



Marching Knights Information 2024

Expectations/Eligibility

The King's Academy Marching Knights is a performing ensemble during the fall season (August through December). Students will perform in the stands and on the field at TKA home football games. As members of this ensemble, students will increase their musical knowledge and performance skills and will gain valuable life skills by learning to be an active, committed member of a team. Students will also enjoy being an active member of our school community as we cheer on the TKA football team at "Friday Night Lights!"

The King's Academy Marching Knights is open to all TKA students 6th grade and above. Younger students with musical experience (5th grade and above) may participate in the Knights Pep Band, which plays in the stands along with the marching band at football games. The Marching Knights is also open to homeschool students who are interested in performing as part of a marching band. (Please note – non-enrolled homeschool students will need to complete a separate application for TKA athletics to be approved for membership. An application fee of \$40 per student will be charged. See additional documents for full details.)

Individual section requirements are as follows:

- Winds – includes all woodwind and brass instruments. Wind musicians must have a minimum of one year of experience on their instrument. Most students will supply their own instrument, but rentals are available on request.
- Percussion – percussion includes both marching drumline and sideline percussion instruments. Most instruments require a minimum of one year of musical experience, but students without musical experience may find success here as well (with instructor approval).
- Auxiliary instruments – includes other instrumentation that can support the sound of the band on the field. This may include keyboard, guitar, or bass guitar. The ability to read music is a helpful skill, but ensemble experience is not necessary. Guitar/bass guitar members will need to provide their own instrument and amplification.
- Color Guard – the visual representation of the music created by the ensemble, color guard members will use flags and choreography to add visual excitement to our halftime show. No musical experience is needed, but experience with dance will be a bonus.

Registration: <https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/5721> Deadline for registration will be Saturday, July 13. This will allow potential new members to attend Rookie Camp (see below) before making a final commitment for the season, while still giving instructors time to adequately prepare for the full band camp. This year we will have the option of paying by credit card (payment in full or payment plans available) or paying by cash/check (for those who wish to raise all or part of their fees by football program sponsorships). Cash/check payments will be due by August 1 to avoid the addition of late fees.

Membership Requirements

- Student in good standing, whether enrolled at TKA or other private school/homeschool
- Willing to abide by the TKA Statement of Faith and Code of Conduct (available on request)
- Completion of Athletic Physical prior to the start of the first band camp on July 8 (must be dated after April 1)
- Registration through the TeamSnap link/enrollment process for non-enrolled students
- Parent and Student signature on membership contract

Fees

Fees are used to support the performance goals of the ensemble. These funds will be used to purchase music, uniforms, and performance equipment (including color guard flags/poles, instruments, etc.), pay support staff, and provide other miscellaneous supplies for the group.

Marching Knights - \$450 per student (\$250 per student for pep band)

(An additional \$40 fee will be charged for non-TKA enrolled students for enrollment/administrative costs.)

Additional purchases of personal equipment (and approximate costs) will include:

- Marching shoes (\$40)
- Uniform Gloves (\$5 for winds/percussion; \$20 for color guard)
- Uniform T-shirt (\$15) and hat (\$20)

Fundraising

To keep participation costs down, the band fee covers most, but not all of our projected expenses for the year. To make up for the difference, we will have a few fundraising efforts during the season. These may include in-person events like car washes, or virtual fundraising efforts such as a "Pay the Date" calendar. Funds raised will go into the general band fund. This year students will have the opportunity to help raise their individual participation fees through selling ads for the TKA Football program. Ask Mrs. Adams for more details.

Business sponsorships are also available and welcomed! Contact Mrs. Adams for more information on advertising a business by sponsoring the Marching Knights.

Uniforms

Marching Band uniforms will be issued to each woodwind/brass/percussion student during band camp. We will make every effort to find a uniform that fits your student well, but if small alterations are needed (hems on pants, sleeves, fixing buttons, etc.) please check with Mrs. Adams before making those alterations. The uniform includes a jacket, bibbers, cape, and sash issued from the school. These uniform items are numbered and will be issued to students by name. All items are expected to be returned in good shape at the end of the season; fees will be assessed for any missing/damaged items.

Other uniform parts include a band baseball cap, uniform t-shirt, black marching shoes, black socks, and black gloves, which will be purchased separately. These items will be ordered in bulk after band camp, and information on cost will be provided at that point. Unless they are outgrown or worn out, these items can be used again in future seasons.

Uniforms will be drycleaned prior to the first football game. Please be prepared to have additional cleaning done personally if we have a rain/mud situation! Please ensure that uniforms are kept hanging in between performances!

Color Guard costumes will also be issued during band camp. Some personal items, including a leotard to be worn under the costume, gloves, and shoes will be purchased separately, either in bulk or through a link provided by coaches.

Band Camp dates

Drumline Camp and Color Guard Camp: July 8-12, 9 AM to 12 PM, \$50

Required for both new and veteran Marching Knights drumline and color guard members. Register at <https://tka.campbrainregistration.com/>

Rookie Camp: July 8-12, 9 AM to 12 PM, \$50

Mandatory for first-time marchers, this camp will introduce you to the basic fundamental skills needed in marching band. Athletic clothing and closed-toe shoes recommended. Optional for returning Marching Knights members. Register at <https://tka.campbrainregistration.com/>

Mandatory Summer Band Camp dates: July 22 – August 2, Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM

During this mandatory camp, you will continue to learn the basic fundamental skills of marching band performance, including marching and maneuvering, music performance, and team-building. Color guard and percussion students will receive specialized instruction in their disciplines. The main goal of this camp is to begin building our halftime show for this season. Athletic clothing and closed-toe athletic shoes required. ***Tentative plans are being made for an out-of-town camp weekend during these two weeks. More details as they are available.***

****My family's summer plans conflict with Band Camp! Does that mean I can't be a part of the Marching Knights??**** Camp is very important, but missing part of those two weeks is not a deal-breaker. Please contact director Mrs. Adams to let us know of your interest and discuss how your student can join the band. That being said, please make every effort to prioritize this time as it is vital to our success for the season.

Weekly practice schedule:

- Mondays, 5-7 PM at Summit Baptist Church, 4310 Moon Station Ln. Acworth, GA 30101
- Pre-game continuity rehearsal, home game Fridays, 5:30 PM at Kell High School
- Color Guard choreography practice – TBA after school during the week

Performances:

The Marching Knights perform at all TKA home football games. Additionally, we plan to attend one or more of the scheduled away games. We will also march in the TKA Homecoming parade in October and the Woodstock Festival of Lights parade the first Saturday in December. Tentatively, we may participate in a band competition this year late in the season! A football schedule/performance calendar is provided – please mark these dates on your family calendar!

As a small team, we are highly dependent on each team member to work diligently to learn their music, drill, and/or choreography for each performance. It is also important for each team member to be present for performances, as gaps in our drill formation can cause other students to struggle.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are an essential part of the behind-the-scenes working of our organization. Band parents will be asked to serve a variety of roles from fundraising to chaperoning during football games to helping load the equipment trailer.

Contact Information: Band Director - Lisa Adams: ladams@thekingsacademy.org