



Heat Wave Drum & Bugle Corps COVID-19 Policy and Protocol



Status	Revision No	Description	Date
Release	Baseline -	Initial Revision	04/27/2021

Scope/Applicability

This policy shall apply to all Heat Wave Drum & Bugle Corps programs and events until the end of the 2021 season.

Definition of “Bubble”

An isolation bubble (“bubble” hereafter) is an environment established and maintained to provide protection from viral infection such as COVID-19. The bubble creates an infection free set of conditions designed to protect a defined population during a specific timeframe while engaged in a set of recognized activities.

The bubble is established and enforced through a set of protocols and rules that define behaviors, physical environment, processes, and logistics. Maintaining the integrity of the bubble is crucial to maintaining the health of the members of the bubble population, and therefore the ability of the members to participate for the duration of the activities.

The bubble is complex and requires a disciplined, reliable, and consistent commitment by individuals and organizations. Compliance and enforcement of bubble protocols and rules require diligence and monitoring coupled with unwavering willingness of bubble members to fully participate. Also critical to bubble success is an understanding and support by family, friends, fans and associates of the rationale underlying the bubble.

Definition of “Participant”

All people involved in corps operations including all performers, staff, and volunteers.

Verb Application

Throughout this document statements containing shall are used for binding requirements; will is used as a statement of fact, declaration of purpose, or expected occurrence; and should denotes a statement of best practice. For additional clarity, requirements are written in bold text.



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Minimum Viable Conditions

A set of conditions, circumstances, and facts that are collectively verifiable and represent the minimum requirements to proceed with a defined course of action. Minimum Viable Conditions are used to drive objective decision making that results in taking action.

Note: These conditions are based on what was known at the time the DCI Tour Reopening Task Force shared its guidance on 1/13/21. External conditions continue to change rapidly. DCI and the TRTF will actively monitor the pandemic and make adjustments to the minimum viable conditions as necessary. These are being provided here for information only.

Conditions

- Positivity rate at any location that a corps performs or stays overnight
 - Less than 5%
- In event locations, new cases per 100,000 residents in a 14 day rolling average
 - 100 new cases or less
- No negative trends to the above metrics
- Testing
 - Access to affordable, rapid testing
- State quarantine orders
 - Must be able to travel between states on tour
- Group size restrictions
 - Indoor gathering restrictions in rehearsal & performance sites
 - Can't be fewer than 220 people

Statement on Vaccinations

While it is unlikely that a vaccine will reach wide enough distribution to be effective prior to Heat Wave's 2021 season, if one does become available to the general public and has an efficacy of at least 60%, Heat Wave strongly recommends that each Participant be fully vaccinated prior to arrival. At this time, vaccination is not a substitute for other public health measures included in these guidelines.

All persons who will not be staying with the corps for 100% of the summer program shall be fully vaccinated prior to arrival and shall not be permitted to have close contact with or share indoor spaces with corps members.

All performers shall stay with Heat Wave from the first day of the summer program until they depart for the final time.



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Testing Protocol

All Participants shall submit a verified negative PCR COVID-19 virus test administered within 72 hours prior to arrival for any indoor or overnight event.

- Participants are responsible for completing this test on their own. The test provided by Heat Wave upon arrival may not be used to replace this pre-arrival test.

Once Participants arrive to begin the 2021 season, Heat Wave will implement the following testing schedule:

- **Each Participant shall be tested twice per week for the first two weeks of the season for presence of the virus.**
- **Following the first two weeks, tests shall be administered once per week for the remainder of the season.**
 - Heat Wave will provide the required tests once participants arrive.

In addition, the following steps shall be taken:

- **Each Participant shall self-quarantine for at least 7 days prior to arrival and with no symptoms of illness.**
- Heat Wave will ensure that masks are available for all Participants and require their use when masks are necessary.

Definition of “Close Contact”

A close contact is considered to be an individual who was within six feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

Contact Tracing

If any Participant tests positive at any point during the season, Heat Wave will contact the local health department in the specific location of the positive test to discuss contact tracing and other public health measures or requirements.

To assist the local health department in the contact tracing process, Heat Wave will track the following information:

- Name & contact information of any person that might have come into contact with the individual who tested positive. A contact is someone who was within six feet of an infected individual for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Vehicle seat assignments that indicate who might have been travelling near the individual who tested positive.
- Housing/sleeping information that indicates who may have been sleeping near the individual who tested positive, including who might have shared a hotel room with that person (when applicable).
- Scheduling information that indicates who might have been rehearsing or working in the direct vicinity of the person that tested positive.

In addition to working with local health departments to perform contact tracing, Heat Wave will train key members of the admin team on the process of contact tracing using the course available at

<https://www.train.org/main/course/1091302/compilation>.



Protocols for Participants that test positive to COVID-19 or with symptoms of COVID-19:

These protocols are based on current CDC recommendations as of January 5, 2021. Given that COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus, CDC recommendations will continue to evolve as we learn more about this virus and may cause changes to the following protocols.

The terms “symptomatic” of COVID-19 or in “close contact” with COVID-19 will most likely also continue to evolve. Heat Wave will employ the most current definitions and practices found on the CDC (cdc.gov) website as we apply these recommendations.

- If a Participant is ill but symptoms are NOT suggestive of COVID, and they have NOT been in close contact with an individual with known COVID, they will be managed by the corps medical team as per established procedure.
- Management of Participants symptomatic for COVID:
 - **If a Participant is ill and symptoms ARE suggestive of COVID (based on symptoms as currently defined by the CDC), they shall be isolated and evaluated at a hospital emergency department (ED), urgent care (UC) clinic, or a telehealth (TH) provider associated with a local COVID testing center.** Before locating to a geographic region, familiarize yourself with local ED and UC policies regarding treatment of COVID-symptomatic patients, as not all medical facilities are equipped to treat or diagnose COVID patients. **Transportation of the individual to the evaluation shall be provided in a manner that provides the least possible exposure to those in the same vehicle.**
- FOR THOSE WITH NEGATIVE COVID TEST RESULTS BUT WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:
 - **The individual shall maintain quarantine until they:**
 - **Are no longer symptomatic and**
 - **Have had a minimum of two negative COVID tests with the second one being performed a minimum of 7 days after exposure or onset of symptoms and**
 - **Have maintained quarantine for 14 days if there has been close contact with a known COVID positive individual (see definition for “close contact” below).**
 - **Be evaluated by a medical provider at a local ED, UC, or TH who can provide medical clearance for return to participation.**
 - **If Heat Wave is due to relocate during the evaluation or quarantine time of a COVID negative but symptomatic and/or exposed participant, that participant shall be responsible for their own medical care and housing beyond 2 hours. No participants who are symptomatic or have been in close contact with a known COVID positive individual shall be allowed to travel with Heat Wave.**
- FOR THOSE WITH POSITIVE COVID TEST RESULTS
 - If a Participant is symptomatic of COVID or has been in “close contact,” and receives a positive COVID test result, no additional testing is needed, but may be repeated at the discretion of the corps medical provider.
 - If a Participant is asymptomatic or was not in “close contact” and has a positive result, the test can be repeated within 2 days with another viral test (RT-PCR or antigen) to rule out a false positive. If the second test is positive, the Participant is considered to have a positive test. If the second test is negative (with no symptoms), then the Participant is considered negative.
 - ****This recommendation is based on data indicating that the “gold standard” for clinical COVID detection is the RT-PCR test, and while it may be necessary in some circumstances to confirm a rapid antigen test with a PCR test, if the pretest probability for COVID is high (meaning it is likely that the participant with a positive test result seems likely to have COVID, is a close contact, or there is a high level of disease in the**



community), repeat testing is not necessary, regardless of which type of test was performed initially, but can be repeated if desired.

- **Participants who test positive for COVID (with repeat testing, if done) shall immediately end their current participation in the corps. Allocation of cost for housing and responsibility for observation and meals in the quarantine location will be the responsibility of the Participant (or family in the event of a minor) beyond 72 hours.**
 - **If a Participant tests positive for COVID, they shall be quarantined at a predetermined designated quarantine site and managed by personnel from that organization who are provided with all the appropriate PPE needed to care for that COVID positive individual.**
 - **Symptomatic COVID positive participants shall be evaluated by a TH provider at least once (or more often as indicated) during their quarantine.** The corps medical team member providing care for that participant during quarantine should be present on that TH call via computer.
 - **Quarantine care shall include 4-hour checks while awake w/ the affected Participant which can be done virtually between the hours of 9 AM and 9 PM.**
 - **The Participant shall do a CDC Coronavirus “self-checker” once daily and report that result as well as temperature and pulse oximetry to the corps medical team member responsible for monitoring the quarantined participant.**
 - **Meals, etc. shall be delivered to the door in a safe manner which does not expose the person providing delivery.**
 - **If there is concern for that individual’s safety because the individual is reporting trouble breathing, chest pain or pressure, confusion, loss of consciousness, bluish hue to the lips or face, blood oxygen level less than 94% or any other concerning symptoms as defined by the CDC, that individual shall be taken to the nearest hospital for further evaluation and management.**
 - **In the event the COVID positive patient is a minor, the corps will involve the parent or guardian in all decisions regarding care. A TH visit with a healthcare provider is strongly recommended within 24 hours of a positive test result, or sooner as symptoms indicate. It is recommended that the designated care provider from the corps provide parents with a minimum of 2 daily updates.**
 - **Heat Wave shall report any COVID positive test results to DCI, and it is expected that all corps will have an established plan with the assistance of the local public health dept. for contact tracing and the care plan for the affected member with COVID.**
- These policies are based on the following assumptions:
 - **Every Participant shall have active health insurance which allows the Participant access to care in the locations in which the corps is traveling for the entire duration of their participation.** It is strongly recommended that every participant must have a designated primary care provider and access to telemedicine within their insurance network.
 - **Member contracts should state that the corps will not be responsible for care beyond 72 hours if the participant becomes COVID positive.**
 - **All participants shall come to any in-person event with a thermometer and pulse oximeter, and utilize these devices daily.**



Personal interaction guidelines and pre-arrival protocols

The following requirements are intended to help each Participant take the steps necessary to minimize risk of virus exposure prior to arrival and while with Heat Wave.

Step 1: Self-sequestration (7 days before leaving)

- **Participants shall avoid going to restaurants, events, parties, or any place where people gather in numbers.**
- If possible, Participants should convert to 100% online learning or work.
- **Participants shall wear a mask at all times when outside of your own room.**
- **Participants shall maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.**
- **Participants shall practice frequent hand washing and general good hygiene practices.**

Step 2: Pre-travel testing (2-3 days before leaving)

- **Participants shall get a PCR COVID-19 test and have results at least 72 hours prior to arrival.**
- **If the test results are positive, Participants shall immediately self-quarantine and inform Heat Wave. If this happens, you will not be able to participate until all pre-arrival requirements are met including a 7-day self-sequestration and a negative PCR COVID test within 72 hours prior to arrival.**
- **Participants shall not travel when experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19.**

Step 3: Travel to Heat Wave

- **Participants shall travel following CDC guidance, wearing a widely available disposable surgical or cloth mask with at least two layers as well as (optional) eye protection at all times when indoors with crowds and on planes, trains, buses, or other enclosed vehicles.**
- **Participants shall regularly clean hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, or soap and water (soap and water is best, if available). Use antibacterial wipes on your seat, tray table, armrest, and other areas around you during your travel.**

Step 4: Arrival at event

- **Masks shall be worn at all times during rehearsal except when outdoors and set up in an arranged rehearsal formation with a minimum of six “steps” (11.25 ft) between Participants. Masks must cover the mouth and nose with at least two layers of material and be secured at the top and bottom of the mask (open bottom bandanas are not acceptable). Disposable masks will be available for any person who needs one.**
- **Every Participant shall have their temperature taken just prior to check in. If a Participant has a temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (after temperature tested 3 times) or answers “yes” to the health screening questions, they will not be allowed to participate and must leave the event area immediately.**
- **Each person will receive a wrist band upon passing the health screening. This wrist band shall be worn at all times during the event. If a wristband falls off or is lost, that person must complete the health screening again to receive a replacement.**
- **The staff member conducting the health screening shall wear a protective mask with a contactless thermometer.**
- **If being dropped off, parents/guardians of students who do not drive shall not leave the premises until they receive confirmation of their child being admitted into the event.**
- **Participants waiting in line to check in shall wear masks and practice social distance while waiting in line for the health screening.**



Step 5: With Heat Wave

- **Masks shall be worn at all times during rehearsal except when outdoors and set up in an arranged rehearsal formation with a minimum of six “steps” (11.25 ft) between people. Masks must cover the mouth and nose with at least two layers of material and be secured at the top and bottom of the mask (open bottom bandanas are not acceptable). Disposable masks will be available for any person who needs one.**
- **Every Participant shall have their temperature taken prior to the first activity each day. If a participant has a temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (after temperature tested 3 times) or answers “yes” to the health screening questions, they will not be allowed to participate and must leave the event area immediately to begin quarantine.**
- **Each person will receive a wrist band upon passing the health screening. This wrist band shall be worn at all times during the event. If a wristband falls off or is lost, that person must complete the health screening again to receive a replacement.**
- **The staff member conducting the daily temperature screening shall wear a protective mask with a contactless thermometer.**
- **Participants shall avoid any non-rehearsal/performance activities in which social distancing cannot be maintained or taking protective measures may be difficult.**
- **Participate in outdoor activities rather than indoor activities as much as possible.**
- **Participants shall strictly avoid contact with people outside Heat Wave, including family and friends.**
- **Participants shall refrain from using any self-serve food or drink options, such as buffets, salad bars, and condiment or drinks stations. Corps staff/volunteers will serve all food/drink items during meals.**
- **Participants shall avoid sharing objects that are passed back and forth, like brass instruments, guard equipment, percussion sticks/mallets, etc.**
- **Participants shall wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing, serving, and eating food.**
- **If you develop and COVID-19 symptoms or are notified that you were in close contact with someone who tested positive, Participants shall immediately tell the Heat Wave admin team and follow these guidelines as applicable.**

General guidelines for in-person interaction

- **Participants shall keep groups as small and stable as possible.**
- **Participants shall practice social distancing at all times and wear a mask at all times while indoors (except while sleeping), or when outside and social distancing is not possible.**
- **When indoor activities are necessary, Participants shall spread out over as many rooms with open windows or good ventilation as possible.**
- **If any items must be shared, those items shall be regularly cleaned and disinfected.**
- **Participants shall utilize appropriate PPE and cleaning/disinfecting supplies regularly (masks, tissues, alcohol-based hand sanitizer, waste receptacles).**
- **Participants shall have no interaction with any persons outside the corps “bubble.” Mail and care packages are allowed however will be no in-person visits by family or friends.**



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Participant Tier System

This tier structure allows Heat Wave to insulate, to the extent possible, the drum corps members and staff that works with them closest, all of whom have been tested and isolated together, from potential infection from outside persons that may introduce the coronavirus to the group.

Tier 1: Corps-facing participants

- Performers/Members
- Admin Team that works closely with Tier 1 Participants
- Instructional Staff that works closely with Tier 1 Participants
- Bus/shuttle drivers, Food staff, or Media Team members that work closely with Tier 1 Participants
- Medical Team

Tier 1 Participants shall be identified with a daily wristband so that Tier 1 Participants know whom they can safely work with and so that non-Tier 1 persons will know to keep their distance from. Wristbands will be distributed each morning following a successful temperature check.

