

## **DETAILS REGARDING HOMECOMING 2023 PARADE, PREGAME AND EQUIPMENT – especially changes for this year's Parade**

Dear Friends,

We are so very excited you are joining us for Homecoming 2023! Please take a few moments as we share our thoughts for the weekend. There is important information to be gleaned all the way to the end of this document.

### **ATTIRE**

**PARADE:** Please wear West Virginia Blue on top with jeans. Your blue can be from our latest Alumni Band merchandise line, vintage apparel from your college days, or even a uniform jacket/hat if you are lucky enough to own one! West Virginia ball caps are also welcome but certainly not required. We recommend tennis shoes or supportive footwear. No sandals or flip flops, please!

**GAME DAY:** Please wear gold on top with jeans. Your gold can be Alumni Band merchandise, vintage apparel, etc. West Virginia ball caps are also welcome but certainly not required. Like the parade – tennis shoes or supportive foot wear is recommended – no sandals or flip flops!

**COLORGUARD FOLKS DO NOT NEED TO BRING THEIR OWN POLES.** As a result of the Adopt-A-Pole project and a gift from The Pride of West Virginia, we now own two complete sets of flags for Homecoming weekend! Surprise!!! The Parade flags were donated from The Pride and were actually their Downfield Medley flags in 2022. Please pick up a new Parade Pole at the Equipment truck prior to rehearsal. If you are marching the parade, please return the poles/flags to the truck following the parade.

### **EQUIPMENT**

**PARADE:** THIS MUST BE PICKED UP FROM THE EQUIPMENT TRUCK PRIOR TO 5:15 pm. Rehearsal will start promptly!

AFTER the parade, please meet up with John Sinsel (he'll be at the end of the parade route) so that equipment can get on the truck for transport directly to the stadium.

**GAME DAY:** **The equipment truck will have all equipment moved into the IPF by 9:45am.**

**Please come pick up your rental equipment as soon as you arrive at the IPF.** Please note that immediately after our rehearsal with The Pride, all equipment (including personal instruments and cases) must be removed from the stadium field. At the end of gameday, please ensure that your rental equipment is returned to the IPF in the area where it was picked up at that morning. If you need to make arrangements to return the equipment earlier than the end of the game, please contact John Sinsel at 304-288-0583 or inform him in the morning.

### **IMPORTANT AND SPECIFIC PARADE INFORMATION:**

More Good News: The Alumni Band purchased a Megavox public address system which will make hearing instructions easier than ever! We know reuniting in the parking lot for the parade is a joyous event, so please arrive early enough to allow us to start rehearsal promptly.

Please listen closely to JOHN HENDRICKS, Director of the WVU Alumni Band, at all times during the rehearsal and parade block process.

Over the years, the move to the Parade Block has been a “munge drill.” We want to make this a more efficient move by CALLING YOU TO THE STREET BY SECTIONS. Jeff Caplinger and Ellen Ramey will set ranks so everything is evenly spaced, looking good, and accommodating the needs of all our members.

**PARADE DECORUM (and this applies to game day as well).** Our goal is for YOU to have the best experience possible. To that end, we must ask you to adhere to the following guidelines. First and foremost, PLEASE enjoy your time in Morgantown before the parade! Many of us have pre-parade traditions we have followed for years.

We are all aware Morgantown and the University have changed A LOT since the era of Choosy Mothers and Sunnyside. As you are enjoying your afternoon, please keep in mind the entire WVU community at large has its eyes on the Alumni Band as we move about town wearing WVU Alumni Band apparel. Please use good judgement at all times. We ask that you not be seen walking on High Street, etc., with open alcoholic beverages. Please do not bring any alcoholic beverages or alcohol-infused snacks to rehearsal and the parade. For the safety of all, anyone who appears intoxicated will not be permitted to march down High Street (nor on game day on Saturday). We want to make a good impression AT ALL TIMES on the University Community – and most importantly, The Pride of West Virginia itself! The Pride are our future members. Let’s show them the outstanding organization and family that awaits them once their years in “The Circles” are over.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

With Best Wishes,

John Hendricks, III, WVU Alumni Band Director  
John Sinsel, President, WVU Alumni Band  
Al Hall, Vice President, WVU Alumni Band  
Ellen Woods Ramey, Performance Chair/Assistant Director, WVU Alumni Band