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*The Sacred Heart University Band Program is an open and inclusive organization, dedicated to providing its members with musical, educational, leadership, and social experiences. The Band Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical abilities, national origin, marital status, or religion.*
1. History of the Instrumental Music Program

In the summer of 1993 Sacred Heart University played host to a drum corps while they were in CT for a competition. Their presence on the quickly growing campus set off a chain of events that resulted in the formation of the first band at Sacred Heart University. Duane Melzer was hired as the first Band Director, and he put together a small Pep Band of 13 players to play for football and basketball games. By the fall of 1994 the band had grown to 30 players and presented its first halftime field show. This was followed shortly thereafter by their first performance in the NY City Columbus Day Parade and St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

In 1997, following the departure Mr. Melzer, the University appointed Marvin McNeill to the post of Director of Bands. Under McNeill’s direction the band experienced steady growth, ultimately numbering 65 members. During this time the band began to make appearances at local and regional Marching Band events, showing off their new uniform design. The band also made its first appearance at the Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade and made its first visit to an away football game in Pittsburgh against Robert Morris University. McNeil wrote the SHU Fight Song, which is still the Fight Song of SHU, and played at University events to this day.

In 2002 Marvin McNeil left to take a position with the University of Connecticut Band program, at which time Charles Bennedum was appointed interim Director. In 2003 Keith Johnston was hired as the new Director of Bands, and Charles Bennedum was appointed Assistant Director of Bands. Charles remained in that position until 2007. At that time Tim Holcomb was appointed as Asst. Director of Bands until he departed in 2009 when Andy Kolar was hired in the fall of 2009.

As the band’s reputation has grown they have received an increasing number of offers to perform at various shows and competitions both in CT and throughout the Northeast. In 2004 the Band made its first appearance at the highly regarded Halloween Parade in NY’s Greenwich Village, performing for almost 2 million spectators. This was followed shortly thereafter by an appearance at the annual Thanksgiving Day Parade in Stamford, CT.

The Band has developed a reputation among area TV and film producers who seek a talented University Marching Band for different projects. Media appearances include a national television commercial for Verizon Wireless in 2004; an appearance on MTV in 2005; and an appearance in a national television commercial for Publisher’s Clearing House, also in 2005. The band has performed in Lancaster, PA for Tournament of Bands, at the Cavalcade of Bands PA Championship in Hershey, PA, and internationally in Ireland & Italy. Additionally, the band has made several appearances at Walt Disney World’s Magic Music Days at Magic Kingdom, and has performed at Citi Field playing the National Anthem for a Mets game. Sacred Heart is also an official Vic Firth sponsored percussion school. With backing and support from the University, the band program has grown to include many different instrumental ensembles for students to study and perform including Pep Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, String Ensemble, and Percussion Ensemble. The band also has a competitive Winter Guard, which competes both regionally and nationally in MAC & WGI, and won the WGI IA Championship in 2003.

The pride, dedication, and commitment to excellence of the band program has contributed to making it the largest and most visible organization on the campus of Sacred Heart University and allowed it to serve as musical ambassadors for the University. Through many appearances, the instrumental ensembles at SHU bring the name of Sacred Heart University to communities near and far and help to raise awareness of the quality of both individual students and the University as a whole.
Ensembles

University Band (MU-136)

University Band fulfills several roles at SHU. Though there are different terms to describe each function, the membership is basically the same group of students. They perform as a marching band with a field show each fall semester for home football games, high school shows, in parades like the Columbus Day parade in NYC. The next function of the band is to play as a pep band for home basketball and hockey games. The band travels with the teams for conference and national playoffs. The pep band is the driving force behind the atmosphere at SHU basketball and hockey game and is comprised of highly spirited players who entertain fans and distract the other teams. The band also acts as a concert band and performs several concerts throughout the year featuring both traditional and newly commissioned works for band. The band regularly has guest artists and clinicians come to work with members. Practice is only twice a week for university band. The music practiced at these rehearsals changes depending on the time of year.

Jazz Ensemble (MU-138)

The Jazz Ensemble gives students the opportunity to develop their musical skills within the context of a variety of styles of jazz music. The Jazz Ensemble is often asked to perform for various events on-campus, and performs several concerts each year. The Jazz Ensemble meets during both semesters. Depending on the number of students that sign up, it could be either a big band format or a jazz combo.

Brass Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, String Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble (MU-134-A)

Our chamber ensembles focus on small ensemble performance techniques and literature. These ensembles take many forms from small trios and quartets to larger arrangements involving the entire ensemble. These ensembles meet year-round and perform throughout the semester. The woodwind ensemble is broken up into flute choir, sax quartet, or woodwind quintet if instrumentation allows. The brass ensemble has a traditional brass quintet as well as a tuba/euphonium ensemble. The String ensemble can be a full string ensemble, or a string quartet. The percussion ensemble performs all genres of music and utilizes battery, mallet, accessory, world, and orchestral percussion instruments in all repertoire.

Heartbeat Percussion

During basketball season, the remaining percussionists that do not perform with the pep band form Heartbeat Percussion, which performs at halftime of basketball games and around the region. This percussion ensemble is a combination of typical marching percussion with a Stomp-like feel.

Winter Guard

Sacred Heart University’s Winter Guard competes in the Independent A class in Musical Arts Conference (MAC) and Winter Guard International (WGI) events. The Winter Guard typically practices from November through April. Membership is open to any Sacred Heart University student, although auditions for participation do take place mid-fall semester. All members in fall guard or winter guard are required to take a dance & movement basics class in the fall semester, DA-109.
2. Performing Arts Grants

Concert Band, Marching Band, Pep Band, and Winter Guard members are eligible to receive a Performing Arts Grant worth up to $4,000. Below is a break down of the amounts:

- Concert Band $1,000 (required to be eligible for MB/PB grant amounts)
- Marching Band $1,500
- Pep Band $1,500
- **TOTAL:** $4,000
- Winter Guard $2,500 (Larger amount due to length of season and nature of competitive activity. This plus the Marching Band amount equals a total of $4,000)
- String Ensemble $1,000

If, after October 1, performing arts grant have not been applied to a members’ account please contact the Director of Bands. Requirements for receiving and maintaining a performing arts grant are based on attendance, participation, and registration for required classes/ensembles.

Freshmen students who play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument are required to take private lessons for their freshman year to receive this grant. Members can sign up for these private lessons in the Performing Arts Office.

3. Communication/Schedule

All official communications from the Band to its members are made via email. Members are responsible for checking their email on a **DAILY** basis. It is advised that members make a folder in their email account for Band to keep all information in one place. Updates are constantly being sent out about rehearsal, performances, logistical information, etc. Members should also regularly check the band website (www.sacredheartbands.org) for updates and scheduling information as well as social media outlets.