All Tier 1 Participants shall stay with the corps at all times once they arrive.

Tier 2: Public facing participants

- Admin Team that does not work closely with Tier 1 Participants
- Instructional and Design Staff that does not work closely with Tier 1 Participants
- Bus/shuttle drivers, Food staff, or Media Team members that do not require close access to Tier 1 Participants
- Equipment/food truck drivers
- Souvenir staff
- Any staff/volunteer who will not be staying inside the corps "bubble" from the beginning of the summer program until the corps returns home from Indianapolis

Tier 2 participants shall not share a sleeping space with Tier 1 participants.

Tier 2 participants shall wear masks, socially distance, and not have any direct contact with Tier 1 participants at any time.

A staff/volunteer who begins the summer as a Tier 1 participant may change to Tier 2 at any time. **To move from a Tier 2 participant to Tier 1, a 7-day self-sequestration period with a negative PCR COVID test in the last 24 hours shall be required.**

Camps

All camps will be one-day events conducted outside.

Spring Training (Move Ins)

- **Areas occupied by Heat Wave shall be closed to visitors or other groups.**
- **All Tier 1 participants shall stay on campus once they have arrived at spring training.**
- **All Tier 1 participants shall eat on campus, no leaving to get food or supplies.**
- **One admin team member shall be the designated driver/errand runner and shall wear a mask throughout the event, practice social distancing, and sleep in a separate area.**



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- **One admin team member shall interface with any outside contacts, including band directors, custodians, school administration, delivery drivers, and hotel employees, and sleep in a separate area.**
- **All Tier 2 participants shall wear a mask throughout the event and practice social distancing as much as possible.**

Tour

- **Only Tier 1 participants shall be allowed on the buses.**
- **All participants shall wear masks when at rest stops and shows.**
- **Rest stops are for using the restroom and vehicle fueling, buy stops shall not be allowed.**
- **No box-store stops (Walmart, Target, Meijer, etc) for Tier 1 participants. Only designated Tier 2 participants shall do resupply runs for corps and participant needs.**
- **Participants will communicate any resupply needs to the admin team who will coordinate errands.**
- **Participants shall not mingle with friends, family members, or other drum corps at shows.**
- **Switching vehicles shall not be allowed on the road unless someone is moved to the quarantine vehicle.**
- **All Tier 1 participants shall remain on campus while at housing sites and show sites, no leaving campus to get food/drink or for other activities.**

Housing Considerations

Schools/Communal Spaces

- **Shower time will be scheduled to limit the number of participants in a locker room at a time.**
- **Bathrooms will set up to limit capacity and ensure social distancing as necessary.**
- **Tier 1 participants shall not leave campus while at in-person events.**
 - **Only designated Tier 2 participants will be allowed to interact with people outside of Heat Wave.**
- **Sleeping – all beds shall be set up at least 6 feet apart and every other person sleeping opposite (head to foot sleeping).**
 - **A member of the admin team will arrive before the Tier 1 participants to map out the sleeping areas.**

Hotels

- **If 4 people per room are necessary, there shall be no more than one person in each bed with the others sleeping on their air mattresses on the floor (social distancing as possible).**
- **Participants shall not congregate in common spaces of the hotel including lobbies, lounges, or vending areas.**
- **Masks shall be worn in common spaces.**
- **Housekeeping shall not enter hotel rooms while occupied by Heat Wave participants.**

Laundry

- **Laundry times and facilities will be organized to limit potential exposure to people outside of Heat Wave.**



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Transportation

- **Only Tier 1 participants shall be allowed on the corps buses.**
- Tier 2 participants will travel in other support vehicles.
- **Participants shall not change vehicles except if someone is moved to the quarantine vehicle.**
- **The first rows of the bus shall not be occupied to allow for space between Heat Wave participants and professional drivers.**
- **Masks shall be worn at all times on the bus while awake.**
- Members traveling to Heat Wave spring training via public transport should wear a CDC approved N95 or KN95 mask. An additional cloth mask should be worn over the (K)N95 mask for additional protection.
- **Members not returning to Florida on the bus with Heat Wave shall coordinate their departure in advance with the admin team.** Members cannot be picked up in the parking lot of Lucas Oil Stadium.

