World Guard Member Handbook & Agreement

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Anesidora Member Handbook

I. Mission Statement

The mission of Anesidora Winter Guard is to create an environment that allows our youth to express their creativity, confidence, and passion! We pride ourselves on being an artistic and positive atmosphere for young adults.

II. Eligibility

Required Paperwork

All performers must complete and turn in all paperwork pertaining to membership prior to or at the first rehearsal. Those without the required paperwork will not be permitted to rehearse or perform with Anesidora Winter Guard, henceforth known as Anesidora, until all items are turned in. These items include:

Government-issued photo identification (we will need to make a copy of it)
Completed and signed Anesidora Handbook Agreement
Completed and signed Code of Conduct
Completed and signed Medical History Form & Release
Completed and signed Liability Waiver

Age Limitations

Anesidora competes under the Color Guard Contest Rules as set forth by Winter Guard International, henceforth known as WGI. All performers, regardless of age, are expected to follow the rules and regulations stated in this handbook. If you are under 18 years of age, make sure to share this handbook with your parents.

A-Class Only: Members who will be 22 years of age or older on or before April 1st of any given year are NOT eligible to march in Anesidora A under section 1.1 of the WGI rules for the *Independent A* classification.

If you have been recently discharged from active duty in the U.S. Military and will be 22 years of age or older on or before April 1st of any given year, you may still be eligible to march in Anesidora A under subsection 1.1.1 of the WGI rules for the *Independent A* classification. Contact the Anesidora Directors, henceforth known as Directors, for more information.

World Class Only: Members of any age are eligible to march in Anesidora World under section 1.1 of the WGI rules for the *Independent World* classification.

III. Attendance

General

Performances are the result of many hours of hard work by everyone involved with Anesidora. These are the moments to be savored and enjoyed! In order to make each performance as magical as it can be, it is important to understand that all members must attend all rehearsals.
It is difficult to coordinate the efforts and movements of members, staff, volunteers, etc. Each person depends on the presence of the other members. Therefore, please make doctors' appointments; schedule work days, etc. on days other than Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

Your respective group's calendar is included in these documents as well as viewable as a Google Calendar that will be updated weekly with any changes of times or locations. However, days will not change so there will be no excuses for unapproved absences.

Rehearsal Attendance

Missing scheduled rehearsals is not acceptable without advance notice of two or more weeks and approval from the Directors.

Design Camps are required if you are offered a position with any group.

Many last minute adjustments and corrections are made before a performance. Therefore, the last rehearsal before a performance is MANDATORY in order for PARTICIPATION in that performance.

Anesidora World typically won't rehearse on RMCGA show days to ensure directors can be with their own groups. All WGI show days will have a rehearsal. If Anesidora decides on a specific meeting time for local WGI shows, the member/director with a conflict must communicate their plan to join the team as soon as possible, but preferably before the contest day arrives. This applies only to directors. *Technicians, choreographers or other support staff from your group who are performing members of Anesidora must be present with us as expected.* This also means it is a good idea to wait until Anesidora releases the list of contests we will attend before signing up your students. You cannot skip a weekend rehearsal for your students' competition unless it was originally a local show for Anesidora that we pulled out of. This includes evaluations or any other performance opportunity your students may receive.

Excessive sitting out at multiple rehearsals due to mental or physical health concerns grants the rehearsal leadership staff to bring the concern to the attention of the Directors and/or Board of Directors for review.

- **Repercussions for Unapproved Absences:**
  First offense: The member may be written out of any part of the show and/or lose their spot for the next following performance.
  Second offense: The member will lose their spot in Anesidora entirely and will no longer be a performing member of the group.

Performance Attendance

Missing scheduled performances is not acceptable *except* in case of emergencies and cleared by the Directors. If members are attending a show with Anesidora, they are expected to stay until officially dismissed.

Special travel arrangements may need to be made during out-of-state events that conflict with itinerary expectations. These arrangements should occur at least a week in advance to ensure staff can manage the logistics. It is at the Director's discretion to determine a reason for joining late is valid. We will work with you as long as you work with us.

