

BASIC INFORMATION FOR NEW PRIDE MEMBERS AND PARENTS

Things you need to know!

Updated May, 2017

PRIDE CAMP

- 2017-2018 Pride Season start date is July 24, 2017. It is usually scheduled about 3 ½ weeks prior to school the first day of school. *This is the Mandatory Camp*. Schedules are posted on the Pride website www.brokenarrowbands.com. There are 3 different schedules: color guard, percussion, and horn line.
- There is a uniform for rehearsals. The horn line and percussion wear white tee shirts and any shorts or pants. The color guard wears all black. Directors will give them this information.
- Color guard wears 2 costumes: A Show Costume and a "Practice Costume" that is worn at early season events until the Show Costumes are revealed. The practice costume will be chosen by color guard directors and distributed later in the summer. Girls will be sized for this uniform.
- Daily they will need: Large bottle water/jug of water, sack lunch (no soft drinks), good sunscreen, daily transportation to and from (they cannot be late). Good comfortable lace-up shoes are a must.
- Can't stress enough to limit or postpone other activities during Mandatory Camp. The students will be exhausted and need their rest.
- **Prompt arrival is a must.** At least 15-30 minutes before start, so they can get their instruments, bathroom, etc. and be on field or starting location at start time.
- Family & friends are welcome to watch at camp from outside the camp area; however, please do not distract students. Most stadium rehearsals are closed to the public, however, public viewings are announced periodically and are typically the final 30-45 minutes of a stadium rehearsal. The last few minutes are usually announcements and are very interesting to hear. Color guard practices are usually in band room or gym area.
- Have dentist appointments, doctor checkups, and school organized before season starts. Your student will have minimal time for these things until season is over.
- Have tune-ups and repairs of your instruments done during the summer.
- Some students will have to share a spot making them a "shadow".

PRIDE PRACTICE

- Make plans to watch practices in the stadium after pride camp, when they are open for viewing. Thursday nights are usually the best time to watch. It will help you identify where your students is on the field during performances. It lets your student know how much you care and support them. You can meet other parents, and you can learn a lot by listening to announcements given at the end of practice. Open rehearsal viewing times will be announced via social media.
 - Please be quiet and not distracting. The directors need the student's attention at this time.

CLOTHING & GEAR

- 2017-2018 Pride Uniform is primarily provided by the school, but accessory items are initially purchased via the student's Student Account:
 - Full marching uniform, top & bottom (Provided by School)
 - Shako (Provided by School)
 - Gloves (Purchased by student)
 - Socks (Purchased by student)
 - Tradition T-shirt which is worn under their uniform (Purchased by student)
 - Shoes (Purchased by student, if needed)

- Students will need sliders and possibly insulated underwear to wear under their uniform. These are at your own expense.
- Shako and shoes are the student's responsibility and must be brought to all performances. Please keep shako in plastic bag in shako box.
- Extra items such as gloves can be purchased before events in band room. You must have these items for each performance. No cash is taken for extra items. Students sign for these purchases with the uniform volunteers, and the charges are entered into the student's Charms account as a fixed payment.
- Optionally, a Pride letterman jacket can be purchased at Yvonne's Embroidery. Cost is usually around \$200. This is the only jacket that can be worn with band uniform.
- Color Guard Uniform that is paid for with fees consists of:
 - Uniform worn for football games and local competitions.
 - Uniform that will be worn for out-of-state competitions, usually get these before St. Louis trip.
- Performance Shoes at student cost if needed.
- Color Guard Jacket at student cost if needed.
- Special undergarments for uniforms at student cost if needed.
- Color Guard usually wear black flip flops or slip on shoes to stadium from practice area.

