2015 SEASON

PRE-SEASON INFORMATION

August 23-29, 2015
OPENING DAY - SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2015

MRD BAND CAMP REGISTRATION
All MRD members must register for band camp between 10:00am and 3:00pm on SUNDAY, August 23. Registration will take place at the JMU Bookstore next to Godwin Hall (see enclosed map). Parking is available in the lots adjacent to Godwin. At that time, all members will receive a season drill book, water bottle, lanyard, camp meal card (see meal information later in this packet), nametag, and other important information pertaining to camp and our season ahead. NOTE: If you are unable to arrive by 3:00pm, you must make special arrangements to register for camp by calling the Band Office at (540) 568-6656.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT HOUSING: MRD REGISTRATION AND DORM CHECK-IN ARE TWO SEPARATE PROCESSES. RESIDENT ADVISERS AND STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL RESIDENCE HALLS BETWEEN NOON AND 2:45pm TO CHECK YOU INTO YOUR ASSIGNED DORM (if living on campus). See insert.

HOUSING – ON CAMPUS
If you are living in a JMU residence hall during the 2015-16 school year, you will move into your assigned dorm room for the year at band camp. YOU MUST CHECK-IN AT YOUR RESIDENCE HALL AND PICK UP YOUR KEYS FROM YOUR RESIDENT ADVISOR BETWEEN NOON AND 2:45pm ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 23.

HOUSING – OFF CAMPUS
If you are living off campus during the 2015-16 school year, there will be no on-campus housing provided for you during band camp. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS. Please plan accordingly, and make sure your housing complex/landlord is aware that you will need to move in by Sunday, August 23.

MRD INSTRUMENT DISTRIBUTION
If you play one of the following instruments: Mellophone, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, or Electric Bass, YOU WILL NEED TO SIGN OUT YOUR MRD INSTRUMENT AT OUR INSTRUMENT DISTRIBUTION DURING REGISTRATION 10:00am-3:00pm. INSTRUMENT DISTRIBUTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE MRD EQUIPMENT STORAGE ROOM IN THE STADIUM (see insert). Equipment for Drumline and Guard is also provided, but specific instructions for those units will be given at the first camp session by the respective instructors.

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN INSTRUMENTS: Flute/Piccolo, Clarinet, Saxophone (Alto/Tenor/Bari), and Trumpet. Woodwind players, be aware that we may be rehearsing in inclement weather and/or varying temperatures/conditions! Please plan accordingly and have a sturdy case available.

INSTRUMENT ACCESSORIES
All MRD members are expected to provide the appropriate accessories for their instruments. Please plan accordingly and make sure you are prepared not just for MRD Camp, but also for the entire season. Please have the proper mouthpieces and/or reeds, valve oil and/or slide grease, cleaning supplies, and appropriate instrument cases.

MOUTHPIECES ARE NOT PROVIDED. Individuals using a school-owned instrument must provide their own preferred mouthpiece. Mellophones must supply a MELLOPHONE mouthpiece – the Yamaha MP14F4 Mouthpiece is recommended. Trombones should provide a large-bore mouthpiece. Baritones should also provide a large-bore mouthpiece – the Yamaha 48 or Bach 6 1/2AL are recommended.

ALL MRD MEMBERS (except for Flutes/Pics) MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN MUSIC LYRE to be used while playing with flip folders in the stands during game days. FLIP FOLDERS are provided.

OPENING CAMP MEETING
MRD CAMP WILL OFFICIALLY BEGIN AT 3:30pm ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, WITH A MEETING ON THE UPPER QUAD IN FRONT OF WILSON HALL (see enclosed map). All MRDs should plan to meet in front of Wilson Hall by 3:30pm. In case of rain/inclement weather, we will meet inside Wilson Hall. Instruments are NOT required at this meeting, but will be needed after dinner for our first rehearsals.
SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Please review the enclosed schedule for the first day of MRD Band Camp. With everything that takes place during this first day, it is necessary for all members to be informed and responsible for reporting to the assigned locations at the appropriate times. **PLEASE PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO SCHEDULE UPDATES DURING BAND CAMP (and the season), AS TIMES AND LOCATIONS MAY BE ADJUSTED DUE TO POTENTIAL INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS AND/OR FACILITY AVAILABILITY.**

