

2019-20 Polar Bear Band Drumline Advice/Guidelines

Hello everyone! Because I am running sectionals this year, I wanted to compile some things that I'm looking for so everyone is on the same page.

Bring your music. *Even if you have your music completely memorized, there are still nuances to the part (like dynamics and articulation) to master. A 3-ring binder with sheet protectors for holding the music is recommended. Also, bring a pencil.*

Tap-off starts as soon as sectionals start. *To save time, tap-off for warm-ups will begin the minute sectionals start. For example, if sectionals are at 5:30, then tap-off will begin at 5:30. You should come a little bit early to prepare for this.*

Notify me if you are going to be absent for practice. *I am starting a Remind for drumline, and its information is at the bottom of this page. Notify me on it so I can both prepare for your absence and also so I can tell Mr. Schneider.*

Be mindful when criticizing someone. *Understand that more likely than not everyone in the drumline is trying. Constantly calling out and scolding someone for their mistakes can cause more harm than good. If you think it necessary to call someone out, do it in a way that is respectful and civil.*

Make consistency a major focus. *We want our drumline to look as clean, professional, and as in synch as possible. Make sure to lift your sticks or cymbals up and down at the same time, be playing at a similar playing height, and be marching in a similar manner. This is especially true for frontline drummers.*

Find something to improve on. *For the rest of the year, we are going to primarily focus on the same four songs. Because you already have the foundation down for those songs, try to get in the mindset of trying to improve something every practice.*

Use PolarBearBand.com as a resource for practicing. *Under "Student Resources", click the "Drumline" tab. The password is... drumline (the letters are all lowercase). There, you can practice cadences and other resources essential for drummers.*

Instructions for Remind:

