



The "Highty-Tighties"  
History, Traditions,  
Organization, Missions, and Functions Manual



## **Cadets of Band Company,**

As your Commander, it is my intent to balance the many requirements of our multi-mission environment as Highy-Tighties while keeping academics as a first priority. This objective can be simplified into one phrase, “Scholars First, Highy-Tighties Always.” By practicing flexibility, professionalism and hard work, we can achieve this balance.

The compact living quarters in which we will soon find ourselves understandably will test our attitude and resilience. Prepare to adapt as needed...after all, **the only constant is change**. This semester will be what we make of it. I encourage you all to be positive about the evolution we will be experiencing. The Corps is growing and it is great! Most of all...Remember that this housing reorganization is only temporary.

Above all else, we are students at Virginia Tech. There are many University programs in place to ensure success. Utilize them. Finding balance between academics and the duties you hold in the Corps can be a challenge, especially as a Highy-Tighty. It is my vision, as your Commander, that every Band member finds this harmony and, as a result, flourishes personally. This individual symmetry will yield overall Band success. All band members should be willing to help any other cadet in selfless service as a sign of recognizing the true meaning of Brotherhood. At any point in time, a Bandsman, regardless of class or rank, should be comfortable to professionally approach another member about something that may be going on in his/her academic or personal life. New policies will be set forth to foster an environment in which academic achievement is truly the number one priority. Working with the mindset that we are “Scholars First,” Band Company will successfully achieve a minimum average semester GPA of 3.00.

While academics are a top focus, each Bandsman, is also committed to marching and playing with precision and excellence. It is essential to recognize the importance of the attitude and characteristics developed from one’s commitment as a Highy-Tighty. Strong performance will be achieved through diligence, grit and a positive attitude. Highy-Tighties STRIVE FOR PERFECTION in all that we do. As your Commander, I will always give my 100% effort and will expect the same in return. Through optimism and perseverance, we will embody the phrase, “Highy-Tighties Always.”

To excel in this dual role (Scholar & Highy-Tighty), there must be an added awareness of VTCC’s focus on leadership development. A critical component to this training is improving one’s professionalism. Through proper guidance and self-discipline, it is achievable. The expectation for professionalism, however, does not cease when out of uniform. Remember you are a leader in training wherever you go in whatever you are wearing. The opportunity to learn and develop these skills is a constant within the VTCC. Utilize your time and embrace the growth potential offered in the Corps and at Virginia Tech. Train to become the effective officer or civilian leader you envision yourself to be upon graduation. It does not happen magically when you are handed your diploma. Act like the professional leader that you aspire to be... NOW.

We hold the name Highy-Tighty as an honor and a privilege. No matter what the circumstance, we will strive to excel in every situation placed before us. We will exemplify the phrase “Scholars First, Highy-Tighties Always” in all that we do.

Deeds Not Words.

Very Respectfully,



Anthony Carella  
C/MAJ, VTCC  
Band Company Commander, Fall 2015

## Chapter I - The Cadet Band Company

### Section 1 - **Purpose**

The purpose of this publication is to describe the organization, missions, functions and heritage of the Virginia Tech Regimental Band, the musical element of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. This manual will serve as a source of information for entering cadets to enhance their integration into the Band, preserve Band history and traditions, establish common procedures, and set standards for Highty-Tighty performance.

### Section 2 - **Missions**

The Virginia Tech Regimental Band has the missions of:

- o Providing music for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets where and when music is required.
- o Serving the University with music as requested.
- o Representing the University and the Corps of Cadets throughout the nation as an example of the best in performing excellence among college military marching bands.
- o Providing an opportunity for Virginia Tech students with similar interests to enjoy the experiences of university life in a military college setting as part of a military band.

### Section 3 - **History, Traditions and Uniform Customs**

#### History

The Virginia Tech Regimental Band is heir to the military musical and marching traditions of the University. Established in the early years of the school, the Regimental Band has been the only marching band during most of its history. Authors of VPI history invariably acknowledge the Highty-Tighties as "the" Band of the University. The Band has varied in size over the years, but has generally had a strength of less than 150.

In his seminal work on the history of the Corps, The Bugle's Echo, Colonel Harry D. Temple details the early years of the Band. He meticulously traces the Band's history from its formation in 1893 as a separate unit within the Corps of Cadets until 1934 when his books on the history of the Corps of Cadets conclude.

Members of the Band wear a distinctive white citation cord on the left shoulder. The Guidon records that President Julian A. Burruss authorized the cord for Band members in the fall of 1935. The

white cord is now the permanent symbol of the Band. Annex 1 contains a summary of key events from Band Company history, including the inception of the white citation cord.

Throughout the Twentieth Century, the Band's reputation grew. There was time to play for all football games and travel to Presidential Inaugural Parades, World Fairs, and other national events. Donning the Blue and Gray, Colonel Temple's excellent volume on Virginia Tech Cadet uniforms, chronicles the changes in cadet and Band clothing over the years.

World War II stripped the Institute of much of its manpower. The Class of 1943, graduating in May 1943 and reporting for war duty within months, was the last class to publish a Bugle until 1948. In that Bugle, the Band section narrative states:

"The World has changed, the school year has changed, the Corps has changed form, but the Band has stood up as the oldest and most distinguished of organizations on the campus... Many Highty-Tighty men now take up the field to prove they can fight as well as they play".

Rebuilding cadet organizations following World War II took several years. During that period, there was no Bugle, so the best record of events is found in the works of Colonel Temple and others. By 1947, the Band had regained its former luster. The 1950's generated a strong breed of Highty-Tighties who are still making a great contribution to the Band and the University today. It was during this period that the Band gained national recognition by winning three consecutive Presidential Inaugural Parade first place trophies. No other Band has ever matched this accomplishment.

Then, in the early 1960's, the University responded to a wave of educational reform that was sweeping the nation. Most of the Land Grant Universities, including Virginia Tech, concluded that the mandatory two-year ROTC requirement for all able-bodied male freshmen was no longer supportable. The Corps became voluntary with the freshman class beginning in 1964. The reality of the military draft still hung over many, and enrollment in ROTC was the only sure way to finish undergraduate study and provide the cadet with an officer commission that could make a difference in a wartime military. So, for several more years, Corps and Band strength remained relatively high.

