

## Information Packet - Form B

# Amherst Marching Comets

## Uniform Care and Maintenance

*take your time to reading the following information!*

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- ◆ **Fees:** Because of the pay-to-participate fee, we waived the usual \$15 fee to get your uniform dry-cleaned regularly during the season. This extra cost will be picked up by the Band Booster organization. If a student is careless and his/her uniform needs to be cleaned more often than usual, the student will need to reimburse the boosters for any extra cleanings. You will also need to provide:
  1. White gloves - \$3.00
  2. Marching shoes - \$30.00 (new members/replacements)
  3. Warm-ups & bags for auxiliaries are optional
- ◆ You may purchase gloves at anytime the uniform room is in operation. The best way to purchase them is with cash. It is a requirement to have clean gloves at every performance. You may use your account if you have sufficient funds. Please use a deposit slip when turning in these fees. Shoes must be ordered through the band. Shoes also must be kept clean at all times.
- ◆ **Fittings:** Everyone must remember that the uniform is not a "made-to-order" suit! It must be used year after year by students of similar sizes. It might be a little large (or too tight) in places. Please understand that the uniform assigned will be the best possible fit. On the field, they all look the same!
- ◆ If the uniform pant length is not correct, it will be sent home with the student to be altered by a parent or professional. To do this as a parent, remove the blind stitch in the hem (if needed), shorten or lengthen them, and re-hem the pants with a light stitch - **NOT A PERMANENT ONE**. It may need to be altered again for the next person who wears the uniform.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE SHOULD MATERIAL BE CUT OFF!**

### IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:

**We will use classrooms to change into our uniforms.**

**Please do not allow any part of the uniform to touch the floor.**

- ◆ ANY MEMBER WHO ARRIVES FOR A PERFORMANCE WITH DIRTY GLOVES OR SHOES WILL **NOT** BE PERMITTED TO PERFORM Shoes should be cleaned or polished prior to each performance. Do not wait until warm-up to polish shoes. Do it at home the night before the event.
- ◆ New shoes **should not be polished** but should be cleaned with a damp cloth after each use. If your shoes are worn, you will need to use polish to restore them to the condition they should be in. Black **calf high tube socks** must be worn with our marching shoes. **Absolutely NO** ankle socks permitted.
- ◆ No jewelry that is visible to the public eye will be permitted (watches, rings, and necklaces worn underneath the jacket are acceptable if and only if we can't see them).
- ◆ Band students are not permitted to paint any part of the face. No Green or Gold glitter is permitted while in uniform. Facial makeup should be kept to a minimum. (It rubs off on the uniform jackets!) Applying hair spray while in uniform is also prohibited. Please apply before the uniform is on.

- ◆ **No make-up application on the bus! AND do not over use cologne or perfume.**
- ◆ Sunglasses are not to be worn while in uniform. If you have transition lenses, you must try to find an alternative substitute during a day performance otherwise, they look like sunglasses and stick out.
- ◆ Hair length must be above the collar - either cut or pinned to this length. Hair must not be colored (such as green and gold) or contain sequins.
- ◆ Shorts and the Marching Band T-shirt should be worn underneath the uniform. Jeans should not be worn. When the weather gets cold, students should wear thermals. Again...jeans should be avoided!
- ◆ **No valve oil, lipstick, or candy of any kind is permitted in the jacket or pant pockets.**
- ◆ Hats should remain on the head at all times unless there are other instructions by the directors.
- ◆ Plumes will be distributed and collected on or near the field. Plumes must be treated with special care. Please handle them only by the wire handle. Special care must be taken when inserting the plume into the hat or the special plume holder. Fluffing up plumes will ruin them. Let the air open them up naturally. **Remember...IN BY THE WIRE and OUT BY THE WIRE!**
- ◆ The jacket and accessories are pretty delicate and **common sense must prevail**. You must take special care not to rub against anything dirty. Please be very careful not to spill anything on the jacket or any uniform part.
- ◆ Please be careful not to loose your gauntlets. They are special made and can only be bought in pairs. **DO NOT FOLD OR CREASE THEM TO PUT IN A POCKET OR SHOULDER STRAP. THEY ARE NOT GLOVES AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH.** The gauntlets are a part of the uniform and should not be taken off for any reason up-to and including 3rd quarter.
- ◆ Each uniform must be placed properly on the hanger before it is turned in after each performance. Students must wait in line and turn in their own uniforms. Do not rely on someone else!
- ◆ If the uniforms get too wet at a performance, they may be sent home for you to dry out. If so, always dry them by separating all pieces on hangers to completely dry. **PLEASE! DO NOT LEAVE THE HAT AND GAUNTLETS IN THE HAT BOX and never place uniform parts in the dryer and/or wash them!** Students will be instructed when to return them to the school.

**Approximate cost of each part of our uniform:**

<b>Jacket - \$250.00</b>	<b>Front Sash - \$50.00</b>	<b>Gauntlets - \$30.00</b>	<b>Pants - \$40.00</b>
<b>Shako Hat - \$50.00</b>	<b>Hat Case - \$20.00</b>	<b>Plume - \$18.00</b>	<b>Raincoat - \$40.00</b>

***\*\*\*Replacement cost may be higher because of price increases!***

**Students & Parents:**

I have read the above information concerning uniform care and maintenance. I will be responsible for the loss of, or damage to any of the parts of the uniform while in my care. I agree to turn in this uniform after each performance in as good condition as when I received it.