

Corona del Sol High School

Aztec Bands

2010-2011

Symphonic Band (1st Hour)

HANDBOOK

Mr. David DuPlessis
Director of Bands

coronaband@gmail.com

www.cdsband.org

- Please sign and return this cover page
- Complete the Student Information page

I have read all rules and regulations as laid out in the concert band and locker/instrument checkout sections of the band constitution and agree to them in their entirety. I agree to fulfill any and all student or parent/guardian obligations as described above. I understand that all rules and regulations as stated above will be enforced equitably and followed consistently by the band director, and staff of the Corona del Sol Band in the administration of a safe and successful band program.

Parent/Guardian Print Name

Student Print Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature

Band Student Information Sheet

Student Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Student ID # _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Home Phone _____ **Emergency Phone** _____

Parent/Guardian Names _____

**Parent/Guardian
Email Addresses** _____
(Print Neatly!)

Student Email Address _____
(Print Neatly!)

Concert Instrument _____

Band (Circle) 2nd Hr (Concert Band) / 1st Hour (Symphonic) / 6th Hour (Wind Ensemble)

Symphonic Band

1. Participation
 - a. For freshmen through senior students, by audition only.
 - i. Exception must be approved by the band director.
 - b. Meets 1st Period.
 - i. (“Varsity Band” – FA77)
 - c. Admission to the group by audition only.
 - d. At least 2 years of instrumental training is required.
 - i. Exceptions must be approved by the band director.
 - e. Both a course fee and an activity fee are assessed by the school district for participation in the class.
 - i. Payments are made in the school bookstore made payable to “Corona del Sol”.
 - f. Instruments and lockers are available for rental from the band (see Band Lockers and Instrument Checkout).
2. Expectations of Members
 - a. Members are required to audition for Regional Band & Orchestra OR participate in the Solo/Ensemble Festival.
 - i. If accepted, members are required to participate in the Regional Band Festival (usually all day on Friday/Saturday in February – event at Central HS in Phoenix)
 - ii. Both of these events happen on the same day, on the CdS campus.
 - b. Auditioning for Regional Band & Orchestra.
 - i. A small fee is charged by ABODA for participation (usually \$15)
 - ii. Auditions take place in January and entail all (12) major scales, three etudes, and sight reading exercises.
 - iii. Members who make the North Central Regional Band or Orchestra are strongly encouraged to audition for All State Band & Orchestra.
 1. Failure to audition for State will not result in a change in grade.
 - c. Solo & Ensemble Festival
 - i. A small fee is charged by ABODA for participation.
 - d. Students are expected to practice an average of 30 minutes per day.
 - e. Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons.
 - i. A list of private instructors can be obtained from the director. Costs will vary depending on the duration of the lesson and the instructor.
 - ii. Exceptions must be approved by the band director.
 - f. Members must attend all concerts and festivals.
 - i. Concerts and Festivals comprise the main portion of the student’s grade in the class.
 - ii. Concerts and Festivals will be posted on the website calendar and the students will be notified in advance. However, the dates and times of these events are subject to change due to extenuating circumstances.