With the end of the draft and the Vietnam War, the impact of a voluntary Corps of Cadets started to manifest. In 1972, women were admitted to the Corps, as they were to the nation's military academies and most ROTC units. Within a year, women joined the Band. Total cadet and Band enrollment continued to decline, and Band alumni became concerned. Three alumni from the early 1920's, Lem Pritchard, Red Slemple, and Bill Goodloe, wanted to inform Highty Tighty alumni of the current condition of the band. They organized a meeting of previous commanders in order to discuss rising challenges and how to further gain support from alumni. In 1975, The Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. was formed to represent the Cadet Band and its alumni supporters in whatever capacity necessary. Charles Cornelison, HT '67, served as the first president of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. The Band continued to be "The Band" in the eyes of many alumni, even with the emergence in the 1970's of The Marching Virginians.

Band strength declined even more in the 1980's, but quality remained high. The Corps strength declined below 1000, then below 800. Recruiting efforts produced a resurgence in the early 1980's, but, then a pronounced decline set in. Traditional ways of training freshmen were reengineered in an effort to soften the challenging nature of cadet life and retain more cadets in the Corps.

By the late 1980's the Department of Defense reduced scholarship opportunities and slashed active duty service selections for ROTC cadets. The Highty-Tighties had to rely more heavily on recruiting to remain viable. Band strength fell into the 60's, but the Band continued to perform at home and away. The alumni effort intensified. Financial aid for an increasingly expensive college education at Virginia Tech became the cause for Band alumni support. Many issues, such as uniform equity, residence hall advisory compensation, instrument support, and others were resolved through personal diplomacy and direct support.

2007 brought heartbreak to the University as a whole, as well as the Highty-Tighties. In Norris Hall on the morning of April 16, Matthew Joseph La Porte, an HT '09, was attending his French Class. As gunfire was heard in the hallway, La Porte's professor instructed his class to get away from the door, but La Porte assisted in barricading the door to prevent the shooter from entering. The gunman

eventually made his way into the room and was faced with La Porte. La Porte used a nearby desk as a weapon and charged the assailant, sacrificing himself for his classmates. La Porte collapsed in front of the gunman with 7 gunshots in his chest. Soon after La Porte committed his act of bravery, the gunman turned the gun on himself. La Porte was a dedicated tenor drummer of the Highty Tighties, cadet in the AFROTC Detachment, and a member of AFSOPT. On April 9, 2015, The Air Force recognized his act of heroism, love, and Ut Prosim by posthumously honoring him with the Airman's Medal. La Porte's drum, gloves, mallets, and white cord are held on display in the Corps Museum today.

And so it is today. The Band and its alumni makes an extraordinary effort each year to recruit a freshman class to renew itself in the face of severe competition from academically conscious freshman classes, the opportunity for many freshman musicians in the popular show band, and the impact of attrition. Cadet Band leaders still preserve Band history, honor its heritage, and strive for excellence in the finest tradition of military college marching bands.

A summary of the history of the Regimental Band is provided at Annex 1.

## Directors

Band Directors, mostly volunteer or part-time employees of the University, endeared themselves in the hearts of their cadets. They suffered in the elements with the Band and spent countless hours on old buses and in poor accommodations. It wasn't until 1893 that a regular Cadet Band began to perform. James Patton Harvey became the Cadet Band's first director in May of that year. In 1898, Harvey, joined the cadet bandsmen who volunteered to serve Virginia and the Nation during the Spanish-American War, and he became the Chief Musician of the Second Virginia Volunteer Infantry Regimental Band. War service carried them to Florida but no further. Many living alumni have especially fond affection for two directors, Jim Schaeffer and Tom Dobyns, who have been memorialized by the alumni in the form of permanently endowed accounts which support the Band financially. The Jim Schaeffer Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to the outstanding sophomore in the Band.

Many of the Band's directors have held State Militia rank. Most directors wore some type of military uniform, ranging from the standard cadet uniform of the day to a double-breasted military style coat and trousers to a standard U.S. Army officer's uniform. Tom Dobyns wore a Cadet cape with his non-cadet director's uniform. Several directors wore civilian dress. The directors are listed here.

James Patton Harvey	1892-1898
Cadet Frank Clifton Carpenter	1898-1899 (interim director his senior year)
James Patton Harvey	1899-1905
Hugh Douglas McTier	1905-1910
Cadet Marsden Churchill Smith	1910-1911 (interim director his senior year)
James Patton Harvey	1911-1915
Henry Harris Hill	1913-1915 (see note below)
Peter Ubaldo Janutolo	1915-1916
James Solomon Schaeffer	1916-1921
William Luther Skaggs	1921-1927
Georg Albert. Johnson	1927-1937
James Solomon Schaeffer	1937-1951
Thomas M. Dobyns	1952-1970
Joseph G. Lamoureux	1970-1977
James Sochinski	1977-1980
Johnny Pherigo	1980-1981
Wallace C. Easter	1981-1992
George E. McNeill	1992-2015
James M. Bean	2015-Present

Note: Henry H. Hill, an Associate Chemist at the Agricultural Experiment Station, took over the duties of band director for James P. Harvey, when Harvey was stricken by a stroke in 1913. He served gratuitously so that Director Harvey could continue to receive his pay while disabled. Harvey retained

the official position of band director until his death in June 1915, while Henry Hill continued to serve unofficially in that role.

## Traditions

Tradition is defined as the passing down of elements of a culture from generation to generation, especially by oral communication. Also, tradition is a mode of thought or behavior followed by a people continuously from generation to generation, and a set of such customs and usages viewed as a coherent body of precedents influencing the present.

In the Virginia Tech Regimental Band, tradition is the hallmark of Band heritage. Teaching and practicing positive Band tradition helps keep new cadets enthusiastic and inspired, upperclassmen dedicated, and old grads proud.

Hightly-Tightly traditions may not always carry forward unchanged. Activities of earlier years do not always stand the test of time. It is the desire of the Hightly-Tightly Alumni that genuine, recognized traditions be practiced with a high degree of fidelity to their purposes. Since traditions reflect on the character and wisdom of the alumni, it is only proper that the Hightly-Tightly Alumni oversee and insure their continuity. The abuse or adulteration of honored traditions through excessive and harmful behavior diminishes their value to the Band, and can be a source of embarrassment to the Band Alumni.

The following Band Traditions have been established and preserved by the Hightly-Tightly Alumni for the current Band to follow. It is the responsibility of the serving Band Company Commander to correctly interpret these time-honored traditions, train the Band regarding them, and supervise their practice.

