

Ozark Winter Guard Festival

1350 W. Bluff Drive - Ozark, Missouri 65721

January 31, 2026

Site Contact:

Tom Meyer – Ozark High School Band Director

Cell: 417-684-2961 Email – tommeyer@ozarktigers.org

Theresa Walls – Ozark High School Winter Guard Director

Cell: 913-908-3627 Email – theresawalls@ozarktigers.org

Schedule: Current performance times may be found on the MCCGA website. A complete performance logistical time schedule is available online as well as in a packet the day of the contest.

Admission: \$10.00 Ages 5 & Above *Spectator Doors open at 8am*

Under 5 years old – Free *(We will accept cash & credit)*

Unit Check-In: Busses will unload performers at the Unit Check-in Entrance located on the South side of the building. Unit Check-In will open at 7:30am. You must, however, also check into this area at least an hour before performance time. Members may bring in with them personal items they plan to store in the “personal item storage area” (this does not include large equipment or props). Directors, be prepared to declare the number of performing members. Performing members, seven (7) staff, and the Director (with badge) will be admitted at no charge. Any helpers, staff, drivers beyond this number must purchase a ticket. Make sure you have completed your Unit Fact Sheet. We will have student ushers available for you. They will meet you just outside of your warm-up area at your designated warm-up time.

Dressing Facilities: Available on site, however, space is very limited. Units will be directed to the personal item storage area at unit check-in. Dressing facilities are restrooms located in the storage area hallway. Please do not leave any items in these dressing facilities. MCCGA and/or Ozark High School is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Performers should not use spectator restrooms for this purpose.

Personal Item Storage Area: The storage area provided is not large and is intended only for personal items and smaller equipment (flags, sabres and rifles). It is not meant to store larger equipment, instruments and props. This area is not intended as a hang-out. If you have free time during the day, we would like to encourage you to enjoy the performances in the gym or spend time in any of the other public areas of the school. Ozark will have bleacher seating available behind the performance area for units to watch performances.

Concessions: Please help support our Ozark Booster Program by enjoying our Concession stand. We can take credit and cash. We will be offering a wide variety of food and drink!

OUTSIDE FOOD & DRINK IS NOT ALLOWED

Prop/Floor/Equipment Unloading and Loading:

Unloading of equipment and props will be on the Southwest side of the building by way of the “Equipment Unload Lane”. Props should plan to unload at their designated “Prop Check In Time” listed on the logistical schedule. Equipment trucks may stay in the lane while unloading and then will need to proceed to Parking Lot A to wait until their group has finished performing and is ready to load back up. At that time the equipment trucks can proceed to the “Equipment Pick Up Lane” on the North/West corner of the building. After loading, equipment trucks will need to return to park in parking lot A. **We do not have any indoor storage for props either before or after warm-up and performance times.**

Music and Sound Checks:

Please upload your music using this google form by midnight January 28th , 2026

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vgpmor8U3gECcdqq0CvJRjiAfOcIfyBT?usp=sharing>

First sound check can be done anytime between 8am-9am and then during any class/round breaks throughout the day. The sound check location is at the front of the gymnasium on the floor level. Please still do a sound check even if you have uploaded your music to the google form.

If you choose not to upload music-

Performance CD's will be run through a professional grade sound system. If you would rather use a mp3 player or cell phone Ozark will provide an auxiliary cord. If any other cords/dongles are required to run your device this must be provided by the unit director. A representative from your guard should stay with the sound person to run your device during your unit's performance.

Guard Pre-Stretch Room: (large band room) Your guard has the opportunity to be in the guard pre-stretch room before your warm-up. This space can be used for stretching and mental run

throughs as well as listening to your music quietly. You will be sharing this room with other guards. Please be respectful of their time and space. No spinning can take place in this room. This is also the time/place you can meet up with your usher who will guide you through the rest of the process. This time/space is just an extra and to give you a more focused prewarm-up place. You are welcome to just meet outside the warm up doors at the appropriate time if you do not wish to utilize the prewarm up space.

Guard Warm-Up: You will have one half of the aux gym floor for your warm-up interval. You can play music the second half of your warm up. Sound system for warm up will not be provided. Equipment must stay on the carpet tiles. Please be courteous of the volume of your music.

Prop Entrance: Any large props should enter from the southwest corner of the building. It is designated on the flow chart map. Note that performers will be flowing through a slightly different area than the large props. You will need volunteers other than the performers to move large props through the appropriate area.

Performance Area: Units will enter from the **FRONT performer's left** utilizing a **horizontal timing line**, and exit the floor to the **BACK performer's left**.

Tarp folding will be available in the cafeteria following your performance. Map provided will designate the correct route to the cafeteria and loading area.

Equipment Preparation: Ozark has new gym floors and it is incredibly important that all equipment, wheels, props are in proper condition. All equipment must be taped appropriately as to protect the floors throughout the building. Equipment tips on rifles, poles and sabres must be padded and taped. Any questionable equipment will not be allowed on the performance floor. Hard soled shoes will need to be taped before your performance. All percussion groups must make sure that all stands have proper footing or be taped. Cart wheels must be in "indoor" condition as to not scratch the hallway and performance area floors.

Tabulating and Judging Area: These areas are off limits to everyone except authorized personnel. No unauthorized personnel should approach the tab table. There will be an announcement made letting you know where you can pick up your packet prior to your division awards.

Critique: Critique will be held in the school library located across from the concession stand. Critique schedule will be available at unit check in and posted on the library doors.

Retreat: The retreat will be a captain's only retreat. Captains should report to the hallway next to the performance entrance to the gym to line-up following the last unit in performance.

Directions to the High School: You will need to approach the high school from the North and enter from Hwy NN. Below is a set of directions leading to that entrance once you exit Hwy 65 at the *MO-J/ MO-CC exit*:

Take the MO-J / MO-CC exit.

Turn east onto MO-CC/ MO-J. Continue to follow MO-J 0.5 miles.

Turn south onto MO-NN. Follow 2.5 miles.

Turn west onto W Bluff Drive

Parking of Buses: Buses will be directed to park in lot D, with overflow in the baseball parking lot once students have been let off at check-in.

Parking of Equipment trailers: Please refer to the section earlier labeled “Prop/Floor/Equipment Unloading and Loading”

Spectator Parking: Spectators will need to park in lots B and C with overflow parking next to the JH Football Stadium. This parking is intended for all cars, including the cars of performers if they drive separately.

Respect of Property and School: It is our intent to provide you with the best possible winter festival. If there is anything we can do to assist you, please let us know.

We are asking that you instruct your students to be respectful of others’ property in the hallways. Ozark High School will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. Some areas of the school will be marked off-limits; and we will expect all students to stay out of these parts of the school.

We greatly appreciate your participation at our festival. Our parents, students and staff look forward to your participation and performance.

Thank you,

Tom Meyer

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Theresa Walls

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