

## RIVER CITY RHYTHM INDOOR PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE Official Contract

*River City Rhythm (henceforth known as "RCR"), in an effort to ensure that students are maximizing their potential and that of those around them, asks that each student (henceforth known as "you") read through the following conduct policy and expectations of RCR. Please acknowledge that you have read these policies and that you wish to participate in RCR this season by signing the contract and returning the **entire contract** in to the director. It is advisable to make a copy for your records.*

### Conduct

RCR prides itself on high levels of hard work, dedication, precision, professional sportsmanship, and mature conduct from every member. Your actions as a member of the ensemble, regardless of if you are at an RCR event, rehearsal, or outside function unrelated to RCR, reflect on the entire ensemble. Negative actions can reflect in negative impressions of the entire ensemble, including the instructors, the parent helpers, and respective schools. We expect you to act professional, responsible, and mature at all times. Poor conduct will not be condoned nor tolerated.

***We also expect that no member engages in alcohol consumption, illegal drug use, or any other illicit behavior while at any rehearsal or event at which RCR is a participant. Even one violation will result in immediate dismissal from RCR.***

### Practice and Competitions

Your positive attitude, strong work ethic, personal sacrifice, desire for excellence, and strong commitment will contribute to a rewarding season.

As a member of RCR, you are **expected** to attend **all** rehearsals and performances. Any absences not only set you back, but set back the entire group.

**Be prepared** - bring all materials that you need for the rehearsal or performance. You are required to have your sticks/mallets and exercise/show music with you, and it is strongly recommended that you have a three-ring binder with protective plastic sheets, and a pencil at every rehearsal.

### Pushups

The staff of RCR reserves the right to assign pushups to members who may fail to do what is asked of them. We view pushups as a last-resort measure, and do not actively seek to hand them out. We also assign pushups within a reasonable moderation, befitting the circumstance. Reasons for receiving pushups would most likely come from a member violating the expectation guideline below.

### Attendance

Any absence is a detriment to rehearsal and to the group as a whole and should be avoided at all costs. Once the season begins, all absences from rehearsals or competitions must be requested with a written note to the director and must be pre-approved at least 24 hours before the rehearsal/competition. If you are sick and will be missing rehearsal, please call the director as soon as possible beforehand. Missing a rehearsal or competition without prior approval from the director will be considered an unexcused absence; repeat occurrences could lead to reprimand or dismissal.

Promptness is crucial for a successful rehearsal session. Plan to arrive early to rehearsal (at least 15- 20 minutes) to allow you the right amount of time for set up and mental/physical preparation.

RCR's season will officially begin the Sunday following tryouts (this information will be announced by the director well ahead of time). Rehearsals will be held every Sunday throughout the MPA season, concluding with State Finals in early April. Should we go on to compete in the WGI World Championships, rehearsals will be extended 1 – 2 more weeks (this will also be known well ahead of time). We also hold a Christmas Camp, two or three days during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. The actual dates will be announced at the beginning of the season by the director.

### **Attire**

All members of RCR will dress in clothing that will allow you to stretch and move easily. Rubber-soled shoes are required for all members of RCR at all times until marching shoes are available. No blue jeans or inappropriate clothing will be worn during rehearsal. Appropriate clothing for rehearsals and competitions will be defined by the RCR staff before your first rehearsal. The RCR staff reserves the right to ask you to return home to change clothing.

### **Fundraising**

RCR understands that some students may need financial help in maintaining their quota. Though each member is ultimately responsible for their own quota, RCR will attempt to provide fundraising opportunities during the winter season, as well as offseason opportunities during the summer (to be accumulated for the following season).

### **Parent Involvement**

Parent volunteers are an essential part of any drumline. They provide transportation, prop building, floor painting, uniform sewing, and other behind-the-scenes tasks. Please take every opportunity to show your appreciation and respect for the parent volunteers by thanking them for their help and support.

## EXPECTATIONS OF RCR MEMBERS

RCR expects that all members:

- Attend every rehearsal and every performance
- Arrange their outside schedule around ours, and not vice versa
- Arrive early, prepared, and ready to work both physically and mentally for the entire rehearsal
  - Prepared: Each member **knows** their exercises/music/drill or has accomplished what the staff has asked of them over the week, is dressed accordingly, has all their necessary materials with them, has been fed, and had the proper amount of sleep so that the last run-through of the day sounds just as good, if not better than the first
- Bring a positive attitude
- Clean the rehearsal area or home room/area after every rehearsal or performance
- Treat themselves, each other, the staff, the parent volunteers, and members of other groups with respect
- Treat the equipment, rehearsal facilities, and show hosting facilities with respect
  - Including: covering/storing equipment properly, setting drums down gently, not leaning on keyboards, etc.
- Do not let any disagreements escalate; but rather bring them to the attention of the staff to be solved away from the group
- Listen carefully to each instruction, and ask questions of the staff when unsure of something – do not wait for a run-through before asking
- Do NOT hack in between instructions unless specifically told to do so
- Do not talk when instructions are being given, even if they are not being given directly to you
- Do not chew gum during rehearsal
- Work on their own, and if possible in sections during the week
- **NEVER** wear, or allow to be worn, any footwear on the performance floor other than marching shoes or
- **NEVER** eat food or chew gum while in uniform. Drinking water is acceptable, but nothing else
- **NEVER** swear, especially in uniform
- **NEVER** run in uniform
- **NEVER** disparage another ensemble, under ANY circumstance
- Cheer for and support other groups when not performing
- Enjoy what they are doing and having a good time - at rehearsal, and especially in front of crowds
- Are **PROUD** to be a part of such an exciting activity, and take **PRIDE** in their line!

### RCR MEMBER CONTRACT

*\* Note: If you are 18 or older, you do not need a parental signature. \**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the guidelines and expectations for the drumline.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the guidelines and expectations of the drumline.

By signing this contract, I agree to follow the guidelines and expectations to the best of my ability, and understand that there will be consequences for my actions should I choose not to follow them. I have also enclosed my \$100 deposit to prove my commitment to RCR this upcoming season.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date