

## DVMB Water Crew Guidelines - "Team Hydrate"

The following guidelines are meant to be used for DV Band events based on approximately 135-150 members. Past experiences should be used as a reference as continuous flexibility and adjustments are made each season depending on band size, venues, and schedules. The goal as volunteers is to provide for the needs of the organization, but as young adults, members should be accountable for being responsible and fully prepared for the upcoming season. An open dialogue with the staff will make things go smoothly during the Marching Band season.

We are very fortunate to have Sonic as a sponsor for the Band. They have donated water bottles for competitions, our own competition - "Thunder in the Hills", and the California trip for the last few seasons. Please check to see if they are continuing to donate for this season. The water bottles are given to the Band members after their performances in competitions.

The May Kick-Off Meeting is usually the opportunity for volunteers to sign-up. Sometimes it's easier to take on most tasks yourself because of your familiarity with the duties of the position, but try to spread some of the workload. Other volunteers can help fill and/or deliver tubs for camps, all-days, competitions, or games. Once you get the list of Water Crew volunteers, it is recommended to establish communication via email. Teams can be assigned for football games, information for upcoming events (venues, times, etc.), and whatever information deemed necessary to make things go smoothly. It's a long season, but things can go faster and easier with the help of volunteers.

Before the season starts, the tubs usually have been in storage after the prior season. Try to clean the tubs with a solution of "a splash of bleach", "a drop of dishwash soap", and water. Make sure the tubs are thoroughly rinsed once they have been cleaned. Use this cleaning process again after band camp, and again around the start of the competition season. If stored in a relatively clean environment, that should be an ample amount of cleaning for the season.

With the exception of pre-camp, post-camp, and all-days, the Water Crew does not provide water for any rehearsals. There are exceptions due to rehearsal length, time of year, and weather conditions. Also, members, especially new members, may not be fully prepared early in the season. Mr. Thye and his staff will always encourage band members to be more prepared in bringing enough for themselves. If they seem to run low, bring more next time, etc. The amount of available water for particular rehearsal and/or performance events vary. The common theme has always been to have enough water.

Here are the supplies the Water Crew have used in the past:

- Small water tubs = 5 gallon capacity / Large water tubs = 10 gallons (usually used for pre/post camps, Band camp, football games, and competitions).
- 6-8 Water Pitchers (used to fill Cups at football games, water bottles at some competitions, and the Main Water station for our band competition).
- 4 Metal Stands (support water tubs).
- Hand Sanitizer and Wipes.
- Red Solo Cups (football games).
- Small White/Clear Cups (our competition).
- Trash bags (clean up the used water bottles for warm ups and competitions).
- Paper towels.
- Event passes for volunteers (they are used mainly for home football games).

We have been going to the Water & Ice store near the Safeway on Chandler Boulevard and Desert Foothills Parkway. We have an arrangement with them that has been established for past few seasons. The following should be used when filling the tubs:

- Typically fill Small tubs with 3 gallons water and 1/3-1/2 large bag of ice
- Typically fill Large tubs with 6 gallons water and 1/2-2/3 large bag of ice

It is suggested to not completely fill tubs for transporting purposes. The lids tend to leak some.

The following is a typical season schedule and suggested Water Crew tasks:

- Pre-Camp: Since the band will practice on the school practice fields in the Am, use 2 Large tubs on a table for Winds/Brass, 1 Small tub on a stand for Front Ensemble, Guard, and Drumline ( 3 tubs total). Winds/Brass - practice field on side street near baseball diamond, Drumline - practice field near Bus Drop Off Circle, Guard - Dance Hall, Front Ensemble - outside Band Room. At the end of Am Rehearsal, collect tubs and consolidate remaining water for Pm Rehearsal and refill when needed. Allow room to top off with additional ice. Sometimes Pm Rehearsal is on campus for only music. Coordinate with staff to provide as necessary - 2 Large tubs on stands for Winds/Brass, 1 Small tub on a stand for Front Ensemble, 1 Small for Drums that can be placed on a wall, and 1 Small tub on a stand outside Dance Room for Guard.

Collect tubs after Pm Rehearsal in time to refill and/or already fill tubs for the next day. Repeat and adjust as needed throughout Pre-Camp.

- Band Camp: No obligation except to provide the camp chaperone staff with the 5 Large tubs. Details have been worked out with Band Camp Coordinator and Pit Crew in the past. Be sure to pick up tubs at DV as truck and equipment is unloaded, usually around 3-4 Pm on that Saturday when they return from camp. That may be your only chance to get them back before Post-Camp. If you can't get the Large tubs, use the Small tubs for post- camp. Clean tubs prior to next usage. Also, this is a good time to assess how many Large cups are available, and possibly get enough to cover games (approximately 200 for away games, and 350 for home games). Perhaps solicitating donations of cups can help offset costs for the remainder of the season.

- Post-Camp: Very much the same routine as Pre-Camp, but there is only an Am practice. Coordinate with the staff to follow their schedule and locations.

- Friday Games: In the interest of time, try to have the tubs filled, (5 Large and 8 Small), on Thursday nights. Ice will melt, but the water stays chilled. Drop 1or 2 Small tubs in the band room under the table at the door (with about 20-30 cups) on Friday morning for the Pit Crew to use - home and away. Please remind Pit that it is there. Typically top off tubs with ice Friday afternoon before games for a cool burst (pick up ice at the Water and Ice near the Safeway - Chandler Boulevard and Desert Foothills Parkway since we have worked with them over the last few seasons), or at a location near you. Use your discretion.

We usually use Solo Cups to give the Band for the football games, so bring as many as necessary. At least 350 Cups for home games (pre-game and halftime), and 240 for away games. (Costco and Sam's Club sells them, usually 240 per bag). The band performs pre-game for away games - take cups of water once. They perform at halftime for home games, but will take cups twice - after pre-game and halftime. Early in the season, take the 5 Large tubs and 6 Small tubs for home games, and 4 Large and 4 Small for away games. It is hot, and everyone is thirsty. Adjust for each game for demand and weather. Also, have more water available on Friday before Saturday events.

Homecoming and Middle School games are usually during cooler weather, but have ample water and Cups to accommodate the larger band numbers.

Make it a habit to arrive at game sites an hour to 90 minutes prior to kick-off. Getting parked and set-up at a leisurely pace makes for an easy night. More volunteers that can arrive early is a help, too. Be sure to have water tubs, cart(s), cups, filling pitchers, sanitizer/wipes, paper towels, boundary tape and trash bags. Most away games are at familiar sites, but the band will usually set-up on the opposite end of spectator entrances. Sometimes, electrical sources for speakers at older stadiums will be a factor.

- All-Days: These are long days for members since there are a 4 hour morning session, and a 4 hour evening session. The first all-day practice is brutal. The set-up should be just like the Pre-Camp set-up. If enough water is available from the previous Friday night game, use that and top off with ice. 2-3 Large tubs or 3-4 Small tubs on stands at night are usually plenty. The night rehearsal is almost always in the stadium. Coordinate with the staff for set up locations.

- Extra: Some seasons have had additional rehearsals during Fall Break and/or close to State Finals. Use your discretion regarding the supply of water. Members are supposed to be prepared, but due to the nature of having these extra rehearsals, having extra water available isn't a bad idea. It doesn't go to waste since it can be used for the upcoming event.

- Competitions: The first competition of the year seems to take a lot of water - whether it's day or night. The Band members are responsible for bringing at least 1 water bottle for warm-ups. The Water Crew will refill bottles during warm-ups and pick them up when the Band goes to the stadium. Be prepared to take (4) Large tubs for the water bottle refills during warm ups. The past few seasons, Sonic has provided water bottles that we have given to Band members after they have performed. Coolers, preferably with wheels, can hold the Sonic water with ice to hand out to the band. Unfortunately, every competition is different, and different every year. Coordinate with Mr. Thye as early as you can before the event for his intended schedule and warm-up locations. The Pit Crew can be a good source of helpful information, too. Water from the previous Friday game can be used to start your supply. To be fully prepared to meet the band as they arrive, I suggest leaving with or soon after the Pit Crew to gain venue access. Also, the Hospitality Committee usually distributes snacks for the Band as well. Please coordinate with them and Mr Thye as to where and when to give the Band water and snacks. Water Volunteers for games aren't usually involved at competitions, but it would be great to have the extra help. It can get quite spread out and time restraining. "Murphy's Law" will prevail, but more than enough help can make the event so much easier to handle. Coordinate with Mr. Thye.

- Fall AZPAS: Previous Water crews have committed to this event for years due to their kids performing and they we're going to attend anyway. Sometimes the Full Ensemble doesn't perform. Water was good to have on hand for refills and after the performance. 2-3 Small tubs with cups for the Ensemble, plus 1 Small tub with cups for the Pit Crew. Previous years, the Basha competition was later that night, so the water didn't go to waste. Maybe extra water bottles in the future is an option instead of tubs and cups.

- California Competition: We have been fortunate to have Sonic be a sponsor for the Band, and they have graciously donated water bottles for trip. Coordinate with the Band council on how much will be needed. Usually, there will be at least 10-15 cases of water that will be on each bus for the trip. usually there are 4 buses. For the competition, there

is a Qualifying Round during the day. The top 10 scores will then perform in the evening to determine the winner. Bottles will be given to the Band for warm-ups and after they perform during the day, and, they qualify, will do the same for the evening performance. Extra water will be used on the buses for the trip home.

- DV Invitational: "Thunder In The Hills" is a new band competition that is hosted by DVMB. The following is to be used as a reference, so make sure to coordinate with the Event Director on what will be needed.

In the past, we have asked the DV Sports department to borrow up to 20 water coolers, both Large and Small, for Watering Stations around the DV campus. Try to get the tubs early in the week before the event so they can be cleaned and filled beforehand. (Check the schedule because there will be a football game the Friday before the event).

The school will provide tables for the event, so make sure you acquire enough tables for the Watering Stations. The Watering Stations are for Guard, Winds, Brass, Drums, and Front Ensemble practice areas, a station for the Bus Parking lot, plus a Main Watering Station in the church parking lot. These are usually put into place the morning of the competition. The Water Crew will set up watering stations which consist of table, at least 2 Large tubs depending on practice area, and a stack of small "8-oz." cups. The Cups can be purchased from Costco or Sam's Club. (Ask for donations of Cups as soon as possible because there will probably be a need of maybe 10-15,000).

The Main Watering station in the church parking lot is where the bands usually load their trucks, and it is a good place for the bands to get a drink of water after performing. There will be at least 6 Large tubs on 3-4 tables, along with all the Water pitchers for filling Cups. Try to use this location as the Central Hub for supplies and volunteers.

This is going to be a long day. There will be constant trips made to the Water and Ice store during the competition to refill the Watering Stations, having access to a truck to make the Water trips will be crucial. Also, there has been a donation of a "Gator", a motorized cart that has been used to deliver Water tubs to the Water stations on the campus. This has made things a bit easier.

One strategy has been to use the Large tubs for the stations, and the Small tubs for refilling the stations. Also, strive to get as many volunteers as possible. Having people at the Main Watering Station is a plus when the larger bands are performing. Also, having people delegated for refilling the tubs helps as well.

- Easter Parade: The parade has traditionally been an event with invited students from Akimel A-al and Altadena. As the band(s) finish their march, donuts and water are available at the Community Center. It's easy - cups of water. This is the last event of the year for the Water Committee.