**Band Banquet** - After the Corps of Cadets Change of Command, the Hightly-Tighties hold a semi-formal dinner. At this banquet, the freshman class receives the Hightly-Tightly Certificate for successfully completing one full year in the Hightly-Tighties. The Band also recognizes any other members of the Band who has successfully completed that requirement. The members of the senior class receive their alumni pins, officially welcoming them into the Hightly-Tightly Alumni Organization.

**Band Company Picnic** - Occurs early in the fall semester, providing an opportunity to build on the family-oriented nature within the Band. This event generally includes a cookout followed by a football game pitting the upperclassmen against the freshmen.

**Bugler's Grommets** - Located at the top of the VT on Upper Quad. The freshmen buglers are responsible for shining the grommets on a regular basis.

**Charles O. Cornelison Senior Service Award** - Awarded annually at the Band Banquet by the junior class to the outstanding senior. Now named for Charles O. Cornelison, first President of the Hightly-Tightly Alumni, Inc., and the 1967 recipient, this award has been a tradition for many years.

**Class Spirit** - As old as the Corps itself, class spirit has been the most lasting positive product of the freshman class bonding process. Introduced early in the freshman year by seniors, the *Spirit of the Class* creates the close association between members of each class that serves them for a lifetime. The *Spirit of the Class* expects sincere loyalty to the class by each member. Class members help each other to accomplish legitimate tasks, offer encouragement and support, provide advice and constructive criticism, and collectively pull together for the good of the Band. Traditionally, the upper classes maintain a social distance from the freshman class. Fraternalization, or its perception, through compromising personal relationships between upperclassmen and freshmen, can erode the performance of cadet responsibilities and tarnish the unity of the class. Spirit activities, organized and conducted by classes, should satisfy some useful spirit raising purpose, and must always be supervised by the chain of command to qualify as a traditional event.

**Commander's Run** - A foot race between the freshman class and the Band Company Commander that usually occurs at a time chosen by the Commander.

**Cord Night** – Cord Night is a formal ceremony awarding the freshmen the white citation cord. It is held in the War Memorial Chapel and conducted by the seniors. The Commandant of Cadets and the present and past Presidents of the Highy-Tighty Alumni, Inc., as well as other alumni are invited to attend.

**Dyke** - Dating from the 1950's, this term is used to represent a close personal relationship established between a freshman and a junior for the purpose of mentoring and mutual support. In earlier years, the Dyke was a freshman selected by a junior to serve as dresser, driver, errand runner, and provisioner during the period up to and immediately after Ring Dance. The term has been disbanded since the establishment of the Mentor System. The relationship between junior mentor and first-year cadet protégé is personal yet professional. It is not a social relationship and the Mentor System is not intended to foster fraternization. Professional interaction is expected at all times. The upperclassman is serving as a coach.

**Eternal Band Practice** – This is the final motivational practice before a performance, often on Friday nights preceding home football games. In earlier years, such outdoor practices concluded at sunset, and ended with just enough time to get to the dining hall before closing. In recent years, these practices have occurred in the field house.

**Highy-Tighty Cheer** - As history has it, the Band was housed in Division E, the fifth (last on the right facing the building) stairwell of Lane Hall, (Old No. 1 Barracks). According to The Guidon, in 1919 a company yell was composed containing the catch phrase “Highy-Tighty!” in the first line. As time passed, and the Band continued to use the yell, the phrase was applied to the Band itself. There have been some variations to the wording over the years, but the Cheer is still a tradition. Custom dictates that only the Commander can begin the Cheer and generally does so after the successful completion of a public performance. The official words of the cheer are:

Highy-Tighty, We are mighty!  
Who the hell are we?  
Biff, Bam, I'll be damned!  
We're the Band, you see!

**Highy-Tighty Marching Style** - This strict military style of marching includes high mark time, 4-count turns, counter-marches, and those other characteristics of Highy-Tighty performance. It avoids the “show band” type of marching used by most civilian bands. This tradition is the performance style and is discussed elsewhere in this manual.

**Highy-Tighty Letter Sweater** - Wearing the Highy-Tighty letter sweater is a tradition granted by the University for those members completing four regular semesters of active participation in the Regimental Band. The sophomore class prepares the official list of its eligible members and places its sweater order with the Tailor Shop. The sweater is a wool cardigan of Chicago maroon with a burnt orange VT monogram on the left side. The “V” monogram is embroidered with the words HIGHTY TIGHTY and the cross bar of the “T” carries the embroidered class numeral. The Highy-Tighty sweater was first worn by the Class of 1950.

**Jim Schaeffer Memorial Scholarship Award** – Founded by Bert Kinzey, Highy-Tighty Class of 1968, in honor of James Solomon Schaeffer, who was the assistant band director and band director of the Highy-Tighties for almost all of his adult life, this award is presented each year at the Highy-Tighty Alumni General Meeting and Homecoming Banquet. It is awarded to the outstanding sophomore in the Regimental Band as selected by the leadership of the senior class.

**Pearl Harbor Classic** - While not always known in the past by this name, this is a football game between the sophomores and the freshmen which occurs on an annual basis on or near December 7. It is tradition and historical fact that the freshmen almost always lose this game.

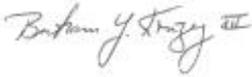
**Senior Gifts** - It is a tradition that the freshmen class presents the seniors with meaningful gifts at the Band Banquet. Usually the gifts are serious, but humorous gifts are also appropriate.

**Tuba Shining Parties** - Activities are conducted by the freshmen and supervised by the Performance NCO, where preparations are completed for the next performance. They occur the evening before each performance.

**The Show Off** - A significant display of marching prowess presented to the freshmen by the returning Band during New Cadet Week. Once the returning Band has demonstrated the Highty-Tighty performance style, the freshmen have the opportunity to interact with members of the band in order to learn about the different instruments.

**White Citation Cord** – For more than seventy-five years the white citation cord has been the defining symbol of the Highty-Tighties. It represents the traditions, heritage, and history of the Regimental Band and has been worn proudly by generations of Highty-Tighties. Unless actively participating in a position or in an organization that has another distinctive citation cord which is required by that position or organization, the white citation cord will be worn proudly at all times on the blue blouse or the paletot by members from the Highty-Tighties. Dismissal from the Band will result in the dismissed member being required to return his or her white citation cord. The white citation cord will be kept clean and tightly shrunk at all times, and the brass will be highly polished. The white citation cord will be attached to the blue blouse, braid facing out, with a polished brass button. Safety pins or other devices will not be used to attach the cords. Cords showing wear will immediately be replaced.