**Check the Director’s door for official event schedules!**

4. Call Time vs. Event Time

Any performance group has a call time, which is the time members are expected to be on location ready to go. Our band program is no different. We have a call time that is earlier than the event start time. We realize that it may seem like a lot of time for you individually, but with a large collegiate group it takes more time than you may realize to get everyone in place, get equipment ready and set-up, and warm up for the event. These call times will be posted online and will often be spread by word of mouth. These are subject to change, but some general time frames for call times are:

- Home Football Games (Percussion) - 2 ½ hours before Game Time
- Home Football Games - 2 hours before Game Time
- Home Basketball Games played at the PITT Center - 1/2 hour before Game Time
- Home Hockey Games at Milford Ice Pavilion - 1 ½ hours before Game Time
5. Placement Auditions

At the beginning of the school year, placement auditions are held for every instrumental member of the Band Program. These auditions are not membership auditions. They are done for two reasons. Primarily, they are for part placement. The Band Staff needs to know what members excel at and also what they need to improve on. This helps to assign parts that will best help the ensemble. The second reason is for Pep Band season. For basketball and hockey playoff games, the Pep Band is often only allowed to take a portion of the band, as mandated by NCAA and NIT. These audition scores will be a contributing factor in deciding who is allowed to attend these playoff games. The audition will be to play the following pieces from memory:

- Star Spangled Banner
- SHU Alma Mater
- SHU Fight Song
- Amazing Grace
- Eternal Father

These pieces are played most often out of the entire repertoire. As members of the Sacred Heart University community, it is the band’s responsibility to display our musical enthusiasm for our University through these pieces. The Fight Song and Star Spangled Banner are played at every single athletic event. The Alma Mater will be played every week as well as Amazing Grace and Eternal Father before each home football game at the Chapel.

Students who wish to be in Pep Band or Concert Band but will not be in Marching Band must complete this same audition by the end of September.
6. Marching Band

Attendance Policy
All woodwind, brass, and percussion players must be enrolled and participate in MU-136 in order to be eligible to be part of the band program. Students will receive an earned letter grade, and one (1) academic credit through their participation. No student will be allowed to be in the band unless they are enrolled in MU-136. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory for all members. Due to the collaborative nature of performing arts ensembles, the contributions of each individual are of the utmost important to the overall product. For students receiving a performing arts grant, the full grant amount is contingent on presence at all rehearsals and performances.

Note that band camp is mandatory for all marching band members. Students that are unable to attend camp or any portion of camp face possible deductions, forfeiture of performing arts grants, or possible dismissal from the program.

Absence Request Form
All non-emergency absences must be requested in advance by submitting a completed Absence Request Form. **Absence request forms must be submitted one week in advance of the requested date.** No absences will be considered for an excused status without this form. Students are responsible for filling out an Absence Request Form even if they have previously emailed the band staff. Email requests will not be accepted. These forms should be turned in to the Band Council Secretary.

Activities that are not excusable include, but are not limited to: work, RA duties, vacation, other organization/club activities, personal obligations (such as weddings, family gatherings), etc. As per university policy, all band rehearsals, concerts and events take precedence over Greek Life events, as band is an academic course for credit. Absences are only considered excused if a confirmation is sent to the requesting student from the Band Council Secretary. If no response is given, the absence is not excused. If sick, students should submit a form for the date(s) missed and provide Band Council Secretary with an appropriate doctor’s note. Unexcused absences will result in a deduction of $250 from performing arts grants per absence, and two late report times will equal an absence and therefore a $250 deduction. Continual tardiness or absence may result in forfeiture of performing arts grants and dismissal from the program. Absence from any playoff game will result in a $500 deduction from performing arts grants.

Football Game Day
The schedule for a typical performance day is as follows (subject to change):

- (2 ½ hours before kick-off) Percussion Report for Percussion Show
- (2 hours before kick-off) Percussion Show by Stadium
- (1 hour before kick-off) Full Band - Dressed/Warm-ups by UC patio
- (~10:00 on game clock) March to Chapel then Stadium
- (~4 hours for a game) Take Field for pre-game
- (Game time subject to change) Game Start Time
- (~4 hours for a game) Approximate End of Game
Stadium Seating

Stands seating order (rear stadium seats)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Trombone/Baritone/Tuba</th>
<th>Front Ensemble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alto Sax/Horn</td>
<td>Bari Sax/Tuba</td>
<td>Front Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Drumline</td>
<td>Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>Drumline</td>
<td>Guard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stadium/Game Procedures

1. When entering stands all members remain standing with shakos on until the Drum Major gives the signal to take shakos off and put on baseball caps at the count of “3.”

2. All members are to stand within their own sections and **must be prepared to play at all times.** The band stands for the duration of the game.

3. All band members must remain in full uniform, unless otherwise instructed.

4. Only band members will sit in the stands designated as the Band Area. Friends, alumni, and family may sit near the band, but not within the band proper.

5. No one shall leave the stands during the game without the permission of the Director, staff, or drum major. We will give brief breaks for restroom trips, concessions, etc.

6. Only behavior of the highest social caliber is to be exhibited by band members while in uniform. All members must refrain from negative comments directed toward the team or any other organization. We cheer for our team, not against the other team. No cursing, rude remarks, or derogatory language will be tolerated.

7. The band will assist the cheerleaders in making their cheers successful. It is the philosophy of the band to turn every game into an event.

8. The Drum Major will call music to be played in the stands.

9. The band may perform a post-game performance after the game. This is considered part of the performance of the day. Students who leave prior to performing in the post-game show will not receive credit for the day’s attendance. During football games, members must remain with the band until everyone is officially dismissed. The band will be dismissed as a unit by the drum major or Director.

10. Members **WILL** have a good sense of humor 😊
Rehearsals
Band members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances to receive the full performing arts grant amount and grade. Students are also expected to be on time for all band functions. This means to show up early enough to set up all necessary equipment and be ready to start rehearsal at the designated time. Practices are scheduled and kept to a minimum to be as non-disruptive to members’ academic schedule as possible. In order to continue to operate under this schedule it is imperative that all band members report for practice on time, come with a positive attitude and be ready to work. Rehearsals are on Monday and Thursday from 7:45pm – 10:00pm.

PERCUSSION SECTION – Due to the amount of equipment involved in the percussion section ALL percussionists are expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of any practice or performance to ensure that all equipment is in place and ready to go prior to the designated start time.

Uniform Policy
*See Uniform Policy on page 23 of this handbook*

Grading
Students will earn letter grades through the following point system:
10 points for attendance at each rehearsal
10 points for attitude/participation at each rehearsal
100 points for attendance/participation at each performance (marching, pep, concert, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grades</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>88 – 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 – 87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>78 – 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76 – 77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>68 – 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Pep Band

The Pep Band averages around 35 regular season games during the school year. The Pep Band also plays for all tournament/post-season games in which Men’s/Women’s Basketball and Men’s Ice Hockey compete.

Games have two classifications:

1. “All-Call” - meaning everyone is expected to perform. All-call games include higher-profile games, TV games, and other designated events.
2. Red Band/White Band – meaning that the Red or White band is scheduled to play that given game. Details of this subdivision is below.

