



NORTHWEST YOUTH MUSIC ASSOCIATION / SEATTLE CASCADES

2023 PHYSICAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

1 DEFINITIONS

- Health Staff: includes, but not limited to; athletic trainer, nurse, physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner
- Administrative Staff; corps director, tour director, food services staff
- Instructional Staff: caption heads, technical staff

2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

All Staff;

- Safety should be at the forefront of everything we do.
- All Staff are required to read and understand the Seattle Cascades Drum and Bugle Corps Health Procedures annually.

Instructional Staff;

- Should guide or assist members to Health Staff when an actual or suspected medical/psychological issue or injury is identified.
- Follow the decisions made by the health staff with regard to rehearsal or performance eligibility of the membership

Health Staff;

- Shall be certified in first aid and basic CPR with AED training
- Primary objective is the health and safety of the corps members and staff
- Will have the final decision- making authority regarding members’ participation in activities.
- Will not attempt procedures that are out of their scope of practice

Administration Staff;

- Shall be certified in first aid, basic CPR and AED
- In the absence of health staff, will have the final decision -making authority regarding members’ participation in activities

3 CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Signs and Symptoms of a Concussion:

Cognitive Symptoms	Physical Symptoms	Emotional Symptoms
Poor attention/Concentration	Headaches	Nervousness/Anxiety
Problems remembering	Vacant stare	Sad
Difficulty following conversation	Appears dazed or stunned	Irritability
Answers questions slowly	Dizziness	Personality changes
Asks same question repeatedly	Clumsiness/Balance problems	Plays less
Mentally foggy	Fuzzy/Blurry vision	
	Sleeps more or less than usual	
	Appears fatigued, tired or sleepy	
	Vomiting/Nausea	

1. Staff will immediately inform the health staff of any member that sustains an injury during rehearsal that involves trauma to the head.
2. The health staff will: obtain injury details, and assess the member. If symptoms are noted by the health staff, then the member will be excluded from all participation, until such time as the member is medically cleared to return to participation. If the member is under 18, the health staff will contact the parents directly within 24 hours.
3. The health staff will notify the director, appropriate staff and include the status of concussed members in the daily injury report.
4. If the member is taken to an urgent care or emergency room the member will be accompanied by health staff. The member will then need to follow--up with the health staff as well as a licensed provider for retesting and medical re-evaluation before returning to physical activity/sports, unless clear guidelines are given by the licensed provider during the initial visit. The member cannot participate in any performance or events until they have successfully completed the suggested full three-day progression and remained symptom free. Return to rehearsal progression will be as followed:

Horns/Drumline

Day 1: Marching basics and stand still playing only

Day 2: Marching basics, drill and stand still playing (no ensemble)

Day 3: Full participation

Color Guard

Day 1: Flag/ Weapon basics, no tossing. Dance, no across the floors

Day 2: Sectionals, spinning on the move. Dance with across the floors (no ensemble)

Day 3: Full participation

Staff cannot override the decision of the health staff to exclude a marcher from participation.

4 INCLEMENT WEATHER - LIGHTNING

It is imperative that all personnel are aware of lightning hazards, or other weather-related hazards, and the specific safety shelter for their venue. In the event of lightning during a rehearsal or event, precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of both members and spectators.

- The health staff will be responsible for monitoring inclement weather and coordinating with the site managers and public safety authorities on weather related protocols. In rehearsal, the health staff will monitor the weather and have final say on when outdoor rehearsal is delayed or canceled.
- If the health staff is unavailable the Administration will have final say on when outdoor rehearsal is delayed or canceled.
- All staff must follow recommendations of either the health staff, administration or public safety authorities (police, fire, show administrator, etc.) who recommends we vacate a rehearsal space, warm-up space or performance space for any reason and follow their recommendations for shelter in the case of inclement weather. In the case of the sudden onset of a weather-related event and when no one is available for guidance, staff are expected to err on the side of safety and caution if they experience unsafe weather conditions by moving to safe shelter.