IN STATE COMPETITIONS

- Due to copyright restrictions, there is NO videotaping at contest or rehearsal (unless authorized by the directors)
- Students will want to purchase a patch and pin for the event for their Pride Jacket's.
- Event t-shirts available at each competition for sale.
- Bring a camera. Professional pictures will be available, but they can get expensive.
- You will spend hours in a chair, bring ibuprofen.
- Contest are outside, dress in layers. Pride shirt or show shirt is what most parents wear to the competitions. Remember, these are available at Band Parent meetings for sale.
- Students will need pocket money for drinks, snacks and souvenirs.
- There are times at every event that you can see your child. However, much of the time, students will not be able to call you, text you, or visit with you because they are busy.
- On purchasing tickets for events, there are usually the options of all day ticket pricing or preliminary tickets and finals tickets. Every event is different. It really doesn't matter where your tickets are, usually there are pride parents and friends very close by. You will need cash for these tickets, some of the events you cannot use credit or debit card.
- BAPBA does do group tickets for OBA finals for reserved seating. They will announce closer to event when these go on sale and cost. Other in-state competitions do not have reserved seating.

OUT OF STATE COMPETITIONS

- There is NO videotaping and they are very strict about this. They will check your bags at check in.
- Students will want to purchase a patch and pin for the event for their Pride Jackets.
- Event T-shirts available at each competition for sale.
- Bring a Camera. Professional pictures will be available, but they can get expensive.
- If planning on attending Regional's in St. Louis or Grand Nationals in Indianapolis, IN, it is highly recommended to make your hotel reservations early if you want to stay near the event. You can always cancel later if you need too, but you might not be able to get a room if you wait too long. Both stadiums are large inside stadiums. Also, be prepared to share hotels with other bands. The hotels close to the stadiums which event is held will be very busy. You can make reservations through the BOA website for hotels (www.musicforall.org). Or you can make reservations on your own.
 - St. Louis, MO, Super-Regional's event is held at Edward Jones Dome, Downtown.
 - Indianapolis, IN, Grand Nationals event is held at Lucas Oil Stadium, Downtown.

- Tickets for Finals in Indianapolis, IN can be pre purchased at www.musicforall.org . There are separate tickets for preliminaries, semifinals and finals. We will find out when we perform prior so you can decide what you want to attend concerning prelims. Finals are the only tickets that you might want to buy tickets beforehand. The higher up you sit, the better the view of all the bands. You can always buy your tickets for both of these events when you arrive. There are usually Pride parents and friends close by wherever your tickets are. Prices for tickets are located on BOA website (www.musicforall.org).

MISCELLANEOUS TIPS

- **Sign up for e-news on www.brokenarrowpride.com. This will give you updates on things that happen throughout the year. Sign up is on the homepage.**
- Parents will be asked to provide cases of water for the pride for all contests. We want them to stay hydrated. So we ask that parents pick up a few cases of waters, and bring to the band room. It will be used for all away trips we go on. Usually bringing to a band parent meeting would be a great time.
- Attend Band Parent Meetings, 2nd Tuesday of each month August – May, held in the band room at the high school. You will get an update from directors and information about upcoming events, fundraisers and etc.
- Attend the football games. Pride will perform at halftime for home games and before the games at away games.
- At home football games, around 7:00 go to the top of the stadium and watch the pride and tradition march over from the practice area, this is a great photo opportunity. It is a wonderful sight to see. You don't want to miss it.
- Volunteer at events: this is a great way to meet other parents and learn about things. They sure don't mind to answer your questions and if they don't know the answer, they can find out who can.
- There is a PRIDE Banquet in the spring of each year; each Pride student will get a ticket to the banquet as long as their account has been paid in full. Anyone can attend the banquet, so tickets for parents, grandparents, and friends will be available at Band Parent meetings. Some choose to dress up for the event and some come casual, it is totally up to you. Date, time and location will be determined closer to event, usually in April.
- Auditions for All State and All District Bands are right at the end of Pride Season. Make room for practice time and get extra private lessons if needed. Your kid's band director can give you a list of instructors.
- Private lessons are a huge plus and for some a must for your student to compete at this level. List of instructors is available from your band director.