Red Band/White Band
Prior to the start of the season band members will be divided into either Red Band or White Band. The Red Band will play primarily basketball games and the White Band will play primarily hockey, although both bands are expected to be able to play at any event for which the band provides musical support. The distribution of games is at the sole discretion of the director. Each band will be scheduled so that games are as equally divided as possible.

Band members may request to play in either the Red Band or the White Band, and every effort will be made to accommodate those requests. However instrumentation needs will supersede any requests to ensure a properly balanced band.

NOTE – Band members assigned to one band are free to also play with the other band if they want, however this is in addition to already scheduled responsibilities with Pep Band.
Attendance Policy
All woodwind, brass, and percussion players must be enrolled and participate in MU-136 in order to be eligible to be part of the band program. Students will receive an earned letter grade, and one (1) academic credit through their participation. No student will be allowed to be in the band unless they are enrolled in MU-136. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory for all members. Due to the collaborative nature of performing arts ensembles, the contributions of each individual are of the utmost important to the overall product. For students receiving a performing arts grant, the full grant amount is contingent on presence at all rehearsals and performances.

Playoff/tournament games are mandatory for all pep band members. Any changes in playoff/tournament band needs will be communicated to the band as early as possible. Students and parents should read the addendum to this handbook for playoff policies for any team that we play for. These games often coincide with spring break in the spring semester. Attendance is still required for all members.

Absence Request Form
All non-emergency absences must be requested in advance by submitting a completed Absence Request Form. Absence request forms must be submitted one week in advance of the requested date. No absences will be considered for an excused status without this form. Students are responsible for filling out an Absence Request Form even if they have previously emailed the band staff. Email requests will not be accepted. These forms should be turned in to the Band Council Secretary.

Activities that are not excusable include, but are not limited to: work, RA duties, vacation, other organization/club activities, personal obligations (such as weddings, family gatherings), etc. As per university policy, all band rehearsals, concerts and events take precedence over Greek Life events, as band is an academic course for credit. Absences are only considered excused if a confirmation is sent to the requesting student from the Band Council Secretary. If no response is given, the absence is not excused. If sick, students should submit a form for the date(s) missed and provide Band Council Secretary with an appropriate doctor’s note. Unexcused absences will result in a deduction of $250 from performing arts grants per absence, and two late report times will equal an absence and therefore a $250 deduction. Continual tardiness or absence may result in forfeiture of performing arts grants and dismissal from the program. Absence from any playoff game will result in a $500 deduction from performing arts grants.

ALL PLAY-OFF GAMES ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL PEP BAND MEMBERS. When Sacred Heart Basketball and Hockey teams advance to playoff rounds, the Pep Band travels with them. Due to NCAA and NIT regulations the band is often limited to 30 members, including directors. Placement Audition scores will be taken into consideration in deciding who is allowed to go to these games. See Placement Auditions on page 6 in the handbook for more details.
Basketball and Hockey Game Days

Men’s and Women’s Basketball Games at the Pitt Center:

- 30 minutes before tip-off is normally call time at the Pitt Center unless it is a televised game, in which case the call time will most likely be slightly earlier. The Pep Band is positioned courtside, normally against the far wall. As one of the most important spirit groups at basketball games, it is imperative that members come ready to cheer on our teams and contribute to the game not only musically, but in their best attitude as well.

Men’s Ice Hockey at Milford Ice Pavilion:

- 1.5 hours before game time is normally call time because the hockey team plays at a venue off campus. The Pep Band is positioned at the end of the stands closest to the scoreboard. As one of the most important spirit groups at hockey games, it is imperative that members come ready to cheer on our teams and contribute to the game not only musically, but in their best attitude as well.

The Pep band is a large part of the game atmosphere at the collegiate level. As a result, members are expected to be the ideal fan. Members are expected to cheer when we’re winning, cheer when we’re losing, cheer when it’s a blowout game, etc. A large part of the band’s presence is the physical appearance at games. The Pep Band stands while the game is in play. If there is a timeout where the Pep Band isn’t playing, members are welcome to sit to rest their legs. Remaining standing throughout the game sends a message to our teams, the opposing teams, and the crowd that the Pep Band supports SHU teams unconditionally all the time. All Pep Band members are expected to abide by the NCAA/NEC Code of Conduct, also included in this handbook.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals for Pep Band will be held toward the end of the fall semester when the basketball teams and hockey team start to have games, and the beginning of the spring semester. All members of Pep Band are expected to be at all rehearsals to ensure that music is adequately prepared.

Uniform Policy

*See Uniform Policy on page 23 of this handbook*

Grading

Students will earn letter grades through the following point system:

10 points for attendance at each rehearsal
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Letter Grades

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Travel Pep Bands

For most day trips, when the Pep Band accompanies an athletic team, the entire pep band will go, unless otherwise noted. This is especially true during NEC/AHA playoff games. For trips that are classified as a tour (i.e. that require an overnight stay), the size of the band is usually dictated by NCAA rules: 30 people including directors (the exception is for AHA tournament play in Rochester, where the entire band travels to these games). Any deviation from this rule is subject to the circumstances of each event. Because these games are more high profile, the band needs to put forth the very best effort in terms of musical performance. The following criteria are used in selecting students for travel:

1. Instrumentation – Brass (trumpets, horns, trombones, baritone, tuba); Saxes (alto, tenor, bari); percussion; flutes and clarinets. Any flexibility in instrumentation is at the director’s discretion.
2. Seniority
3. Playing ability (Placement Audition scores will be taken into consideration)
4. Attendance at games and rehearsals
5. Other factors – in making decisions where the above factors are equal, service to the band, enthusiasm, and attitude may be included as determining factors for selection.

Every student is considered individually and as fairly as possible. It must be recognized that: 
**SELECTION FOR TRAVEL IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.**
8. Winter Guard

The Winter Guard at Sacred Heart competes in local and national circuits, MAC (Musical Arts Conference) and WGI (Winter Guard International). Being part of an independent guard means that the members have much more responsibility. Members are responsible for setting up/tearing down rehearsal space if needed, moving equipment, helping with transportation, and knowing all logistics for all rehearsals/performances. The band program provides some financial support for the season, but all members are responsible for paying membership dues for the winter guard season to help cover the cost of the season including rehearsal space, transportation, costumes, etc. The specific dues amount will be determined by the beginning of the school year. Members may need to raise additional funds if the guard goes to WGI National Championships in Dayton, Ohio in April, which is determined on a year-to-year basis. All members are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances to receive the full amount for a Performing Arts Grant. Members are expected to make every effort to schedule classes to not conflict with rehearsals and to be available before rehearsals to help move equipment or load equipment. The Guard at Sacred Heart is also unique as one of the only guard programs in the country to have an academic component that supports the guard program. SHU is lucky to have a dance department that is eager to collaborate with other performing arts areas. Therefore a dance and movement basics class was created that all guard members are required to take in the fall semester. This class is taught by professional dancers and choreographers and is intended to get everyone on the same page with terminology, techniques, and skill level of basic dance and movement techniques. No prior dance experience is required. This class is not only for experienced dancers to keep their skills at a high level, but also to help less experienced students learn dance basics to support the guard program as a whole.