4.1 LIGHTNING DETECTION

Lightning awareness should be heightened at the first flash of lightning, clap of thunder, and/ or other criteria such as increasing winds or darkening skies, no matter how far away. The health staff is responsible for monitoring the progress of inclement weather by primarily using a Weather App. The indicator for clearing the field of rehearsal with the weather app is 6 miles or less. In the event that members need to be removed from rehearsal site, the health staff must notify the corps director who will then notify the staff. Once the staff has been notified; they must immediately comply, end rehearsal and move to a safe shelter.

4.2 SAFE SHELTER

Instructional staff should all be aware of the closest safe shelter to the rehearsal site and how long it takes to reach that shelter. A safe structure or location is defined as- “any sturdy, fully enclosed, substantial, and frequently inhabited building that has plumbing and/or electrical wiring that acts to electrically ground the structure”. Examples of locations that routinely DO NOT meet the criteria include-

- Baseball / softball dugouts;
- Baseball / softball “covered” batting cages;
- Soccer covered benches;
- Under metal bleachers;
- Outside storage sheds; and/or
- Canopy / awning / tent

In the absence of a sturdy, fully enclosed, substantial, and frequently inhabited location as described above, a secondary structure such as a fully enclosed vehicle or tour bus with a hard metal roof, rubber tires, and completely closed windows can provide a measure of safety. Persons should not touch the sides of the vehicle!

Persons should avoid taking showers and using plumbing facilities (including indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools, Jacuzzis, and hot tubs) and land-line telephones during a thunderstorm.

If no safe structure or location is within a reasonable distance, personnel should find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Everyone should assume the “lightning -safe” position- a crouched position on the ground with the feet together, weight on the balls of the feet, head lowered, and ears covered. **DO NOT LIE FLAT!** Minimize the body’s surface area and minimize contact with the ground.

If unable to reach safe shelter, persons should stay away from the tallest trees or objects (i.e. light poles, flag poles, etc.), metal objects (i.e. fences, bleachers, etc.), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields. Persons should avoid being the highest object in an open field.

5 HEAT INDEX/HYDRATION PROTOCOL

High temperatures can present a dangerous situation for members and staff, but with reasonable precautions those situations can be mitigated.

The admin staff must be consulted for the official temperature and the proper course of action for each day, and for each outdoor block held.

Whenever possible, the acting director and health staff should consult with each other as early as possible during an individual day in order for all concerned parties to be notified of possible changes to practice schedules/activities appropriately.

The acting director will communicate any changes to the schedule or activities.

The following policies are the minimum standard for all outdoor activities within the Seattle Cascades. The use of more stringent policies is up to the director. Health staff and acting director should collaborate prior to each rehearsal to discuss specific conditions and planned activities for rehearsal.

The acting director will communicate any change.

Staff should be aware of the signs and symptoms of **dehydration**;

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|---------------------|
| -Dry mouth | -Thirst | -Irritability | -General discomfort |
| -Headache | -Apathy | -Weakness | -Dizziness |
| -Cramps | -Chills | -Vomiting | -Nausea |
| -Head or neck heat sensations | | -Excessive fatigue and/or decreased performance | |

*If any of these signs or symptoms are observed notify the admin staff immediately.

Early detection of dehydration decreases the occurrence and severity of heat illness.

Utilize the Wet Bulb Globe Test (WBGT) Index, if using a device to measure WBGT (preferred).

Wet Bulb Globe Temperature		EASY - Standstill		MODERATE - Basics, Simple Moving while playing, Dance/Movement		HARD - Drill, Conditioning, Extended tracking Run--throughs	
		Water quarts/hr	Rest min/hr	Water quarts/hr	Rest min/hr	Water quarts/hr	Rest min/hr
< 82°F	CLEAR	½	6	¾	6	¾	9
82-84.9°F	GREEN	½	6	¾	9	1	12
85-87.9°F	YELLOW	¾	9	¾	12	1	16
88-89.9°F	RED	¾	12	¾	16	1	20
90-+°F	BLACK Limit outside activity	1	16	1	20	1+	24

5.1 HEAT CRAMPS

Cramps that occur during exercise.

