



www.GulfCoastSound.org

281-350-1696

Corps (kor) n [Fr. <Lat. Corpus.] 1. A group of people working together to achieve a common goal.

2008 Member Guide

The Challenge of a New Era:

***“Some men see things as they are and ask, ‘why?’
I dream things that never were and ask, ‘why not?’”***

Robert F. Kennedy

Table of Contents

Welcome to Gulf Coast Sound	2
GCS Mission Statement	3
Objectives for 2008	3
What is an “All-Age” Drum & Bugle Corps?	4
Four Requirements.....	5
Your Rehearsal Commitment	6
Schedule of Rehearsals and Performances	7
Rehearsal Facility.....	7
How hard should you rehearse?.....	7
Making rehearsals productive.....	8
A few rules	8
Treat others with respect and dignity.....	9
Under-18 Members	9
Transportation	10
Your Financial and Fundraising Commitment.....	10
Contact Information	12
2007-2008 Management and Instructional Staff	13
Gulf Coast Sound Info & Medical Release/Insurance Form.....	15
Gulf Coast Sound 2008 Member Agreement.....	17

****Please fill out the last 2 pages (front and back) and return at the next rehearsal.
For members under 18, a parent or guardian must also sign both forms.***

This manual was prepared for the Gulf Coast Sound Drum & Bugle Corps. Gulf Coast Sound is a social, non-profit arts organization and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, religion, public assistance status, marital status, disability, race, color, creed, national origin, political affiliation or sexual orientation.

December 2007

Dear member:

Welcome aboard!

In the fall of 2001, ten friends got together to conduct an experiment. Here we are 7 years later, having proven ourselves in the Texas Color Guard Circuit, Drum Corps Associates, Drum Corps Midwest, Drum Corps Associates Central, Drum Corps International, & Drum Corps Associates South. Last summer GCS *BLEW AWAY* an electric crowd at the DCA Prelims in Rochester, NY. They obviously weren't expecting what we had for them. Personally, I don't think the judges knew what do to with us either! However, now we've raised the bar and the level of expectation and we have to deliver in 2008!

Here in GCS we strive to do everything perfect. "Perfect" is different for each of us. One member's definition of "perfect" is different from the next. "Perfect" is doing your VERY best, all the time. When you're able to do that consistently you'll find that your level of "perfect" gets better and better. In the truest sense, perfection is unattainable. However, if we constantly push ourselves and consistently raise our individual level of "perfect", the Corps will be able to reach a level of achievement we never thought possible and could never have reached individually.

Our Corps Motto for 2008 is:

"No Mercy"

Show no mercy to the judges. Show no mercy to audience. Show no mercy to our competition. Show no mercy to yourself as you strive to become the "perfect" performer.

The GCS Winter Guard is back for 2008. After learning some valuable lessons in 2007 and securing a new staff, the *Guarrrrd* is ready to contend for titles in TCGC and WGI!

The 2008 summer production is another major step forward for the Corps. Please join us as we embark upon another journey to the DCA Championships, this time to contend for the DCA Class A Championship Title.

Again, welcome aboard and welcome to the Gulf Coast Sound family.

Jason Rose

<><

Corps Director

GCS MISSION STATEMENT

GCS will strive to provide a quality Drum & Bugle Corps experience to all its members. We will perform entertaining and challenging programs in an effort to create a nationally competitive Corps.

GCS will proudly represent Houston and the State of Texas as “musical ambassadors.”

Objectives for 2008

- A. Continue to build a solid financial structure for the Corps.**
- B. Secure additional long-term fundraising venture and/or put plan in motion to secure additional long term fundraising venture.**
- C. Push recruiting campaign designed to get quality members.**
 - 1. Put on multi-media presentations at local colleges and high schools (for out-going high school Seniors)**
 - 2. Continue to place ads in local newspapers and on Internet sites such as “Drum Corps Planet” and “R.A.M.D.”**
 - 3. Advertise and promote GCS Open House & regular rehearsals.**
- D. Recruit enough new members to compete in DCA Class A.**
 - 1. 24-32 Brass**
 - 2. 12-16 Percussion (4-8 Front Ensemble)**
 - 3. 12-20 Color Guard**
- E. Perform at “exSIGHTment of Sound” DCI show in Houston, “Brass on the Bayou” DCA show in Houston, DCA Central Dallas show, DCA South Georgia Tour, DCA South Nashville Tour, and DCA Class A Championships.**
- F. “Brass on the Bayou” is a DCA South show in Houston that is hosted and organized fully by GCS and our governing body, GCDCA. GCS Members will help with advance preparations for this event, as well as setup and cleanup of the stadium in addition to performing at the event.**
- G. Build a year-round performance schedule throughout the Houston area (parades, festivals, “standstill” concert opportunities).**

What is an “All-Age” Drum & Bugle Corps?