- iii. Students are expected to arrive at the designated time in the proper concert attire (see *uniforms*).
- iv. Failure to attend concerts or festivals will result in a change in grade.
- v. Students are required to attend the concert in its entirety. This entails watching the performance from the earliest possible until the conclusion of the final piece. Students who fail to comply with this policy will be marked absent for the concert.
 - 1. Individual exceptions or change in this policy will be at the discretion of the director.
- vi. Students may not be permitted to participate in a performance if the director feels that he/she is not prepared, based on poor attendance or lack of practice.
- g. Members must attend all sectionals and rehearsals
 - i. Sectionals and rehearsals will be a portion of the student's grade.
 - 1. Sectionals will be required by the director throughout the year.
 - 2. Additional rehearsals will be held as necessary at the discretion of the director.
 - ii. Attendance is required at all sectionals and all additional rehearsals, as well as class period rehearsals.
 - 1. Notice for sectionals or additional rehearsals will be given at least 3 days in advance.
 - iii. Failure to attend a section or an additional rehearsal will result in a change of grade, the amount of which is at the director's discretion.
- h. Testing
 - i. There will be periodic playing checks and tests throughout the year.
 - ii. Playing tests will comprise a portion of the student's grade.
 - iii. Testing will be used to determine chair placement within the ensemble.
 - 1. Seating will be adjusted accordingly following every test.
 - iv. Criteria will be established prior to test day.
 - v. Make-ups and re-tests may be permitted depending on the situation with the director's approval.
 - vi. Challenges
 - 1. If unsatisfied with chair placement then a student may challenge the person directly above them in chair order.
 - 2. Both students must agree to the date and time at which the director is available to judge the challenge.
 - 3. The director will select the material for the challenge from class materials.
 - 4. Chair seating will be adjusted to reflect the results of the challenge.
 - 5. A student can only challenge once every two weeks.

- i. Uniforms
 - i. Students in Symphonic Band will be provided with concert attire.
 - ii. Concert attire for gentlemen:
 - 1. Black tuxedo, black tux shirt, and a bow tie
 - a. Each gentleman is responsible to own black dress shoes (marching shoes are acceptable) and black socks.
 - iii. Concert attire for ladies:
 - 1. Black concert dress
 - a. Every lady must have all black dress shoes or heels (no flip-flops are permissible).
 - iv. The above-described attire will be considered proper concert attire for all concerts and festivals.
- j. Rehearsal Conduct
 - i. Students are expected to arrive to class on time. Upon arrival students are to warm up and prepare for the rehearsal.
 - 1. Although this class is directly after marching band, students arriving late will still be sent to Sweep per school policy.
 - ii. The daily agenda will be posted on the board to ensure that students are prepared and the rehearsal is efficient.
 - iii. Rehearsals will begin once the director steps onto the podium.
 - iv. Rehearsals will begin 5 minutes following the bell ring.
 - 1. Any student not inside the band room door when the bell rings will be marked tardy.
 - 2. Any student not in his/her seat and ready to play when the rehearsal begins will be marked tardy.
 - 3. Attendance will be entered into the band office computer each day.
 - v. Throughout the rehearsal, students are expected to remain quiet and attentive. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the loss of daily points and/or alternative consequences.
 - vi. Rehearsal ends at the director's discretion. With the director's consent, students may begin to put away their instruments.
 - 1. The director will ensure that students have adequate time to reach their next class.
 - vii. If the director decides to allow students to use class time for individual or group practice, students are expected to do as instructed.
 - 1. Students who do not use class time as directed will face consequences.
 - viii. Students must behave in accordance with all rules and regulations laid out in the Corona del Sol High School Student Handbook.
 - ix. Students must always have their instrument, music, and necessary instrument accessories, and a pencil at rehearsals.
- k. Band Room Expectations

- i. No food or drink allowed
 - 1. Water is the only exception
 - ii. No running or horseplay is permitted
 - iii. No balls, Frisbees, etc. or any kind of athletic ball or flying projectile is permitted.
 - iv. Percussionists in the same hour percussion class are the only band members permitted to play on percussion instruments.
 - v. It's your band room, keep it nice!
- 3. Grading
 - a. Students' grades will be comprised of the following weighted categories:
 - i. Test/Quiz (Theory & Rhythm quizzes) – 50 points – 10% of grade
 - ii. Performance Tests (Music checks) – 100 points – 20% of grade
 - iii. Attendance/Participation – 425 points total – 70% of grade
 - 1. Daily Rehearsals per month – 100 points
 - 2. Afternoon Rehearsal – 50 points
 - 3. Sectionals – 25 points
 - 4. Concerts – 250 points
 - iv. Participation in the Regional/Solo & Ensemble Festival
 - b. Deductions in grades will be made for the following reasons:
 - i. Tardy – -5 points
 - ii. Unexcused Absence (Daily Rehearsals) – -10 points
 - iii. Unexcused Absence (Afternoon Rehearsal, Sectionals, Concerts) – - All points
 - c. Extra credit will be given for the following reasons:
 - i. Attendance of a band or “classical” concert (including any CdS percussion, choir, orchestra, or another band concert) +10 points
 - ii. Write a 350 word thesis on the history of your instrument (maximum of 1 per semester) +25 points
 - iii. Prepare and perform an intermediate to advanced level solo in class (points awarded based on performance) +75 points
- 4. Competitions
 - a. Symphonic Band will participate in the Area Concert Festival and possibly the State Concert Festival in the spring.
 - b. Additional public performances may be scheduled, and attendance will be expected.
 - c. Students must have a travel permission form on file.
- 5. Financial Guidelines
 - a. Individual Fundraising
 - i. Money earned by the individual students through Band-sponsored fundraisers will remain in the student's account for the duration of the student's participation in band.
 - 1. Monies in the account will be carried forward from each year to next.

