



Member Handbook

Welcome to the 2017 Colt Cadets!

We are happy to have you as part of the Colts family!

Dear Colt Cadet,

Welcome to what will surely be a fantastic summer! We are happy you have chosen to join us in a theatric production of. . .

THE RIVER'S EDGE

Colt Cadets 2017 musical selections:

Earth Dance | Michael Sweeney
Flight of the Piasa | Robert Sheldon
Quad City Stomp | Michael Sweeney
Die Moldau | Bedřich Smetana

Inspired by life high above the Mississippi River and marking their 50th anniversary, the Colt Cadets present their 2017 production titled, "The River's Edge." This season the Colt Cadets will bring audiences through various scenes along the river, soaring high above valleys, sailing through currents, and even enjoying life in a river city. Highlighted by Smetana's Vltava or Die Moldau the Colt Cadets depict a great river traveling through woods, bluffs, meadows and stunning landscapes as the Colt Cadets present their 2017 program, THE RIVER'S EDGE.

Design

Phil Snyder*, *Program Coordinator & Visual Designer*; David Alford*, *Director*; Alex Albertson*, *Percussion Arranger*; Terry White, *Brass Arranger*; Mitchell Stolberg*, *Guard Designer*, Jessica Dunkel*, *Guard Supervisor*

Brass

Kara Metzger*, *Caption Head*; Andrew Eaton, Eric Angeroth-Franks*, Brad Sparks*, Carl Mathwig*, Shawn Coleman*

Percussion

Alex Albertson*, *Caption Head*; Kolby Palmore*, *Battery Coordinator*; AJ Collins*, *Front Ensemble Coordinator*; Corey Carlisle*, Mason Moss*, Jake Esterberg*, Nick Miller*, Christopher Carlin, Paul Downing, Travis Hattery*, Daniel Eastwood

Guard

Mitchell Stolberg*, *Caption Head*; Jessica Dunkel*, *Caption Supervisor*; Samantha Adrales*, Derek Laughlin*, Jessica Coblentz*, Karysa Taylor*

** designates Colts Alumni*

Show Information

The music, drill, and guard work in our show is designed for you personally! We strive to balance the personal goals of our membership inside an effective program that is particularly enjoyable to you and our audience. We have a staff of specialists in their field to write for you and work with you.

GREAT LEADERS PICK UP TRASH!

Drum Corps is life.

The performance is not limited to what happens while you are on the field in front of a crowd; it is everything you do without an audience which truly defines your success. **Character is defined by what you do when you don't think anyone is watching.**

This handbook contains information that is very important. We want you to read this handbook thoroughly and keep it somewhere safe.

You need (right now!) a 3-ring binder and 50 plastic sheet protector pages (for when it rains!). All of your materials can be placed into plastic sheets. Things you should have in your binder:

- Music
- Drill Charts
- Staff and Member Phone Lists
- Rehearsal/Travel Schedule
- Travel Itineraries
- Any additional information

This makes it easy to change, add or remove pages and protects your materials.

It is to your benefit to know what is expected of you as a member. If you have questions about anything that is included in this handbook, talk with David, Andy or another staff member. Do not be scared to ask! We may have missed something or weren't clear enough.

Important and Useful Tips for a Great Summer:

Work hard when it is time to work.

Relax when it is time to relax.

Always do your best.

Communicate with all around you ó instructors, parents and members.

MEMBER GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

The following information allows us all to work together towards the same goal with the same set of guidelines, expectations and responsibilities. Please read thoroughly.

Always Be RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE.

Remember we are creating a place for you to be successful.

We expect a high level of responsibility. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish and the pride you will develop. Remember success and learning often occurs as a result of being able to accept mistakes. Learn from these mistakes rather than hide from them!

Leave a good impression. You are always representing öyou.ö In addition, any time you are with the corps, wearing a corps shirt, in your uniform, or wearing your member jacket, you are also representing the Colt Cadets, the Colts, the City of Dubuque, and the State of Iowa. Your actions can leave a positive or negative impression on fans, other corps, and school officials. The impressions you make *will* have an effect on the organization for years to come. It takes years to build a reputation, but only seconds to destroy one.

Use common sense in everything. If you have to ask yourself öis this a good idea?ö the answer is most commonly NO.

Be courteous to everyone, especially other Colt Cadets. No put-downs. We all want to have a good time and everyone deserves respect. There is simply no time for drama. Time spent dealing with drama is time not spent getting better.

Follow the instructions of staff, parents, and other adults.

Smoking, alcohol, drugs, self-inflicted injury, and sexual acts are prohibited and are grounds for immediate dismissal. Public displays of affection are not tolerated when traveling with the corps. Perception is reality! Think proactively about the decisions you make and how they impact the organization and your peers.