Food Service

- When possible, Heat Wave will use a delivery or contactless pickup service for food orders.
- When in person shopping is required, the designated Tier 2 admin team member will conduct all shopping trips.
- **Masks and gloves shall be worn by all food service personnel.**
- **Gloves shall be worn to dispose of trash.**

Serving

- Utensils
 - **Only disposable utensils and plates shall be used.**
 - **Distribution of these items, whether prepackaged or bulk, shall be handled by one person wearing gloves and all appropriate PPE.**
- Condiments
 - **Pre-packaged or single serve condiments shall be used.**
 - **As with the utensils, participants shall not be allowed to put their hand in a container to grab their own items.**
- PBJ Station
 - The traditional PBJ station will not be offered in 2021.
 - Alternatives such as Greek Yogurt with granola/cereal, cereal and milk, or other items that equal or exceed the nutritional offering of a PB&J sandwich with easier single serve options may be in place.
 - PB&J may still be distributed if ingredients can be served as single serve items or with designated individuals to prepare the items as needed.
- General Serving
 - **Self-serving of food shall not be permitted**
 - Plating of food will be addressed by the staff to reduce queue times and touch points
 - **Masks shall be worn by all people during the serving process**
 - **Lines shall be set up to allow for social distancing**
- Drink serving
 - **Self-serve drinks shall not be available**
 - Prefilled cups, single serve options, or designated fillers will be used to reduce touch points
- Hand washing prior to meals

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- Adequate time for hand washing will be provided prior to meals
- Hand sanitizer is recommended in addition to, not in lieu of hand washing
- Water Jugs & Sanitation
 - Participants will need to sanitize their large water jugs regularly over the summer
 - Group washing stations are likely not going to be possible
 - Heat Wave will provide a way for all participants to wash jugs on a regular basis

Rehearsal and Performance Considerations

Rehearsal

- Masks shall be worn at all times during rehearsal except when outdoors and set up in an arranged rehearsal formation with a minimum of six “steps” (11.25 ft) between people.
- **Participants shall bring their own one-gallon water jug for personal use during rehearsal.**
- Absolutely no sharing of water jugs. Heat Wave will provide adequate bottled water for participants/staff as needed. Water will be distributed by staff.
- **Equipment shall not be shared between members whenever possible.**
- **Equipment shall be cleaned and sanitized regularly. Shared equipment shall be cleaned and sanitized between uses when changing members.**
- **All group rehearsals shall be outdoors.**

Performance

- **Participants shall not enter the stadium outside of designated performance times.**
- Members of the general public will not be allowed in backstage areas at show sites.
- While friends and family are encouraged to attend shows, members will not have an opportunity to visit with friends or family at show sites.
- Specific considerations for show sites will be communicated to participants in advance of the show.

Potential flow of performance sequence:

1. Unload – logistics considerations
2. Warm-up – maintaining same guidelines for rehearsal, adequate space for warm up
3. Transit to field – physical distancing guidelines apply
4. Pre-show hype – no huddles, maintain physical distancing
5. Setup
6. Performance – masks required for performance
7. Exit
8. Post-show – no huddles, maintain distancing guidelines
9. Load – logistics considerations
10. Post-show meal – follow food safety guidelines, consider limitations

DCI Event Safety

Overall, there shall not be interaction between Heat Wave and the public (non-touring family included) and between other corps. Again we reiterate the continued requirement of mask wearing (covering mouth and nose) and appropriate social distancing based on CDC guidelines.