These traditions were adopted by the Highty Tighty Alumni, Inc. Board of Directors. Succeeding Company Commanders acknowledge these traditions.



Bertram Y. Kinzey III  
President,  
Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc.

James M. Bean  
Senior Chief Petty Officer, USN (Retired)  
Band Director



Anthony P. Carella  
Cadet Major  
Band Commander  
HT '16

Randal D. Fullhart  
Major General, USAF (Retired)  
Commandant, VTCC

#### Uniform Customs

The Band complies with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets uniform policy, as explained in The Guidon. However, there are certain essential “Band-peculiar” uniform customs.

1. The Band shines its brass, shoes, zits and nozzles. This occurs on a regular basis and not just before performances and formations.
2. Crossbelts are worn left over right, so that the breast plate lies on the top strap diagonally from the right shoulder to the left waist.
3. Windstraps on white and blue wheel covers are honor guarded regularly. The black loop on the windstrap is positioned directly against the buckle on the back of the windstrap and centered on the cover.

4. Pockets are sewn down on long and short sleeve gray shirts.

5. Gray Bag - The Band wears gray bag to all scheduled band practices, unless otherwise directed by the drum major.

6. Warm Bag - During cold football games when the Highty-Tighties perform, gray pants and overcoats are authorized with anything worn underneath. This uniform is to appear as if it were regulation and may only be worn with the permission of the Drum Major or Commander.

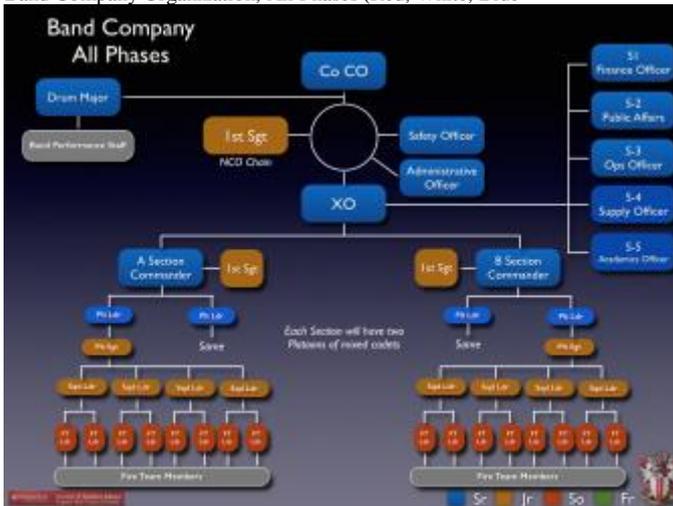
7. Any changes to Band uniforms must be passed up the chain of command to be approved by the Commandant of Cadets and the Highty Tightly Alumni, Inc. Board of Directors.

## Section 4

### Organization, Duties and Responsibilities

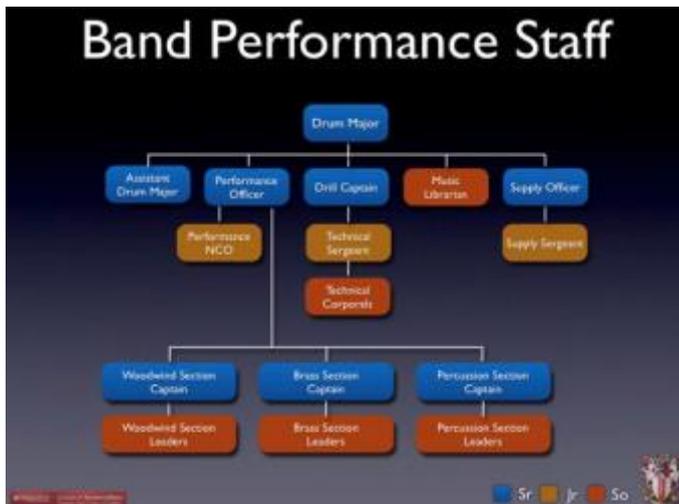
#### THE VIRGINIA TECH REGIMENTAL BAND

##### Band Company Organization, All Phases (Red, White, Blue)



##### Band Company Organization, Music Chain

# Band Performance Staff



## Company Duties and Responsibilities

### Band Company Commander

1. The Commander is the senior cadet officer in charge, regardless of the rank of other Band Company seniors. He is responsible for all personnel and activities of the Band. He ensures that morale and *Esprit de Corps* are maintained to a high degree.

2. The Commander's immediate superior is the Regimental Commander. He keeps the Regimental Commander and the Commandant informed of the Band's activities and commitments (formal and informal).

#### 3. The Commander:

- a. Commands the Cadet Band Company.
- b. Sets policy and ensures that it is implemented by the proper personnel.
- c. Delegates his authority to cadet officers and NCO's.
- d. Administers all punishment and may serve on the Cadet Executive Committee.
- e. Responsible for committing the Band to performances at any level. He, along with the Commandant, Deputy Commandant, and Band Director, is the point of contact for requests for Band services.
- f. Is responsible for maintaining contact with the company Advisor, and keeping him informed of the Band's activities, to include inviting him to those activities.
- g. Interprets this publication when questions arise.
- h. Decides whether or not to approve all requests, to include leaves.
- i. Serves and the Resident Advisor to all members of the Band, and is also required to comply with all of the duties of this office, as set forth

by University Housing.

j. Is the chief correspondent to the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. He keeps the Alumni informed on current Band activities and serves as an ex-officio member of the Highty-Tighty Alumni Board of Directors, where he reports on the status of Highty-Tighty traditions in his annual report to the Alumni.

4. The Commander is also responsible for maintaining Highty-Tighty Traditions and any Standard Operating Procedures for them. It is his duty to supervise the conduct of traditional activities whenever they occur, guaranteeing the fidelity of traditional practices.

#### Drum Major

1. The Drum Major:

- a. Establishes practice schedules for all performances.
- b. Publishes all schedules well in advance of the prescribed event.
- c. Working with the Performance Officer and the Director, is in charge of and supervises all practices.
- d. Works with the Performance Officer to select music for performances.
- e. Informs the Director of practice schedules.
- f. Leads or directs all performances. He coordinates with the Director for concert performances.
- g. Ensures proper representation from all sections for all performances.
- h. Ensures that all sections are prepared for each performance (i.e. knows music, in proper uniform, on time, etc.)
- i. As a senior leader in the band, similar to the Band and Section Commanders, is responsible to ensure that all members of the band are adhering to Corps professional standards of conduct at all times.