PAYMENT PLAN FOR PRIDE

- Is there a payment plan for pride. ?????
- Some parents pay the account in full, if you are planning on doing that, the earlier the better.
- Fundraisers will be available all year, look for information. This information usually goes out on e-news.
- Stadium clean up is a paid event. After each home football game and special events that pride sponsors, we are responsible for cleaning up stadium. For more information contact BAStadiumCleanup@gmail.com
- There are many opportunities for paid work. Tulsa Expo events, Tulsa Raceway, Drillers, and others. These events earn money for your student account. For more information contact BAPrideWork@gmail.com .

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER FOR PRIDE & HOW TO SIGN UP

- Concessions – contact BAConcessions@gmail.com.
- Work events that are major fundraisers for the pride. Those events include Drum Corp, Inc. (July) and BA Invitational Band Competition (October). Contact BASpecialEvents@gmail.com.

- Uniform Washing and Maintenance - Uniforms need care after all games and competitions, along with alterations and repairs. **This takes a lot of people!** Contact BAUniform@gmail.com
- Flag Sewing (Iron, cut and sew fabric.) There are sewing machines at the HS, but if you have one that is great too! Contact BAUniform@gmail.com
- Chaperoning football games (home and away games) – Contact BAFunctions@gmail.com
- Feeding Band & Cleaning Up before football games. (This is crucial due to chaperones having to leave for away games due to time schedule). Contact BAFunctions@gmail.com
- Band Operations – this team helps get equipment on and off the field, builds props, loads trucks, and generally makes sure the Pride keep rolling. Contact BA Pride Operations@gmail.com
- Chaperone away contest (People are selected by volunteer hours). Contact BAFunctions@gmail.com

the Pride of Broken Arrow

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT PRIDE BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
Updated May, 2017

What is my Student Account? – An individual account that is set up for each Pride member and housed under the Broken Arrow High School's bank. Funds raised by or paid by an individual Pride member to pay his or her PRIDE fees. Includes all meals prior/during football games and contests, 1 Uniform T-Shirt, 1 "Show" T-Shirt, supplementary instructional fees, and all costs for overnight trips such as transportation and lodging. Depending on trip destinations, costs have ranged \$1800 - \$2300. The color guard usually has some extra expense throughout the year such as specialty items and their competition uniform. The BABPA is working to reduce these expenses through Corporate Sponsorships and Special Events. Student account activity can be tracked through the use of the web-based software Charms at www.charmsoffice.com. See more regarding charms under 'BA Band Terms and Acronyms' as well as www.brokenarrowpride.com.

What is the Booster Account? – Funds which are raised to go to Band Activity Accounts at the middle, intermediate and senior high schools. These funds are used for any purchases that the directors deem necessary for their band programs.

What is Concessions? – The Band Parent Association mans all concessions at the Broken Arrow Public Schools football stadiums. Monies from the Freshman Academy and Tiger Field are divided between all the band programs, 6th – 12th grade.

What are Paid Events? – Parents of Pride and Tradition Members have opportunities to work events at Expo Square and these monies go directly to their Student Account. Parents and students may also work Concessions at non-BA Schools and professional events held at Tiger Field for their Student Account Money. Students may also raise money for their Student Accounts by working stadium clean-up. The hourly rate for all of these Paid Events is \$8.00 per hour. In all cases a direct credit will be made to the Student Account for the hours worked, and no cash will be dispersed.

Who are the Chaperones? – Pride parents chaperone trips the Pride takes including to and from football games and contests. Parents also chaperone the overnight contest and are selected by the directors based, in part, upon the number of hours they volunteer during a certain time period. All chaperones will be required to submit a background check, conducted at expense of BAPS, and to sign affidavits attesting that they have no felony convictions.

What is the Band Parent Association (BPA) - The organization comprised of all parents who have a child active in the Broken Arrow Schools Band Program, grades 6 -12.

Do I have to do a Fundraiser? No. Fundraising opportunities are given throughout the year to raise money for individual Student Accounts. Direct payment to the Student Accounts may be made either in a lump sum or on a payment plan. Student Account balances are due in full prior to the out-of-state contests. Credit cards are not yet accepted, but this may change soon. Checks issued by credit card companies that are in turn charged to your credit card can be accepted.