Membership
Membership in the Winter Guard is by audition only. The right to perform is at the sole discretion of the professional and instructional staff. The nature of this competitive activity demands a high commitment level and a great deal of personal preparation. Members are expected to go above in terms of dedication, preparation, and professionalism. The Guard program has a long tradition of excellence and membership in this ensemble should not be taken lightly. The groups that the Guard competes against are nationally ranked programs and as such, complete commitment to the goals of the program is absolutely necessary. In the event of injury, medical attention is required and medical clearance must be provided from the doctor to perform again. Self-diagnosis is not acceptable. Without medical clearance, injured members will not be permitted to perform to not further aggravate the injury.

Show Days
On show days, there will be rehearsal in the morning that will vary in length due to the distance needed to travel to the show & ensemble needs. Members should check with captains and Guard Staff. Members should block off the entire day for competitions.

Rehearsals
The rehearsal schedule has changed year-to-year depending on the availability of the members and their schedules. It could be only on weekends, or on Monday and Thursday nights. Check with captains and Guard Staff for specifics on rehearsal schedules for the current season.

Uniforms
*See Uniform Policy on page 23 of this handbook
9. University Representation

As a member of the Sacred Heart University Band Program, members are an extension of the University, the community, and the state. Because of the number of public performances on and off campus each member must exemplify the utmost quality at all times. Immature or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and constitutes grounds for immediate dismissal from the organization and reporting to the proper authorities. Each band member is responsible for both the integrity and the consequences of his or her own actions. When engaging in an activity representing the SHU Band and the University, band members must follow the highest standards of honesty, integrity, and fairness. It is imperative that no member participates in any activity while on campus, or while engaging in a band activity, that is (or gives the appearance of being) improper, illegal, or immoral, or could any way harm or embarrass the SHU Band program, or Sacred Heart University.

- The Band and its’ members serve as ambassadors of Sacred Heart University, the student body as a whole, and themselves. As such, there will be no swearing, smoking, or drinking of alcoholic beverages while in uniform.
- It is expected that all Band members will conduct themselves in a professional, and courteous manner both in and out of uniform. This extends to online profiles as well (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) If you can see it online, so can your parents, faculty, administration, and prospective employers.
- All Band members are to restrain themselves from PDA (Public Display of Affection) while in uniform or representing the band in any way.
- Intoxication of any kind while on a University trip is strictly prohibited. Intoxication during rehearsals or performances will not be tolerated and will be grounds for dismissal from the organization and reporting to the appropriate authorities. There shall be no consumption of intoxicating beverages aboard transportation to or from a rehearsal or performance. Use of alcohol or other banned substances will not be tolerated and will be grounds for dismissal from the organization and reporting to the appropriate authorities.
- Members who are 21 years or older are permitted to consume alcohol on overnight trips provided that the below rules are followed. Violation of any of these rules will be grounds for dismissal from the organization and reporting to the appropriate authorities.
  - Must be at a public venue
  - Individuals will conduct themselves in a fashion that will not bring negative attention to themselves in any manner
  - There is not a rehearsal or performance within 8 hours of the last alcoholic beverage consumed.
- During all overnight tours/events, all Sacred Heart University rules and policies will remain in effect.
- All members are expected to cooperate fully with instructional staff, drum major, section leaders and other student leaders of the band. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.
Game Etiquette

Students are expected to conduct themselves with the highest decorum during all band events. Under no circumstances will any behavior be tolerated that brings discredit to the band, the team, or the University. In the event of negative behavior toward the band, members will not engage such behavior by reacting or retaliating in any manner. If such behavior is prohibiting members from participating in the event normally, contact the Band Staff to deal with the situation. Members are encouraged members to yell, scream, and cheer on our teams at all events! The Band is a huge part to the game-day experience, so be ready to cheer! Band members are encouraged to bring as many friends as possible to each game to hear the band, and cheer for the home team. The more people at the game, the more people see and hear the band.

Anti-Hazing Policy

Hazing is against the law in Connecticut!!

University & State Statute
Prohibited by SHU Student Conduct Code
CT General Statute 53-23a Hazing

The Band program at Sacred Heart University has a "zero tolerance" policy in regard to hazing. As such, the Band supports only those activities which are constructive, educational, inspirational, and that contribute to the intellectual and personal development of students. The SHU Band unequivocally opposes any situation created intentionally to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. SHU interprets hazing as any act whether physical, mental, emotional, or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, or intimidate him/her, or compels another member to participate in any activity which is against university policy or state/federal law.

Violations of this policy include, but are not limited to, departmental or University probation, suspension from the band and/or the University; expulsion from the band and/or University. In addition, the band may be subject to group discipline that can include, but is not limited to, band probation, cancellation of individual events, and/or cancellation of the entire season.

NO ORGANIZATION OR ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS WILL CONDUCT OR CONDONE HAZING ACTIVITIES.

Hazing is defined as: Any action taken or situation created, whether on or off University property, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include, but are not limited to the following: forced consumption of food or liquids (including alcohol), paddling in any form, interruption or inference of routine sleep patterns, physical or psychological shocks, blind-folded road trips, or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of University property, the wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, verbal abuse, engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading, or humility games and activities, late work sessions which are not consistent with scholastic activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with Connecticut State Law or regulations and policies of the Sacred Heart University.
Connecticut State Law on Hazing Sec. 53-23a. HAZING

1. "Hazing" means any action which recklessly or intentionally endangers the health or safety of a person for the purpose of initiation, admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a student organization. The term shall include, but not be limited to:
   a. Requiring indecent exposure of the body;
   b. Requiring any activity that would subject the person to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation or extended isolation from social contact;
   c. Confinement of the person to unreasonably small, unventilated, unsanitary or unlighted areas;
   d. Any assault upon the person; or
   e. Requiring the ingestion of any substance or any other physical activity which could adversely affect the health or safety of the individual. The term shall not include an action sponsored by an institution of higher education which requires any athletic practice, conditioning, or competition or curricular activity.

2. "Student organization" means a fraternity, sorority or any other organization organized or operating at an institution of higher education.
   b. No student organization or member of a student organization shall engage in hazing any member or person pledged to be a member of the organization. The implied or express consent of the victim shall not be a defense in any action brought under this section.
   c. A student organization which violates subsection (b) of this section (1) Shall be subject to a fine of not more than one thousand five hundred dollars and (2) shall forfeit for a period of not less than one year all of the rights and privileges of being an organization organized or operating at an institution of higher education.
   d. A member of a student organization who violates subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.
   e. This section shall not in any manner limit or exclude prosecution or punishment for any crime or any civil remedy.

SEC. 53-37 RIDICULE ON ACCOUNT OF RACE, CREED OR COLOR (Not more than $50 and/or not more than 30 days of imprisonment)

1. Any person who ridicules or holds contempt another person or class of persons on account of religion, color, or creed, denomination, nationality or race.

