

## UNIFORMS

A definition of "uniform" has been given as *"identical, as from member to member; without variation in detail; consistent; unvarying; a suit or item of dress worn by members of a given organization on specified occasions so as to not draw attention to any one member"*.

Following is the official uniform policy of the RDCBS, as adopted at the December 7, 2004 meeting of the Board and amended by the Board on March 9, 2015.

1. Ownership of the uniforms remains with the Red Deer Community Band Society (RDCBS). Hereafter "Band uniform" is defined as uniform parts that are property of the RDCBS.
2. Uniforms are required for competitive and artistic performances. The marching kit will be worn for field shows and parades, and the concert uniform will be worn for concert performances.
3. The uniforms are to be used by band members only during the normal season and are returned to RDCBS at the end of the season.
4. Band members may not use any uniform for activities not related to RDCBS sanctioned performances.
5. The term "Band member" hereafter applies to all members: brass, woodwinds, drumline, front ensemble, drum major team, and colourguard.

Royals concert and marching uniforms must be dry cleaned periodically at member's expense to ensure uniform is clean and odorless, and pressed and worn in full for public appearances. Colourguard uniforms must be handwashed as determined by staff based on uniform requirements and worn in full for public appearances. Since it is nearly impossible to make last minute changes in clothing size, all members are requested to keep a constant check on clothing and equipment. Notify the Uniform Coordinator, well in advance of any performance, if any adjustment must be made. Band members are responsible for maintenance and repair of their uniforms.

Concert jackets and marching tunics are not to be worn during free time. The Band uniforms are to be worn only during "official" Band functions as designated by the Director. Every effort must be made to keep the Band uniform presentable.

Prior to performances and/or parades, a Uniform Inspection, by section, will be held. All band members are included in the inspection and may be subject to non-participation in the event and possible additional disciplinary action, if the uniform or personal grooming is found unacceptable.

Proper care and maintenance of Band uniforms shall be governed by the following guidelines:

1. All Band members must be clean-shaven prior to each performance. For all marching and show performances, sideburns must not be longer than halfway down the ear. (The latter does not apply for concert band performances.)
2. When in marching uniform, all hair must be clean and neat and must not exceed the top of the collar of the uniform jacket. Any hair exceeding below the top of the collar of the uniform jacket must be tucked and pinned underneath the hat. Band members are responsible to see that their hair is properly and securely tucked and pinned prior to each performance. The use of visible hairnets will be avoided. Colour Guard members will generally wear their hair back in performance. Unnatural hair coloring or style will be unacceptable where it is deemed to detract from the uniformity of the Band.
3. All items worn as part of the uniform must be pressed and cleaned prior to each engagement. All items must fit properly and conform to all quality standards.
4. Pants must be of an acceptable length. The acceptable length is to have the bottom of the pants stop at the top of the heel of the shoe. Any member damaging pants because of pant legs being too long will be charged the cost of replacing the pants.
5. Shoes and laces must be clean at all times. Shoes should be polished and laces washed as required to keep them looking acceptable.
6. No jewelry of any type will be worn. This includes such items as earrings and studs of any type or description, rings, necklaces, watches, pins, bracelets, and all other items deemed jewelry during inspection. If a piercing needs to be worn, it must be a clear or skin toned plug. In addition, tattoos not covered by the uniform must be covered with an acceptable opacity concealer for all performances.
7. All make-up used by members of the brass, woodwinds, drumline, and front ensemble must be simple, used in moderation, and in good taste. It must look as if no make-up is on. Use of make-up by the members of the drum major team and colourguard must adhere to the outlined application and style as defined by the staff run make-up clinic every fall.

8. Coloured fingernail polish cannot be worn and artificial nails must be natural looking. White tips must not exceed 5mm and no decals or gemstones permitted. Toenail and fingernail polish may be permitted as part of Winterguard uniform.
9. Unless otherwise indicated, no additional items may be carried in hand by any Band Member while in uniform.
10. There is to be no drinking or eating while in uniform unless deemed necessary in the circumstances as determined by the Director.
11. Uniforms are to be transported in the garment bag and hat bag provided by RDCBS. Uniforms may be worn to in-town events if so directed by the Director. Band Members will, on out of town trips, dress at the event site.
12. Boxer shorts and a short-sleeved crew-neck undershirt must be worn under the marching uniform. Sleeveless and V neck undershirts are not acceptable as they do not protect the uniform from perspiration. The undershirt must be black in color (white for Drum Majors), and discretion must be used in the selection of any undershirts with logos or messages.
13. When in garment bag, jackets and pants (including spandex colourgard pants) should be hung so as to avoid creasing of shoulders and legs. Hats are to be stored right side up and out of direct sunlight at all times. No uniform parts should sit in the bottom of a garment bag.

As a member of the Red Deer Royals Marching Show Band, you are an ambassador of the City of Red Deer and a part of the Royals' heritage and tradition. Please take pride in the wearing and caring of your uniforms.

### **ROYALS TRAVEL JACKET**

Each member of the Red Deer Royals will purchase a Royals Travel Jacket, which will be worn as a travel uniform whenever the band travels or appears as a unit not in performance. This jacket will need to be properly cleaned and cared for and members are encouraged to wear them as general apparel whenever feasible. Damaged jackets or jackets which have been out-grown will need to be replaced at the expense of the member. The Band Society subsidizes the cost of the first jacket a member purchases. Subsequent jackets (due to outgrowing, loss, or damage to the original jacket) are at full cost.

On special occasions, members may be asked to wear pants (either black slacks or jeans, at the Director's discretion) with the Royals Travel Jackets as an "informal uniform".

### **BAND RIBBONS**

Band Ribbons for wear on the travel jackets will be issued to each member in recognition of years of service, Band office/position, and awards bestowed. All Band Ribbons become the property of the member. Only the most current Year of Service pin will be worn. "Award" and "Position" Band Ribbons are ongoing and hence valid for "eternity".

Royals Band Ribbons are to be worn on the right side of the travel jacket below the collar. A maximum of three ribbons are to be worn side-by-side..

### **DRESS CODE**

Any time the Red Deer Royals appear in public we carry with us an image to uphold. One of the ways we do this is through our dress. During performances we wear our distinguished uniforms but there are also many times we are in the public's eye when we are not performing. For example, any time we are loading or getting off of the bus or lining up for meals each member is visually representing the band. All members are to make sure that no mid-drift or undergarment is exposed. All tops must have straps that go over both shoulders and tops must provide appropriate chest and undergarment coverage. Sports bras are considered athletic wear and do not need to be covered. Shorts must provide coverage to top of thigh. These standards also apply when changing in and out of uniform.

In addition, members must be appropriately attired for marching rehearsals. Footwear includes Drillmasters or athletic shoes with at least 1 cm of heel cushion and laces. No skate shoes or converse style footwear. Members are to wear athletic pants for rehearsal.