What if I have money left in a Student Account when my child graduates or is no longer in Pride? If you have made direct payments into your Student Account and have receipts/cancelled checks, a refund may be requested. If you have a younger child who will be a future member of the Pride, you can save the Student Account money for them to use at a future date. You can also "will" the money to future Pride members to be distributed at the discretion of the band directors (e.g. hardship instances.) Money made through fundraisers or paid events are not refundable.

Who pays for uniforms? Basic uniforms (purchased from bond funds) are loaned to Pride members. Pride members are responsible for purchasing individual items such as color guard jackets/warm-ups. (NOTE: 1 Uniform T-Shirt, 1 "Show" Shirt will be provided... any additional quantities may be purchased through the Uniform Committee.) Other items are offered for sale, such as Pride tote bags and various T-shirts and are available at all Band Parent meetings. Pride letter jackets are available at Yvonne's Monograms and are optional.

When are the Band Parent Association (BPA) Meetings? General Meetings are usually held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Broken Arrow High School Band Room. They generally last 1 – 1½ hours. Plan to attend; a lot of information is given out at these meetings.

What are the contests in which the Pride will participate? The Pride will be competing in 2 out-of-state contests. These include the Bands of America (BOA) Regional Competition in St. Louis, MO. in October, and the BOA Grand National Competition in Indianapolis, IN, in November.

In-state contests may include a local invitational, as well as, the Oklahoma Bandmaster Association (OBA) State Competition in October, which are held in various intra-state locations. Contests are required for Pride members. Parents may attend and ticket information is available at BPA General Meetings.

What kind of time commitment will my child have by being in the Pride? There are 3 Horn Line Mini Camps scheduled throughout the summer beginning in May. They will rehearse from 12-5 pm on the following dates: May 23-25, June 6-8, and July 11-13. Mandatory marching rehearsals begin in July and continue through November, taking approximately 10-15 hours per week. Many times specific sections (i.e. percussion, low brass, woodwind, etc.) will rehearse additional hours during the week. Color Guard rehearses approximately 10-15 hours per week.

This doesn't include the time the Pride is traveling and attending a football game or band contest.

A home football game includes a rehearsal, meal, Pre-Game preparations, and the actual game. Students are typically involved with a home game from 3:30 pm until 10:30 pm.

An away football game includes a rehearsal, meal, travel, the game, and travel back to Broken Arrow. Students are typically involved in an away game from 3:30 pm until 11:30 pm.

Band Contests occur most Saturdays in October and the last weekend of September. Band contests are typically all day events. Detailed itineraries are available at band parent meetings, distributed to the students, via eNews and the Broken Arrow band's website.

Are we allowed to watch the Pride during rehearsals? Yes, you are allowed to watch the kids, but please do not distract the kids. They are practicing and this is a very important time for the directors. Also, please keep the noise down; directors are trying to give instruction. During Pride Camp, you are welcome to watch from outside the camp area. Color guard practices are usually held in the gym or band room. Thursday evenings (after season has started) the stadium opens to spectators at 8:30 pm. It is a great time to come watch the kids. You will be able to locate your kid on the field and see what all they have accomplished. **Please do not enter stadium seats until 8:30 pm.**

Broken Arrow Band Terms and Acronyms

Updated: May 2017

BAI: Broken Arrow Invitational: Band Contest held in October each year at Tiger Stadium. A large fundraiser for the Pride. Bands from around the state and out of state come to compete. Pride does not compete, but they do an exhibition the day of the event. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to help make this event run smoothly.

Band Member Handbook: Each band member will receive online access to this school approved handbook. The handbook can also be found as a link on brokenarrowpride.com. Parent/guardians will also find the handbook useful as a reference and means of learning more about the band program. Hard copies provided on request.

BAPS: Broken Arrow Public Schools.

BOA: Bands of America. Bands of America marching band competitions are held at various locations around the country in the fall. The Pride usually compete in one or two of these competitions. This is usually held in October.

Booster Account: An account funded by booster fundraising activities. The money is used by the band directors to pay expenses of the band program not funded by the school system.