SEC. 53-37a DEPRIVATION OF A PERSON’S RIGHTS BY FORCE OR THREAT (Class A Misdemeanor, except: when bodily injury results Class C Felony; when death results Class B Felony)

1. Any person, acting alone or in conspiracy, engages in the use of force or threat (53a-62) for the purpose of depriving another person of the equal protection, privileges and immunities of State or Federal Law.

SEC. 53-39 MALICIOUS PROSECUTION (Fine of not more than $100 or imprisonment not more than one year)

1. Any person who falsely prosecutes another for any criminal charge without probable cause and with malicious intent unjustly to vex and trouble.
NEC Sportsmanship Policy

Sportsmanship Policy

A. Preface
NEC member institutions value the principles of sportsmanship and the ideal of pursuing victory with honor in intercollegiate athletics. The Conference believes that athletics should be conducted in a way that reflects positively on the individual participants and institutions. The standards of sportsmanship below are written to emphasize the basic expectations of the Conference related to sportsmanship and provide the Commissioner with broad authority to ensure that Conference activities are consistent with these principles.

B. Principles of Sportsmanship
The essential elements of sportsmanship and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of character building and seven core principles: respect, responsibility, fairness, honesty, integrity, caring and civility. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these seven principles.

C. Standards of Conduct
1. Member institutions' student-athletes, coaches and staff shall conduct themselves in an appropriate manner in connection with all intercollegiate sporting events in which they participate ("Events"). They shall conduct themselves as positive role models and represent their institutions in a manner that exhibits the principles of sportsmanship. They shall exhibit respect and courtesy towards all participants and facilities, and comment about other institutions, coaches and student-athletes only in a positive manner.
2. Behavior that is not considered sportsmanlike or appropriate in connection with Events includes, but is not limited to, the following:
   a. Striking (e.g., kicking, hitting, throwing objects at) or other acts of violence, attempted acts of violence or attempts to incite violence;
   b. Obscene, profane, demeaning or unduly provocative language, gestures or actions directed towards an opposing team, institution, contest official, staff member or spectator;
   c. Public criticism of or publicly disparaging statements about an opposing team, institution, contest official, staff member, spectator, or the conference;
   d. Theft, damage or disrespecting of property in conjunction with an event;
   e. All other actions, as determined by the Commissioner, in violation the principles and standards of sportsmanship.

D. Recruiting
1. Institutional staff members shall maintain the highest standards of integrity in their recruitment of prospective student-athletes.
2. The staff shall only comment about other institutions, coaches, and student-athletes in a positive manner.
3. The staff shall fully disclose to prospective student-athletes all relevant information regarding the institution, its programs and the nature of any financial aid being offered.
4. Negative recruiting concerning another member institution of the Conference shall not be tolerated. This includes derogatory statements about another institution's program, any of its personnel, or the quality of its facilities to a prospect, the prospect's parents, high school coach, or other person interested in the prospective student-athlete.

E. Competitive Environment
1. The management and conduct of Events is the responsibility of the hosting institutions. In their discharge of this responsibility, all member institutions shall ensure a competitive environment that is safe, fair, and consistent with the principles and standards of sportsmanship.
2. All ancillary support groups subject to institutional control (e.g., spirit squads, bands, mascots) shall conform to the principles and standards of sportsmanship.
3. Institutions are responsible for the conduct of spectators at Events they are hosting. Spectators whose conduct is abusive to officials, participants or spectators, or that violates reasonable social standards of conduct, should be removed from the Event.
4. Spectators should be located in the stands during a contest. They may not stand or sit near...
the edge of the playing area in order to harass the opposing team or officials. Despite

F. Officials
1. It is required of all Conference member institutions to provide properly located, secure, safe and adequate dressing facilities for officials. If possible, dressing rooms should be isolated from competing teams and easily accessible without the necessity of officials mingling with crowds and/or players. Where it is impractical or impossible to provide ideal arrangements, a police escort shall be provided.
2. No one, other than the Commissioner or one of his/her designees, may invade the privacy of the officials dressing rooms, either before, during, or after the game.
3. Officials are not to discuss occurrences having to do with their game calls with news media representatives or at public gatherings.
4. Coaches are not to criticize officials to, or in the presence of, representatives of news media or other organizations. All criticism should be communicated through the Commissioner. Sports information directors shall make no references whatsoever in institutional media releases as to the quality of officiating.
5. Any correspondence between coaches and officials pertaining to the work of the officials is to be carried on through the Commissioner or one of his/her designees.

G. Member Institution Obligations
1. Each member institution shall be responsible for promoting sportsmanship and appropriate conduct and for ensuring that its participants conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner in connection with intercollegiate sporting events.
2. Each member institution shall adopt policies and procedures to implement the principles and standards of sportsmanship.
3. Each member institution shall take appropriate disciplinary or remedial actions in response to any conduct in connection with sporting events that is not sportsmanlike or appropriate by its participants.
4. The athletic director of a member institution shall promptly inform the Conference Commissioner of any conduct or actions by participants in connection with events that are not sportsmanlike or appropriate, and of any actions to be taken in respect of such conduct.

H. Powers of the Conference Commissioner
It shall be the responsibility of the Commissioner to promote and enforce these principles and standards of sportsmanship in connection with all Conference activities involving a member institution, including competition against non-conference opponents. The Commissioner shall have broad authority to interpret the standards, review disciplinary action taken by member institutions, and further penalize those deemed to have violated the standards.

I. Penalties
1. Specifically and without limitation, the Commissioner has the authority to require a member institution to take any one or more of the following actions: (i) publicly or privately reprimand any participant; (ii) forfeit any sports events or competitions; (iii) suspend or expel any person from attendance at or participation in one or more events; or (iv) pay a fine to the Conference (not to exceed $50,000) for each occurrence of unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct.
2. In instances of flagrant misconduct, regardless of circumstance, all individuals involved shall receive a minimum penalty of a suspension from one or more contests. Flagrant misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, striking (e.g., kicking, hitting, throwing objects at), or attempting to strike an official, coach, player or spectator.
3. Repeat violations by an individual, team or institution will subject them to increasingly greater penalties.

J. Procedure
1. Incidents that may involve violations of these standards shall be immediately reported to the president and the director of athletics of the involved member institution and the Commissioner.
2. The director of athletics shall immediately review the incident to determine whether these standards have been violated.
3. As soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours or prior to the next competition, whichever is first, the director of athletics shall advise the Commissioner in writing of the
finding and specific disciplinary action, if any, imposed by the institution. A copy shall go to the institution's president and faculty representative.

4. The Commissioner shall promptly review the incident and action taken, and make a determination regarding whether additional penalties should be imposed. The Commissioner may review all reports, video and other information related to the matter, as well as conduct further research. The Commissioner will notify the institution of any directive with additional penalties accordingly.

5. Penalties shall be imposed prior to the next competition.

6. Subject to the right of appeal established in Section K below, each member institution shall comply with all written directives issued by the Commissioner.

7. The Commissioner and athletic director may designate another member of their respective staffs to act on their behalf, and the Commissioner shall have the authority to waive the timing requirements set forth above.