BASIC CAMP SCHEDULE
The MRD Camp Schedule will follow this basic outline each day, with a few exceptions (listed below):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Morning Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>Dinner Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Evening Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>Camp Closing</td>
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**SOME IMPORTANT TIMES DURING THE WEEK:**
- **Sunday, August 23** – Uniform Distribution for all returning members (2014 uniform) @ Forbes Center
- **Thursday, August 27** – NO morning or afternoon rehearsals (Freshmen Orientation), 5pm evening rehearsal
- **Friday, August 28** – MRD Performance @ Freshman Pep Rally
- **Saturday, August 29** – Final Camp Rehearsal (time T.B.D.) – camp closing– no evening rehearsal
- **Monday, August 31** – FALL CLASSES BEGIN! MRD Sectionals – 6-7:30pm
- **Tuesday, September 1** – FIRST REGULAR FULL MRD REHEARSAL at Bridgeforth Stadium – 6-7:30pm

**FRESHMEN ORIENTATION**
The JMU Band Office works with the Office of Orientation to accommodate the needs of all incoming students. **AN ORIENTATION SCHEDULE FOR ALL MRD FRESHMEN IS INCLUDED IN THIS PACKET. PLEASE REVIEW THIS CAREFULLY.** You can also visit [www.jmu.edu/orientation](http://www.jmu.edu/orientation) for more information, or contact us with any questions.

**CAMP MEALS – READ CAREFULLY!!**
Meals will begin at dinner on Sunday, August 23. For freshmen with a JMU meal plan, the band office will provide a meal card to be used through lunch on Tuesday, August 25 – your regular meal plan begins at dinner (you will then begin using your JAC card). For all others, the band office will provide a meal card for all meals through brunch on Saturday, August 29. If family and friends wish to dine with you on the first day of camp, they can purchase a meal ticket at D-Hall upon arrival. **If you register to come to band camp, but do not show up or you drop the MRDs for any reason during band camp or before the end of the semester, you will be charged for all meals during camp week. If you are made an alternate, you are considered to be a part of the Marching Royal Dukes and will be required to pay for the meals if you decide to drop band.** Once we submit our camp roster to dining services, we must pay for all of your meals that week. The cost of your meals will be charged to your account if you quit band. If this is not paid by December 18, 2015, a hold will be placed on your records. If you drop band for a medical reason, you must have a signed medical note from your physician explaining the condition and restrictions.

**MRD CAMPUS MAP**
Please see the enclosed campus map for designated MRD locations (band camp and the regular season). A full campus parking map is also available on the JMU website at [www.jmu.edu/map](http://www.jmu.edu/map).

**JMU BOOKSTORE**
**THE JMU BOOKSTORE WILL BE OPEN DURING MRD REGISTRATION ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 10am-2pm.**
This will be an excellent opportunity to buy your books, purchase JMU attire or other supplies needed for the school year! Please use this time to prepare for the new semester BEFORE we begin the busy camp schedule.

**BAND CAMP PARKING**
**Regular JMU Parking Regulations will be in effect during MRD Camp (see insert).** All students who will have a vehicle on campus must have purchased and properly displayed your new parking permit by Monday, August 24 (if you have a 2014-15 permit, this is valid until August 31). If you plan to have a vehicle on campus but will not be registering it during the season, you must purchase a temporary permit PRIOR TO BAND CAMP at the JMU Parking Services Office located at the entrance to the stadium parking deck. **THE JMU BAND OFFICE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TICKETS RECEIVED DURING CAMP/THE SEASON.**
Please visit www.jmu.edu/parking for more information. Parking services will be open 7:30am-4:30pm.

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT PARKING: The JMU campus is closed to thru-traffic 7am-7pm during the regular semester, and this may begin during camp. Please see the insert in this mailing for additional details.