BPA, BABPA: Broken Arrow Band Parent Association

Broken Arrow Band Parent Association: The booster club for the Broken Arrow band program, the BABPA or BPA is open to all parents/guardians of band members and color guard members. The BPA helps the band program by helping raise funds and providing volunteer labor. The BPA has officers who are elected and also managers and coordinators. The directors of the band, the BPA officers, managers, and coordinators comprise a board. The BPA holds monthly meetings for all parents August through May.

By-Laws: The BABPA has by-laws to govern its conduct. The by-laws are written so as to defer to the Volunteer Guidelines of BAPS.

Chaperone: The BPA helps the directors by supplying chaperones when needed (primarily for football games and marching band competitions). Chaperones volunteer and, if selected, agree to abide by all the rules of the Volunteer Guidelines handbook and all instructions and expectations of the directors. Chaperones are also needed for spring contest, usually held during school hours.

DCI: Drum Corps International. As a fundraiser, the BABPA and alumni hosts a competition of Drum Corps International each summer at the high school stadium which we call “**Drums of Summer**” (drumsofsummer.com). This event is one of Prides largest fundraisers. Held usually in July each year at our Tiger Stadium. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to work this event.

Drums of Summer: See DCI.

EXPO: Expo Square and occasionally other entities will pay money directly into a band member’s student activity account (trip account) for every hour someone works at an Expo event on behalf of that band member.

Grand Nationals: The national marching band competition sponsored by Bands of America each fall. This is held at the Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, IN, in November. The Pride doesn’t attend this contest every year.

Finance Secretary: Lisa Good is the financial secretary for the band program at the high school campus. She takes care of all students accounts. Mrs. Good’s email is lsgood@baschools.org.

Music for All: see Bands of America

OBA: Oklahoma Bandmasters Association. You may hear someone say, “The Pride is going to OBA,” or “OBA is at BA this year,” meaning the OBA state championship for bands usually held near the end of October. The location changes each year.

Operations: The process and team who have selected to assist the band with physical tasks such as loading the semi-trailer, constructing and repairing equipment, and getting on and off the performance field.

Paid Event (Expo): An event where a band member or parent/guardian may work to earn dollar credits for a band member’s student activity account.

PRIDE Creed: At the end of performances (and other times) current and past Pride **members only** recite all or part of the Pride Creed. Copies are available.

PRIDE: Competitive marching band performing at football game halftime, away football games, and competitions.

Rank One: An online forms completion service. Through Rank One all participation, emergency contact, band handbook, student physicals and documents necessary to participate in Pride are located. These document **MUST** be completed in order for your student to be eligible to participate. There will be an announcement in eNews once Rank One is ready for the new season.

Section Parents: Section parents help at home football games by serving and cleaning up after dinner, and chaperoning in the bleachers with the Pride.

Show shirts: Shirts for purchase which depict the show or performance the Pride prepares each fall. (Pride members receive a show t-shirt with their fee that they pay). Additional shirts are available for parents and friends for purchase. These shirts may also be available as Long Sleeve T’s and Hoodie Sweatshirts.

The way we do things: A tradition of the BABPA is to stand and applaud all marching bands at all football games and competitions. Please take the lead, stand up and clap, and show appreciation for the band members of other schools.

Tradition: Marching band for grades 9-12 which performs in parades, football pre-game shows, and football pep band.

Student Account: An account is kept of the funds raised by a band member to offset the costs that band member’s participation in certain band activities.

Volunteer Event: An event where parent volunteers are needed. The time volunteered will earn volunteer hours for the parent/guardian. No monetary credits are made to a band member’s student activity account. The event may or may not be a fundraising event for the booster account.

Volunteer Guidelines: The Broken Arrow Public Schools has adopted volunteer guidelines for the band program which provide guidance to band volunteers. The Volunteer Guidelines are available at brokenarrowpride.com.

Volunteer hour(s): Time spent giving of your time for the benefit of the band program. The time is recorded for several reasons, one of which is to identify potential chaperones for overnight band trips.