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BAND CAMP ACTIVITIES

A DIRECTOR'S RESOURCE FOR RELAYS,
NONCOMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES, ICE BREAKERS,
& FUNDRAISERS



by Aaron Noë

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& FUNDRAISERS**

by
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INTRODUCTION

In today's society, our youth are pulled in many different directions, inundated with multi-media experiences and given instant access to social networking. With so many diverse interests and spontaneous gratifications, focus amongst teens may seem to be a major issue for many educators. Teachers are constantly seeking a variety of methods to diversify their teaching strategies to teach the concepts in their discipline.

Band Camp Activities was written to give directors a variety of choices to enhance the marching band experience while reinforcing fundamental marching concepts. These activities are designed to offer 10- to 15-minute sessions which break the monotony of constant drill rehearsal. These suggestions are designed to refocus the group without wasting meaningful practice time with activities unrelated to the marching craft.



Band Camp Activities focuses on 3 core areas:

1. Marching Fundamentals,
2. Team work &
3. Team Building

These activities are designed to enhance the rehearsal model you already have in place. It is the hope of the author that these activities will open the door for thinking “outside the box” and lead you to develop your own meaningful activities which relate specifically to your program’s needs.



As an added bonus, a fundraising section has been included in this booklet. These activities are designed to generate maximum profit with little to no up-front cost to the organization.

SECTION I

RELAYS

Our students are drawn to Marching Band for a variety of reasons. However, one of the strongest draws for students is the competition aspect. These relays are designed to build off of this by offering friendly competition while developing and refining marching fundamentals.

It may be a natural instinct to divide the band by instrumental sections for these relays; however, you may find greater team building by creating groups with diverse instrumentation and ages.

...Plus it's a ton of fun to watch the Flute players trying to work with the Tuba players!

EVERY WHICH WAY

A RELAY RACE



Image courtesy of [sriangphoto](#) / [FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#)

What you will need:

- Instruments (optional)*

Where this Activity takes place:

- Practice field (Outdoors)

Concepts Reinforced by this Activity:

1. Forward March
2. Right Slide
3. Backward March
4. Left Slide

How It Works

1. Split your ensemble into teams of 4-8 persons
2. Each team forms a straight line on the Back Sideline on the even Yardlines (10, 20, 30, etc.) facing the Front Sideline.
3. The Relay Race
 - First member Forward Marches to Front Sideline
 - Right Slide to the next Yardline (15, 25, 35, etc.)**
 - Backward March to the Back Sideline
 - Left Slide to original spot
 - Next person in lines continues.
 - Last person to complete calls their team to attention
4. Variations
 - Substitute Flanks & To-the-Rear
 - Use this exercise to reinforce marching in straight lines while maintaining posture & horn angle
 - Shorten the race by starting at the hashes

*Try this exercise without horns, with horns at attention & with horns in playing position.

** Modify slides for Drumline