8. Appeal

K. Right of Appeal

1. Any member institution shall have the right to appeal any directive of the Commissioner to the Council of Presidents' Executive Committee. To properly appeal a directive, the member institution must submit a written statement to the Conference office within 24 hours of receipt of the directive. The appeal should include the nature of the institution’s objections to the proposed directive, supporting information, and the actions, if any, that the institution contends should have been taken or required by the Commissioner in the directive at issue.

2. The Commissioner shall promptly notify the Executive Committee and provide them with the institution's appeal materials, a summary of the directive, and supporting information.

3. The Executive Committee may affirm, modify or set aside the directive with or without affording the appealing institution a formal or informal hearing. All decisions by the Executive Committee shall be final.

4. If the Executive Committee finds that the appeal was made without basis, and determines that it was done in an effort to gain competitive or other advantage, it shall have the power to impose a fine to the institution no less than $5,000 and no greater than $50,000.

5. An Executive Committee member from the institution making the appeal shall be recused from hearing the appeal.
10. Marching Band Staff and Student Leadership

Instructional Faculty

Director of Bands                           Keith Johnston
Assistant Director of Bands                Andy Kolar
Guard Staff                                 Bert Serrano, Sasha Caldwell, Christina Coleman, Louis Hellinger, Gail Botillo

Drill Designer                             Bob Findley
Graduate Assistant Instructors             -

Student Leadership

Drum Major

Section Leaders

Flutes
Clarinet
Alto Sax
Horn
Trumpet
Low Reeds
Low Brass
Percussion
Guard

Band Council Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian
Librarian (appointed by staff)
Recruitment Chair
Leadership Team Responsibilities

President
1. Schedule and run all band council meetings
2. Schedule and run weekly meeting with other band council officers
3. Compile and submit a monthly activity report with information, updates, initiatives, financials from all officers and submits to DOB
4. Coordinate sectional schedules both fall and spring semester with section leaders
5. Schedule and enforce study hall each semester, maintains attendance sheets
6. Coordinate social events throughout entire school year
7. Coordinate music input for MB, CB, PB
8. Maintain instrument/equipment inventory
9. Create listing of instruments for airlines as needed
10. Coordinate PR for events/concerts using social media, website, and SHU PR Office
11. Coordinate host gifts for Ireland tour
12. Coordinate band banquet planning
13. Coordinate Student Judicial Review Committee with staff
14. Student retention – Map Works

Vice-President
1. Maintain apparel and uniform inventory
2. Distribution of marching band uniforms & maintenance of records
3. Ordering and distribution of all apparel for marching band, pep band, concert band, chamber ensembles, and guard
4. Strict enforcement of all uniform policies – coordinate inspection at all events
5. Coordinate philanthropy and community service efforts
6. Coordinate uniform cleaning
7. Submit weekly report to President of progress with agreed upon initiatives
8. Member of Student Judicial Review Committee
9. Student retention – Map Works

Secretary
1. Take minutes at all band council meetings
2. Take (or arrange for) attendance at all band events
3. Input all attendance into Blackboard
4. Attendance policy enforcement
5. Review & decision regarding absence request forms
6. Maintain records and enforce turning in of all member forms
7. Create lists for travel as needed including passport info, birthdate, weight and other information as needed
8. Submit weekly report to President of progress with agreed upon initiatives
9. Member of Student Judicial Review Committee
10. Student retention – Map Works

Historian
1. Maintain written archive of instrumental music program
2. Take photos/video or co-ordinate photographer and videographer for all events and concerts
3. Upload all event photos to Band Facebook page
4. Create slide-show of pictures for band banquet
5. Submit weekly report to President of progress with agreed upon initiatives
6. Member of Student Judicial Review Committee
7. Student Retention – Map Works
**Treasurer**
1. Maintain financial records of the band
2. Co-ordinate fund-raising efforts for band & guard
3. Create budget plan for school year
4. Reserve buses for any band or guard event
5. Reserve hotels for any band or guard event for which we do not use an agent
6. Creation of all housing/rooming lists for all travel, and dissemination of these lists in a timely manner to appropriate parties
7. Reserve trucks for any band or guard event
8. Reserve vans for any band or guard event
9. Submit weekly report to President of progress with agreed upon initiatives
10. Member of Student Judicial Review Committee
11. Student Retention – Map Works

**Librarian**
1. Maintain music inventory for all instrumental ensembles
2. Copying of all music for all instrumental ensembles
3. Create and maintain flip folders for marching band/pep band
4. Create and maintain folders for concert band
5. Physical organization of music library and librarian cart
6. Submit weekly report to President of progress with agreed upon initiatives
7. Member of Student Judicial Review Committee
8. Student Retention – Map Works

**Recruitment Chair**
1. Co-ordinate year-round recruitment efforts with band staff
2. Phone calls to prospective students (every Tuesday night)
3. Presence at all recruiting events on campus
4. Presence at open houses
5. Presence at accepted student receptions
6. Set up recruiting booths at high school competitions for marching band and winter guard season (MAC & USBands)
7. Email contact with prospective students throughout entire school year
8. Maintain social media presence
9. Maintain inventory of recruiting promo materials and maintain recruiting folders using all of these materials
10. Co-ordinate planning for large recruiting events (Performing Arts Day/Pack the Pitt, and others)

**Section Leaders**
1. Schedule and run weekly sectionals both semesters
2. Presence at all band council meetings
3. Presence at all band events such as band banquet, and all concerts
4. Student Retention – Map Works

**Band Managers** (non-performing members)
1. Co-ordinate photo needs for all band events with Historian
2. Co-ordinate video needs for all band events with Historian
3. Basic administrative duties for band council or professional staff
4. Cleaning of band rehearsal spaces
5. Set-up and tear-down for all concerts and events
11. Uniform and Equipment Policy

Marching Band Uniforms

Each marching band member will be assigned a marching band uniform at the beginning of the season. Members must take care of the uniform and make sure that it is in good (i.e. clean & wrinkle-free) condition for any performance. **Members are not permitted to take their uniforms with them throughout the week.** All uniforms must be returned and hung in the storage room after each performance to ensure that the uniforms stay in good condition. Uniforms may be picked up one hour before call time and should be returned and hung immediately after an event is over. Members are also financially responsible for damage done to, or loss of, their uniform. Records are kept of each part of the uniforms as they are checked out to members. Replacement costs are as follows:

- Coat: $300.00
- Trouser: $140.00
- Shako/Plume/Hatbox: $95.00
- Shoulder Cords: $35.00/pair
- Garment Bag: $10.00

Members must adhere to the following policies, which will be enforced by section leaders at each event. Failure to adhere to any of these policies may result in being dismissed from the event or from the band program. In such a case these members will not receive credit for the day’s attendance.

