

**Brazos Valley  
Independent**

**BVI**

**2023-2024**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Brazos Valley Independent (BVI) is dedicated to providing an opportunity for all students to refine their musical, marching, and interpersonal skills through the art of higher-level music performance. More importantly, BVI helps to create tomorrow's community leaders by showing our members what they can accomplish through strong work ethic, teamwork, discipline, professionalism, and a positive attitude.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Rehearsal Etiquette**

Students are expected to follow all rehearsal etiquette procedures during any BVI activities including, but not limited to rehearsals, competitions, and travel.

- Do not speak during ensemble rehearsal time, unless called upon.
- Rehearsal time is for ensemble work, not individual practice. Come to rehearsal with your parts prepared, your music, pencil, water, instrument (and anything else that includes), as well as a good attitude.
- Treat your staff and other ensemble members with respect at all times. We are a team and everyone deserves equal respect. Understand that this is a new group with students coming together from different schools, and that we may do things differently than what you are used to. Please respect the process.
- Your ensemble leaders are all working for you. You should work for them, too.

### **Facilities**

We are guests anywhere we practice, compete, or travel to. Please respect the space you are utilizing. Your behavior in public places while associated with Brazos Valley Independent greatly affects the group's reputation. Please do not ruin this for yourself and your BVI team.

- If it is not yours, do not touch it.
- Leave the rehearsal space cleaner than you found it.
- Do not leave doors propped open for **any** amount of time.

### **In Uniform**

Your BVI uniform represents ensemble unity and each member's importance. This includes all BVI clothing (show shirt, jacket, etc.), and show uniform.

- Hang your costume immediately after the show, and keep it clean.
- No eating or drinking in costume, other than water.
- Do not run in costume, it is out of character.
- Do not load or unload the truck in costume.
- Be mindful of your actions while in costume. You are representing BVI.
- YOUR UNIFORM IS ONE OF A KIND AND CANNOT BE REPLACED.

## FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

### Member Fees

Membership fees are what allow independent groups to survive and provide this service to you and the community. Your fees will help cover the cost of show design, instruction, contest fees, uniforms, instruments, equipment, floor, props, etc. Membership in this ensemble is contingent upon fulfilling the financial obligations outlined below. ***Missing two consecutive payments in a row will result in the participant's removal from Brazos Valley Independent Percussion.*** Members may complete their full payment at any time before February 5<sup>th</sup>, but must pay the minimum amounts as listed below. The total fees due are \$650. In addition, we will be fundraising as a group, to help raise the rest of the costs for the season.

December 4<sup>th</sup>: \$250

December 13<sup>th</sup>: \$100

January 8<sup>th</sup> : \$100

January 22<sup>nd</sup>: \$100

February 5<sup>th</sup>: \$100

We have found that sponsorship letters are the best way for you to raise money for your dues. Upon acceptance to BVI, and upon request, we will provide you with a sponsorship letter to send to your friends and family, or local businesses. We suggest you do this early in the season! This will be handed out at our first rehearsal.

### Refunds

Students will be issued a 25% refund upon request if they choose to remove themselves from the ensemble before January 1st. Students who are asked to leave the program due to poor conduct will not be given a refund.

## ATTENDANCE

**Attendance at all rehearsals and competitions is mandatory.** A successful season depends on the full attendance and participation of all ensemble members. You are expected to participate in all ensemble activities and unexcused absences may result in removal from the program. If you are asked to leave the rehearsal for any reason by a director, your absence will be considered unexcused. Communication is required at least 24 hours in advance, other than family emergencies, to Philip Zeig. Please email him at [bvi.ensdirec@gmail.com](mailto:bvi.ensdirec@gmail.com).

## COMPETITIONS AND REHEARSALS

Rehearsals for the 2023-2024 season of BVI will take place as follows beginning December 4<sup>th</sup>. The full calendar can be found online at [www.bvipercussion.org](http://www.bvipercussion.org) under the calendar tab.

Mondays 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Wednesdays 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday 6:00pm – 9:00pm

There will be a few Saturday rehearsals throughout the season as well. On competition weekends, we will rehearse and load the Friday night beforehand. Members are expected to follow the code of conduct as stated in this handbook when attending any and all rehearsals and competitions. Remember that you are always representing our program from the moment you leave home until you return at the end of the day. We take pride in what we do.

## **PARENT SUPPORT AND INFORMATION**

We openly welcome help from any friends and family of our performers. Volunteer roles include but are not limited to

- driving students to and from competitions,
- driving one of the 2 Penske equipment trucks,
- donating food or helping to prepare food,
- fixing uniforms,
- preparing props, and
- moving equipment at competitions.

If you or someone you know is interested in this, please contact Laura Grems at [bvi.execdirec@gmail.com](mailto:bvi.execdirec@gmail.com).

Members are expected to treat these adults with the utmost respect. They are volunteering their time to help you and our organization. We cannot do this without them!

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Brazos Valley Independent will **not** provide transportation to and/or from any BVI functions in Texas. This includes, but is not limited to, rehearsals and competitions.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Laura Grems, Executive Director

[Bvi.execdirec@gmail.com](mailto:Bvi.execdirec@gmail.com)

(703) 868-4433, cell

Philip Zeig, Ensemble Director

[Bvi.ensdirec@gmail.com](mailto:Bvi.ensdirec@gmail.com)

(979) 450-4957, cell

## GENERAL WAIVER

I, \_\_\_\_\_, plan to participate in Brazos Valley Independent Percussion. I understand that I am responsible for my actions during these activities and that reasonable precautions will be taken in the interest of my safety and welfare. In the event of an accident or medical emergency, I give a board member or staff member of the Brazos Valley Independent Percussion organization authorization to seek any medical or emergency treatment deemed necessary by medical personnel as defined in my medical release.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (if in high school): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ confirm that \_\_\_\_\_ is in good academic  
(Director of high school program) (Potential BVI member)

and financial standing with their current enrolled high school program. I also confirm that the high school of the aforementioned BVI member does not have a competitive TCGC or WGI percussion group.

Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HANDBOOK RECEIPT

I acknowledge that I have been provided a copy of the handbook, and that I am aware of and agree to abide by the policies and guidelines stated therein.

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (high school): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Existing health conditions of which we should be aware:

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Allergies to medications:

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Regular medications the member is taking (please, include anti-convulsive, antihistamine, insulin, etc.):

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Any other information of which medical personnel should be made aware:

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### **Medical Insurance**

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy number: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Emergency Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Emergency Contact (name & phone): \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENTAL MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION

If member is 18 years of age or under, please indicate below whether or not you give permission for an adult sponsor to provide your child with the indicated "Over the counter" medications, should the need arise.

Tylenol  
Advil

Imodium  
Dramamine

Pepto Bismol  
Bendadryl

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES**, I give permission for my child to be provided the medications indicated (please *cross through* any specific medications you **do not** want your child to receive):

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **NO, I DO NOT** want my child to receive any medications except in an emergency and in the care of medical personnel.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and agree with the terms and conditions for my financial responsibilities to Brazos Valley Independent and acknowledge that my spot will be reopened for audition without refund after January 4, upon failure to meet two consecutive payments.

Member Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If under 18: Parent/Guardian Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*If under 18\*: Parent/Guardian Signature:

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