



Wentzville Liberty High School MCCGA Winter Guard Festival

Directors,

MCCGA and Wentzville Liberty High School are excited to welcome you to the 2026 Wentzville Liberty Winter Guard Festival! We look forward to your participation in today's festivities. Below, you will find information you will need to adequately plan for today's contest.

** Please refer to the circuit website, www.mccga.org for any changes. **

CONTEST LOCATION, DATE & TIME:

- 2275 Sommers Road Lake Saint Louis, MO 63367. Saturday, January 31st, 2026. Contest begins at 10:00am, doors will open at 8:00am, and contest ends at approximately 7:15pm. Critique will follow each round of awards, please refer to the MCCGA website for the critique schedule.

COMPETITION CONTACTS:

- KC Starr – WLHS & FMS Guard Director, Contest Chair – 314-800-9811 - kassandrawelch@wsdr4.org
- Julie Bunkley – MCCGA Contest Director – 314-412-7337
- Danielle Welch - Competition Coordinator – 314-304-1094
- Amy Welker – Competition Coordinator – 636-734-0335

ADMISSION: Please note the change in prices from the 2024 season

- \$10 per person, Children under 5 are free
- Payment: Admission is cash, highly encouraged. Credit cards can be used if necessary.
- Please note: MCCGA does NOT provide free admission to bus drivers. If you wish to provide your bus driver with admission to the contest, you will need to use one of your 7 staff wristbands or purchase a wristband at the spectator/unit entrance.

UNIT CHECK-IN

- Units will check in at the Auditorium: LHS Performing Arts center (located at the back of campus). Follow signs and arrows labeled as auditorium to unit check-in/prop check-in.
- Units will need to check in no later than one hour prior to their performance time.
- Please be sure to complete your unit fact sheet online at www.mccga.org prior to your arrival at the contest.
- Be prepared to declare the number of performing members for each of your groups, at this time. Penalties will be assigned for false declarations.
- All performing members will be given a wristband at unit check-in and are required to wear this band at all times.
- You will also receive 7 complimentary staff bands at check-in. Directors will be expected to use those bands to take care of their staff, volunteers, and bus drivers. Any additional staff or volunteers (after your complimentary 7) must purchase tickets at the spectator entrance. Directors are responsible for distributing these wristbands.

- Guides will only be provided if requested. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A GUIDE TO TAKE YOU TO WARM-UPS PLEASE EMAIL kassandrawelch@wsdr4.org BY THURSDAY 1/29/26 TO REQUEST ONE.
- Additional contest information will be provided to you at unit check-in (maps, performance & critique schedules, etc.) or you may find these items on the MCCGA website.

BUS/TRAILERS ENTRANCE & PARKING:

- The entrance for buses and trailers is located at the front of the school; parking and unit/equipment check-in are all located around the back side of the school.
- Buses/trailers will drop performers/equipment/props/tarps off at the back of the school, in front of the Auditorium: LHS Performing Arts center and park in that lot (located at the back of campus).
- Bus drivers will have access to a lounge, located in the 500 hallway, as a place to relax. This room is in the hallway units and drivers will enter from- on the left side of the hallway, right after the bathrooms.

SPECTATOR ENTRANCE & PARKING

- All spectators must enter through the main entrance at the front of the school.
- The street entrance to the festival will have people there to assist with directions.
- Spectator parking will be located at the front of the school, outside of the main gym. Overflow parking for spectators will be located in the stadium lot. (refer to the map for further clarification).

SIGNAGE/MAPS:

- Directional signage will be posted outside the school, as well as throughout the interior.
- Site and school maps will be available in the Director's Forum through www.mccga.org and in your director's packet.

UNIT STORAGE:

Unit spots will be marked with a sign- schools with multiple units will be put together. Space will be available for personal items; MCCGA, Wentzville Liberty High School, and Wentzville Liberty contest workers (staff, students, and parents), are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

SCHEDULE:

- Warm-up and performance schedules are included in the director's packet (an updated schedule will be available and provided at unit check-in). Performance schedules will be provided at the spectator entrance.
- Please refer to the circuit website: www.mccga.org for the most up-to-date scheduling information and changes.

DRESSING FACILITIES:

- Bathrooms will be available in each hallway for on-site for changing.
- We ask that you please vacate these facilities as quickly as possible and do all hair and makeup in your hallway spot to keep the bathrooms as clear as possible.

(PLEASE APPLY GLITTER OUTSIDE OR OVER A TRASHCAN!)

- Please do not leave any items in the dressing areas - MCCGA, Wentzville Liberty High School, and Wentzville Liberty contest workers (staff, students, and parents), are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Please do not use the restrooms in the commons (cafeteria) to change/get ready. These restrooms are reserved for spectators only- there is only one spectator bathroom available.

FOOTWEAR & EQUIPMENT PROTECTION:

- All equipment must be padded and taped.
- Any props must be protected so as not to damage the floors.
- Soft-soled shoes do not require additional protection.
- Hard-soled shoes must be taped.
- NO EXCEPTIONS - Any equipment/props that Wentzville Liberty volunteers feel need to be taped, will be required to be taped.

TARP/PROP/EQUIPMENT UNLOADING & STORAGE:

- Trailers should unload props/tarps/equipment immediately upon arrival; unit check-in is in the same spot. There will be a place for units to set their personal items while unloading before moving to their spot and this will make the flow easier for everyone.
- **IMPORTANT: Have your tarp/prop crew meet in the holding hallway at your PROP time, NO EARLIER than 7 minutes prior to your unit's performance time. There will be a person in the holding hallway directing traffic; they will not allow units to arrive earlier than their holding time. This is a busy hallway and we need to keep traffic moving. Please let any volunteers helping know this so they do not arrive early and get in the way for other groups ahead of them. If you do not have help and need to take your tarp/props with you to warmups, please let the person running the hall know and we will find a closer spot to store them while in warmups. There is also time to go and grab them after your warmups are finished.**
- We will provide holding slots (taped off with unit names, much like unit storage) for props and tarps to stay all day, but it is still encouraged that equipment/props are loaded immediately following your performance time to keep traffic flowing. Large props will be stored in our choir room, same hallway as unit check in/equipment check in/prop and tarp storage. Do not store items in large prop storage unless directed by the contest volunteers.

MUSIC:

- An aux cord will be provided for your use (you must provide your own dongle).
- Please deliver your music to the sound table prior to your unit's performance. If you added your music to the google drive it is recommended that you still do a sound check and that you have a backup format of your music.
- The sound table will not take any direction from any staff not present at the sound table during performances, you must be at the sound table to give direction. If you are using a device to play your music, a staff member needs to be at the sound table to "press play". The sound tech cannot do this for you.
- Sound check will be provided 1 hour prior to the contest start time and during breaks (at the discretion of the contest director). Please remember our sound techs are human and need to eat and use the restroom and they will return as soon as possible if they step away during a break.

VIDEO RECORDING/PHOTO:

- You may only record your unit's performance. No tripods allowed. Do not obstruct the view of other spectators. No flash allowed. Please make your spectators/volunteers aware, our bleacher space is limited.
- MCCGA and Wentzville Liberty High School have no responsibility for copyright infringements for posting performance videos on any social media sites, including Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo, etc.

WARM-UP AREA:

- Body and equipment warm-up will be located in the auxiliary gym, with no movement between the two. Performers will transition to a holding area in the hallway prior to their warm up time (refer to the contest flow map for further clarification). The auxiliary gym is at the opposite end of the check in hallway, just follow it through the cafeteria all the way down to the glass doors.
- Guards warm-up location (A & B) will be indicated on the warm-up schedule.

