

Brookwood High School

Visual Ensemble

Tryout Packet

Please read all information carefully with a parent or guardian.

All paperwork must be turned in by _____ on the band website under the “FORMS” tab or in person.

****Failure to turn in paperwork on time will result in your child not being able to participate in clinics and tryouts for the upcoming season.****

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Visual Ensemble. Please be sure that you and your parent or guardian read the following pages carefully and thoroughly.

Dr. Daniel Bray: Principal

Kellie Hubbard: Assistant Principal

Rick Ardovino: Band Director

Lisa Bentley: Auxiliary Co-Sponsor

Capri Day: Auxiliary: Co-Sponsor

Ginger Rutherford: Dance Line Coach

Dana Vansant: Color Guard Coach

Ashley Sellers: Majorette Coach

TRYOUT CHECKLIST

The following must be turned in by _____ on the band website under the “FORMS” tab or in person before your child can participate.

_____ Constitution Contract *(In tryout packet)*

_____ Give out Teacher Evaluation *(In tryout packet)*

Tryout Information

- Black T-shirt, black shorts, and Tennis shoes are to be worn during audition.
- **No jewelry, fingernail polish/fingernails or lotion can be worn at tryouts.**
- You will be provided instructions for your submission by your team’s respective coach.
- Teacher Evaluations: **Teacher Evaluations must be turned in by the teacher to Mrs. Day/Mrs. Bentley, not by the student.** If a student turns in an evaluation, it will be discarded.
- Administrator Evaluations: Your name will also be submitted to BHS administration for review upon completion of this packet.
- A sponsor/band director recommendation will also be a part of the applicants score.
- The sponsor/director will choose the number of color guard/majorette/dance line members.
- There will be a panel of outside judges to give an unbiased opinion during tryouts.
- The band director, sponsors, coaches, and judges are NOT required to disclose tryout scores to students or parents.

All decisions are final.

BHS Auxiliary Application

Applicant Information (Please Print):

Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Birthday: _____ Phone (cell): _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone (cell): _____

Email: _____

Applicant Experience: Please list any previous experience. If none, write N/A.

Number of Years: _____

When/Where: _____

Which Auxiliary line?: _____

Other extracurricular/sport activities *(Please list Fall and Spring Activities):*

Are you employed? Yes or No If so, where? _____

How do you plan to get to and from practice? _____

Please list the teacher you submitted Teacher Evaluations to:

Please complete the Questionnaire on the next page.

Questionnaire

Why do you want to be a member of the Crimson Star Band Visual Ensemble?

What are some strengths that you can bring to the team? And what are some weaknesses to work on?

In your opinion, what are the qualities of a team player?

Rank yourself on the following:

5 – Great 4 – Good 3 – Okay 2 – Poor 1 – Needs Improvement

Leadership	5	4	3	2	1
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Attitude	5	4	3	2	1
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Commitment	5	4	3	2	1
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Enthusiasm	5	4	3	2	1
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By signing this form, I understand that becoming a member of the Visual Ensemble is an important task. I understand that by trying out for this team, I could be selected to be a member of the Visual Ensemble. I understand the commitment that I am applying to and will carry out responsibilities to the best of my ability.

Auxiliary Applicant Name (Print): _____

Auxiliary Applicant Name (Signature): _____ **Date:** _____

Teacher Recommendation

****PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE STUDENT WHEN COMPLETED. PLEASE RETURN to MRS. BENTLEY or MRS.DAY by ****

Students: Please fill in the first 3 lines.

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Course: _____

Teachers: Please rank the above student on the following criteria listed below. Circle one number for each item listed. (5 – Superior 4 – Good 3 – Average 2 – Poor 1 – N/A)

Attendance	5	4	3	2	1
Class Participation	5	4	3	2	1
Organization	5	4	3	2	1
Leadership	5	4	3	2	1
Reliability	5	4	3	2	1
Respect for others	5	4	3	2	1
Respect for School	5	4	3	2	1
Cooperation	5	4	3	2	1
Responsibility	5	4	3	2	1
Character	5	4	3	2	1

Current Grade: _____

Comments: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please do not write in this area. Totals will be completed by the coach.

Teacher Recommendation Points: _____ **/ 10**

Brookwood High School

Visual Ensemble Constitution

Purpose of the Brookwood High School Visual Ensemble: To promote school spirit, provide entertainment and visual appeal by participating in football and basketball games, pep rallies, parades, competitions, and other performances.