2. The Drum Major assists the Band Director in coordinating events between the Band and the Alumni Band for homecoming events.

#### Executive Officer

1. The Executive Officer supervises the staff.
2. The Executive Officer will represent the commander when he is absent.
3. The Executive Officer will ensure that all seniors maintain a level of excellence that provides good role models for the underclassmen.
4. The Executive Officer will be responsible for the alumni/freshman mentor program and coordinate with the alumni in overseeing the operation of the program.

#### Assistant Drum Major

1. Acts as assistant to the Drum Major

2. Leads the Band in the Drum Major's absence.
3. Aids the Drum Major in selection of the Performance Officer and Drill Captain.

#### Music Librarian

1. Reports to the Drum Major
2. Inventories and maintains music
3. Ensures music is available for practices and performances

#### Performance Officer

1. Aids the Drum Major in choosing section leaders.
2. Maintains a current roster of the band by section and performance.
3. Attends section leader meetings.
4. Informs the supply officer what music to distribute to bandmen.
5. Consults with the Director on new music to order.
6. Writes the field shows during football season and street drills for parades.
7. Posts drill and daily corrections on the Performance Board.
8. Sets daily objectives for each practice in coordination with the DM.
9. Writes the narration to accompany the show.
10. Coordinates with the Regimental S-3 and the Color Guard for pregame shows.
11. Coordinates with the Alumni Band Drum Major and the Marching Virginians.

#### Performance NCO

1. Assists the Performance Officer in preparing the Band for field shows and parades.
2. Carries out the orders of the Performance Officer and Drum Major in order to execute drill practice.
3. Able to set up if the Performance Officer is unavailable.

#### Drill Captain

1. Writes drill for each show.
2. Ensures everyone has the correct counts.
3. Makes sure that mistakes are fixed as quickly as possible so that drill is set NLT Wednesday.

#### Supply Officer

1. Issues instruments.
2. Maintains records of instruments and who has them.
3. Collects instruments following use.
4. Issues music that is to be performed.
5. Maintains files of music.
6. Issues any other property of the band such as paint and lime.
7. Secures the band storage key.
8. Secures all band supplies.
9. Obtains repair materials for band instruments.

#### Finance Officer

1. Processes vouchers through the Commandant's assistant.
2. Prepares the annual budget and defends it before the budget board.
3. Coordinates payment for miscellaneous functions of the band with the Commandant's executive assistant in advance of committing to the expenditure of funds.

#### Administrative Officer

1. Maintains records of all passes and leaves.
2. Ensures that reports are displayed properly and on time.
3. Reports all merits and demerits.
4. Maintains a presentable company area.

#### Public Affairs Officer

1. Provides the Band with the publicity and communication with Alumni and university.
2. Coordinates with press officials and newsmen regarding events at which the Band will be performing. (through proper VTCC Chain of Command.)
3. Maintains contact with President of the HT Alumni, Inc. and the HT Alumni newsletter editor about parades, activities, class letters to the Alumni newsletter and newsletter mailing.

#### Academics Officer

1. Reports to the Company XO.
2. Enforces academic policies of the VTCC within the company using the company chain of command.
3. Advise the Company Commander of any academic policies not being enforced within the company.

4. Manages the use of Academic Coaches during Red Phase and coordinates their activities with the CO, XO, and Cadre.
5. Implements and supervises an academic mentor program within the company.
6. Implements and supervises the Academic Support Initiative program.
7. Ensures the company understands the academics policy by briefing the commander, NCOs, and first-year cadets.
8. Advises the Company Commander of any changes to academic policies and implement his/her guidance.
9. Maintains accurate records of first-year cadets' academic performance.

#### Operations Officer

1. Makes arrangements for transportation and accommodations.
2. Coordinates with the finance officer for reservations.
3. Writes and publishes operations orders for any movement not covered by VTCC Operations Orders.
4. Coordinates and makes reservations for banquet.

#### Regimental Bugler

1. Reports to the Regimental S-1.
2. Performs bugle calls at all Regimental special formations and special functions.
3. Ensures first-year cadet buglers are properly trained; appoint "Bugler Daddies" to supervise first-year cadet bugler training.
4. Ensure each first-year cadet is qualified to become Bugler of the Guard. Supervises the "Pass-Off" performance for each bugler.
5. Coordinate with the Command Color Sergeant for formations.
6. Coordinate with university officials, and the appropriate Deputy Commandant, for special functions requiring buglers.
7. Ensure that all formations have a bugler present (as deemed necessary).

#### Company Clerk

1. Keeps company area looking professional.
2. Reviews reports typed by the freshmen to ensure that they are correct.
3. Ensures that all necessary forms are provided for the company.
4. Posts CDO and RO lists.

5. Publishes a new phone list whenever necessary. This includes a summer roster.
6. Assists the Band Commander in typing any correspondence.
7. Types, posts and distributes platoon and squad billeting lists when necessary.

## Section Organization

### Section Captain

1. Responsible to the Drum Major and Performance Officer.
2. Responsible for making sure that the section is ready for upcoming performances; including holding sectionals in coordination with the Drum Major; including uniform inspections and individual music competency checks before performances; all extra activities must be approved through the Drum Major.

### Section Leader

1. Is responsible to the Drum Major and Performance Officer.
2. Is responsible for making sure that the section is ready for upcoming performances. This may include holding sectionals in coordination with the Drum Major. This responsibility includes uniform inspections and individual music competency checks before performances. All extra activities of a section must be approved through the Drum Major.
3. Is responsible for personnel accountability during all performances. Absences should be reported to the Performance NCO. .

### Assistant Section Leader

1. Will aid the Section Leader in any way possible.
2. Is responsible for the section when the Section Leader cannot be present.
3. Will carry out all orders and policies as set forth by the chain of command.

### Technical Sergeant

1. Helps the Drill Captain to ensure that cadets have the correct counts for performances. Assists any of the Band Staff when asked for help at practices and performances.
2. Provides individual help to cadets struggling to grasp certain drill movements.

### Technical Corporals

1. Works under the supervision of the Technical Sergeant and Performance NCO to aid in corrections and learning of drill counts.
2. Provides individual help to cadets struggling to grasp certain drill movements.
3. Helps supply in setting up and breaking down for practices or performances.

## Section 5

### Training, Practice and Performance

The difference between the Highty-Tighties and any other military college band in the Nation is our high quality of performance in both music and marching. Neither comes without training and practice, and that takes valuable time. Cadet leaders are responsible for organizing time available for training and practice to achieve the high quality expected of the Highty-Tighties.

