

2009 - 2010 Vero Beach High School
“**The Rage**” Flag Corps
Audition Info Packet

I. The Rage

The Rage represents the visual voice of the Vero Beach High School Band. Performing for VBHS pep rallies, football games, parades, and competitions, The Rage blends different styles of flag and body movement to produce and add a unique element to the ‘Fighting Indians’ Band.

During the fall semester, The Rage serves as the auxiliary unit of the “Fighting Indians” Marching Band, accompanying them to various marching events such as parades, football games both at home and away games, marching festivals, and pep rallies.

During the spring semester, The Rage performs at indoor guard festival(s) and competitions and accompanies the “Fighting Indians” Band on special appearances or trips as may be appropriate.

II. Membership Selection Process

Tryouts are held during the spring semester to assess the skills and ability of potentially interested candidates. The 2009 – 2010 tryout dates are: **ALL TRYOUTS WILL BE HELD AT THE FRESHMEN LEARNING CENTER GYM**

Monday - May 11th – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Tuesday – May 12th – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Thursday – May 14th – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Saturday – May 16th – 9 am to 12 pm

Tuesday– May 19th – Final Tryout – 6:00 pm until finished

Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts

Candidates who wish to tryout for The Rage Flag Corps must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. All candidates must be current or incoming students at VBHS and agree to participate in The Rage for both fall and spring semesters.
2. All candidates must have a 2.5 cumulative grade point average to be eligible for auditions.
3. All candidates must meet high standards of school attendance, character and conduct as reflected by teacher recommendations and official school records.

4. All candidates must have sufficient physical fitness, endurance, strength, and skills to perform the requirements of the activity.

Selection Criteria

Many factors go into the selection of students for membership in the Vero Beach High School Flag Corps. Because of the nature and visibility of the band organization, of which the Flag Corps is a section or component, Flag Corps members must possess and exhibit skills and excellence in a number of areas beyond just the technical skills and body coordination necessary to perform the physical aspects required.

These areas include but are not limited to behavior, attitude, respect for authority, accountability, cooperation, dependability, responsibility, personal leadership, the ability to get along with and work with peers, attendance, punctuality, and academic achievement. Teacher input and observation is critical in the evaluation process and will be of high importance in the overall selection process.

Student involvement in prior “team related / structured” activities is also an important factor to be considered. The overall presentation of the student resume and essay will be used in the overall process as well. The areas noted in this and the above paragraphs are considered “subjective” in nature and will account for a substantial portion of the “tryout” process. .

The “Objective” portion / technical aspects of the tryout will include basic coordination of the body, basic flag / equipment technique, dance technique, and the ability to listen / focus, follow instructions, learn routine and technique quickly, and the retention of material and technique taught.

The overall size of the group will be decided by the Flag Corps Director and the Band Staff (Band Directors) based upon the quality, depth, and merits of the candidate pool and the minimum / maximum number of students needed for the 2009 Football Show.

Returning candidates will be subject to specific scrutiny in the subjective areas and will be subject to a higher level of technical and coordination expectations in the objective areas of the tryout based upon their experience and the standard level of achievement appropriate to the experience level. **Returning candidates are NOT guaranteed to be selected on the basis having been in the group in prior years.**

Selection and placement will be determined by the Flag Corps Director and the band staff (Band Directors) based upon the total overall tryout and evaluation of both the “subjective” and “objective” aspects of the tryout process. Decisions of the Flag Corps Director and Band Staff are final.

III. Frequently Asked Questions

What are the costs involved?

Each student is expected to provide the following items in order to participate in the Flag Corps.

Band Camp - \$325.00 (Estimated)
Gloves - \$18.00
Make-Up Kit and Bag - \$30.00
Pep Rally Shirt & Shorts - \$30.00
Jazz Shoes - \$35.00
Unitard for Indoor Guard - \$35.00
Uniform Cleaning and Equipment Maintenance Fee - \$65.00

What should I wear to auditions?

Please report to the Freshmen Learning Center at the time stated.

Please wear appropriate comfortable clothing to the sessions. This would include shorts, comfortable tee-shirt, and tennis shoes or sneakers (a must). You might want to tie back your hair or put it up if you have long hair.

Please bring with you a water bottle filled with fresh water or gator aid and a light healthy snack for break. Please eat a healthy breakfast, lunch, and dinner each day. Hair should be secured away from the face.

What time should I show up for the tryout sessions?

We recommend that everyone attending the tryout session show up **15** minutes prior to the posted starting time. Parent pick-up is 15 minutes after the posted dismissal time.

What are tryouts like?

First of all, you will meet as group to receive some information and orientation on the first day and will then be instructed as a large group on basic fundamentals of equipment handling and marching techniques. You will also work in smaller groups to refine the basics and at the end each session you will meet, review, and be dismissed as a group. This will be the continuing process throughout the clinic. Also some basic dance techniques and body movement will be introduced. For the final tryout clinic, you will tryout in small groups on what has been taught during the previous clinics.

What is the practice and performance schedule like?

In the fall semester, practices are generally two times per week usually on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for two hours and 15 minutes beginning at 6:30 pm. Performances for football games are on Friday evenings with home games from 6 – 10:45 pm and away games usually from 3:30 pm to Midnight, sometimes later due to long distances.

In the spring semester, practices are generally two times per week as per facility availability for two hours and 15 minutes beginning at 6:30 pm. Weeks immediately prior to festivals may require additional practices.

A calendar is available on the band website @ band.vero-beach.fl.us

Who can I contact for information?

- For more information you can email “The Rage” Director, Priscilla Sammons, at veroband@yahoo.com or call 772-564-5683.