- A. Brookwood High School auxiliary member will follow guidelines set according to the **Brookwood High School Visual Ensemble Constitution, Band Handbook, and TCSS Code of Conduct/Tuscaloosa County Board Policy.**
- B. The team will consist of a number decided upon by the Director and Sponsors.
- C. Cooperation among members and parents is expected. Behavior inconsistent with that expectation will not be tolerated and can result in dismissal from the ensemble. Cooperation is defined as open communication between all parts of the group; coach/sponsor to members/parents, and vice versa.

I. Eligibility/Tryouts

- a. Members of 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade are eligible.
- b. Have all required permission forms signed and turned in on time.
- c. Members will be required to have family or school insurance.
- d. The director/sponsor may assign a current member in good standing for the following year if that member is unable to participate in tryouts because of serious illness, injury, or any other just cause. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis and is at the director's discretion.
- e. Any student who served on the auxiliary line the previous year and still has outstanding debts will not be allowed to tryout or attend clinic until all fees are cleared.
- f. Any student who voluntarily quits the Brookwood High School Visual Ensemble may not audition/tryout for one full calendar year.
- g. Any student, who was dismissed from the Visual Ensemble due to behavior problems, accumulation of excessive demerits, and/or class III violations will not be allowed to audition for one full calendar year.
- h. The judging panel will consist of the band director, sponsors, and coaches.
- i. **All tryout information is confidential. Director, sponsors, and coaches are not required to disclose tryout results with students or parents/guardians. All decisions of the tryout are final.**

II. Policies/Requirements

- a. Members are responsible for their own transportation to and from all activities and practices, unless transportation is provided.
- b. **ALL PRACTICES ARE CLOSED!** This also includes after school events as decided by the director. Members must not bring friends, family or boyfriends/girlfriends to practice unless pre-approved by the sponsor/director.
- c. At the discretion of the band director, if a member has an unexcused absence from school or misses one-half the school day on the day of a performance, she/he will not be allowed to perform.
- d. If a member misses one practice unexcused in a week, she/he will not be able to perform that week and will receive demerits.
- e. Game day decisions (staying after school, being at events at a certain time, etc.) will be made by the director and are expected to be followed.
- f. ALL absences must be PRE-APPROVED by submitting an Absence Request Form two weeks in advance. . **It is the auxiliary member's responsibility to get an Absence Request form from the director in order for their absence to be approved/not approved.**
- g. **SUMMER PRACTICES ARE MANDATORY. The director must approve ALL activities that require an absence, by signing an Absence Request Form, 2 weeks in advance.**
- h. **Members must obtain an average of 70% or higher to be eligible to participate.**
- i. Please refer to the band website for a full calendar of events/practices. Please schedule all appointments on days without practices or performances. **We are a team, when one person is missing it is hard to continue progress.**

- j. Visual Ensemble members will be required to complete pass-offs prior to games/competitions. Failure to successfully complete pass-offs will result in being placed in a “non-performing” status until successfully completed.

III. Grades

- a. **Members must obtain an average of 70% or higher to be eligible to participate.**
- b. The director/sponsor may require a grade check at anytime throughout the season.
- c. If grades are not at 70% or higher at a grade check or progress report, the auxiliary member will be required to sit out of all performances and given consequences until the grade has been brought up. A teacher must sign off that the grade has been brought up before the member can participate.
- d. If grades do not come above 70% by the time report cards are distributed, the member will be dismissed from the ensemble.

IV. Auxiliary Line Responsibilities

- a. The auxiliary member will wear appropriate uniforms or outfits on specific days and scheduled events. Also includes not wearing a uniform piece if told not to. **NO UNIFORMS ARE TO BE WORN AT SCHOOL, unless pre-approved by the coach.**
- b. The auxiliary member will follow through with all commitments. They will attend all games, practices, and functions. They will also be on time to each one. Further, she/he will plan family outings, appointments, and other activities with the auxiliary schedule in mind first and foremost. She/he will take responsibility for reminding their parent of contacting the sponsor about an absence 2 weeks in advance.
- c. Practices are considered a mandatory event. If the director does not have prior notice of missing a practice in writing, demerits/consequences will be issued.
- d. Auxiliary members will have pass-offs on routines, dances, and other material throughout the year. If the auxiliary member does not successfully complete their pass-off they will have to sit out the following upcoming event. The auxiliary member will not be able to perform and must repeat the pass off process until the required score is reached.
- e. Games are considered mandatory. Missing a game will result in demerits and/or other consequences. If a member is tardy to the game, demerits/consequences will be issued.
- f. The auxiliary member will communicate in a positive manner with teammates, coaches, and staff.
- g. The auxiliary member will maintain a positive attitude toward school and the band.
- h. The auxiliary member will continue to be coachable while taking directions and criticism positively.
- i. The auxiliary member will be uniform at all times. Certain t-shirts will be required to be worn at practices/events decided on by the sponsor.
- j. The auxiliary member **will silence and put away his or her cell phone at practice/games for the entire time.** If an event is off campus, the student may not take his or her cell phone to give to someone else. It must remain locked up in the place the sponsor has instructed it to be put. If this cannot be followed demerits will be issued.
- k. The auxiliary member will have all his/her gear with him/her at all times in their bag.
- l. The auxiliary member will refrain from celebrating the misfortune or defeat of another person, team, or program.
- m. The auxiliary member will accept placements and awards with dignity and class.
- n. Members will not eat while in Uniforms.
- o. In the stands, all members are required to participate in dances/cheers in unison. This includes sitting and standing as a team.

