



Parent's Handbook

Crystal Lake Thunder
Is a program Presented by The Crystal Lake Strikers



Crystal Lake Thunder – Parent’s Handbook

Welcome to Crystal Lake Thunder!

Your son or daughter has become a part of the Crystal Lake Thunder family. This winter your child will work very hard and will enjoy the rewards that come from that effort. We want to do our best to share the joys and challenges of our season with you. The information in this handbook is intended to familiarize you with The Thunder organization and to describe the way we operate.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact the Director at:

Bryan Jamison - Director
bryan.jamison@clstrikers.com
630-550-9156

The Crystal Lake Thunder is supported by their parent organization The Crystal Lake Strikers.

The Crystal Lake Strikers – This is a community group centered in Crystal Lake, IL which hosts several groups with the purpose of music education and music enjoyment. The groups include:

- Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline – An all-ages drumline that performs in parades and other similar functions.
- Strikers AllStars – Comprised of area High School students in the Winter, this drumline plays halftime shows with backing tracks.
- Convergence -- Independent colorguard. This guard competes in regional contests.
- Girls On The Drum -- Middle school program for girls. Mentored by High School girls from Strikers AllStars.
- Strike Force – Middle school program.
- Pinstripes – Grade school drumming program.
- Kingpins – An all-ability drumline, including students with special needs.
- Crystal Lake Thunder – WGI drumline in the Independent A Class.

Members of Crystal Lake Thunder are part of the Strikers organization. The mission of The Strikers is to provide the members with life changing experiences, educationally and socially, which help each individual member gain real-world life skills, leadership development, musical training, and performance experiences. Through the development of the character traits of dedication, discipline, and teamwork, each member of this group learns what is required to be successful on and off the performance stage. Participation in The Strikers instills confidence, quality of character, and a strong work ethic that is valuable throughout the participant’s life.

History of Crystal Lake Thunder

Thunder formed in the Fall of 2016 for the 2017 WGI competitive season. In their 3rd year Thunder was a WGI Finalist. The Covid years were a challenge, but 2022-2023 will be back to a full schedule.

Guidance for the Members

Crystal Lake Thunder is much more than drumming and percussion.

Your son or daughter is transitioning from childhood to adulthood. The Thunder staff and management know that the Indoor Drumline activity builds character, responsibility, and confidence, and that this participation will give your child many benefits in their growth into a strong adult. Our approach is one of high expectations, clear responsibilities, and positive guidance.

In the end, the students’ hard work pays off in a polished performance that the members are very proud of.

Member’s Handbook

Please see the Member’s Handbook, which has many important policies and procedures for performing members.

Health/Medical

Dr. Brenda Brak is the medical adviser for the Crystal Lake Thunder. She has an extensive network of healthcare professionals available to help with any issues that arise.

- All members will have a Pre-Participation Physical (Sports Physical) using the IHSA form and submit this to Dr. Brak for her review. All members (or their parents, and/or guardians) must inform the staff or Director of any relevant medical issues (both physical and psychological) which might have an impact on the individual’s ability to rehearse, perform, or interact with others.
- While with the group, members shall report any sudden injury or illness to the staff or Director immediately.
- On practice days (10a-9p) we will ask the members to bring a sack lunch. We will put together a schedule of parents to bring dinner.
- Water is always available at rehearsals, and the members are given many water breaks.
- During overnight stays, management ensures that the group has adequate sleep.

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- If your child has special dietary needs, let management know and we’ll do our best to accommodate them.

Volunteering

Parent participation is vital to our success and helps maintain a strong bond between parent and child. Without volunteers, we would not be able to provide this experience and education to our members. It is our belief that parents, older siblings and even grandparents can play an important role in this activity and we hope you will join us to learn first-hand what a remarkable experience these young people receive. Please volunteer!

Financial Responsibilities

1 -- Tuition

Members pay tuition in order to cover travel, uniforms, instructors, sticks and mallets, drum heads, etc. Parents are welcome to view the Thunder’s budget. Please contact Dale Hallerberg thunder@clstrikers.com.

For 2022-2023 Tuition will be \$1200 if paid by December 1.

An alternate payment plan is available as follows:

\$340 by December 1, . \$340 by January 1, \$340 by February 1, \$340 by March 1

There will be some out-of-pocket meal expenses when traveling, estimated at \$150 for the whole season.

2 -- Raue show program book fundraiser

Thunder will perform at the Raue Evening of Percussion, February 18th, 2023, 7p – 9p, at the Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N Williams Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

Each Thunder student will sell a minimum of \$100 of advertising for the program book.

Students can use the program book as a fundraiser to pay a portion of their tuition. After the \$100 minimum, every ad or well wisher will be credited 100% to the student’s tuition.

We have seen motivated students generate well over half of their tuition through the program book!

3 -- One meal provided for the group by each member

Each member will need to provide one meal for a rehearsal. This is usually done by the member’s parents cooking up dinner, or buying dinner. We will work with you on the schedule for your meal date.

Where Can You Find Information?

www.clstrikers.com/thunder/

Email thunder@clstrikers.com

Facebook -- Crystal Lake Thunder

Request to join the Facebook Group “Parents of Crystal Lake Thunder” on Facebook. It is intended to be a great place to ask questions, find out information, and make new friends.

Twitter & Instagram -- @clthunder

Contact Info:

Bryan Jamison - Director
bryan.jamison@clstrikers.com
630-550-9156

Dale Hallerberg
thunder@clstrikers.com
847-975-0563

Martin Elementary School
10920 Reed Rd.
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

Strikers Hall
54B Lou Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

What the Student Needs for Thunder Rehearsals:

Backpack
Music notebook with page protectors
Pencil
Practice pad for snares, quads
Sticks, stick tape, Mallets
Athletic rehearsal clothing and shoes
Sack lunch
Water bottle
Earplugs (mandatory for all)
Glasses (prescription), contact lenses & solution

Don't bring unnecessary valuables