- Do NOT utilize other areas of the school to warm-up on equipment prior to your actual warm-up time.
- Music will be allowed during the second half of your warm-up time. You must provide your own device for music. Please be respectful of the other unit in warmups with you when playing music.
- As a convenience, there will be plenty of space where units will be allowed to stretch in designated spaces near unit storage. Please do not use the marked do not enter/off-limits parts of the school.

PERFORMANCE AREA/INTERVAL/TIMING LINE:

- We will be utilizing a horizontal timeline at this contest. If looking at the floor from the spectator's perspective, units will enter from the back right and exit to the front right. Please refer to the contest flow map for further clarification.

TABULATION & JUDGING AREAS:

- These areas are off limits to everyone except for authorized personnel.

TARP FOLDING:

- Tarp folding space will be available in our wrestling room (refer to the contest flow map for further clarification). **PLEASE NOTE, THE WRESTLING ROOM IS NOT LARGE ENOUGH TO FULLY PULL OUT A FULL-SIZED TARP! PLAN ACCORDINGLY TO KEEP THE CONTEST MOVING!**
- Props/equipment will travel back down the holding hallway to loading.

CONCESSIONS:

- Our concessions will be located in the commons/kitchen. We will be serving hamburgers/cheeseburgers, chicken patties, hot dogs, pizza, salad, chips, candy, soda, sports drinks and water. Travelin' Toms (coffees and teas) and Beverly Ann's (cookies and ice cream) will also be pulled up outside of the spectator entrance at the front of school. We ask that you please do not bring any outside food into the contest. All profits from concessions will go toward funding the Wentzville Liberty Band and Guard programs.
- We will accept cash and cards through Square (\$5 minimum). We will not accept Checks, PayPal or CashApp.
- **CONCESSIONS WILL CLOSE WHEN A/OPEN RETREAT BEGINS.**

JUDGES COMMENTARY/SCORE SHEETS:

- All MCCGA festivals will utilize Competition Suite for commentary and score sheets.
- Please make sure to sign all your staff up to receive this commentary (instructions available in the director's forum on www.mccga.org) prior to the day of the festival.
- If you have questions about how penalties will be assessed, please consult the MCCGA rules and procedures manual. If you have more specific questions regarding penalties or boundary lines on the day of the contest, please ask the timing and penalties judge when you enter the gym for your performance.

RETREAT:

- Captains retreat for Cadet, Novice, Regional A and Independent Regional A guards will begin at 2:00pm.
- Captains retreat for Scholastic AA, Scholastic A and Independent A guards will begin at 7:00pm.
- Captains will line up in performance order, in the warm-up gym, after the final unit in their chunk performs.

CRITIQUE:

- Critique will be located in the library- in the commons across from the spectator restrooms. Please refer to the MCCGA website for the critique schedule.
- Critique for Cadet, Novice, Regional A and Independent Regional A directors will begin at 2:15pm.
- Critique for Scholastic AA, Scholastic A and Independent A directors will begin at 7:15pm.

ASSISTANCE:

- Our goal is to provide you with the best festival possible. If there is anything that my staff or I can assist you with, please let us know. Wentzville Liberty students and parents will be available throughout the day to help and will be wearing NEON PINK Liberty volunteer shirts and Liberty (red, white and blue) gear.

RESPECT OF SCHOOL PROPERTY & “OFF-LIMITS” AREAS:

- We ask that you please instruct your students to be respectful of others property in the hallways. Anyone found defacing or destroying property will be asked to leave, their school will be required to repair the damage, and their team will be recommended for disqualification to the chief judge of the festival. MCCGA, Wentzville Liberty High School, and Wentzville Liberty contest workers (staff, students, and parents), are not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items.
- Please Note: Some areas of the school will be off-limits. Please instruct your students and staff to please not enter these areas for any reason (including restrooms).

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me. We look forward to seeing you at our festival!

Best of luck,

KC Starr

Guard Director
Wentzville Liberty High School
Frontier Middle School