

Ola Guards

2019 Fall Guard Member Contract

Program Outline

Thank you for your interest in the Ola High School Guard program. The Ola High School Colorguard is a performance ensembles made up of some of the most exemplary students of Ola, offering competitive performance opportunities for students attending Ola High School and supporting middle schools. The programs compete with ensembles from all across Georgia and the United States as part of the SAPA and WGI competitive circuits.

Outline of Policies

- I. Attendance
- II. Appearance and Conduct
- III. Equipment
- IV. Financial

Attendance

Absences from rehearsals are not allowed unless excused by a guard instructor. Absences should be promptly communicated via email to olacolorguard@gmail.com or our Remind App Classroom. Being late to more than three rehearsals results in probation status, with a third resulting in a parental conference to determine if the member will remain on the team. More than two unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the team. **These regular rehearsals are supplemented by camps that are held for longer hours outside of class, typically during a day that school is not in session.** All members of the color guard are required to be at these camps that are taking place on **May 28th, 29th, 30th** and band camp taking place **July 8th thru July 30th.**

Appearance and Conduct

Members of the Ola HS Guard Program are expected to convey themselves in a civil and professional manner at all times – outside of and during rehearsals/competitions. Due to the ensemble nature of winter guard, members may be required to make changes to their appearance for competitions (hair, makeup, etc). Typically these changes are much less dramatic than those required for the fall color guard season. These changes will be communicated early in the season and **members are expected to leave their hair at a length that will allow them to abide by the appearance expectations.**

Conduct is important for us both inside and outside of the program, meaning that any conduct issues outside of rehearsals and competitions at school or in the community can and will affect whether or not a member is allowed to remain on the guard. **This includes social media.** As representatives of the Ola High School Guard program, we expect the very best behavior from our members at all times.

Equipment

Any equipment loaned to members during the season is the responsibility of those members and is expected to be returned at request or the end of the season. Once you have accepted your contract it is expected that you purchase your own rifle as their individual property. This will allow us to train all members on rifle in an effort to grow the Ola Guard programs skills on weapon as needed and in addition to flag. **Rifles must be 36" in length with a black leather strap and black bolt.** It is also recommended that each member have a roll of black and roll of white electrical tape on hand at rehearsals. Members will be provided with a member jacket and are expected to wear it all public appearances, performances, and as directed.

Financial

The Ola HS Guard program is largely funded by the fees of its members. Just as attending every rehearsal is essential, having fees paid consistently and on time is incredibly important to the integrity of the program. Every cent paid towards fees goes directly towards the members – whether through paying for the performance floor, drill, uniform, staffing, or fees related to registering a unit to compete. If fees are not paid on time the program CANNOT continue to function. We will have payment plans and fundraisers available for students with financial need. **All guard members from the fall and winter marching program, are required to have their band fees paid in FULL prior to accepting the fee responsibilities of joining the Ola Guard program.**

Academic Expectations

Upon the acceptance of your contract all members are expected to maintain an academic average of a C or higher in all classes. Per Winter Guard International, SAPA, and Henry County school's academic policy it is **required** for students to remain in excellent academic standings, with no exceptions, while participating in any extracurricular activities. Participating in a regional and internationally competitive winter guard comes with a very demanding schedule, it is expected that students used their **off days** of Monday's/Wednesday's, to seek additional help and to make up any work. In the instance that a student's grade is to drop below a C average they are required to communicate that to the director, as well as a plan to bring their grade up.

Final Thoughts

Participation in color guard will open up an entirely new, unexplored world along with teaching life skills that will allow the students to grow and mature into young adults. There are thousands of units that compete in winter guard competitions from every nation across the world, and Ola High School students have the opportunity to participate in this thrilling performance sport. As instructors, we are incredibly passionate not only for the sport, but also for your child's success. When we look at our members we do not see young adult high school students - we see incredible future performers.

Member Guidelines

1. Conduct

- a. Respect and politeness towards instructors and other members of the guard is mandatory at all times, without exception. This is necessary for efficient rehearsals as well as maintain a good instructor-student relationship.
- b. When greeting other guards, you are to be polite and show a high level of good sportsmanship. We are supportive of other units in our community.
- c. While wearing your Ola Guard jacket ANYWHERE you are representing the program and therefore held to the code of conduct you would follow at any rehearsal or event including refraining from the use of profanity.
- d. The guard is to travel in twos with the captain in the first line or as a pair at all times while at a performance venue.
- e. **At the beginning of awards all guard members should return to their designated area in the arena to sit together, remain quiet, and maintain a professional public experience.**

2. Equipment

- a. Flags, **show** tape, and bolts are supplied by the Ola Band program. Each member is responsible for purchasing their own supply of black and white electrical tape along with a rifle and having it taped to the standards that are set by the director. Rifles can be purchased at <http://www.fjminc.com/> and other band suppliers and should be Elite 3 36" Rifles, with black straps and black bolts.
- b. If flags become damaged please immediately notify an instructor so that they can be repaired as soon as possible.
- c. There is to be absolutely no eating while in uniform, with the exception being that the entire guard has their warmups on and zipped all the way up. If a uniform is stained the member will be responsible for paying for the uniform to be cleaned.

Agreement

This contract acts as an agreement between the Ola Bands and Ola Guard program and _____ for the 2019 Fall Guard season. My signature of this document acknowledges that I understand the following responsibilities and obligations to the Irmo Bands program and the Ola HS Guard program.

I agree to the following sections stated above in the Ola High School Guard Program 2019 Member Contract:

- Attendance
- Appearance and Conduct
- Equipment
- Financial

I understand that:

- Failure to pay my dues as determined by the instructor may result in suspension from the guard and/or revocation of my membership contract. All dues paid prior to the revocation of my contract are property of Ola Bands and Guard, and are non-refundable.
- The directors of the Ola High School Guard program and Ola Bands reserve the right to terminate a membership contract at their discretion should I fail to comply with any policies, regulations, or in any way disrupt the learning environment of rehearsals without a refund of membership dues.

I accept the offer from Ola Bands and Ola High School Guard program to officially become a member of the guard and verify that both the guard and I are prepared to make a commitment to one another for the performance season.

X _____ Member Signature & Date

X _____ Parents/Guardian Signature & Date