- Cleaned and polished white shoes
- White Socks – must extend to the calf
- All parts intact and not missing
- Clean Gloves
- Long hair tucked up inside hat (men and women)
- Pant legs hemmed to touch top of shoe
- No jewelry showing (rings, earrings) or non-prescription sunglasses
- Clean, unwrinkled Band T-shirt underneath

Members must purchase items marked on order form for marching band. Marching Band specific items are gloves, band t-shirt, shoes, warm-up jacket, and baseball cap.

Pep Band Uniforms

Pep Band members are required to purchase a long-sleeve T-shirt from the band at the beginning of the year. This item is on the general order form. It can get cold at games (especially at hockey games) and members are encouraged to layer, provided that the pep band shirts or warm-up jacket is on top of those layers. The uniform for pep band games is the pep band shirt, blue jeans, and tennis shoes.

Concert Band

Concert Band members are required to purchase a concert tux or dress from the band to ensure a consistent look from person to person. This item is on the general order form. Women are permitted to also wear a thin black sweater on top, if desired, since the dress is sleeveless. There is also a black music polo which all members must purchase as a supplemental uniform.
**Instruments/ Equipment**

Members are expected to keep their instruments in proper working condition throughout the season. This includes:

- All parts working (slides, valves, keys, etc.)
- Outside of instrument shined
- Inside cleaned
- Clean mouthpiece and/or good reed
- Drums clean and in proper working condition/tuned/sticks properly taped
- Proper lyre or other attachments, as directed by staff
- Percussionists are responsible for set-up, tear-down, and proper storage of all equipment

Members are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of their own instrument. The band staff can try to help with minimal repairs, but anything beyond a tiny repair should go to a licensed technician. Below are two local locations that the band uses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music &amp; Arts-Fairfield</th>
<th>Westport Music Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1863 Post Road</td>
<td>1460 Post Road East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield, CT 06824</td>
<td>Westport, CT 06880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>203-255-2881</td>
<td>203-259-7615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.musicarts.com">www.musicarts.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.westportmusic.com">www.westportmusic.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some school-owned instruments are available for student use. Members interested in using a instrument must complete a Rental Agreement Form from the band office to be eligible to use a school-owned instrument. Members are financially responsible for any damage to, or loss of a school instrument. Students are expected to care for this equipment properly.

Members that play an instrument that is normally loaded onto a truck/van are responsible for bringing the instrument to the truck/van at the beginning of the call time to allow for ample time for all equipment to be loaded and secured properly. If members do not adhere to this policy, they are responsible for getting their equipment to the event on their own. (i.e. carry it on the bus)

**Guard Equipment/Uniforms**

Members of the guard program must adhere to the following policies regarding the equipment used during the season.

- Clean Flag
- Flag effectively attached to pole
- All silks/weapons ready/taped for performance
- Proper rehearsal material
- Guard members are responsible for set-up, removal and proper storage of all equipment.
- Guard uniforms will be kept hung in garment bags for fall and winter seasons.
12. Trips and Touring

The Band regularly travels to performances and exhibitions. These trips are classified as either Day Trips or Overnight Tours.

- **Day Trips** – The band departs and returns within a 24-hour period and does not provide hotel accommodations. Typically these include parades, exhibitions within CT, or performances within a 3-4 hour radius of the University.

- **Overnight Tours** – The band provides hotel accommodations for one or more nights. Dates may be added pending the playoff schedule of the various athletic teams we support. Students will sign up for rooms in advance. All rooming is based on 4 band members per room. There is no co-ed rooming with the exception of legally joined spouses, where both individuals are current members of the band.

For all trips and tours, students are expected to help load and unload the bus and equipment truck. Students will be notified about information regarding meals or per diem.

During all trips and tours band members are expected to represent both themselves and the University at the highest level. All University rules and policies remain in effect during both trips and tours.
13. Band Council

The Band Council is the official representative body of the Band Program. Band Council responsibilities include management of the band’s music library, uniform distribution, instrument rental, inventories, special events, fundraising, and many more. Leadership position descriptions can be found on page 22 of this handbook.


Kappa Kappa Psi provides service and social activities that promote the existence and welfare of the Pioneer Bands program.

Kappa Kappa Psi is a co-educational honorary student service and leadership organization that is dedicated to promoting the existence and welfare of college and university bands, honor outstanding band members through the privilege of membership, stimulates campus leadership, and provide a pleasant and helpful social experience for all members of the Band Program.

The Lambda Nu Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi at Sacred Heart University was officially installed on May 21, 2005. The Brothers of Lambda Nu provide several important services to the band, including stage set-ups for performing groups, upkeep of the rehearsal field, and set-up of the marching band seating section at the stadium.

Membership in Kappa Kappa Psi is educational, social, and service-oriented. Unique from any other fraternity on the Sacred Heart University campus, Kappa Kappa Psi is co-educational and part of a national organization with chapters across the country, and around the world. In addition to their dedication to the Band Program, Brothers have the opportunity to meet and interact with band members from across the country to develop bonds, share ideas, and share their love of music.

The Lambda Nu Chapter is always seeking new members who share their values and goals. If you are interested please speak with one of the brothers and they will be happy to give you more information.
15. Band Awards

At the end of each year, during the spring, the annual Band Banquet is held for all members of any instrumental ensemble and guard. During the banquet individual members are recognized for their contributions to the band, and for their talents. These awards are voted by the directors.

- Outstanding Freshman
- Outstanding Sophomore
- Outstanding Junior
- Outstanding Senior
- The “Jennifer Binns” Positive Attitude Award
- Most Improved
- Outstanding Marching Band Member
- Outstanding Pep Band Member
- Outstanding Musician
- Rookie of the Year
- Outstanding Guard Member
- Outstanding Orchestral Strings member
- Pioneer of the Year
16. School Songs

Sacred Heart University Alma Mater

Hail to thee our Alma Mater,
Pioneers are we.
Sacred Heart’s proud sons and daughters
Stand in unity.

Chorus
Swell the chorus, praise her glory,
On our fields and in these halls.
Loyal Hearts proclaim her story,
Red and White o’er all.

Alma Mater, grant us wisdom
Heart and Mind, renew.
Love and truth, her guiding vision,
Hail to S –H – U.

Chorus
Swell the chorus, praise her glory,
On our fields and in these halls.
Loyal Hearts proclaim her story,
Red and White o’er all.

Sacred Heart University Fight Song

Let's Raise A Cheer For Dear Old Sacred Heart
Our Pride Remains For Dear Old Sacred Heart
From Class To Field, Our Spirit Yields, The Quest For Victory
We Will Lift High The Name Of Sacred Heart
We Stand Behind You Dear Old Sacred Heart
Our Banner's High, 'Til Victory's Nigh, Triumphant Pioneers!
S! ---------H! ---------U!
S-H-U Pioneers, Fight! Fight! Fight!
Red And White Fly High At Sacred Heart
Let's Raise A Cheer For Dear Old Sacred Heart
Our Banner's High, 'Til Victory's Nigh, Triumphant Pioneers!
17. Addendum for Football, Basketball, & Hockey Playoffs

Definitions

• **NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)** – This is the governing body that sets rules and policies for all intercollegiate sporting activities (note – club sports do not fall under the NCAA).