People are generally more familiar with Junior Drum Corps, typically Drum Corps International (DCI). Many people are not aware that all-age Corps exists. A good way to describe the all-age activity is to compare it to our close cousins in DCI.

There are about 25-30 competing all-age Corps in this country, Canada, & Japan, while there are about 100 Junior Corps that compete regularly. All-age Corps often operate both as a feeder Corps for many Junior's and as an opportunity for “age outs” to continue the thrill and satisfaction of marching, playing and performing competitively. However, for the vast majority of our members there's no need to join a top Junior Corps because GCS strives to offer a comparable experience. Junior Corps have an upper age limit of 21. All-age Corps, as implied by the name, have no age-out restrictions.

The all-age (formerly known as “Senior Corps”) Drum Corps movement predates the Junior Corps movement by several decades. Today, however, drum corps is incorrectly thought of as a student-only activity because of their prevalence in the media. The DCA, DCA South, DCA Central, and other DCA circuits flourish with all-age Corps and in some cases coexist with the younger Corps and even compete against each other. The all-age corps movement has seen some incredible growth in the past 5-7 years. DCA has seen NEW member and affiliate Corps organize in California (3), Texas (3), Georgia (2), Florida, Tennessee (2), North Carolina, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania. An activity that was once centered in the Northeast has spread across the country. Approximately 10 new DCA Corps have been successfully fielded since 2000 with several more in the works. This is truly an exciting time to be involved in the all-age Drum Corps activity.

“Style” in All-Age Corps

In comparing the best in All-Age and Junior Drum Corps, audiences often make distinctions between what they call a “Senior Corps” and a “Junior Corps” style. These are stereotypes, but they do illustrate major differences.

All-age Corps generally perform more accessible musical selections. Our members perform with a level of musicianship that few Junior Corps can match. The reason for this is simple: We have more experience! There also tends to be a lot of more spirit in our shows, the soloists tend to be daring and inventive and the members exude an air of comfort that is difficult for most junior Corps to equal.

Junior Corps, however, have far more time to rehearse. Their precision is matchless with complex and coordinated drills. The top 6 or so Junior Corps often play musical selections that push the envelope of what “amateur” musicians are capable of and do so with an extraordinary amount of success. All-age Corps must be more modest in our approach due to our status as a weekend-only activity. However, what we may lack in complexity we more than make up for in personality. We aren't afraid to pull out the stops and thrill the fans.

Both types of Corps rehearse very hard and put forth the best quality product they are capable of.

The Time Factor

Junior Corps members have considerably more time to rehearse than all-age corps do. Many Junior Corps go on extended “tours” in the summer, lasting several weeks. When they’re not traveling, sleeping or eating ... they’re rehearsing. Because members don’t have full time jobs, they have more time to commit to Drum Corps. Oftentimes, their entire summers are devoted to the activity.

GCS members rehearse on a more limited basis. We rehearse only a few days a month from December through August and our travel is confined mostly to weekends, culminating Labor Day Weekend in September. Even so, this requires a significant time commitment from our members. However, through careful planning, GCS members can find ways to balance jobs, families, and other activities into their Drum Corps schedule. Many members include their families in rehearsals and performances. Most social activities in All-Age Corps also encourage full family participation.

Four Requirements

Many of you have marched with other Drum & Bugle Corps in the past. For others, this is a first-time experience. Regardless of your Drum Corps background, we have four requirements for our members:

1) Talent and Desire:

This is more than just your ability on your instrument or equipment, or your marching skills. It is those elements PLUS your development, progress, and level of commitment. We don’t require everyone to be an all-star performer, but we do ask for your all-star ***effort!*** It’s not about how well you play a horn or drum or how well you handle a piece of guard equipment. It’s about how dedicated you are to GCS. Dedication cannot be taught; it takes self discipline to ALWAYS put GCS before yourself. GCS doesn’t have an audition process. Everyone is welcome, and we will place you where you will fit best in the Corps. We look more at personality and dependability than playing or marching ability.