5.1.1 TREATMENT

- Hydrate the member and replace sodium losses with a sports drink or other source of salt.
- Relax, stretch, and massage the involved muscle to reduce acute discomfort.

5.1.2 PREVENTION

- adequate conditioning, acclimatization, hydration, electrolyte replacement, and appropriate dietary practices

5.2 HEAT EXHAUSTION

Inability to keep up with exercise due to intensity of effort and environmental heat factors.

5.2.1 SYMPTOMS

- High pulse rate and low blood pressure
- Extreme weakness
- Dehydration and electrolyte losses
- Coordination problems, fainting, lightheadedness
- Profuse sweating, paleness, “prickly heat” sensations
- Headache
- Abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Persistent muscle cramps
- Mild confusion which can quickly resolve with rest and cooling

5.2.2 TREATMENT

- Move member to shaded or air-conditioned area to rest
- Remove extra clothing or gear
- Cool with cold water, fans, or cool towels (replaced every 2-3 minutes)
- Lay with legs raised above level of heart
- Give member cool/cold fluids to drink if not vomiting
- If symptoms do not improve within 30 minutes, call 911 or send member to hospital

5.3 EXERTIONAL HEAT STROKE

High core body temperature along with organ dysfunction. The longer the body is at an elevated temperature, the more dangerous. Temperature is usually 104 degrees or above.

5.3.1 SYMPTOMS:

- disorientation, headache, irrational behavior, irritability, emotional instability, confusion, altered consciousness, coma, or seizure
- hyperventilation, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, profuse sweating, dehydration, dry mouth, thirst, muscle cramps, loss of muscle function, and ataxia

5.3.2 TREATMENT:

- **Call 911. This is a MEDICAL EMERGENCY!**
- In meantime, initiate cooling measures “cool first, transport second”
- Move member to shaded or air-conditioned area to rest
- Remove extra clothing or gear
- If available, put in tub with cold/ice water; place in cold shower; douse with water from hose
- Cool with cold water and fans, or cool towels (replaced every 2-3 minutes)Lay with legs raised above level of heart
- Give member cool/cold fluids to drink if not vomiting

- Cool until member begins to shiver OR for 15-20 minutes of active cooling OR medical help arrives.

Sources:

Statement: Exertional Heat Illnesses. Binkley, H. M., Beckett, J., Casa, D. J., Kleiner, D. M., & Plummer, P. E. (2002). National Athletic Trainers' Association Position *Journal of Athletic Training*, 37(3), 329–343.

6 ASTHMA

Members diagnosed with asthma should have a rescue inhaler available during all rehearsals and performances. **Prior to move--ins members should obtain 2 rescue inhalers, one to keep with themselves in their backpack, and the other as a back-up.** At NO time should a member take an inhaler if they are not diagnosed with asthma. NO staff member will advise any member to take an inhaler that is not prescribed to them.

Notify the health staff immediately if you notice the following:

- Significant increase in wheezing that you can hear
- Chest tightness
- Fast breathing
- Inability to speak in full sentences
- Uncontrolled cough
- Nasal flaring

Procedure :

- Immediately notify the athletic trainer.
- Remove the member from activity
- Have member take their rescue inhaler
- Assist member with nose breathing technique
- Have the member take a deep breath through the nose and out the mouth
- Raising the arms will help the lungs expand
- Try to calm the member, panicking increases the respiration rate.
- Activate EMS if no improvement is observed in 10 minutes.

7 ALLERGIES/ANAPHYLAXIS

Members who have been diagnosed with severe allergies should notify the athletic training staff, directors, and food staff of the nature and severity of their allergies. **Members requiring epinephrine auto-injector should acquire 2 injectors prior to move-ins, one to keep with themselves in their backpack, and the other as a back-up.** The food staff will be given a list of all members with food allergies.

