff reserve to right to amend the Southwind Member Handbook when necessary to provide guidance, protect the members and corps, and benefit the general welfare of the organization. Members will be notified of any changes and are expected to be observed.