2) Membership Dues and Fundraising:

These two requirements make up every member’s financial responsibility to GCS. There are many costs associated with running a Drum & Bugle Corps. GCS cannot survive without every member’s commitment to our finances. Adhering to the dues policy and dues payment schedule will keep you in good standing.

****Dues are non-refundable. Whether you voluntarily leave the Corps or are dismissed for any reason, dues will not be refunded.***

For the 2008 season, each member of GCS will also be required to work 3 structured events sponsored by the GCS Fundraising Committee.

3) Attendance:

Attendance at EVERY rehearsal and camp is MANDATORY.

Attendance at EVERY performance and parade is MANDATORY.

If you have a conflict (we know that life does happen outside the Corps), *it is YOUR responsibility to contact your Section Leader and let them know.* Schedule conflicts can usually be worked out with some planning and forethought on your part. If you regularly miss rehearsals and we do not hear from you, we will assume that you're not interested in being part of the GCS organization.

4) Attitude:

A positive approach to GCS is absolutely essential. What we do is extremely hard and requires a great amount of dedication and determination. There will be times when you are faced with frustrations and discomfort. Those people who are willing to work as a TEAM – management, staff, and members – and get things done are the kind of members GCS is looking for.

Our philosophy is to perform well and have fun.

Your Rehearsal Commitment

Gulf Coast Sound has fun, relaxed rehearsals whenever possible. Corps members are in the activity for the enjoyment. However, it is not fun to be in a Corps that does not perform well. In order to achieve all that we are capable of, we must focus and work hard. Respecting the Instructional Staff and being a team player is crucial.

Promptness and good attendance are absolutely necessary. Our Saturday rehearsals start at 10:00 a.m. on the dot. You need to be there 15-20 minutes early to have a chance to socialize with others, as well as get yourself settled in and ready to start. Staff and Setup crew need to be at least 30 minutes early. Instructors will start rehearsal on time. Since our rehearsal time is so very limited, we expect you to adhere to these rules.

We will have, on average, two Saturday rehearsals per month. Once a month, we will add a half-day on Sunday. This will enable us to learn our show earlier in the season so we can spend less time outside during the hot summer months and still put a quality product on the field. This will also help with retention - to be able to learn on Saturday and review on Sunday.

Schedule of Rehearsals and Performances

Rehearsals will normally be every other Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Once a month we will also add a Sunday rehearsal from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Marching and ensemble music will be the primary focus. Sectionals will also be held with Section Leaders and Instructional Staff. See the Calendar on the website for dates and details.

Summer Performances (Tentative)

- Houston DCI Show
- Regional DCI Shows
- Drum Corps Tigers
- Texas Drum Corps Preview in Austin
- July 4th Parade in Sugar Land
- July 4th Concert at RBC
- DCA Central show in Dallas
- DCA South Georgia Tour (Rockmart and Atlanta)
- DCA South Tennessee Tour (Nashville and Bowling Green)
- “Brass on the Bayou” (GCS’s Houston DCA South Show)
- “Night of Stars” (GCS Family Night)
- DCA World Championships in Rochester, NY

The potential exists for numerous other parades and concerts in the Houston area throughout the year as fundraising ventures, public exposure, and performance opportunities for the members.

Rehearsal Facility

Rittenhouse Baptist Church will continue to allow GCS to use its campus as a rehearsal facility for the foreseeable future. If GCS continues to keep the field clean and respect the property we will likely be able to use the area indefinitely. RBC has indoor/outdoor rehearsal facilities including an open field large enough for multiple ensembles to rehearse simultaneously. The Church is located just off of I-45 North, 2 miles from 610. It’s easy to get to from all directions and there is ample parking. Once every 4 – 6 weeks a brass quartet/quintet may be asked to play at Sunday morning services. This is good exposure for GCS and will also work to deepen the relationship GCS is building with RBC.

How hard should you rehearse?

The better a Corps rehearses, the better it will perform. The point is to get it right at rehearsal and practice it right until the right way becomes nearly automatic. Then you can give it that little extra magic at a performance.