7.1 SYMPTOMS:

Hives, redness, difficulty breathing, wheezing, tongue swelling, feeling like throat is closing

7.2 TREATMENT

Health Staff present:

- If member is able to administer their own epinephrine auto-injector the athletic training staff will supervise proper administration.
- If member is not able to administer their own epinephrine auto-injector health staff will administer it for them, by injecting it in the mid/outside thigh. Health staff will then activate EMS for transportation to the ER for further treatment.
- Health staff will note the time the epinephrine auto-injector was administered, if available a 2nd epinephrine auto-injector will be administered 15 minutes after the first one.
- If a 2 epinephrine auto-injector is not available, health staff will provide the member with Benadryl.
- Upon EMS arrival, health staff will provide EMT/Paramedics with the administered epinephrine auto-injectors and times of administration. If member is under the age of 18, the member's parents will be contacted directly. Health staff will accompany member to the hospital.

Health Staff is not present:

- If member is able to administer their own epinephrine auto-injector instructional staff will assist if needed. If member is unable staff will administer it for them, by injecting it in the mid/outside thigh. Staff will then activate EMS for transportation to the ER for further treatment.
- Instructional Staff will note the time the epinephrine auto-injector was administered,
- If available a 2nd epinephrine auto-injector will be administered 15 minutes after the first one. If a 2 epinephrine auto-injector is not available, instructional staff will provide the member with Benadryl.

- Upon EMS arrival, instructional staff will provide EMT/Paramedics with the administered epinephrine auto-injector and times of administration. If member is under the age of 18, the member's parents will be contacted directly. Staff will accompany member to the hospital.

8 COMMON INJURIES

Sprains- overstretching or tearing of the ligaments. Treat with ice, rest, wrap

Strains- overstretching or tearing of the muscle or tendon. Treat with ice, rest, wrap

Lower leg pain/shin splints - overuse. Treat with ice on breaks, medications, assess footwear. Refer for X-rays if needed.

Fractures- broken bones. Treat initially with ice, elevation, immobilization if needed. Refer for X-rays.

Pain/soreness- treat with ice initially, then move to heat, gentle stretching, medication

Cramps- slowly stretch against the cramp, massage, consider electrolytes if heat is a factor

Skin -

- Rashes - if itching, try Benadryl 50 mg, try hydrocortisone cream, Telemedicine or Urgent Care if concerning
- Abrasions - Clean with tap water twice daily, antibiotic ointment, bandage, protect from sun
- Lacerations - clean with tap water twice daily, antibiotic ointment, bandage, protect from sun for up to 6 months to prevent scarring
- Redness - cellulitis (infection of skin) or infection of wound.

Infections- redness, swelling, heat. skin infections need antibiotics, wound infections need antibiotics

Groin pull- treat as sprain- ice, rest

Testicular pain - initial treatment, ice, supportive underwear, refer to ER

Abdominal Pain - this can be many things. If concerning, refer to ER

Vomiting/Diarrhea- decrease food intake, encourage frequent small amounts of fluids and increase as tolerated. If significantly dehydrated, refer to ER

Suicidal - Someone should stay with the person at all times, refer directly to ED

Tylenol overdose can cause liver damage, limit to 3,000 mg per day (9 regular or 6 extra-strength pills per day)

Ibuprofen - overdose can cause kidney damage, can cause ulcers, limit to 3,200 mg per day (16 pills per day)

9 WHEN TO USE TELEMEDICINE, URGENT CARE, OR EMERGENCY ROOM.

Telemedicine: Rashes, psychological - depression, anxiety, urinary tract infections

Urgent Care: Strains, sprains, lacerations, fractures, pain/soreness, skin infections, groin/muscle pulls, usually can perform X-rays

Emergency Room: Deformed fractures, complex/deep lacerations, concussions, suicidal, abdominal pain, severe vomiting/diarrhea with dehydration, testicular pain, when CT, MRI, or are needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and agree to be bound by this policy. I understand that failure to follow any aspect of this policy may result in my termination or separation from the organization.

SIGNED

PRINTED NAME

DATE
