

# MAVERICK STAMPEDE - CAPTAIN AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

## (RANKS INCLUDING BAND CAPTAIN, DRUM MAJOR, & VISUAL CAPTAIN)

*\*Final Captain candidates may be selected, in part, on their ability to participate in summer activities, which may include recruitment initiatives, a leadership &/or brass clinic, and/or individual sessions with Dr. Hinkle.*

1. Read and follow all directions carefully from the “How to become a student leader” tab on the Student Leaders page of the CMU Band website. Then complete the following additional steps specific for Captain auditions by **Wednesday at 5pm of the final week of classes** (the week before Final Exam week).
2. Prepare then **record (video & audio) demonstrations of items #3-6** (below) using your smartphone or home computer. Then upload your video to YouTube and create a shareable link for viewing by a panel of adjudicators (please make sure your link is functioning properly). This additional Captain-specific audition video link should be submitted along with your other Introduction, Performance, and Interview video link in the online leadership application form (Google form) used for all leadership positions. All Captain candidates must demonstrate these, even if not desiring the “Drum Major” position.
3. Demonstrate both the **vocal and physical call and responses to the following commands**: Attention, Parade Rest, Forward March (16 steps & halt), Backward March (16 steps & halt). Demonstrate each of these two times and separately from each other. Give the vocal commands and responses (where applicable) aloud to yourself as you demonstrate each fundamental. This demonstration should mimic appropriate vocal tone and physical responses to that of one who will be teaching/demonstrating to a large squad of band members OUTSIDE. Use a big outside voice!
4. Design and demonstrate a simple “**Drum Major Salute**” that would be appropriate for use when introducing the band on the field prior to a performance.
5. Obtain a **drum major whistle** (recommended brand = “Fox40 Whistle” available on Amazon.com for >\$10). Demonstrate it’s appropriate use to start a large outdoor marching band on the following songs: GBU, Fight Song, Go Mavs, Go!, & Hot Time. Announce the song title, choose a tempo (without using a metronome) and accompanying conducting gesture, and then demonstrate starting each song. Only conduct the first few measures of each song. Use SHORT and LOUD “bursts” and consider the number of preparatory beats/bursts needed to effectively start the band at an appropriate tempo. Caution – consider obtaining and using ear protection when practicing.
6. On YouTube, find the audio recording and score to Richard Saucedo’s arrangement of “Spinning Wheel.” Design a simple and effective **conducting routine** that you will present by memory while conducting along to the audio of this recording. Careful consideration should be made when deciding how to negotiate multiple time signatures in this arrangement. Conducting should include section cuing, evidence of dynamic and articulation contrast, and exaggerated facial gestures appropriate for use with conducting a large marching band outside. In order to help align conducting with the audio track, it is suggested to not conduct the first 2 measures, but rather begin conducting at measure 3.
7. Be prepared for a ‘**call back**’ Zoom (video and audio) conference with adjudicators on Thursday during the final week of classes between 3-5pm. Dr. Hinkle will inform you of your need to be ready for this conference and the approximate time your conference will start (at or after 3pm). Treat this as a formal job interview. Be prepared to answer questions from adjudicators. Sample questions:
  - a. *Why do you want to be Stampede Captain (Drum Major, Band Captain, or Visual Captain)?*
  - b. *Describe the perfect band member, and how does your past participation reflect this model?*
  - c. *What should be expected of a Captain beyond a general member’s responsibilities?*
  - d. *How can you maintain high leadership standards and get along with other students/peers?*
  - e. *What is your plan for being involved in this leadership role and staying organized with other responsibilities and/or activities (work, study, individual practice, etc.)?*
  - f. *Mock scenario questions (peer interactions, strategies for addressing behavioral problems, etc.)*