## Drumline Basics

#### Hand

Grip -Fulcrum- "Loose but in there" -Varies for snares (traditional), tenors (matched), bass (matched but turned on side)

### Stick Placement

-Stick should always strike the head in same place unless specified to do differently -Correct striking zones are different for snares, tenors, and bass

-Striking in the correct place is important on all battery instruments in order to create a unified sound

#### Stroke

-Piston (force=tendonitis) -Resting position (down but not tense) -Stick height determined by: dynamics, articulation (accents), and tempo

#### Rebound

-Let the stick and drum head work for you -All drum playing is a controlled rebound

#### Mind

#### Greatness

-Attitude: Playing drums is fun- if it isn't fun for you- you are doing something wrong

- -Dedication: What makes a great drumline
- -Team: Must get along together to be able to play together

-Mind over Sticks: If you can think it, your hands will do it. Try to mentally grasp concepts first.

#### What does playing clean mean?

-Clean: All members of the drumline playing in time and together

#### **Practice Tips**

-ALWAYS practice with a metronome

-Practice marking time and marching while playing

-Start slow and gradually bump up the tempo- you'll never play fast correctly if you can't control slow tempos

-Use a mirror to watch grip, stick placement, stroke & rebound

-Practice together- it's more fun

-Practice on a pad AND a drum- padding is great but will never truly replicate the feel of the drum

- -Dut or count out loud while playing
- -Vocalize rhythms (RH- Da; LH- Ga)- if you can sing it most likely you can play it
- -Perfect Practices makes Perfect- WATCH YOURSELF!

#### **Essential Materials**

- -Good marching sticks
- -Practice Pad
- -Metronome

-Good marching shoes (comfy- tennis shoes)

-3 ring notebook for exercises & music (put your name on it)

-Clear plastic sheet protectors

-Pencil





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#### Unison/Snare

Variations on any Exercise -All on One Hand -Dynamics -Off the Left -Backwards -Double Stop any Single Handed Exercise

#### **One Handed Exercises**





-Sections with A and B

- -Play with Natural Sticking
- -Fill in Natural Sticking for Check Pattern



16th Timing (2 note)







## Two Handed Grids

16th Accent Grid (1 accent)





#### Two Handed Roll Exercises



-Paradiddle non-diddled

Triplet Diddle



Variations on Triplet Diddle

-Two diddles first

-Three diddles first

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