V. Auxiliary Line Behavior

- a. The auxiliary member will represent Brookwood High School in a positive manner in action, dress, and overall conduct, and will exhibit acceptable standards of citizenship at ALL times (e.g. in the halls, in the classroom, at events, in the community etc.).
- b. **The auxiliary member will refrain from gossiping or any form of verbal or physical confrontation with other members, coaches or sponsors on the team. If this cannot be followed, demerits will be issued. If the case is severe enough, dismissal from the team may occur.**
- c. **DRAMA WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN DEMERITS/REMOVAL FROM THE TEAM. Consequences are at the director's discretion.**

- d. Members must stay in costume at all times. No unspecified jewelry, chewing gum, fake nails/nails longer than fingertips, or hair in face during games, competition, and practices will be allowed. **ALL** jewelry must **come out** (i.e. belly button rings, earrings, other piercings, necklaces, rings).
- e. As long as members are in their uniform (except during halftime), they are to be sitting as a team in the bleachers.
- f. Uniforms must be worn properly. This includes no bra straps showing. Skirts need to be buttoned at all times and body liners need to be zipped all the way when wearing them, sleeves need to not be pushed up. Only uniform shoes are acceptable to wear at band functions. **ANY PART OF THE UNIFORM MAY ONLY BE WORN WHEN TOLD TO BY THE DIRECTOR.**
- g. **AT ALL TIMES YOU ARE REPRESENTING BROOKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL AND THE BAND. ANY TIME THE AUXILIARY MEMBER IS IN UNIFORM OR ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, THEY MUST REFRAIN FROM INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE. This includes hallways, parking lots, fields, gyms, auditorium, etc. PDA is inappropriate at all times when representing Brookwood High School. If seen by a coach, sponsor or other faculty member demerits/consequences will be issued.**
- h. No auxiliary member will taunt any member of an opposing team. No dirty looks, chanting, comments, yelling, or cheering.
- i. Auxiliary members will act respectfully to the captains/co-captains and coaches at all times. Discretions or concerns will be discussed directly with the coach to find a solution to the problem.
- j. Auxiliary members will not smoke, drink alcohol, or use any illegal substances while participating in the band program. Any member that participates in illegal activity will face immediate consequences given by the director, which could result in immediate removal from the team.
- k. All members must maintain an upstanding presence in and out of school. You are representing the band at all times and are expected to act your best in all situations (this includes social media).

VI. Parent Responsibilities/Behavior

- a. Encourage auxiliary member to abide by the rules set forth by director, sponsors and administration.
- b. Attend parent meetings.
- c. Ensure student fees are paid on time.
- d. Refrain from using auxiliary as a punishment. This does not punish one team member but an entire line since there is no one to substitute for your ensemble member.
- e. Agree to notify the director/sponsor as soon as possible if your child is ill.
- f. Oversee the time management of your child (i.e. practice and game schedules, homework completion, relaxation time, etc.).
- g. Provide punctual transportation if needed (particularly if your daughter/son does not have a driver's license).
- h. **Parents will understand and abide by the director's rules about closed events. Practices, staying after school on game days and other events deemed by the director are CLOSED to ALL parents, friends, boyfriends/girlfriends, etc.**
- i. Direct concerns about your child on an individual basis directly to the director first.
- j. Parents should speak to the director about their child only. The director/sponsor can only help if a question, comment, or concern is coming from the direct source.
- k. Provide all the encouragement your child needs in her/his pursuit of excellence.
- l. Parent/Guardians will check the band website daily for all updates as well as monthly calendars. There is no excuse for being uninformed.
- m. Parent/Guardians will follow all forms of proper communication when speaking with the director/sponsor.
- n. Understand that coaches and sponsors are the ones who run the practices, make rules, enforce consequences, and make team decisions. Coaches will not be influenced by negative comments or complaints. Please recognize that unforeseen circumstances do occur; interim changes to anything in this document may be made at the discretion of the director and administration.
- o. All decisions made by the auxiliary staff and/or administration are final.
- p. **Parents are not allowed to drive their child or any other auxiliary members to school events, unless approved by the director.**
- q. Parents are not allowed to come out onto the field, sit with the auxiliary during games or take them anywhere if they are supposed to be with the other members.

