

Marching Cougar Pride 2015 Orlando Trip (December 26, - December 31, 2015)

THE RULES

No list of rules can cover all situations. Most students have enough common sense to handle themselves effectively. We simply ask that students think about their actions and the possible consequences and use their best judgment.

Violations of any trip rules could lead to your immediate dismissal as a member of this group trip and/or SMNW Band or Drill Team. If the situation warrants it, we reserve the right to send any student home early at the expense of the parent. If a student is sent home due to violation of trip rules, no refund of any trip expense will be made to the student or their family. The final decision will be made by Ms. Snead.

Parents and students will sign and return a form on the final page of this packet acknowledging that they have read and understand these trip guidelines.

General Expectations

- Schedules: We expect all students to comply with the group schedule. It's understood that some students may be traveling to and/or from Florida with their families. Once they have joined the group, they are required to participate in all group activities. Should a family emergency arise, a parent/guardian must contact either Ms. Snead or the trip coordinator to discuss the situation and family plans. Only at this point will consideration be given to making any changes to the student's schedule. The student's group chaperone will be kept informed as to all changes.
- Students are expected to stay with the group at all times. They may not wander off to other attractions in the area or outside the hotel property at any time. Although families may also be traveling in Florida, the school staff, trip staff, and group chaperones are ultimately responsible for you and you are expected to stay with the group.
- Language: Vulgar language will not be tolerated at any time. Public displays of affection will not be tolerated, as well as water/food fights or "horse play." Students are representing SMNW while in Florida and expected to act accordingly.
- Chaperones: Chaperones and sponsors are to be treated with respect. Do what they tell you. No talking back! Chaperones will be using texting as a primary means of contact with the students. When texted from the chaperone, the student is expected to respond back within ??? (TBD) minutes.
- Appropriate Attire: If clothing is not appropriate for school, it is not appropriate for the trip.
- Student Illness: Students unable to march with the Marching Cougar Pride or follow the group schedule due to illness will spend the remainder of the day at the hotel accompanied by a chaperone.
- **Respect: This trip is meant to be jam-packed with lots of fun and memorable activities. It will also be exhausting. There will be a low tolerance for bickering, hard feelings, or just plain lousy attitudes. Make an extra effort to be pleasant, tolerant, and aware of others' feelings.**

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- **BE ON TIME! BE ON TIME! BE ON TIME!**

Luggage, Travel Information, and Bus Conduct

- Plane Tickets: **Southwest Airlines issues paper tickets to groups.** (TBD) To avoid loss, tickets will remain in the possession of chaperones or staff except when necessary to check in. Lost tickets could result in a charge to replace the ticket, which will be passed on to the family. Students are encouraged to make sure their chaperone has their plane ticket.
- Your luggage is limited to:
 - One suitcase **not to exceed 25 inches in height.** This item will be checked and therefore not accessible during the flights.
 - A small carry-on bag not to exceed 10 x 16 x 24 inches, so that it will fit in the overhead bin or under the seat in front of you. Students are encouraged to use school backpacks or a messenger/duffle bag as this item.
 - Your instrument. Instruments that are hand-carried will count as the student's "personal item". Flutes and clarinets may be added to the checked bag; larger instruments will be checked separately. The trip staff will cover the additional fee for oversize items (tubas, some battery instruments).
- TSA limits liquids in carry-on baggage. Liquids must meet the following guidelines:
 - **3-1-1 for carry-ons** = 3.4 ounce (100ml) bottle or less (by volume); 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin.
 - **Be prepared.** Each time TSA searches a carry-on it slows down the line. Practicing 3-1-1 will ensure a faster and easier checkpoint experience.
 - **3-1-1 is for short trips.** If in doubt, put your liquids in checked luggage.
- Band students are expected to ensure that all instrument case buckles are secure before checking instruments. Straps for holding instrument cases closed are highly recommended; please remember that bags will be opened and inspected by TSA staff.
- Band Uniforms: You may either hand-carry your uniform or pack it in your checked baggage. You must take your jacket, overlay, pants, black socks (low cut socks are not allowed), marching shoes, hat, plume, uniform hanger, and garment bag, with your name, the school's name, and the school's address on the card that is displayed in the clear pocket. You do not need to take your hat box. Students are encouraged to pack smaller items, such as socks, inside the hat. Students failing to bring appropriate marching attire will not perform with the group, and may be subject to being sent home at their own/their family's expense.
- Drill Team: You must take your SMNW top, black long sleeve leo, sparkle vest, black jazz pants, black socks, field shoes, warm ups, and band t-shirt.
- Bus Seating: Bus seating will be assigned. You will be expected to be in your assigned seat for roll call, which will be taken at the beginning of each bus trip. After roll has been taken, you may move to wherever you wish (as allowed by the bus driver).
- Food and Drinks: Students may not bring beverages of any kind on the trip. You may pack a reusable water bottle and bring snacks from home. Snacks will be provided for the flights.
- Meals: Most meals in Florida will be provided, and will typically be at the theme park. Breakfast is provided at the hotel each morning. Individuals with special dietary needs are asked to speak to their chaperones or the trip coordinator.
- Medications: Over-the-counter or prescription medication is the responsibility of the student. Check the medical form, or with trip staff, if you have any questions.