<p><i>Members who have problems dealing with expectations will have consequences. Consequences will be determined by staff and the director. Inappropriate conduct or actions may result in removal from performances or the corps</i></p>
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ATTENDANCE

Be on time. If you are not early, you are late!

ABSENCES need to be brought to the director's attention as early as possible so rehearsal plans can be developed to accommodate a balance of everyone's needs. Your consistent attendance is crucial to the success of the Colt Cadets. There are no back-up players! When a student is missing, a piece of our competitive program is missing as well. Unexcused or unreported absences are not tolerated.

Please communicate via email or cell to the director prior to any absence. We obviously understand in the event of an emergency ó just let us know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly.

Communication:

If your or your parents need to get in touch with us:

Colts Office: 563-582-4872

Email: office@colts.org

David's Cell Phone: 773-308-6710

Email: david@colts.org

David's cell and david@colts.org are the best ways to reach the director. Email is checked regularly and calling/texting can be the fastest way to most answers. If calling, leave a message!

REMIND101:

Remind101 is an application that allows teachers to communicate with all of their students simultaneously via text message. The director will create a Remind101 group for students and a group for parents to use during the summer. This will allow for students and parents to be notified of sudden changes in schedule, or in the event of an emergency. Simple instructions on how to receive these messages will be distributed closer to summer.



GUIDELINES FOR HOUSING AND SHOW SITES

Wait for instructions, listen to instructions, and follow instructions.

When we arrive at our housing site, wait for instructions before unloading or getting off the bus. After you are taken to your sleeping area, lay out your sleeping bag and sleep. NEVER roll or drag your belongings on a gym floor. You are a guest in this school and want to be invited back.

Lights out will occur as quickly as possible, generally 15 minutes after arrival.

Be neat at overnight stays (not being tidy is called *ōtour spreadō*).

Please remember - Nothing at a school is ours and should be left alone. For example, never touch school computers *ō* EVER.

We pride ourselves on a reputation of leaving housing facilities cleaner than we found them. It is important we maintain a positive relationship with all schools, so we are invited back in future years. While staying at schools, food and beverages are NOT allowed in gymnasiums. Water is okay, but you must be careful not to spill, and take responsibility to clean up any spills ASAP.

ALWAYS wear shoes. No bare feet allowed, not even in school buildings or on the gym floor. One stubbed toe or one twisted ankle could put you out for the season!

Play your instrument only when you know it is okay. Many towns have noise ordinances, and playing after certain times could be breaking the law! Assume a noise ordinance is 9:00pm.

Each morning, a new schedule will be written out on the side door of the red equipment trailer. Get yourself in the habit of checking this board at each meal throughout the day for any changes or messages. You are responsible for informing yourself on when and where you need to be someplace. *ō*I didn't know*ō* is not a reasonable excuse. If you are confused, ask an adult!



STAY IN "THREES" - If you are given free time (like after a show, etc.) ALL MEMBERS MUST REMAIN WITH AT LEAST TWO OTHER MEMBERS AT ALL TIMES. Do not leave the entire group unless a staff member or other adult has been notified.

No laptops, iPads, or tablets should be on tour at any time. iPods and phones are allowed, but they should be kept in a backpack that is carried with you at all times. You are not allowed to have phones or iPods on the field during rehearsals. Leave them in your backpack.

Respect Tradition of our Colts Organization and Alumni:

We encourage you to purchase souvenirs from other drum corps but please do not wear these when you are with the corps. Please only wear clothing from our endorsers when with the corps: Innovative Percussion, Sabian, Remo, and Yamaha. Colts and Colt Cadets apparel is also accepted. When in doubt, Colts or plain clothing is the best way to go!



When Traveling:

We travel on 2 coach busses, boys on one bus, girls on the other. Members will pick their seats at the beginning of the season. This will become your assigned seat and you will have a seat partner. A few parents will ride in the front seats of each bus.

Your main suitcase will be stowed underneath the bus. You should bring a carry-on bag and a bus box. Once a bus bay is loaded and closed, it is not re-opened until after we arrive at the next housing site. Make sure you have everything you might need for 24 hours!

Your carry-on bag MUST have:

- All uniform gear: member shirt, show shirt, black socks, marching shoes, show gloves, other personal uniform items (head bands, hair spray, etc.)
- Change of clothes and shower supplies: in the event that we do not have time to access the luggage bays, you will be glad you have a change of clothes, shower materials, and your toothbrush. You will NOT have access to luggage bays when we are at show sites.
- Sweatshirt, sweatpants, or blanket: it can get cold on these busses!

Your **bus box** is commonly a small plastic container that fits under the seat in front of you. Students use the bus box to store snacks (healthy!), games, and other personal items. The bus box will remain in your seat at all times, and not come into a housing site. Dimensions under your bus are 14" wide by 14" deep by 9" tall. Anything larger will not fit under your bus seat.

