

INTRODUCTION:

Congratulations on your willingness to take the steps to improve your brass performance here with the Myrtle Wavez brass line! On behalf of the brass staff and corps administration, we appreciate your interest in performing with our brass line this season. Our goal is to provide you with the tools and resources needed so that you are able to fulfill the musical responsibilities as a member of the Myrtle Wavez Drum and Bugle Corps. We also aim to educate you on strategies and fundamentals essential to quality brass performance beyond participation with our organization.

OUR PHILOSOPHY:

We believe that mastery brass performance stems from consistent and effective fundamentals. When you attend concerts and events featuring talented brass musicians, the execution of their performances are a product of intentional focus to their approach of musical concepts, as well as the refinement and professionalism of their stage presence. Here at Myrtle Wavez brass line, we emphasize three main concepts conducive of quality brass performance: **Posture, Air support, and Tongue placement**. As brass players, we have the most control over these approaches. In being intentional and aware of these concepts, we are able to further

develop and refine our individual tone, techniques, range, intonation, and overall confidence as musicians.

Returning to professionalism, we believe that superior brass performance is developed through consistency, intention, and above all else, confidence.

Confidence in one's ability may seem like a trivial concept, however, when being provided with constant feedback, your tendency as a player is to resort to a mental state of comfortability, which may not always be conducive to quality brass playing. Our brass instructors are some of the top music educators in the business.

We can assure you that the feedback and suggestions you will receive are only to benefit you as a brass player and a growing musician. Approach any and all learning opportunities with humility, respect, and confidence, not arrogance.

EXPECTATIONS:

- As a member...
 - Be prepared for rehearsals, camps, and events
 - Be on time → early is on time, on time is late, and to be late is to be left!
 - Be positive and encouraging to others

- Be open to all feedback
- Be respectful to members and staff
- As a musician...
 - Be the musician you were trained to be
 - Be humble and gracious
 - Always prioritize pulse, tempo, and rhythms
 - Tone comes in a **VERY** close second to time!
 - Be intentional with our three fundamental concepts to brass playing
 - Always blend and balance your individual sounds within your sections
and full brass ensemble