

Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band
Member Guidelines

2014-2015 Concert Series

Membership

Membership is on a volunteer basis and is open to qualified players (age 21 and older) of intermediate through advanced levels of playing. Sections need to be maintained, and need is based on the Conductor's discretion. It is our goal to have as many members as possible be active military service personnel, retired veterans or have family ties to veterans. Members in the band range from music teachers to people that just love to play music. Players must provide their own instruments, while percussion instruments are provided for rehearsals and concerts. Further information and schedules are available on our website. www.rrvvcb.org

Attendance Policy

Our season starts in early September and ends by June of the following year. We present a Fall Concert Series and Spring Concert Series, with a break from rehearsals during the Christmas Holidays.

Transportation for out-of-town concerts is provided by the band, with a schedule of departure times as required for each event. Members should try to make every reasonable effort to attend all rehearsals and concerts. For maximum rehearsal effectiveness, this requires members arriving on time and remaining for the complete rehearsal.

Schedules are provided to the members every two to three months. (Also available on our website) Members are to contact the Conductor or section leader in advance of missing or arriving late for a rehearsal and/or concert. In the event of a rehearsal absence, it is the member's responsibility to ensure the presence of a shared music folder at rehearsals. When a member finds that he or she is unable to attend a concert, the section leader should be notified as soon as possible.

Rehearsals are Thursday evenings, starting at 7:00 pm and ending at 8:30 pm promptly. The Conductor requires that everyone be in place, warmed up, and have the music ready to play at 7:00 pm.

Please remember that as a member of the RRVVCB all of the individual musical parts have importance to the overall sound that we present to the audience. Placement in the band is not a reflection of your individual talent. We are honored to have each and every one of you as a member. We play a variety of venues and concert schedules, which require everyone in the section to be prepared to help out with all of the parts at times. This includes setup and load out at each performance. We ask that if you are able to, please help move equipment before and after the performances.

As part of an agreement between the El Zagal Shrine and the RRVVCB, the band has the privilege of using a portion of the Shrine building as our rehearsal and equipment storage facility. We are deeply indebted to the Shrine for their generous offer. We ask all band members to treat the facility with respect and to honor the building owners' rules and regulations at all times.

Music Equipment

Music will be handed out by the Conductors and the Conductors' staff. Folders and music stands are available for the members use during rehearsal and concerts. If your folder is missing parts, please inform the section leader or the Conductor. Music and music folders should not be taken home by the members of the band. Copies may be made at rehearsal for you to take home for your personal practice requirements. At the end of each rehearsal and/or concert, your music folder and stand should be returned to the proper container.

Concert Dress Policy

All members of the band are required to have a uniform to wear at the performances so designated by the Board of Directors. It is the band member's responsibility to keep the jacket clean and in good repair. Annual drycleaning of the jacket is recommended.

Uniform requirements consist of the following:

Red Jacket & Grey Trousers; Available through a local vender (The White Banner Uniform Shop).

Please contact the RRVVCB Treasurer for details on the reimbursement policy

Navy blue tie; provided by the RRVVCB

White wrinkle free shirt with a collar, black shoes and black socks; provided by the band member.

If you do not have the complete uniform requirements at concert time, do not expect to participate. If you need any of the above-listed items for a uniform, please contact the section leader or the Conductor.

9/2/2015

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Rehearsal & Concert Etiquette

Rehearsals:

- Our intent is to keep the rehearsals productive and enjoyable. We do the best we can do, entertain the audience and have fun doing it.
- If you arrive late to a rehearsal, put your instrument together and wait until the Conductor stops the music before you join the ensemble.
- Tune your instrument before sitting down; blow air to keep it warm; if you must practice, practice quietly.
- Unless you play every note perfectly, have patience with an individual or section having difficulty playing a passage.
- Try to ask specific questions about your part during a break or after rehearsal.
- Unnecessary talking during rehearsal is disturbing to the Conductor and fellow band members. Questions about tempo, dynamics, etc., should be brought during a break or after rehearsal.
- Mark your part for reminders with pencil and then be responsible to play it correctly. Do not use ink or highlighters on original music parts.
- Show respect for a soloist by not making movements that are a distraction to them.
- Stop when the Conductor stops.
- Do not challenge the Conductor in front of the group.

Concerts:

- Tune your instrument before sitting down; blow air to keep it warm; if you must practice, practice quietly.
- Pay attention at the end of each piece to see if you or your section is being asked to stand for acknowledgement by the audience. Acknowledge your fellow musicians on their solo performances.
- Acknowledge the audience's appreciation of the music selection before putting away your music and getting up the next piece.
- If mistakes are made, don't grimace, frown, shake your head, or make any other gesture to draw attention to what has happened.
- Unnecessary talking during concerts is disturbing to the Conductor and fellow band members. Just don't do it.
- If you anticipate being late for a performance. Please inform your section leader and/or the Conductor as soon as possible. If you are late for any reason, do not assume that you will be included in the performance. It will be entirely up to the discretion of the Conductor whether you will be included in the performance.
- If you are a seasonal player (fall and/or spring), do not expect to perform in a Concert that you have not attended rehearsals for during that series. It will be entirely up to the discretion of the Conductor whether you will be included in the performances.

Notice of Intention

If you are a current RRVVCB member and will be unavailable for the coming concert season or portion of the concert season, but wish to remain a member, please contact the Conductor or the president.

If you are a current band member and you are planning on retiring from the band, please inform the director or the president. You will need to return any property that belongs to the RRVVCB; Red Jacket, tie, music and/or band equipment.

Board Members:

President: Perry Kleven; email: perry@rrvvcb.org
Vice President: Jeff DeVillers; email: jeffd@rrvvcb.org
Secretary: Sherri Stastny; email: sherri.stastny@ndsu.edu
Treasurer: Elaine Borud; email: dborud@cableone.net
Scheduling: Brad Schmidt; email: bschmidt@kwh.com
Music Library: Shauna Dubuque
Band Conductors: Bernie McKigney, Aaron Romaine

Board of Directors: Perry Kleven, Jeff DeVillers, Sherri Stastny, Elaine Borud, Cindy Arnhold, Barb Chamberlain, DeDee Hallada, Brad Schmidt, Esther Bromander, and Lawrence Woodbury,