• **Division I, II, III** – Colleges and Universities decide which division they would like to compete in based on institutional priorities, educational philosophy, financial resources, and other factors. Sacred Heart University competes in Division I.

• **BCS and FCS** – The BCS (Bowl Championship Series) and FCS (Football Championship Series) are the names of the different tournament events for football. Sacred Heart University competes in the FCS tournament.

• **NEC (Northeast Conference)** – Universities within each division compete against one another by being grouped into different conferences based generally on region and availability of resources. The NEC is the home conference for the SHU Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams. Other conferences include the Big East, the Big Ten, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, the Ivy League (for football only), etc.

• **Atlantic Hockey Association (AHA)** – The AHA is the conference that the SHU hockey team competes with.

• **Playoffs** – Refers to any post-regular season (or simply “post-season”) games. A playoff may consist of one game between two teams, or a series of games between a large field of teams competing.

• **Tournament** – Refers to post-season games that involved a large number of teams competing against each other through successive rounds. *Note that the term playoff and tournament are often used interchangeably.*

• **High/Low Seed** – “Seed” refers to a teams standing within the conference based on wins and losses. A team that has won 10 games and lost 0 would be considered a higher seed than a team that has won 5 and lost 5.

Basketball Tournament

Basketball playoffs consist of two stages, both of which the band participates in if the teams advance that far. The first stage is the NEC Tournament and the second stage is the NCAA Tournament.

What is the NEC Tournament?

• As it applies to the SHU Pep Band the NEC Tournament refers to Men’s and Women’s Basketball post-season games.

• The NEC Tournament is the name given for the playoff series. The Tournament takes the top 8 teams from the NEC and places them against each other in the following manner:
  o #1 plays #8, #2 plays #7, #3 plays #6, #4 plays #5
• The tournament is divided into a series of rounds:
  o Quarter-Finals
  o Semi-Finals
  o Championship Game

• Both the Quarter-Final and the Semi-Final rounds are considered elimination rounds. Only the winning team advances to the next game. Teams that win the Conference Championship then advance to the NCAA Tournament, also referred to as “March Madness.”

Where Are NEC Tournaments Held?
• Tournament games are held at NEC campus sites. The higher seed team hosts.

When Are NEC Tournaments Held?
• Tournament games are held after the last regular season game starting in early March and continuing through to mid-March.

When Does the NCAA Tournament Begin?
• The NCAA basketball tournament for both men and women begins after the last conference championship games have been held. A field of 64 teams competes in a series of elimination games in 4 rounds to get to the championship game. The NCAA Tournament begins in mid-March and continues through early April.

Where Is the NCAA Tournament Held?
• At various regional venues across the country.

Do the Men’s or Women’s Team Advance to the NCAA Tournament?
• The Women have advanced several times to the first round of the NCAA tournament. They have yet to advance beyond the first round. The men have not yet advanced to the NCAA tournament.

Hockey Tournament
Hockey playoffs consist of two stages, both of which the band participates in if the team advances that far. The first stage is the AHA Tournament, the second stage is the NCAA Tournament. The AHA Tournament is the name given for the hockey playoff series. The tournament is divided into a series of rounds:
• Play-in Game Series (Best of 3)
• Quarter-Final Series (Best of 3)
• Semi-Finals
• Championship game

All teams in AHA automatically advance to play-offs. The Play-in Game Series is a “best of 3” series, meaning that a team must win 2 out of 3 games to advance to the next round. The Quarter-Final Series is also a “best of 3” series. This means that whichever team wins 2 out of 3 games advances to the Semi-Final round. The Semi-Final round is an elimination round. Only the winning team advances to the Championship game.

Where Are AHA Tournaments Held?
• The Play-in Games, and Quarter-Finals are held at the higher seed school.
• Semi-Finals and the Championship game are held in Rochester, NY.
When is the AHA Tournament?
• Early to mid/late-March.

When Does the NCAA Tournament Begin?
• The NCAA hockey tournament begins after the last of the conference championship games have been held. A field of 16 teams competes in a series of elimination games in 3 rounds to get to the championship game. The NCAA Tournament begins in mid/late-March and continues through early April.

Where Is the NCAA Tournament Held?
• At various regional venues across the country.

Does the Hockey Team Advance to the NCAA Tournament?
• The team has not yet advanced to the NCAA tournament.

FCS Tournament
The football championship consists of the FCS tournament, which the band participates in if the team advances that far. The conference team with the best record is declared the NEC Champion, and then advances to the first round of the FCS Tournament.

What Is the FCS Tournament?
• The FCS Tournament is the name given for the playoff series for football. The Tournament takes championship teams from different conferences and places them against each other in competition. The tournament is divided into a series of rounds. All rounds are considered elimination rounds. Only the winning team advances to the next game.
  o First Round
  o Second Round
  o Quarter-Finals
  o Semi-Finals
  o Championship Game

Where Are NEC Tournaments Held?
• Tournament games are held at various campus sites around the country. The championship game is held in Frisco, Texas.

When Are NEC Tournaments Held?
• Tournament games are held after the last regular season game starting in late November and continuing through early January.

Does the Football Team Advance to the FCS Tournament?
• The team has advanced several times.

General Tournament Information/Questions

Does the Band go to NEC/AHA Tournaments?
Yes. But it’s a qualified “Yes”. The entire band will go with the teams to most tournament games, whether they are at home, or away. Members should still keep all tournament dates free for these games, as well as a buffer day on either side if the games fall during spring break. This can vary a little when there are variables such as:
  • Is it the first of the series?
  • Does it require significant/expensive travel?
• Are other tournament games scheduled against it? *(Example: we would go to a semi-final, or championship basketball game over an early round hockey game)*

**Who Pays for the Band to go?**
• Sacred Heart covers all travel expenses - hotel, bus or air, and a per diem for food - if the game is not at home.

**What About NCAA Tournament?**
• The band travels to any NCAA games that our teams might advance to. Travel and per diem are paid for by the NCAA. See the Pep Band or Marching Band section of this handbook for NCAA Band selection criteria for these games.

**What About NCAA Tournament?**
• For the FCS football tournament series the entire marching band travels to the game.

**“But what if/I have/will we (Insert your own question regarding your own concern about a potential scenario here)?”**
• It is understood that here’s a level of anxiety that exists with regards to predicting what may happen in the future. Not knowing can be frustrating, but the band plans for as many contingencies as possible. The band has many years of experience in tournament games, and has dealt with a variety of scenarios including everything from chartered flights, long bus rides, unexpected overnights, to unexpected early departures, etc. Please know that as possible scenarios become clear, that information will be relayed to the band. Most tournament games that require travel are a simple bus ride to/from. There are relatively few games that potentially require multiple day commitments with overnight stays. But it’s best to be prepared. This is why all play-off and tournament games have been listed on the band schedule since the summer.

**So When Will We Know What Our Tournament Schedule Will Be?**
• After the last regular home games of the season, if not sooner, there will be a definitive answer. It may be known before then depending on the schedule, and a given teams record. It varies from year to year.