#### New Cadet Week

New cadets are introduced to the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets during New Cadet Week. It is during this week that these new cadets experience a surge of personal growth and development as they become members of the Corps.

During New Cadet Week, new Cadets create bonds of unity and camaraderie. They establish those bonds of friendship that last a lifetime. They learn that they must rely on each other, and that they are part of a team. Best of all, they come to understand that they are part of a close knit, a small college experience within a larger University. Band Cadre accept their new Cadets and begin the Highty-Tighty training program at this time.

#### Individual Highty-Tighty Drill

Individual members of the Highty-Tighties practice the following:

Dragging - This form of marching practice occurs inside the dormitories, where freshmen march at a 30-inch pace along designated tick-marks in the hallway. Pivot-steps will be executed when making any turns, unless freshmen are instructed to do four-count turns. This will last until the freshmen are recognized by the Corps of Cadets or until they have demonstrated their marching proficiency.

Marching - Moving at a position of attention using a 30-inch pace. Rolling the feet from heel to the toe in order to prevent bouncing, and when appropriate, executing a natural armswing.

Natural Armswing - While marching, swing the arms forward, nine inches from the front of the body and six inches to the rear of the body.

High Mark Time (HMT) - A mark time executed with the knees raised each step, to a level where the thigh is at least parallel to the ground. Upon raising each foot, the feet will transition from a horizontal to a vertical position, such that the toes on the raised foot are pointing directly at the ground. In transit, each foot will slide up the opposite leg to ensure that the feet exclusively more vertically and to avoid drifting.

Four Count Left Turn - A left face executed with four high mark time steps. The first count is the left high mark time step. In the second count, the body performs a left turn by placing the right foot down in the same place but turned to the left. The whole body turns at the same time. The third is the left high mark time step, and the left foot will come to rest next to the turned right foot. The fourth count is the right high mark time step, executed as normal. Natural armswing is maintained through count one and resumed on count four, but when the body turns on counts two and three, the arms will remained pinned to the side.

Four Count Right Turn - A right face executed with four high mark time steps. The first two counts are the left and right high mark time steps. On the third count, the body performs a right turn by placing the left foot down in the same place but turned to the right. The whole body turns at the same time. The fourth count is the right high mark time step, and the right foot will come to rest next to the turned left foot. Natural armswing is maintained through counts one and two, but when the body turns on counts three and four, the arms will remained pinned to the side. Resume natural armswing upon completion of the turn.

Four Count Turn To The Rear - An about face executed in four counts. The first two counts are the left and right high mark time steps. On the third count, the left foot is placed to the right of the

right foot, with the left leg in front. On count four, the body rotates 180° on the balls of the feet. Proper execution is indicated by the heels coming together at the end of the turn on count four without having to move the balls of the feet. Natural armswing is maintained through counts one and two, but when the body turns on counts three and four, the arms will remain pinned to the side. Resume natural armswing upon completion of the turn.

### Drum Major Commands

The Drum Major commands the Band while it is in formation on musical performance. Drum Major commands are issued using a series of mace, hand, and whistle commands in conjunction with vocal commands.

**Whistle Commands:** Whistle commands normally consist of a preparatory whistle and a whistle of execution. Preparatory whistles are of longer duration. The following are the current whistles of execution.

Execute - One whistle following any baton command of direction or performance is the command of execution for that baton command.

Attention - One long whistle followed by a short whistle brings the Band to attention.

Parade Rest - Three whistles call the Band to "Fall In", if at rest, or to "Come to Parade Rest" if at attention.

**Hand Commands:** The Drum Major directs the Band with hand signals as follows:

Instruments Up - Preparatory command: One of the Drum Major's arms is held parallel to the ground with the elbow bent and the fist inward over the chest. The voice command "Instruments!" is given and the hand is pumped in front of the body. On the command of execution, the Drum Major raises his forearm perpendicular to the ground, opens his hand, and gives the voice command "Up!".

Instruments Down (Stationary) - The Drum Major's arm signals are reversed from "Instruments up." The preparatory command is "Instruments" and the command of execution is "Down".

**Mace Commands:** The Drum Major uses the whistle and mace for the following commands:

Roll Off - Used to signal the band to play. The Drum Major will hold the mace by the end to one side at an angle. The Drum Major will then slowly swing the mace over their head while issuing a four-count long whistle, followed by two outward pumps of the mace, each accompanied by a shorter whistle. At the end of the second whistle, the drumline will begin a roll off to signal the band to play. The Drum Major may queue up to four songs for the band to play prior to step off, and each song is signaled by the orientation of the mace when the command is issued (ball up to the right/left, point up to the right/left).

Cut the Band - Used while the band is stationary and playing to instruct them to stop. The Drum Major will hold the mace by the tip vertically above their head. The Drum Major will then pump the mace outwards at an angle while sounding a long whistle with each pump. The Drum Major will then pump the mace three times vertically while sounding a short whistle with each pump. On the third whistle, the band will cut off.

Forward March - The mace is held in the Drum Major's right hand and is swung around four times. After the fourth swing, the bottom of the mace is pointed above the Drum Major's head in the forward direction and is jabbed skyward two times. At the end of the second jab, the band steps off in the forward direction. A long whistle accompanies the mace swing while short whistles accompany each mace jab. This command may also be used to start the band from a halt during a show, in which case the direction of step off may vary depending on the drill.

Cadence - The Drum Major will signal for a drum cadence while the band is moving forward by raising the mace vertically in the air. The lead snare drum will give the rest of the drumline a tempo

in a tap off and the drumline will begin to play after four counts. To end the cadence, the Drum Major will perform the same signal, and the lead snare will shout "Last Time!" signaling the rest of the drumline to stop playing after the current phrase.

**Instruments Down (Moving)** - The Drum major will hold the mace by the tip vertically above their head. On the preparatory count, the Drum Major will pump the mace vertically once while sounding a long whistle. On the command of execution, the Drum Major will lower the mace with a short whistle. After the whistle, the band will execute an instruments down in two counts.

**Halt** - An eight count command executed from a mark time. The mace is held horizontally above the Drum Major's head and lowered to approximately chest height over the first four counts. On count five the mace is raised above the Drum Major's head once more, and on count six the mace returns to chest height. Counts five and six are repeated in counts seven and eight. The whistle command which accompanies a halt is the same as forward march.

**Mark Time** - An eight count command executed from a forward march. The baton is held vertically at an arm's length to the Drum Major's right side and moved inward to chest width over the first four counts. On count five, the mace is held out at arm's length once more, and on count six the mace returns to chest width. Counts five and six are repeated in counts seven and eight. The whistle command which accompanies a halt is the same as forward march.

**Half Step** - Used to transition the band from a 30-inch pace to approximately a 15-inch pace. While marching forward, the drum major communicate to the lead trombone player to signal the band to a half step. The lead trombone player will issue the vocal command "Half Step, March!" and the band will begin to march half steps. This is typically done while the band is not playing. To leave a half step, the lead trombone player will issue the vocal command "Forward, March!"

**Legato Step** - To issue a legato step, the Drum Major will perform the same command as Cut the Band while moving. On the third short whistle, the band will switch from forward march to legato step. In legato step, each step forward takes two counts: on the first count, the each bandsman will snap their leg outward with their toe pointed towards the ground, and on the second count, each bandsman will roll their feet through the count. Additionally, the natural armswing is slowed to correspond with the slowed movement of the feet. To exit a legato step, the Drum Major will issue a forward march, mark time, or halt command.

**Column Turn** - While marching in a block formation, the Drum Major will hold an arm out in the direction of the upcoming turn with the palm of the hand facing forward. The Drum Major will shake their hand and sound a long whistle as the preparatory count. On the command of execution, the Drum Major will drop their hand to their side and sound a short whistle. On this command, the frontmost person on the inside of the turn will execute a pivot-step in the direction indicated by the Drum Major, and each subsequent person behind them will execute the same turn on the same spot on the ground as they reach it. The next column outward will perform the same movement two counts after the first, and this pattern will continue across the band. the resulting block resembles a parallelogram.

**Wheel Turn** - While marching in a block formation, the Drum Major will turn to face the band while marching backwards with the mace held horizontally at approximately gut height. On the preparatory count, the Drum Major will flick their wrists with the mace in hand, accompanied by a long whistle. The command of execution is a sort whistle followed by the drum major turning in an arc. The front rank will follow the Drum Major's path while staying in line side-to-side. Each subsequent rank will follow the path of the rank in front of it. To end the turn, the Drum Major will sound a second short whistle and turn around to march forward again.

**Cascade Turn** - To issue a cascade turn, the Drum Major will use the same command as roll off, except they will only ever hold the mace ball-up in the direction of the turn and on the second short whistle, the Drum Major will drag the mace down across their body. Following the second short whistle, the innermost column of the turn will begin to mark time, with each subsequent column outward marking time two counts after the preceding column. Once the outermost column has marked time for two counts, they will immediately perform a column turn in the direction indicated by the Drum Major, and each subsequent column inward will follow suit two counts after the preceding rank. upon completion of the turn, the resulting form will be the same as the original block.

Counter March - Execution of two consecutive two-count column right turns. The Drum Major will signal a countermarch by holding the mace upside down flush with the shoulder and performing a counter march of their own. To signal the band to follow, the Drum Major, now moving between the columns of the band, will hold their mace vertically at an arm's length in front of them and sound a short whistle. On the whistle, the front rank will perform two consecutive two-count column right turns and begin to move between the columns of the band. Each subsequent rank will perform the same motion two counts after the preceding rank.

Point Counter March - A counter march in which the center column executes a counter march, followed by the two columns to either side two counts later, continuing to the right and leftmost columns of the block. The resulting block resembles a wide chevron. The Drum Major command for a point countermarch is the same as a regular countermarch, except each of the Drum Major's column right turns are accompanied by a long whistle and when the short whistle is sounded, only the center rank moves immediately.

Inverted Point Counter March - A regular counter march called after a point counter march. The resulting block resembles a backwards chevron.

Close down - Following a column turn or a point countermarch while the band is in a non-rectangular block, the Drum major can return the band to a rectangular block formation by issuing one of three possible commands. The band will then execute the command issued starting with the leading column and cascading through the band as each subsequent column returns to their original positions in the block. The three types of close downs and their commands are:

- Mark Time close down: the Drum Major issues a mark time command
- Half Step: the Drum Major issues a **mark time** command, except instead of three vertical pumps and short whistles they will issue two vertical pumps and short whistles
- Legato: the Drum Major issues a legato step command

Close Interval - Used to transition the band from a two-pace side-to-side interval to a one-pace side-to-side interval. To execute, the Drum Major will hold the mace by the ends horizontally over their head and sound two whistles, one long and one short. On the short whistle, the Drum Major will move their hands according to the direction they want the band close towards:

- Close Interval Center: the Drum Major will move both hands from the ends of the mace to the center. The band will compress towards the center column.
- Close Interval Right: the Drum Major will move their hands to the right end of the mace. The band will compress to the rightmost column.
- Close Interval Left: the Drum Major will move their hands to the left end of the mace. The band will compress to the leftmost column.

Eyes Right/Left - Unlike a typical eyes right or eyes left, when the command is issued only the Drum Major, Highty Tightly Commander, and Highty Tightly Executive Officer will render a hand, saber, and guidon salute respectively. To issue an eyes right/left command, the Drum Major will hold the mace by the ball with their right hand at an angle such that the rest of the mace crosses their body while issuing the vocal command "Eyes!" On the command of execution, the Drum major will pull the mace to the other side of their body, grasp it in their left hand, and issue the vocal command "Right/Left!", at which point the Drum Major, Commander, and XO will present arms in that direction.

Eyes Front- Used to leave an eyes right/left command. The Drum Major will issue the vocal command "Ready, Front!" at which point the Drum Major, Commander, and XO will order arms.

## Music

The Highty-Tighties memorize all music. No music is carried in marching performances. The Drum Major and the Director share in the direction for musical performances, with the Director generally directing in stationary settings and the Drum Major directing on the march. Music practice sessions are the responsibility of the Commander and the chain-of-command. Each musician is

responsible for musical competence. The Director is a musical advisor and critic of music quality. He will advise the Commander and individual players on methods to improve the quality of music performance.

## Band Performance

The essence of the Highy-Tighties is excellence in performance. The combination of competence in individual drill, well executed drum major commands and effective marching and music practice results in a Band prepared to deliver a Highy-Tighty performance. This is the reason for all of the effort. Your uniform is spiffy. You know the music. You know the show. You fall in on command. The whistle blows and you step off into Highy-Tighty glory. It is OK to get chill bumps and a shiver down your spine. The performance now requires constant attention to those principles of dress and cover, diagonals, guide center, and correctly played music. You have a feeling that you are part of "The Machine", a group performing as one, delivering a perfect performance.