PRACTICE on your own to **REHEARSE** at camp to **PERFORM** at a show. Please realize that rehearsal is NOT practice. Practice happens at home, on your time.

It’s physically and mentally impossible to “give it all you’ve got” every time you run through a routine or play a chart. But, you can find your own energy level that allows you to do a good job and repeat it. You have to pace yourself. But, if you’re not used to performing strong at rehearsal, when it comes time to perform, you won’t be able to perform strong there. Of course, there will be plenty of time allotted for breaks and social time.

Just in case you didn't know, it's hot in Texas during the summer. We encourage you to wear light colored, loose fitting clothes and tennis shoes to rehearse in. However, please refrain from wearing clothing that is revealing and inappropriate. We rehearse at a Church and there are families with young children in the Corps.

Making rehearsals productive

Cooperate by staying focused during rehearsal. Minimize side conversations and wandering off during rehearsal time. Listen carefully when the staff or the Drum Major is talking to you, your section, or the full Corps.

**** If you miss two consecutive rehearsals (that's a full month) and fail to contact us, we will assume you are not interested in performing with Gulf Coast Sound.**

**** Performances are Mandatory, unless otherwise stated by the Corps Director. A missed performance may forfeit the privilege of subsequent performances.**

A few rules

We rehearse on private property owned by Rittenhouse Baptist Church and must adhere to the regulations regarding the use of alcohol and drugs.

- ***GCS rehearses at Rittenhouse Baptist CHURCH. We ask that you watch your language at ALL TIMES.***
- ***Underage or illegal use of drugs, chemicals, or alcohol will NOT be tolerated.***
- ***When smoking on breaks the butts MUST go into a designated "butt can." If there is a problem with this all smoking will be forbidden at the facility. No smoking on the rehearsal field, and smoking is only permitted during breaks.***
- ***There will be NO alcohol consumption on RBC grounds. EVER!***
- ***Please do not drink and drive (It is illegal and we want you to come back!).***

The Staff will never do anything to jeopardize you or the Corps. In return we ask that you always put the Corps first and yourself second. If you can't do this then you are in the wrong place. Drum Corps is about team work and family. It's these values that will make or break the Corps.

Please wear proper attire for rehearsals. Since we rehearse at a church, our events may occasionally overlap with some church functions. A shirt of some sort must be worn (tank tops are fine), and no extremely short shorts are allowed. Please be tasteful in your choices and make sure everything is properly covered. We're a family organization! Also, please watch the text on all t-shirts – if you think it pushes a boundary then please don't wear it. If the staff determines your attire is not appropriate, you may be asked to go home and change.

Keep our rehearsal site CLEAN! Throw away your garbage and put anything you've moved during rehearsal back where it belongs when we're finished for the day. The Staff will be watching for this. Please don't make them have to ask you pick something up and throw it away. We've worked hard to get the use of the RBC campus; don't jeopardize that by being careless. Remember, put the Corps first.

Treat others with respect and dignity

Treating all people with respect and dignity is important to any organization, and Gulf Coast Sound is no exception. Every member of GCS – staff, volunteer, or performing member – should keep in mind that their actions directly and indirectly affect all other members of this organization, as well as the organization as a whole. It is important that all members are aware of potential problems, specifically with regard to any form of discrimination or behavior that could be construed as harassment.

It is therefore important to state the following policy of Gulf Coast Sound:

Gulf Coast Sound in no way condones any behavior that may be deemed to promote discrimination in any way, or any behavior that promotes any form of harassment. Furthermore, any sexual or romantic involvement between adult members and members less than 18 years of age is unacceptable. Failure of any member to comply with this policy is grounds for immediate dismissal.

Since Gulf Coast Sound is a volunteer organization, it is the position of Gulf Coast Sound that members' behavior is their individual responsibility. Gulf Coast Sound will not be held responsible or liable for the inappropriate behavior of any of its members.

****Remember that everything our members do and say reflects upon the Corps as a whole. The Staff, along with current and former members, has worked VERY hard to build this Corps into a respectable organization. If you are acting in a manner that may negatively affect the Corps please understand that you will be dismissed.**

This includes:

- Talking unfavorably about your Corps or any other Corps to outside members (this includes posts on the internet)
- Using harsh language while in uniform
- Eating, smoking, or any use of alcohol in uniform
- Wearing your uniform improperly
- Disrespecting the Staff and/or Drum Major
- Fighting
- Any illegal drug use
- Any use of alcohol on the RBC campus

Under-18 Members

We encourage membership for those who are under 18 years old. These members, however, must have a parent or other responsible adult actively involved in the corps as a performer or booster. In addition, members under 18 must have approval from their Caption Head, the Corps Director, and the Board of Directors. A determination will be made after 3-4 camps.