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- First Aid: Chaperones and staff will have first aid kits throughout the trip should there be an emergency. While in theme parks, medical forms will be provided to theme park first aid providers.

Hotel and Theme Park Information

- Rooms: Hotel rooms are to be kept clean at all times. Rooms will be checked by chaperones on a regular basis. If the room is not in reasonable condition (as defined by Ms. Snead), you will be asked to clean your room immediately. Trash bags are available from your chaperone or Mrs. Keeney, should you need one.
- Buddy System: Use the “buddy system” at all times, including all theme parks, the beach, etc. In other words, stay with the group and don’t go anywhere alone. This rule applies to inside the hotel also. Students are expected to let one of the adults on the trip know immediately if any student in your group is missing.
- Visitation: There will be no visiting in rooms other than your own. At no time are boys allowed in girls’ rooms or vice versa. If you feel the need to talk to someone in another room before curfew, use the hallway *or hotel lobby* (?).
- Phones: Room phones are not to be used for any outside calls. Cell phones should be used to call home. After curfew there should be no phone calls, texting, or other forms of communication, other than quiet talking within the room. Anyone in violation of this may have their cell phone held overnight by an adult.
- Room Service and Hotel Housekeeping: Room service and viewer pay TV are not to be ordered. **You are not to contact the hotel housekeeping. Should you need something, ask your chaperone to help you.**
- Bed Check: Chaperones will conduct a bed check each night. After the bed check has been conducted, the door to your room must stay closed; the only reason you should open it is to contact a chaperone in an emergency. Chaperones will patrol the hotel halls nightly.
- Curfew/Quiet Hours: Quiet hours will begin one hour after the bus arrives back at the hotel and continue until 6:00 am. Curfew will be announced by Ms. Snead and enforced by chaperones. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Room Key: Do not lose your room key. If there is a fee for a lost room key, it will be passed on to the student/their family.
- Checking out from the Hotel: When you leave the hotel, student **MAY NOT** take towels, wash cloths, pillows, sheets, blankets or any other hotel property. You will be charged for the loss.

Drugs/Alcohol Policy

- In accordance with the Shawnee Mission School District policy (see below), the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages is not permitted while on this trip. The use of tobacco (smoke OR smokeless) is not permitted by any member of the group.
- If you are suspected of having used, or having in your possession, any alcoholic beverage, illegal drug, narcotics, or tobacco product while a member of this group trip, you and all of your possessions will be searched. Should the situation warrant it, the entire room and students’ cell phones may be searched.

School District Policy: (may need to be updated TBD)

- *Students participating in Shawnee Mission Northwest High School extra-curricular activities are expressly prohibited from the use, possession, transfer, or sale of any alcoholic or*

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cereal malt beverage, restricted substances, or tobacco. Violation of this restriction by any Shawnee Mission student will result in the consequences listed below:

First Offense

In Season Violation: A conference including a building administrator, the student, parents/guardians of the student, and the coach or sponsor will be conducted. If verification is found to be sufficient by school administration, the student will be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular competition/practices for the remainder of the current season.

Out of Season Violation: A conference including a building administrator, the student, parents/guardian of the student, and the coach or sponsor, will be conducted. If verification is found to be sufficient by the school administration, the student will be placed on immediate administrative probation. Students placed on administrative probation are not considered "in good standing" as described by the KSHSAA Rule 14 and therefore are not permitted to participate in extra-curricular activities. A student may be removed from administrative probation by completing the following:

Completion of a community service program as designed by the student and parents/guardians and approved by the school administration. This program shall consist of a minimum of 20 hours of service. The designated program must be completed prior to the student participating in any extra-curricular competition.

Subsequent Offenses: (Offenses are accumulative throughout the duration of the contract)

A conference including a building administrator, the student, parents/guardians of the student, and the coach or sponsor will be conducted. If verification is found to be sufficient by school administration, the student will be prohibited from participating in extra-curricular activities for one calendar year after the completion of the due process hearing.

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Acknowledgement of Receipt of Trip Guidelines

Please print legibly:

Student's name _____

Parent/Guardian' name(s) _____

Chaperone's name _____

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read, and understand, the preceding Marching Cougar Pride Orlando 2015 trip guidelines. I will make every effort to have questions answered before the group departs on December 26, 2015.

- I understand that decisions made by the SMNW Band Director, Ms. Penny Snead, are final.
- As a student participant, I understand that I am representing the Shawnee Mission School District, Shawnee Northwest High School, the city of Shawnee, and the state of Kansas while on this trip. I will do my best to represent them in a positive manner.
- As a student participant, I understand that this is a group trip and that all members of the trip are expected to participate in all activities on the itinerary. I will promptly follow the directions provided by my chaperone and Ms. Snead.
- As the parent/guardian of the student named above, I authorize the adult volunteers to administer any necessary supervision and/or discipline that are deemed necessary for the safety and benefit of the above-named student.
- As the parent/guardian of the student named above, I understand that any infractions may result in my student being sent home, at my expense.

Student's signature _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Please **circle** one choice below to indicate how your student will return to SMNW:

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I will pick my student up at the airport.

My student will ride the bus to SMNW.