

2026 FUSION CORE PARENT INFORMATION SHEET

Administration:

Executive Director – Holly Marino holly.marino@fusioncore.org
Assistant Director – Giustina Ragan - garegan01@gmail.com
Business Manager – Nick Carlson – admin@fusioncore.org
Logistics – Ralph Marino - Ralph@taxsearchnow.com
Admin Assistant – Vanessa Hamilton - vahamilton72@gmail.com

GOALS: To provide our members with positive, healthy, productive, experiences on and off the competition field that will benefit them throughout their life. We want our members to make the meaningful relationships that are made in the marching arts activity. Lastly, we want our member's parents to enjoy the experience as much as the members and we hope everyone will be "Changed For Good".

- **What are the fees to be a member and what does it include?**

The fees are \$2400.00* and will be paid in monthly installments and will be paid on ACTIVE. Monthly payments in the amount of \$360.00 will start in January to help the members are paid off by the deadline later in the summer. There are tiered discounts for groups of members coming from the same school and other discount options available to members (multiyear discounts, family, bring a friend, etc.). Monthly payments are preferred and all fees must be paid in full, no later than June 28th, 2025.

- **Are there fundraisers?**

Yes. We typically will do Gertrude Hawk, Krispy Kreme and Calendar Fundraisers but are open to new ideas. We can also provide you with a Sponsorship request form. All donations made to Fusion Core by payment of dues or otherwise are tax deductible. There is a one-time MANDATORY, all member fundraiser which goes directly to the Core only and that is a 50/50 fundraiser. Members are obligated to sell 20 50/50 tickets that are \$10.00 each, so start getting together 10 friends now to buy a ticket!!

- Where will my kid be every weekend?

Our "home base" is Wekiva High School in Apopka. We are still working out our winter schedule. Starting at the end of April, we will meet regularly, every weekend.

- Is there housing for the regular season?

YES! We have secured housing at beautiful Camp Wewa, located in Apopka, not far from our rehearsal facility. These are bunk bed accommodations in air-conditioned cabins.

- When do the competitions start?

In the near future, you can find our complete season schedule by visiting our website www.fusioncore.org.

- Does my child need to be at every practice and Competition?

YES, in order for us to provide your son/daughter with successful drum corps experience, it is important that our members are 100% committed. We do, however, encourage our members to get involved in school events, all we ask is once school is out, members are 100% committed to Fusion Core. With such little time, members will need to commit to the process.

- What if my child has an allergy?

All members are required to fill out a health form in their membership packet. It is CRUCIAL that we have an entire medical history that we can provide a medic in the case of an emergency. If your child has a food allergy, we will make sure there is an alternate option available for meals that are provided. If they have severe allergies or have very specific dietary needs, we recommend that they let us know immediately.

- Where and When are Championships and how will my son/daughter get there?

Championship weekend will be held the second weekend in August at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. Members will travel by bus to Indy, however if you are planning to travel to Indy together as a family on your own, that is fine, as long as this is discussed with the admin early in the season. Bus costs are very high and the difference between 1 bus and 2 can be 10s of thousands of dollars.

Members are required to stay at the member housing and will be required to travel with the core when in Indy to the stadium for the performances.

- Are there any social/leisure trips involved that don't involve competing?

Possibly. Depending on the year, we may include an optional trip. Information would be sent out well in advance if there was going to be such an event.

- What are some of the ways we can volunteer?

GREAT QUESTION!! Here are some volunteer positions we could use your help with:

- TRUCK DRIVERS - We have a box truck which tows an open trailer. No CDL required.
- Cooks – **(IF APPLICABLE)** The way to everyone's heart is a good meal. We'll provide the money if you could provide your "chefly" talents. Good/Easy meals are: Pasta with sauce, tacos, hoagies, etc.
- Food Handlers – Once the food is cooked, the next most important person is the person who serves with a smile. We may have roughly 120 people we'll need to get through a line in about 90 minutes. We need efficient, calm, friendly people to help make that process happen.
- Merchandising – We have a great guy who has upped our merch game but we need people to sell at our souvie booths at shows. The souvie team always has a good time. Just bring a chair and smile. We'll supply the merch! 😊.
- Seamstress – Sometimes members will need last minute fixes to their uniforms. That can be very stressful for the member. Having someone on hand to help would be great. So, if you love sewing and can help, please let us know.
- First Aid - Mom, dad, other family members who are medical personnel are always welcome. Drum Core is a physical sport and sometimes having a medic on site is super helpful. They don't have to be doctors. They can be certified medics or RNs.

- Equipment Manager – Are you good with spreadsheets and very organized? We can use your skills keeping track of our equipment.

I'm sure there are things I may have missed so please feel free to ask. No question is a stupid question. The more info you have, the better experience you and your child will have. Thanks for reading!!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to call me at 973-945-5367 or email me at holly.marino@fusioncore.org.