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Event & Corps Safety Managers

We recognize that each venue will have its own set of safety criteria that must be met with their local/state health agencies. **In order to ensure that safety requirements are fulfilled, each corps shall have a Corps Safety Manager (CSM) and each event is required by DCI to designate an Event Safety Manager (ESM).** Some of the ESMs responsibilities include:

- Working with local health boards during all event planning stages to identify and develop procedures in fulfilling all safety needs for corps and spectators.
- Communicate all safety requirements specific to the venue and community via the event sheet no later than 2 weeks prior to the event for each corps' review. These instructions will include on site contacts and emergency medical team placement, flow maps for safe ingress/egress, parking and warm-up options, and all safety instructions including weather shelter-in-place options.
- ESM's communicate with all CSMs prior to, during, and post event.
- Document all safety plans, reports, incidents, modifications and outcomes.

The dedicated Corps Safety Manager (CSM) will check in with the ESM before and at each event prior to entering the venue. This person will be designated by each corps, confirmed with the DCI Office, and participate in additional safety training from DCI and the MMHWSP prior to the season. Some CSMs responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Ensuring the performers, staff and volunteers of our corps follow the health and safety requirements such as face coverings and physical distancing.
- Check with ESM prior to arrival for any venue specific safety instructions.
- Organizing the performers, staff, and volunteers from the corps and communicating with the ESM when it's time to enter the stadium for the corps' performance.
- If the corps experiences symptoms and/or a positive test of COVID-19, the CSM must report to the ESM the corps plan of action and ability to keep other participants safe and spectators safe.
- Communicate any observed issues with and/or between participating corps to ESM so solutions can be quickly implemented.

The ESMs and CSMs shall have no other roles during events and their sole responsibility will be the implementation, monitoring and reporting of all safety issues in and around events. It is the hope that the collaboration and communication of these managers will help maintain the highest level of safety possible and give all parties a brisk solution should an issue be observed.

Public Awareness & Access

DCI Marketing will work with corps to develop appropriate messaging for their fan-base which should be distributed at every opportunity and well in advance of touring, so that fans understand that they will not be invited to any "backstage" area of an event, including lots, warm-ups or corps entry/exit gates/tunnels. DCI will do the same on all media outlets and with all ticket purchases. As well, each corps will educate all touring participants within their organization on the importance of the safety-through-separation messaging. Each corps will be responsible for enforcing the protocols with their participants.

It is also recommended that in 2021, to help in discouraging fans from lingering in the lots, that all events implement a "no pass-outs" policy for ticket holders (no re-entry if a spectator leaves after their ticket is scanned).



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Identification/Credentials

In order for DCI staff, show operators and other drum corps to easily identify corps staff that is permitted to have close contact with members, it is suggested that a special colored, limited distribution field pass be created to help limit the number of people on the field and entering into restricted corps space. This would change for each venue and can be distributed upon arrival to the venue.

Show Sheet times

With the exception of rain plans or very limited venues, the corps have requested that only the corps pre-set & step-off times. With the need to control all areas from cross-traffic issues, it is recommended that additional times, such as corps warm-up, prop storage and other venue-specific times be added back and followed.

Corps Parking

In a perfect world, there should be a barrier around the corps lot to keep non-credentialed public out, however most stadiums, although the large perimeter is fenced, the interior lots are not. This could be a cost-prohibitive requirement of tour event partners, but where possible, the use of traffic barriers with monitors to discourage entry should be utilized. All venues should have signage in several access points stating “Corps Personnel ONLY... For the safety of our touring performers...” Access to corps lots should be strictly limited to Tier 1 Participants and Tier 2 drivers that remain in their vehicles.

When a corps arrives at an event venue, they will be directed to a specific “zone” that will remain specific to that corps for the duration of the venue stay. It is recommended that the corps establish some sort of waist-high perimeter (stanchions such as a pvc pole inserted into an orange cone with rope/caution tape tied off - just cones will not stop entry). It will be important for each corps to have a handful of volunteers that police their area for party-crashers (non-same organization participants/uninvited guests) into their zone. Corps must self-police / self-protect since they will know best who should/should not be in their zone.