Transportation

Transportation for all out-of-state performances will be 50+ passenger charter buses or rented 15 passenger vans. We may use either method of transportation depending on our needs and the distance of the trip. There are enough mature adults in the Corps to ensure safety when driving long distances via vans. Additional liability insurance on the passengers may be purchased if the situation warrants.

Transportation will be provided for any out-of-state events, and your dues will cover all transportation costs. We will carpool to any in-state events, so you will be responsible for arrangements and costs for gas, etc.

Your Financial and Fundraising Commitment

In addition to rehearsals and traveling, you will also need to make a financial and fundraising commitment to GCS. These responsibilities are necessary because there are many costs associated with running a Drum & Bugle Corps. The Corps cannot survive without every member's commitment to these two financial obligations. By adhering to the dues policies and fundraising responsibilities, membership should not be a problem for anyone.

Dues: The yearly dues are \$600 for all members.

**Dues are non-refundable. Whether you voluntarily leave the Corps or are dismissed for any reason, dues will not be refunded.*

Every member will be required to pay a minimum of \$20.00 per rehearsal, starting with the second rehearsal they attend. This is not a camp or rehearsal fee. This is a payment that will be credited to your dues for the 2008 season.

ANYONE MISSING 3 OF THE REQUIRED MINIMUM \$20.00 PAYMENTS AT ANY TIME DURING THE SEASON, WHETHER AT CONSECUTIVE OR NON-CONSECUTIVE REHEARSALS, WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CORPS ROSTER AND DISMISSED FROM THE CORPS. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

Members are responsible for keeping up with their dues payments. There are 3 due dates during the season. The first \$200 is due by Feb. 1, 2008. By April 1, \$400 should be paid, and by June 1 all dues money is required to be paid.

Included in the Dues: All instructional fees, all tour/travel expenses (including all out-of-state transportation), all housing expenses (including the hotel room for Championship weekend), partial uniform fees, equipment rental fees, equipment repair costs, rehearsal facility costs, and numerous other expenses.

Uniform Parts: GCS will provide the basic uniform components consisting of: shako, jacket, GCS star, and gauntlets. It is the responsibility of each member to provide black bib pants, Dinkle Patent Leather marching shoes, black socks, and white gloves.

Our Parade uniform will consist of the GCS MEMBER t-shirt (not modified in any way), khaki shorts or slacks as directed, tennis shoes, and white gloves.

Color Guard uniforms and necessary accessories for the 2008 field show will be discussed by the Color Guard Caption Head & Section Leader.

Other Costs: Each member is responsible for providing their own meals and refreshments at rehearsals, performances, and on all tours. The Corps will provide iced water at rehearsals.

Fundraisers: All members are required to work at 3 fundraising carwashes. These events will be planned far in advance to allow you to clear your schedule and participate. More information on these events will be available in the late winter.

If, for whatever reason, you miss any of these events you must pay a \$50 “buy-out” fee. The money raised at these events is critical.

Tax Information: Gulf Coast Sound is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, registered in the State of Texas under our parent organization, Gulf Coast Drum Corps Associates, Inc. Because of our non-profit status, we are always willing to accept business associates who are looking to make charitable contributions.

Discounts: We offer a “family discount”: the parents pay full dues, the first child pays 75% of their dues, the second 50%, the third 25%, after that remaining members of your *immediate* family are free. In addition, we offer a “geographical discount.” Members coming from the San Antonio/Austin area (and other areas at this distance from Houston) only pay 75%. Members coming from the Dallas/Fort Worth area and further only pay 50%.

This means that the full amount of your dues commitment and participation in the three required fundraisers must be met by June 1, 2008.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Contact Information

E-Mail Addresses: Info@GulfCoastSound.org
 Director@GulfCoastSound.org

Website Address: www.GulfCoastSound.org

Hotline: 281-350-1696

GCS Member Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GulfCoastSound>
(Members only – for important announcements ** please join!)