A small bag or backpack is recommended for a field bag which you bring with you to all rehearsals and store drill, music, dot books, valve oil, extra gloves, garbage bag (for rain), etc.

It is your responsibility to make sure:

- All of your equipment is loaded onto the trailer
- Your corps uniform is properly hung and stowed in the equipment trailer
- Your carry-on bag is on the bus (and fits in overhead compartment)
- Your suitcase (1 regular size) and sleeping bag is loaded in the bus bay

Remember: YOU MUST CARRY EVERYTHING YOU PACK!

Do not over pack, **1 suitcase should do it**. Space will be tight. At times it might seem impossible to fit a trip's worth of clothes into one suitcase. Here are some helpful tips:

- Make sure you pack plenty of underwear, socks and sports bras (ladies)
- Common attire for a rehearsal day is light colored shirt and athletic shorts. During hot days, students may choose to rehearse without a shirt (don't forget sunblock!). Because of this, you might find that a single rehearsal shirt will last you two or three days. (*Shirts are REQUIRED when we are inside any facility, in the food line, and when we are outside ALWAYS have a shirt with you*).
- Pack one pair of jeans for free time or casual performances.
- Pack a few pairs of athletic shorts, but know if you are running short on clean shorts, they are very easy to clean in the locker room showers.
- Pack liquid items (shampoo, body wash, etc.) in zip-lock bags to prevent spills.



A bag that is 75% full is full enough. Dirty clothes take up more space than clean ones. Also, you might choose to purchase items (souvenir shirts, etc.) throughout the summer. Make sure you have a place to put them!

Laundry Days:

We will never go more than 14 days straight without giving you an opportunity to do laundry. Members are responsible to do their own laundry when we stop at a laundromat. Pack a roll of quarters and detergent in a safe place for extended trips (estimate \$10/laundry day). Pod detergents are recommended. Pack these in a sealed container to prevent spillage! Full time housing students will be provided laundry days every 2 weeks throughout the summer.



On the Bus:

- Get on and off the bus **ONLY** when instructed.
- Follow directions of the adults and bus driver at all times.
- The restroom on the bus is not to be used!
(Go before we leave and anytime you can!)
We will stop every 2-3 hours for bathroom breaks.
If you have an emergency, tell a parent.
- You may have **healthy** snack foods on the bus.
- Pick up the trash around you after every trip (even if it isn't yours). If your bus seat is dirty, we will take you out of rehearsal to clean it.
- Do not put water jugs in overhead storage (it can fall and hurt someone or leak and cause slippery floors).
- Lights out on late night trips will occur 30 minutes after departure.
- Members are not allowed to make purchases at rest stops. Parents should not make purchases for members, either. There may be rare exceptions approved by the director.
- No forts are allowed on the bus.
- DVD Players and video games may be brought on trips. All electronic devices must be used with headphones. Movies should be rated G to PG-13 and video games should be rated no more mature than T.



During Meal Time - EAT.

Meals are not optional. When we eat, you are expected to eat. When we eat with Colts, you are expected to eat with the Colts. It is important to have energy. This is not the time to diet.

Vegetarians and members with allergies should make notes on their medical form. Members cannot spontaneously claim to be a vegetarian during a meal simply because they do not like what is being served. Peanut butter and Jelly is available at every meal.

Seconds is offered at the discretion of the cooks, and only after everyone has been through the line. Keep your original plate and cup if you would like seconds. Do not take new ones.

Drink lots of liquids. You cannot drink too much water. If your urine is not clear, you are not properly hydrated.

Pay attention to schedules. You will often have more to do than just eat. If we are departing the housing site that day, packing up some of your belongings during lunch will make dinner pack and load much easier.

Always say thank you to the people who prepare your meals and serve you.



WHEN WE TRAVEL - We will encounter many *inconveniences*, but very few problems. There is a difference between an inconvenience and a problem. We will deal with many inconveniences, but very few problems. Your experience as a Colt Cadet will help you learn to recognize and solve any inconvenience *before* it turns into a problem.



WHILE IN UNIFORM:

Remember manners and who you are representing. Wearing your uniform is like wearing a big billboard with the corps name on it. Speak respectfully.

Never run in uniform.

Before a performance, keep your reds folded neatly.

After a performance, stay in uniform as directed.

Shakos (uniform hats) are to be left with your instrument when on break.

Do not sit on the ground! Sit on your gauntlets if you don't have an option, but never on asphalt.

No cell phones should be carried when in uniform unless you are told it is ok.

Drink only water while in uniform. No drinks or food in uniform (on occasion, we will eat wearing blacks ó but never our jackets or guard tops).

No profanity in uniform (or ever).

Be sure that all parts of your uniform get returned to the proper place, hung neatly.

Please be respectful and well-mannered when NOT in uniform as well. It is important to leave a good impression whenever you are in the public eye, even in the most stressful of situations.

What you do as a member of this corps not only affects you, but also the entire drum corps, and the entire drum corps activity as well. Make us proud.

Colt Cadet Duties

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES *(one or more per member, assigned at move-in)*

Rehearsal

**Field Lining
Podium (Drum Majors)
Scaffolding Up
Scaffolding Down
Props
Field Markers
Drill Box
Glove Bag
Parking Lot Clean Up
Section Loading**

Bus

**Luggage Loading
Bus Clean Up**

Housing Sites & Cleaning

**Kitchen Set Up/Tear Down
Locker rooms
Trash Duty
Restrooms
Gym
Halls
Outside**

The only way we can travel efficiently and successfully is if each member takes responsibility to making sure their specific job assignments are handled. Everyone needs to take responsibility for himself or herself, help out others when needed, keep track of their own things, and learn their show. Some of the extra things we have to get done need one or more people who can make sure they are done right. This is one way we all learn responsibility. We will achieve our best if each person takes responsibility for her or his assigned job and completes the job well.

Tour Packing Essentials: A Checklist -- PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING!

Main Suitcase:

- Athletic Shoes (no high tops; 2 pairs)
- Underwear (15 pairs); we recommend snug fit for boys and sports bras for girls
- Black spandex shorts for under uniform pants (at least 3 pairs recommended for all members)
- Socks (15 pair minimum; don't wear gross, wet and sweaty socks!)
- Calf-length black socks for shows (8 pair)
- Rehearsal Shirts (10); recommended light colors, always have 1-2 white shirts for ensemble
- Athletic Shorts (8); some athletic shorts can be washed in the shower between laundry (3-4)
- Extra baseball cap (bandana only allowed for color guard)
- Detergent Pod and Quarters for laundry days
- Plastic bags to store dirty clothes
- Surge protector for charging electronics
- Pillow, Sleeping Bag, or Air Mattress with blanket can be packed in a separate smaller bag. (battery powered air pumps ONLY, no plug ins); must be no larger than 18" diameter rolled up

Bus Carry-On:

- Change of clothes
- Sweatpants and sweatshirt
- Bus Blanket
- Uniform parts (member shirt, black socks, gloves, shoes, spandex)
- Show Shirt
- Small water bottle optional for bus water
- Shower and Toiletry Supplies (don't forget deodorant, nail clippers, etc.)
- Towel (full-time housing students should bring 2 towels; shammies are useful for quick drying)
- Any prescription meds (please inform us of these on the Medical Form)
- Flip flops or sandals for bus and for shower
- Hair spray and head bands
- Brass and percussion members with long hair must put their hair in a sock bun for shows.
- Guard members will have hair and make-up needs as well.

Rehearsal Bag:

- Sunscreen and SPF rated lip balm (we recommend DCT)
- Dot book (index card notebook for drill coordinates)
- Pencils
- Drill and music binder
- Sunglasses
- Baseball cap (bandana for color guard)
- Rehearsal Gloves for brass players (baseball batting gloves will last all season!)
- Extra shirt
- Rain gear for inclement weather (garbage bags help protect you and/or your bag!)
- Athletic powder and/or feminine products
- Phone & charger



Bring some walking around money if you would like souvenirs or concessions at shows. Full-time housing students will also take 2 or 3 trips to Walmart to refill on essentials throughout the season.

Finally, you will need a 1 (one) gallon water jug for rehearsal. Red in color please.



MEMBER HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENT 2017

Social Media Responsibility

The Colts and Colt Cadets maintain a positive reputation which enhances belief in the mission of our organization. As a member of the Colt Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps, I hereby acknowledge when posting information and images through social media, I understand I am representing myself, the corps, other members within the organization, Drum Corps International (DCI), and the drum corps activity as a whole. Any posts will promote the positive reputation and mission of the Colts and Colt Cadets, and will not contain information or images that discredit, disgrace or embarrass the Colts Youth Organization, its members, Drum Corps International (DCI), or the drum corps activity as a whole.

Model Release and Authorization

As a member of the Colt Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps, I hereby assign and grant to the Colts the right and permission to take, use and publish images, photographs, film, videotape and/or sound recordings of me, with or without my name, for any editorial, promotion, illustration, art, advertising, publicity or any other lawful purpose. I hereby waive any right I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or products, or the advertising copy or printed matter that may be used in connection with, or the use to which it may be applied.

Member Handbook Agreement

I acknowledge I have read and understand the responsibilities of membership described in the Colt Cadets Member Handbook, including the Social Media Responsibility and Model Release and Authorization outlined above. My membership within the Colt Cadets may be jeopardized by actions not in compliance with the terms of my Membership Agreement and the Colt Cadets Member Handbook.

Member Name (please print): _____

Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____