- r. While cheering on your child, please respect other spectators and remember to have the utmost respect for coaches, officials, and other spirit teams. You are representing the BHS band program and your child.
- s. **Parents will act respectfully to coaches, sponsors and director at ALL times.** Discretions or concerns will be discussed directly with the person involved to find a solution to the problem. The steps of communication must be met, or you and your child will be asked to leave the program if something cannot be done.
- t. Please refrain from texting or calling your child while they are in practice UNLESS it is an emergency. You can also contact sponsors for emergencies and/or arrangements for rides etc.
- u. **Parents MUST refrain from gossiping/talking/venting about issues regarding the ensemble members, coaches, sponsors, director or situations with the program.** The director and sponsors are very approachable and are very willing to hear your frustrations. Please follow all rules of communication policy when addressing issues. If a situation occurs and cannot be handled in the correct manner, you and your child will be dismissed from the program.
- v. **DRAMA WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN DEMERITS/REMOVAL FROM THE TEAM. Consequences are at the director's discretion.**
- w. Parents must also keep in mind that the sponsors and director have other things to do besides band and auxiliary. Please refrain from calling the coach at an inappropriate time, unless it is an emergency. Please abide by the following:
 - i) **For general questions, comments or concerns during the school week:** Email the director/sponsor between 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, leave a message, and wait for a call back.
 - ii) **FOR EMERGENCIES:** Send a remind message to the director/sponsors
- x. Coaches have the ability to deliver consequences if any of the above are not followed. Consequences will be delivered on an individual basis based on the coach's discretion but may impact the member as well as the parent.

VII. Social Media

- a. When students engage in text messaging or Internet social networking sites, they will only use appropriate language and display only appropriate pictures.
- b. **Any auxiliary member, under the director's discretion, that has disrespected the name of BHS or the band will face direct consequences, which may include removal from the team.**
- c. Social media includes Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tik Tok and other sites that posts are made.
- d. Inappropriate language includes curse words, talking negatively about anyone, illegal substances, and sexually explicit acts.
- e. Inappropriate pictures include pictures of illegal substances, sexually explicit acts, clothes and poses.
- f. Inappropriate posts include re-tweets, personal tweets, hash tags, or other post that show up to the public that are inappropriate and can be negative towards the BHS auxiliary program.
- g. If any of the following are turned into the director/sponsor, demerits or consequences may be issued.

VIII. Payment Information

- a. The 2020-2021 payment plan will be announced ahead of time and all payments must be made in a timely manner.
- b. **If your child quits the auxiliary team at any time, any prior payments are non-refundable. The remaining balance is also required to be paid before your child's graduation date.**
- c. Summer Band Camp will be **REQUIRED**. The director will decide the place and time the camp will take place.
- d. Payments that are not made on time and not in the correct amount that the director is unaware about will result in consequences/demerits.
- e. **PAYMENTS MUST BE GIVEN TO THE DIRECTOR, AND ADDRESSED TO BROOKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL.**

IX. Fundraising

- a. Fundraisers will be held through the year as decided by the sponsors/director.
- b. Fundraisers will be **MANDATORY** and have a required amount that will be sold.
- c. Any fundraiser that is not complete and the required amount is not sold, the missing amount that was required, will have to be repaid.

- d. Failure to turn in money or other paperwork on time and in the correct amount will result in demerits/consequences.

X. Game Day Procedures

- a. **Auxiliary members** will stay after school on game days as decided by the director. This includes football games, basketball games or other events.
- b. **Meals are paid for in advance, more information will come regarding time and payment.**
- c. As stated earlier, PLEASE send all material for the games with your child before the game. Parents are not allowed to drop off items as after school activities are CLOSED to parents, friends, boyfriends/girlfriends, etc. unless you are chaperoning.
- d. All members of the visual ensemble are expected to help load/unload the truck/trailer.