- **Repercussions for Performance/Itinerary Tardiness:**
  First offense: The member may be written out of any part of the show and/or lose their spot for the performance.
  Second offense: The member will lose their spot in Anesidora entirely and will no longer be a performing member of the group.

- **Repercussions for Unexcused Performance Absence:**
  First and Only Offense: The member will lose their spot in Anesidora entirely and will no longer be a performing member of the group.

Approved Excuses

In the event a member suffers a debilitating injury inside or outside of guard, a doctor's note is required to clear that member to resume participation at performances and rehearsals.

If a member is injured or gets sick, we encourage them to attend rehearsals and do what they can to learn their spot. At minimum, the member should sit in the gym and watch so they have an idea of what will be expected of them at the next rehearsal. Injured members are still encouraged to attend performances and cheer on their peers.

The Directors and/or Board of Directors, henceforth known as the Board, reserves the right to address all situations and determine if they need to fill your spot or review the potential removal from the organization.

IV. Financial

Payment Responsibility

All marching members of Anesidora are required to pay tuition, known as dues, to help subsidize costs incurred during the season. The 2026-2027 World Guard Season will be $3,000, including alternates with a split payment schedule pending position. The 2026-2027 A Guard season will be $2,600. The 2026-2027 RA Guard season will be $1,700. Dues can be paid all at once or throughout the season according to the Fees Schedules attached, but must be paid in full by the last payment due date.

Members may pay dues via check, money order, or Anesidora's website through the donate page. If another payment route is needed please discuss viable options with the Directors.

In the event a member is unable or unwilling to pay their dues, they should contact the Board immediately. The Board can work with you on more flexible terms but only if you say something; the earlier the better.

If you miss a payment date then you are simply late on payments. If you are late and you miss another payment, you would then be considered past-due. This includes World Guard alternates.

- **Repercussions if past-due by one payment:**
  The member could be suspended from participating in any performances until current, potentially being written out of large parts of the show, or cut from the program at the discretion of the Board.

- **Repercussions if past-due by more than one payment:**
  Unless meaningful conversations accompanied by meaningful efforts to update the membership balance have occurred, the member shall have a late fee of $40 added to their balance immediately and an additional $10 a week added to their balance until the account falls back to at a minimum of a late status. The member may now have severely jeopardized their position in the organization. The Board may discuss consequences, which may include, but are not limited to, suspension from participating in any performances until current, potential removal from large parts of the show, or expulsion from the program. **If a member falls past due before the new year, the member is immediately released and will only be expected to pay the fees owed up until the new year.** Anesidora is a non-profit organization that partners with creditors to help those who refuse to work with the organization to pay their debts. By signing this contract, you or your guardian agree to pay your fair share within a reasonably expected timeframe and to communicate any concerns along the way. Creditors begin to be contacted after the season ends as long as reasonable communication has previously occurred with no change in financial status.

Should a member decide to withdraw from Anesidora for any reason after executing their contract and agreeing to this handbook, the entire fee is still due and payable. This fee may be prorated with approval of the Board. World Alternates will only be required to pay the remainder of the active payment schedule they are on.

Any member in arrears to Anesidora will remain ineligible to compete in any other marching unit governed under WGI Contest Rules worldwide until all fees are paid in full.

Fundraising

In order to keep member dues as affordable as possible, while still covering expenses, Anesidora also utilizes fundraising throughout the season and in the off-season.

There will be a mandatory $200 fundraising goal for every member of Anesidora. This $200 in mandatory fundraising will go to your final monthly dues to reduce your overall tuition. If you are paid in full, the $200 or any remainder will go to the organization.

Anesidora will have many fundraising opportunities available throughout the season. Some fundraisers are for the benefit of the whole organization while others can be used directly toward member dues. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to fundraise with us if applicable. Whenever friends or family are

fundraising on behalf of Anesidora, they are expected to follow the same *Anesidora Code of Conduct for Organizational Roles* as established by the organization.

Member Required Expenses

Travel: Travel plans to and from out-of-state regionals and WGI Championships are the only travel expenses required by members. All other travel, such as van rental and lodging, will be covered by Anesidora. This will include travel to and from the arrival/departure location of the members during out-of-state regionals and WGI Championships. Any other expenses, including but not limited to costs associated with personal food, souvenirs, or costs for traveling to and from local rehearsal or local shows are each member's responsibility.

