

Field Commander Expectations

(2013 update)

Congratulations on your first step to becoming a Wapakoneta Marching Redskin field commander. This is a very important position in our organization. It is imperative that the individual(s) selected for this position is confident, teachable, a showman, respected by their peers, has the ability to work positively with his/her peers, and can maintain a steady beat.

The directors are looking for the following in the audition:

- Calls commands clearly, with energy, volume, and confidence
- Cleanly and crisply executes the marching maneuvers after calling them
- Moves through the sequence of commands confidently without having to stop and think about what comes next (in other words: being prepared)
- Properly conduct the required marching band composition with confidence, portraying proper dynamics, articulations, meter changes and other musical aspects that would demonstrate showmanship and be of help to performers on the field.
- Conduct using a clear and steady beat.
- Performs the routine continuously and in the same manner that would be used if communicating with a 110 piece marching band.

With this position being as important as it is the directors have decided to not have a field commander if these basic criteria are not met **in the audition**. Please keep this in mind as you prepare.

This is a position that requires you to be a leader. It is not a position for you if you desire to get out of work and sit on the sidelines or the podium while the rest of the band is working. You will be viewed as a junior director and need to be another set of eyes and ears for the directors and help them identify issues that need to be fixed. The field commander will also be expected to be “at the ready” with the grid poles and be able to quickly and effectively use the grid pole to help set or fix drill. It will also be the responsibility of the field commander to work with the band officers to maintain a clean and organized band room throughout the marching season. It is expected that the field commander will learn and memorize the scores so as to know how to properly conduct the ensemble **before** we get to band camp. At band camp it is expected that the field commander will add “showmanship” aspects to the conducting routine in order to help “sell” the music to the audience. It will also be expected that the field commander will set the tone for the rehearsal by getting the band set and begin warm-up at the appropriate time even if the directors are not yet to the field. If you cannot or will not fulfill these responsibilities do not audition for this position. The directors reserve the right to remove a field commander if he/she earns the position and then fails to perform as mentioned above.

Good Luck in your audition prep.

Mr. Hilleary

Mr. Wimmers

Field Commander Try-out Requirements

(spring 2013 revision)

Basic Commands (call and execute commands)

Parade Rest (Start at directors "right")
Attention (with Whistles)
Horns Up (followed by Horns Down, Using Whistles)
Left Face (Verbal)
Right Face (Verbal)
Right Face (Verbal)
Forward March (FM 16, Whistle Command)
Band Halt (Verbal)
About Face (Verbal)
Forward March (Slide 16, Whistles)
Band Halt (Verbal)
Left Face (Verbal)
About Face (Verbal)
Parade Rest (Verbal)

Total _____/30

Conducting

Cleanliness of routine
Convincingness
Showman ship
Creativity
Steady Beat

Total _____/40

General

Appearance
Confidence
Crispness of commands
Volume of commands
Imposition of will while conducting

Total _____/30

Grand Total _____/100