UNIFORMS
ALL RETURNING MEMBERS who indicated they wanted to receive the same uniform they wore during the 2014 season should plan to pick theirs up at the FORBES CENTER loading dock at some point during MRD registration on Sunday. RETURNING MEMBERS WHO WANT A NEW UNIFORM AND NEW MEMBERS WILL BE FITTED AFTER MRD REHEARSAL DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES. A DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR DISTRIBUTION WILL BE PROVIDED DURING CAMP.

2015 SEASON SCHEDULE – MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!
Please review the enclosed season schedule carefully and mark ALL PERFORMANCES (including game days) in your calendars NOW!! The success of the JMU Marching Royal Dukes depends on 100% attendance. Please begin your season preparations by ensuring that there are no schedule conflicts or anticipated attendance issues. Specific details about the MRD Attendance Policy/Process will be provided and reviewed during MRD Camp. If conflicts exist, these must be addressed with Mr. Rikkers (and via the online attendance forms) A.S.A.P. in order to make the necessary arrangements. Please visit the MRD website to view these policies in the 2015 MRD Program Handbook.

REGULAR SEASON REHEARSAL LOCATION & TIMES
ALL MRD REHEARSALS are held at Bridgeforth Stadium, Tuesday-Friday 6-7:30pm. Sectionals are held on Mondays (6-7:30pm), and we will not have rehearsals on Fridays unless there is a game or performance that weekend. Please check your class schedule for conflicts.

MAKE SURE TO REGISTER FOR MARCHING BAND – MUAP 237/537!!
ALL WIND/PERCUSSION/GUARD MEMBERS OF THE JMU MARCHING ROYAL DUKES MUST BE REGISTERED FOR MUAP 237 – Section 0001 (Section 0002 is for the Dukettes only) BY THE FIRST REGULAR REHEARSAL (TUESDAY, September 1). MUAP 537 is reserved for graduate students only. If you have a class conflict and are unable to register, you need to download the OVERRIDE FORM (pdf) on the MRD website, complete the form, and submit it to the University Registrar’s Office (in the Student Success Center). IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED FOR MUAP 237/537, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE AND WILL LOSE YOUR MARCHING SPOT – THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS REQUIREMENT.

MRD ORDERS & CHARGES
PLEASE REVIEW THE ENCLOSED ORDER INFORMATION FOR THE 2015 SEASON. ALL MEMBERS WILL PLACE THE REQUIRED ORDERS ONLINE THROUGH THE MRD WEBSITE PRIOR TO AUGUST 5. You will find an “MRD ORDERS” link on the MRD Camp page. ALL NEW MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE AN MRD T-SHIRT AND LONG-SLEEVE T-SHIRT FOR THE 2015-16 SEASON. ALL WIND MEMBERS MUST PURCHASE WHITE GLOVES. ADDITIONALLY WIND & PERCUSSION MEMBERS WILL ALSO PURCHASE WARM-UP PANTS FOR TRAVEL AND REHEARSAL. For other required items, please reference the ORDER INFORMATION included in this packet. ALL MRDs MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN BLACK MARCHING SHOES. THESE NEED TO BE PURCHASED BY THE START OF BAND CAMP. Recommended vendors (shoes), descriptions of all items, and prices are provided in an enclosed info sheet.

Charges for all MRD Orders, equipment/uniform charges, and/or fines/replacement costs will be billed directly to each individual’s JMU student account. Initial charges will be submitted to the University Business Office in September and all others will be applied as they are incurred.

PERCUSSION STICK/MALLET FEE
ALL PERCUSSION MEMBERS MUST PAY A $50.00 STICK FEE. This fee will be submitted to the University Business Office and applied to student accounts with the other MRD charges.

COLOR GUARD ITEMS
All guard members will have specific equipment and uniform items to purchase. These orders were placed by Carly over the summer (after auditions) and will be filled during band camp. Charges will be submitted to the University Business Office and applied to student accounts.

IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE BAND OFFICE AT (540) 568-6656.