GCS Forum: <http://GulfCoastSound.org/forum>
(Public forum)

2007-2008 Management and Instructional Staff

Corps Management

Corps Director: Jason Rose
Business Manager: Tom Huntley
Operations Manager: Michele Rose
Tour Director: Corey Mark

Finance Manager: Teresa Huntley
Special Projects Director: Mark Todd
Corps Booster President: Chris Crawford
Director of Recruiting: Andy Jurick
Director of Fundraising: Gloria Carrion
Head Drum Major: Nikki Nauck
Assistant Drum Major: TBA
Corps Photographer: Ben Fournier
Webmaster: Michele & Jason Rose

Section Leaders

High Brass Section Leader: Tom Huntley (HighBrass-SL@GulfCoastSound.org)
Low Brass Section Leader: Scott Miller (LowBrass-SL@GulfCoastSound.org)
Percussion Section Leader: Thomas Dean (Percussion-SL@GulfCoastSound.org)
Guard Captain: Jessica Guzman (Guard-SL@GulfCoastSound.org)

Design Staff

Show Concept & Design: GCS Staff
Brass Music Arranger: Tony Cesario
Battery Music Arranger: Chris Kupsco, Thomas Dean, & Jon Large
Front Ensemble Music Arranger: Stephen Araujo
Guard Choreographer: Josh Black
Drill Design: Ken Fanti

Instructional Staff

Program Coordinator: TBA

Brass Caption Head: David Ngo
Brass Tech: Tony Cesario
Brass Tech: Tom Huntley
Brass Tech: Danny Rodriguez
Percussion Caption Head: Jon Large & Thomas Dean
Percussion Coordinator: Ronnie Alexander
Guard Caption Head: Josh Black
Guard Captain: Jessica Guzman
Visual Caption Head:
Visual/Drill Tech (Low Brass): Scott Miller
Visual/Drill Tech (High-Mid Brass): Tom Huntley
Visual/Drill Tech (Guard): Jessica Guzman
Visual/Drill Tech (Percussion): Thomas Dean

GCS Board of Directors

President: Dena Anderson
Quartermaster: Andy Jurick
Treasurer: TBA
Secretary: Michele Rose
Member: David Bolzman
Member: Nikki Nauck

Gulf Coast Drum Corps Associates Board of Directors

President: David Schneider
Vice President: Chrissi Crawford
Secretary: Jenny Todd
Treasurer: Barb Wendt
Member: David Breitwieser
Member: Scott Miller
Member: Alissa Van Der Kamp

Gulf Coast Sound Information & Medical Release/Insurance Form

Member's Name (Last, First, MI)		Birth date
Street Address:		
City, St, Zip:		
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:
E-mail address:		
Place of Employment:		
Position Held:		
Emergency Contact:		Phone 1:
Contact's relation to you:		Phone 2:
Doctor's Name:		
Address:		
City, St, Zip:		Phone:
Member's Insurance Carrier, ID:		
Allergies:		
Current Medication:		
Prone to any illness?		
Other helpful information:		

<p>Have you ever belonged to any other Drum & Bugle Corps? Yes: _____ No: _____</p> <p>If yes, which one(s): _____</p>
--

Waiver

- I do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify, and agree to hold harmless the Gulf Coast Sound and Gulf Coast Drum Corps Associates organizations; and the organizers, sponsors, supervisors, participants, and people transporting to or from activities, for any claim resulting from an accident, injury, or hurt feelings. This will include any bodily injury or property damage occurring during all Corps sponsored rehearsals and/or performances, including travel time. Gulf Coast Sound and Gulf Coast Drum Corps Associates provides no medical insurance and waive any financial responsibility.
- I agree to return upon request Corps-owned uniform parts and other equipment issued in as good a condition as when it was received, except for normal wear and tear.
- I authorize the supervisors of Gulf Coast Sound to seek medical aid for the above-named if deemed necessary by a licensed physician or surgeon.
- I received and understand the Gulf Coast Sound Member's Guide and agree to the terms and conditions outlined.
- Photos of the Corps and its members will be posted on our website. I understand that images and video may be used for promotional and recruiting purposes.

.....

Adult Members: I grant permission to adult representatives of Gulf Coast Sound to act as guardian/spokesperson in authorizing emergency medical treatment/hospitalization (including anesthesia) if absolutely necessary.

Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

.....

Parent/Guardian of Minors: My son/daughter has my permission to participate in all Gulf Coast Sound Drum & Bugle Corps events, I grant permission to adult representatives of Gulf Coast Sound to act as guardian/spokesperson in authorizing emergency medical treatment/hospitalization (including anesthesia) if absolutely necessary.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

(This page intentionally left blank)



GULF COAST SOUND DRUM & BUGLE CORPS 2008 MEMBER AGREEMENT

Agreement made this ____ day of _____, 200_, by and between the undersigned member (parent/legal guardian) and Gulf Coast Sound Drum & Bugle Corps (GCS).

1. **ATTENDANCE:** Member agrees to attend every camp/rehearsal. Attendance by member at parades and other performances is mandatory. If member has a conflict that arises that will affect attendance at a camp/rehearsal, parade or performance, it is the member's responsibility to contact their immediate section leader, the Corps Business Manager, or Corps Director to alert the Corps to the conflict. If rehearsals are missed and the Corps is not notified, the Corps will assume that the member is not interested in participating for the 2008 season, and will remove the member from the Corps roster.
2. **CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND:** As a member of Drum Corps Associates, GCS performs at DCA Championships, Labor Day weekend. Championships for 2008 are being held in Rochester, New York. GCS will provide transportation and lodging for this event to all members who are current on membership requirements. *THE MEMBER IS RESPONSIBLE TO MAKE WHATEVER ARRANGEMENTS ARE NECESSARY WITH SCHOOL, WORK AND PERSONAL COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND THIS EVENT.* This Championship event will require being absent from at least 3 days of school and/or work.
3. **TOUR SCHEDULE:** With the exception of CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND, GCS tours are limited to weekends (Friday evening, Saturday, Sunday) when at all possible. Member agrees to adhere to tour schedule as set forth by the GCS Management. Member acknowledges that the Corps will not provide transportation for in-state tours. GCS will carpool to these events and the member will be responsible for making arrangements and paying for a portion of the gas required to make the trip.
4. **DUES:** Member dues commitment for the 2008 season is \$600.00. Members are required to make a minimum payment of \$20.00 toward this dues commitment beginning with the second camp/rehearsal they attend. This payment IS NOT a camp/rehearsal fee. This payment will be credited directly to member's 2008 dues commitment. Members who fail to make 3 of the minimum \$20.00 payments at any time during the season, whether consecutive or non-consecutive, will be dismissed from the Corps. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Dues are non-refundable.

5. **FUNDRAISING:** For the 2008 season, all members are required to work a minimum of 3 fundraising events sponsored by the Fundraising Committee. Details will be released at Open House. After members have worked the 3 minimum required events, they may work additional events to work off their dues commitment. Funds earned by the member after the 3 required events will be credited directly to their dues.
6. **EQUIPMENT:** Unless otherwise specified, horns, percussion equipment, pit equipment, and guard equipment is property of GCS. Members are responsible for normal upkeep of all equipment on loan to them from the Corps. At the end of the 2008 season, or upon dismissal from the Corps, all loaned equipment **MUST** be returned to the Corps.
7. **MUSIC DOWNLOAD PAGE (MDP):** GCS provides members and staff with an MDP on the Corps official web site. The majority of the information contained on the MDP is governed by music licensing agreements paid for by GCS. For this reason, access to the MDP should be limited to Corps staff and active members only. Under no circumstances should a staff or Corps member share access information to the MDP with anyone outside the GCS organization.

COMPLAINTS

All complaints will be handled in an orderly manner. If a member feels they are being treated unfairly outside the realm of this agreement they may contact the GCS management staff and/or Board of Directors and the complaint will be addressed and remedied in an efficient manner.

MEMBERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE:

This document **MUST** be reviewed and signed by a parent or legal guardian of any member under the age of 18. The minor member must also sign to acknowledge their understanding of these requirements. *A copy of this signed document MUST be returned to the Corps Business Manager or the Assistant Business Manager at the next rehearsal the member attends, after they are provided with this document.* Failure to return a copy of this signed document may result in the member not being permitted to participate in rehearsal/camp until the document is returned.

PLEASE PRINT MEMBER'S NAME

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

AND SIGNATURE OF MINOR MEMBER'S PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN