

## CODE OF CONDUCT

The intent of this code is to govern the conduct of the entire competitive unit and its staff before during and after a performance and while proceeding to and from a performance site. The intent is to teach good sportsmanship, fair play and the proper professional attitude, and good conduct under ALL Circumstances and to project the correct professional images while involved in the competitive activity. It is hoped that this CODE will result in a rededication on the part of the management toward instilling in its Units the TRUE SPIRIT of cooperation, fellowship and good sportsmanship.

Too often members of a unit are allowed the STING OF DEFEAT to lead them down the blind alley of unreasoning anger at other units when they should, of course, be properly analyzing the real reason for their lack of success: (poor performance or lack of preparation by their instructors) Some Instructors have even lead their units to believe that they are not judged fairly when, in truth, they were covering for the inadequacies of their instruction. Remember each and everyone of our units are winners but there can only be named one winner in the competitive world. **(LIFE IS A COMPETITIVE ARENA AND WE AS STAFF AND INSTRUCTORS ARE HERE TEACHING A VALUABLE LIFE LESSON).**

It is hoped that each unit which is part of a larger organization (i.e. Drum Corps, band, baton corps, drill team, school organization, etc) will not only advise, but insist that such members of the larger unit abide by and follow this **CODE OF CONDUCT**. As the old adage goes **“If you can’t say anything good, don’t say anything at all.”** It is all well and good to cheer on your own unit and others but HARRASSMENT of a competing unit show Poor Behavior and Training.

### THE CODE:

1. The use of overt gestures or other actions to display displeasure with the results of a contest, such as throwing of equipment or items of the uniform or other unprofessional conduct: use of abusive, profane or obscene language to members of the other units, judges, officials or members of the audience: defacing or destruction of ANY Property including their own uniforms or equipment: the physical assault to any person or persons. **THESE SIMPLY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
2. It will be illegal for any unit wishing to participate in the to contest to restrict membership and the privileges of such on the basis of race or ethnic background.
3. No units shall present on or off the contest floor any auditory, visual, or behavioral stimuli which is humiliating or degrading to ANY other member group or personnel in the TIA Organization or their competitive units.

4. Violations of the spirit of the intent of this CODE will immediately be investigated by the EXECUTIVE BOARD, to determine the guilt or innocence of the perpetrator or perpetrators of the act. If a determination of guilt is made, the penalty to be assessed by the EXECUTIVE BOARD can be loss of placement and/or awards and loss of units eligibility for future contest, depending on the severity of the incident. The CHAPTER COORDINATOR has the right to take immediate action on any violation and then report to the Executive Board for further review and approval of actions taken.
5. In the event of an isolated occurrence which involves individual unit member not in the ranks, once the Board has determined that a violation actually has taken place they further determine whether the individuals or the unit shall be penalized.
6. The facts as to any serious infraction of the CODE OF CONDUCT by the unit competing in TOB/TIA contest together with a report of the action taken thereon, will be reported by the Executive Board to the entire membership and the members main board (i.e. School board, principal, director of independent unit, etc,

This CODE OF CONDUCT not only applies to the performers of the units but to any persons associated with the unit (instructors, staff, personnel, chaperones, unit support personnel and YES Parents of friends that can be shown to have affiliation of the unit (s). We cannot under express the importance of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP within our organization.