During out-of-state events, all members must travel and stay in the same vans and hotels as the other members. You cannot use separate travel or sleeping arrangements because this could cause many legal and liability issues. If a situation arises where a separate car or room makes sense, discuss it with the Directors for a final decision.

Equipment: Anesidora owns flags, rifles, sabres, and other necessary equipment. The maintenance and care of this equipment is incredibly important. Cost for the use of practice and performance equipment is covered in your dues. However, if a member is irresponsible, they may be responsible for replacing the broken or lost equipment. Equipment must be stored and cared for correctly. Equipment should never be lent out, left out, or unattended for any reason. It should be cleaned and handled with care per given instructions. Should a member pass off their equipment to another individual, the initial member is still responsible for the "fate" of the equipment.

Costume/Uniform: All members will be issued a costume and will be responsible for their upkeep. Members will be responsible for paying to replace a lost or damaged costume. All members are responsible for their own pair of gloves if needed.

Merchandise: Every member must purchase and wear an official Anesidora jacket to all performances and functions unless otherwise noted. The cost of the jacket is **NOT** included in your dues. During the season, members will receive a show shirt and a key chain allowing for discounts on Anesidora branded merchandise.

V. Code of Conduct

Each member of Anesidora pledges to be responsible for their words and actions while attending, instructing, or participating in any Anesidora event and shall adhere to the following code of conduct.

Each member of Anesidora **will**:

- Treat any instructor, parent, member, participant, official, or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or ability.
- Abide by all RMCGA and WGI rules, policies, and procedures and those rules imposed at any corresponding competition or host organization.
- Respect the time of the staff and fellow members by being on time to all rehearsals and competitions.

And each member of Anesidora **will not**:

- Engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any instructor, parent, member, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- Engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety, or well-being of any instructor, parent, member, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- Engage in any activity or behavior that fails to meet the expressed direction or instruction of any instructor or official.
- Use drugs or alcohol while at any Anesidora, RMCGA, or WGI event and will not attend, instruct, or participate in an event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any instructor, parent, member, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- Initiate a fight with any instructor, parent, member, participant, official, or any other attendee.
- Criticize, confront, argue with or make negative comments intended for members, opponents, instructors, judges, or other spectators. Sideline comments at rehearsals and competitions should always be constructive.

Failure to adhere to the foregoing while attending, instructing, or participating in any Anesidora event will result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the guard.
The Directors and Board reserve the right to suspend or otherwise expel members from the organization at their discretion.

Rehearsal Etiquette

- Members should not talk while in designated rehearsal areas, unless they are answering a question from or asking a question of instructional staff.
- Mobile and other electronic devices should be on silent mode and only accessed during breaks.
- All rehearsals are closed to the public. Anyone outside the organization attending a rehearsal must have explicit permission from the Directors.
- Rehearsal facilities are usually rented or donated for Anesidora's use. Members are responsible for treating the facility with the utmost care and respect. Keep it clean!
- Vaping or smoking on public school grounds is prohibited and jeopardizes our relationship with them. Please review our Drug & Alcohol Policy.
- Members should bring water bottles with no-spill tops.
- Members must be dressed in appropriate workout attire, all-black clothing. Clothing should be comfortable and not too baggy.
- There should be no general socializing or horseplay during any active rehearsal. Any "down" time should be spent reviewing and rehearsing.

Performance Etiquette

- All members must report at the time and location designated by the Directors. All members will be expected to help load and unload all props, equipment, floor, etc. at every show unless excused by the Directors.
- Members are expected to conduct themselves professionally at all times. Treat members of all other units with respect.
- Members should always move around public show sites with a partner or group.

- All members must attend retreat (even if captain-only retreat) unless excused by the Directors.
- When traveling, avoid distracting the bus/van/car drivers. Buses/vans/cars must be cleaned at the end of all trips.

Anesidora, its staff, Directors, and Board are not responsible for lost or stolen items. Each member is responsible for retrieving all personal belongings from travel vehicles and performance or rehearsal sites.
The appearance and behavior of members before, during, and after performances is a direct reflection on the organization; members should be conscious of setting a positive example.

When attending events, members must wear their season or specific Anesidora branded shirt, Anesidora jacket, and nice blue jeans with no holes before and after performances. This includes when not in uniform, or at any other public events unless otherwise directed. At no time should a member wear crop tops, sports bras, shorts, sweatpants or leggings during an Anesidora public event or performance. *This includes any Anesidora branded apparel beyond what is stated above.*

Body Piercings/Tattoos/Hair Color

Most body jewelry must be removed for competitions and performances at the Directors' discretion. Ear piercings must be limited to modest jewelry that does not attract attention. One facial piercing is acceptable with modest jewelry that does not attract attention. It is important that piercings and jewelry not detract from the uniformity of guard, if jewelry cannot be removed nude/clear colored jewelry is acceptable. Please be aware of your safety when spinning with jewelry.

Tattoos are allowed as long as they are not promoting illegal, hateful, or harmful behavior. At the discretion of the Directors, you may be asked to hide a tattoo for shows if it is necessary for the show.
Hair color may be dictated by the Directors to reflect a character or mood within the performance. Members will be informed of hair color allowances or restrictions at the first rehearsal of the season. All members will be expected to abide by these specifications through the entirety of the season or risk their removal from the show.

Social Media

Your actions online reflect the organization just as much as your actions in person.

Posts, media, or comments that include behavior or content that is infringing, discriminatory, hateful, violent, unlawful, nude or partially nude, pornographic or sexually suggestive may be grounds for immediate dismissal at the discretion of the Anesidora Board.

You will not defame, "trash talk", stalk, bully, abuse, harass, threaten, impersonate, or intimidate people or entities. You must also not post private or confidential information. These actions will not be tolerated and may be grounds for repercussions at the discretion of the Anesidora Board

These social media requirements extend to alternative accounts or "finstas" as well.

Drug & Alcohol Policy

Anesidora practices a zero-tolerance policy for abuse of illicit drugs or non-prescribed medications, as well as the use of alcohol by members under 21 years of age. You are expected to be sober at every event.

Drug and alcohol use is strictly prohibited at all Anesidora functions – including overnight travel – for members of any age. Any member providing alcohol to minors is subject to immediate dismissal under this policy. No smoking or vaping in vehicles on school property, or anywhere else that it is not allowed – this includes no smoking or vaping in front of high school students.

- **Repercussions for the first and only offense:**
  Should a member violate the drug and alcohol policy, the member will lose their spot in Anesidora entirely and will no longer be a performing member of the group.
  If the violation occurs while on a trip, the member will no longer be allowed to travel with Anesidora.
  Any member caught in possession of illicit drugs, tobacco, or alcohol, will have to find their own way home.

Anesidora has established a reputation of excellence in the winter guard community. It is your responsibility to conduct yourself in a professional and caring manner to help uphold this reputation when wearing Anesidora branded apparel per the Code of Conduct.

VI. Member Resources

Director's Contact Information

- **Aaron Moss**
  - Cell: (720) 987-7190
  - Email: amossa83@gmail.com
- **Natasha Terrell**
  - Cell: (720) 270-2893
  - Email: neiln26@gmail.com
- **Xander Caven**
  - Cell: (720) 244-6462
  - Email: xandercaven@gmail.com

General Communication

You may reach out to *anesidorawg@gmail.com* for general inquiries.

Website

The Anesidora Winter Guard website is located at *https://anesidorawg.com*. It is a place where friends, family, and fans can go to get information about the program, upcoming events, and more.

Member Communication

Anesidora will be utilizing *SLACK* for primary communication for marching members.

Social Media

Anesidora has a profile on *Facebook*, *Instagram*, and *Youtube*.

X. Closing Thoughts

Remember that the guard members you meet at a show or competition may someday be members of Anesidora, so treat them with respect and kindness.

This is a family organization; remember to love your fellow Anesidora members, staff, volunteers and anyone else that helps the organization.

Welcome to the Anesidora Family!

This document is for you to keep for your records.