There will need to be detailed pre-tour information provided by each corps (through Backstage) so that each TEP can create a corps zone specific parking plan prior to arrival. It is recommended that there be a traffic lane, clearly marked, for corps movement both toward and away from the destination areas. When not moving, corps should stay clear of these lanes to limit as much as possible, cross-over between corps.

Props/Equipment Storage

A time for each corps to push up equipment to storage areas will be established and published on the show sheet. Assembly of props will need to occur in the corps zone and all equipment should be pushed up at the same time (props, sound, podium) if it is necessary to have it arrive prior to the corps gate time. It is recommended that each corps provides a monitor to stay with the equipment.

Post production, there will be two zones, removed from the exit gate and separated where possible, for corps to drop equipment for a breather, water and circle-up. Corps will need to provide their own water (no water table provided) and should be ready to vacate the zone within 20 minutes to move back to their lot zone.

Warm-Up

Warm-up zones will be established, which depending upon space, may mean that load-in/out times have to be established. If this is so, then times and areas will be published on the show sheets.



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As we do not wish for public interaction in these areas, we recommend that corps (interns, alternates or other volunteer role) set up a barrier to keep participants and public separate. Simple stanchions (as described above) placed a minimum of 10 feet from the nearest performer or instructor as well as a vinyl sign or sandwich board explaining "...for the safety of our performers..." is highly recommended. Corps staffing will need to police their areas. Our "rock star" members should be trained to not encourage interaction with public, family or friends.

Restrooms

Although a number has not yet been established, it is recommended that all tour event partners create separate restroom areas for each corps (two toilets and one hand-wash station for instance). There will not be an in-stadium or indoor facility provided. Corps should plan accordingly should they need to have performers dress.

Gates

Corps will be asked to design their entry/exit from the field to all follow the same flow (enter gate A, exit gate B) to limit corps crossing as much as possible. In venues where there is only one entry/exit, an alternative will be created (an example could include a longer interval to "park" the exiting corps along the endzone to allow the entering corps to pass).

ONLY specific field credentials will be allowed field access. It may be important to have show-specific, or event corps-specific credential distributed depending upon the threat at the time. It also will be important for all field access personnel to utilize proper PPE.

Event staff (non-corps) will stay away from the corps during set-up. A field corral will be created for event personnel.

Corps Viewing, Sound and Video

A corral will be established on the field for all non-corps, field-credentialed personnel. There will be no leaving from the field to the stands to eliminate crossing into public areas. There will be another two high areas away from public access for personnel needing that view point. Each event will list capacity limitations on the show sheet and personnel should not arrive to those areas until the corps prior has already begun their production, and vacate immediately after their corps has completed theirs.

Food Trucks/Meals

Serving meals from the food truck in the event parking lot requires a lot of space and has inherent risks. This is also unstructured time for participants, so if a corps must serve in the show lot, then the recommendation is have meals ready for service immediately following their field production in order that the corps may load and leave as soon as possible. If a corps is returning to housing/hotel after a performance, having a meal prepared in that more controlled setting is preferable when possible.

Participants should not return to the stadium or visit other corps zones.

Critiques

For the safety of all concerned as well as in order to encourage leaving as soon as a corps is loaded, all critiques will be presented in a virtual platform. Zoom room information can be provided to each corps via the Competition Suite.



Heat Wave Drum & Bugle Corps
Title: COVID-19 Policy and Protocol
Revision: Baseline -
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Organization Expectations for Pandemic Operation (Waivers, Releases, Agreements):

All Participants, both Bubble and Public Facing Participants, volunteer or paid, will need to provide the required medical and release form with insurance information and a vaccination record demonstrating COVID-19 vaccination prior to participation (if applicable) in any capacity. All Heat Wave Drum & Bugle Corps activities and roles will necessitate liability and risk participation waivers, including ticket buyers, members, volunteers, staff, and drivers. A Minor waiver/release with COVID-19 language form will be signed by all parents/guardians and members prior to participation. An adult Waiver/Release with COVID-19 language will be signed prior to participation by all who are members, employees, independent contractors, or volunteers. ([Sample Waiver](#))