XI. Uniforms/Appearance

- a. Members must keep all uniforms clean. If a garment needs to be hemmed or altered to maintain a uniform look for the team, it will be the responsibility of the individual.
- b. If you were a BHS auxiliary member the past year, you **MUST** bring all uniforms to the uniform fitting. If they do not fit, you will be required to order new uniforms.
- c. After each performance, members are required to hang uniforms inside out to dry and dry-clean as necessary. Do NOT leave items in the band-room. Remember, Uniforms are re-usable each year, so please take care of them!
- d. Auxiliary members will purchase required items chosen by the director. Each item purchased that has been chosen by the director will be part of the Brookwood High School Auxiliary uniform.
- e. **Pieces of the uniform, such as warm up jackets and pants, can only be worn when approved by the coach.**
- f. No jewelry is to be worn unless it is part of a uniform.
- g. No colored nail polish.
- h. Performance make-up is to be worn at all performances. **You must wear make-up to every event.**
- i. Team member are not allowed to share make-up while on school grounds.
- j. **MEMBERS ARE TO BE COMPLETELY READY (Hair, Make-up, Uniform, etc.) FOR ALL EVENTS AT THE TIME THE DIRECTOR HAS DECIDED. If you are not ready at the appropriate time, demerits will be issued and you will sit out that performance.**
- k. Hair is to be styled the same at all performances. The sponsor/coach will determine the hairstyle for each event.
- l. While in uniform, members should be aware they are representing Brookwood High School and the band.
- m. Members are required to look uniform at all times.
- n. The director will decide what uniforms to wear at each event.
- o. During football games, all members must look uniform. If the sponsor/director decides for the auxiliary to wear a jacket, each member must wear his/her jacket.
- p. Participation in dress up/theme days will be required unless told otherwise by the coach.

XII. Demerits

In addition to the prior stated disciplinary policies, Crimson Star Band members are subject to a demerit system. An accumulation of 10 demerits will result in removal from the marching band and ineligibility to try out for an entire academic calendar year.

- a. Late for practice 1
- b. Improper uniform..... 1
- c. Chewing gum or eating in uniform 1
- d. Late for performance 2
- e. Inappropriate behavior/Profane language (coach's discretion) 2
- f. Leaving practice early 2
- g. Leaving a performance early 2

h. Unexcused absence from practice.....	2
i. Violation of school rules (write ups, etc.).....	2
j. Unexcused absence from performance.....	5
k. Public Display of Affection in Uniform.....	5
l. Inappropriate post to social media	5
m. Disrespect to coach, choreographer, or other adult	5
n. Gossiping about another team member/unsportsmanlike behavior	5
o. Drinking alcoholic beverages or using drugs, at any time.....	10
p. Possession or use of a weapon	10
q. Sexual acts	10

Demerits can be worked off at the director's discretion and merits may be received at the director's discretion. The director and sponsors also reserve the right to issue demerits for unlisted issues/acts. Poor grades will also result in demerits.

XIII. Merits

When demerits are received, the auxiliary member may work them off if the coach allows it. Once worked off, merits will be awarded. Demerits can be worked off at a 2:1 ratio. 2 laps around the band field must be completed to work off 1 demerit. When a student receives 10, dismissal is IMMEDIATE.

XIV. Suspension/ISI

- a. Receiving ISI will result in removal from a performance
- b. Suspension from school will result in dismissal from the ensemble.
- c. Dismissal from the team disqualifies a member from auditioning the following year unless otherwise stated by the director.

XV. Captain

- a. Will be selected by the coach(s) (as the coach sees fit).
- b. Must not participate in another activity that will interfere in their responsibilities.
- c. Must represent Brookwood High School and the community in a positive manner at all times.
- d. Responsibilities consist of the following:
 - i) Help carry out the instruction of the coach
 - ii) Help to guide instruction for choreography and drill
 - iii) Report misbehaviors or inability to follow directions by a member of the team
 - iv) Maintain a flexible disposition in order to support your team.
- e. Captain and Co-Captain positions can be taken away at any time as the coach sees fit.

Visual Ensemble Agreement Form

We, both the parent/guardian and student, acknowledge and agree to abide by the terms, rules, regulations, and fees that are stated in the Visual Ensemble Tryout Packet. We have thoroughly read this packet and have no questions about any content. Furthermore, should we have any questions or concerns at any time, we agree to contact the band director immediately. We also understand that all actions taken by the student during the tryout video are the sole responsibility of the student and do not hold Brookwood High School Responsible. Lastly, we understand that we must abide by the rules in the Band Handbook as well.

Student Name (printed): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____