2. At the end of the student's last year in band, any remaining balance will be absorbed into the band general fund.
 3. If the student drops band the monies will not be refunded.
 4. If the student is a senior, the remaining balance at graduation will be absorbed into the band general fund.
 5. Funds can be transferred to a sibling in the band program only.
- ii. All-band Fundraising
1. Money earned by the band as a whole through Band Booster Club and Band sponsored fundraisers will be absorbed into the band general fund.

Lockers/Instrument Checkout

1. Lockers
 - a. Lockers may be rented from the band program without charge during the summer or school year.
 - i. Materials left in the band area without being stored in a locker may be confiscated by the band director.
 - b. Each locker will be assigned an individual lock.
 - i. Students may not provide their own lock.
 - ii. Locks must be returned at the end of the school year with their correct combination attached.
 1. Failure to return a lock will result in the assessment of a \$5 replacement charge.
 - c. Lockers may be used only for the storage of music instruments, music, instrument accessories, and other miscellaneous items necessary for rehearsal in a concert ensemble and/or marching band.
 - i. Items necessary for marching band should be stored together in a bag and not left loose.
 - ii. Lockers may not be used to store books, class work, loose clothing, or food.
 1. Clothes and shoes from a marching rehearsal should be stored in a bag and kept in a regular school locker.
 - iii. Any of the above-mentioned prohibited materials may be removed from the lockers without prior notice.
 - d. Lockers must be kept locked at all times.
 - i. Failure to lock a locker may result in the confiscation of items with in the locker or revocation of locker privileges.
 - e. Students are responsible for any and all property stored in their lockers.
 - i. Lockers may be searched without notice.
 - f. Materials or instruments left in a locker or the band area following the end of the school year will become the property of the Corona Band.

2. Instruments

- a. Instruments for concert ensembles or marching band may be rented from the band.
 - i. Instruments may be rented by students involved in school ensembles only.
 1. Exceptions must be approved by the director.
- b. Rentals are available free of charge from the School
 - i. All instruments will be assessed after marching season (or near the end of school) and will be cleaned and repaired by a professional Music Store. Families will be charged for appropriate cleaning/repair fees (on average \$50 if the student cares for the instrument well).
 - ii. Instruments can also be taken to a music store of the parents' choosing, as long as all cleaning and repairs are completed from the repair assessment sheet.
- c. Rentals are subject to the completion of a rental contract requiring the signature of the student and a parent/guardian.
- d. Instruments must be returned at the end of the school year (marching instruments at the end of Marching season)
 - i. Instruments returned in poor condition will be subject to repair or replacement fees as agreed upon in the rental contract.
 - ii. Failure to return an instrument will result in the assessment of a replacement charge and may result in an incomplete grade in the student's performing ensemble class.
- e. Instruments must be stored in the correct locker at all times while in the band room.
 - i. Instruments left out or stored in the incorrect locker will be subject to confiscation by the band director.
- f. Rental contracts may be revoked at the discretion of the band director, based on treatment of the instrument, its case, and/or other band property.