The University relies on the Highy-Tighties for representation with a style that transcends the ages, even in sub-zero weather. You're tough and resilient, able to perform under any circumstances. You carry the reputation of thousands of Highy-Tighty bandsmen who have preceded you. You are good, proud and committed...you are Highy-Tighty.

## Chapter II

### The Band Cadet - The Highy-Tighty

#### Section 1

##### What's in the Name?

A Highy-Tighty is the ultimate cadet, a supporter of the eight pylons, a guardian of tradition, a jack of all trades, and a scholar. A Highy-Tighty is an entertainer, believing in self sacrifice and practicing this attribute as a servant to the community, state and nation. A Highy-Tighty constantly strives for perfection and exudes the qualities of strength, responsibility, dedication, diligence, motivation and confidence. A Highy-Tighty always acts with respect to others ethically and with honor, acting as a gentleman or lady would act. Most importantly, a Highy-Tighty is a member of a family. The family always has and always will take care of its own.

#### Section 2

##### Cadet Rights, Privileges, and Responsibilities.

The Band Company is only as good as its Cadets. Each Cadet brings a contribution to add to the decades of the Highy-Tighty tradition of excellence. To be a Highy-Tighty often means performing irksome tasks and bearing weighty responsibilities. No Cadet can exalt in the fame without having borne a share of the burden. Likewise, the Company adds its luster to each Cadet. To have served at VPI as a Highy-Tighty gives each Cadet a right to claim a share in the unbroken honor and esteem of this Band. Never forget that the State of Virginia and much of the nation knows of the Highy-Tighties. Whenever you are in that uniform and in that Band, you are Virginia Tech and the Highy-Tighties. People everywhere will recognize you for that. **Do nothing to tarnish that hard-won reputation.**

##### The White Cord

The white citation cord is presented to each freshman at a ceremony. Wearing the white cord is a privilege that must be earned. It should be treated as if it is on loan until the cadet has earned the right to keep it permanently. In order to keep the cord permanently, an individual must be awarded the Highy-Tighty Certificate. (See also "White Citation Cord" in Highy-Tighty Traditions)

##### Highy-Tighty Certificate

The Highty-Tighty Certificate is awarded at the end of each academic year during the Band Banquet. The requirements for receiving the Highty-Tighty Certificate is that the individual must complete an academic year of active participation in the Band Company. For this purpose, an academic year is defined as the completion of the entire fall and next following spring semester, in that order. For example, a spring freshman or one who transfers into the company at any time after the white cord ceremony is not eligible to be awarded the certificate until the Band Banquet the following year. Each Cadet receiving the certificate and pin will have the privilege of calling himself/herself a Highty-Tighty and will also keep the white cord as long as the status of being a Highty-Tighty is not revoked due to disciplinary action prior to graduation.

Who is a Highty-Tighty?

The privilege of calling oneself a Highty-Tighty is reserved for those individuals who have fulfilled all of the requirements for and have been awarded the Highty-Tighty Certificate.

Highty-Tighty Letter Sweater

Wearing the Highty-Tighty Letter Sweater is a privilege granted by the University for those members completing four regular semesters of active participation in the Band Company. Each sophomore class is responsible for placing its sweater order with the Tailor Shop. The sophomore class designates one member to prepare the official list of its eligible members. The sweater is appropriate wear for any student and alumni event. Alumni requiring replacement sweaters can purchase them at the Tailor Shop.

Dues

Every person in Band Company is responsible for the payment of dues. There are no exceptions. If you are a member of the Corps of Cadets, and in the Band Company, you are responsible for paying dues.

### Chapter III - The Band Support Staff

#### Section 1

##### The Band Director

The Band Director is an employee of the University. His primary responsibility as Director of the Virginia Tech Regimental Band is to prepare the Band musically for upcoming performances.

His principal duties are:

1. Conducting the band during practices in order to improve the integrity of the music to be performed.
2. Acting as the liaison between the Highty-Tighties and the Music Department. This includes reserving practice rooms and acquiring concert instruments for concert performances.
3. Being available to cadets for musical help on an individual basis.
4. Providing advice to the Drum Major and Performance Officer concerning performance music.
5. Providing advice to the Drum Major about the Band's musical preparations relative to upcoming practice schedules.

His secondary responsibilities are:

1. To seek and, after consulting the Commander and Drum Major, follow up on possible performances. This includes applying for parades and making performance arrangements for any other possible performances.
2. Advising the Commander and Drum Major on proper military courtesies to be rendered at each performance.
3. Coordinating Highty-Tighty Alumni scholarships with the Alumni.

## Section 2

### The Band Company Alumni (The Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc.)

There are over 1,400 known living alumni of the Virginia Tech Regimental Band. Their alumni organization, The Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc., was founded in 1975 as a Virginia Non-Profit Organization to represent their interests and those of the Band. Requirements for membership are, generally, to have satisfied requirements for the Band Certificate and that the individual's class has graduated from the Corps of Cadets. Additionally, each individual must no longer be in the VTCC. Any cadet who earns the Highty-Tighty certificate but who is subsequently dismissed from the Band for disciplinary reasons loses his or her right to be a member of the Highty-Tighty Alumni. However, a person who was dismissed from the Band may file a written appeal for membership to the board of directors of the Highty-Tighty Alumni once all other requirements for membership in the HTA are met.

Highty-Tighty alumni form the Highty-Tighty Alumni Band each year at homecoming. The board of directors of the association highly encourages all Highty-Tighty alumni to participate in the Alumni Band, especially those who have earned the Highty-Tighty letter sweater. The sweater and the special Alumni Band cap are the traditional uniform for the Alumni Band. These are worn with a dress shirt or blouse, tie (for males), khaki slacks, and dark shoes. Only those who meet all requirements for membership in the Highty-Tighty Alumni organization may participate in the Alumni Band at Homecoming.

The Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. created a sizable endowment with the University for financial support to Band cadets. The alumni also support current needs of the Band in execution of its mission. The Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc. is the custodian of the traditions, standards, and values of the Highty-Tighties, embodies the legacy of the Band Company, and is dedicated to perpetuating the high standards and fame of the Highty-Tighties. It is their goal to insure that there will **always** be a Highty-Tighty Band at Virginia Tech.

Members of the Highty-Tighties should know and be able to recognize the leadership of the Highty-Tighty Alumni, Inc., specifically the current president of the organization and the President Emeritus, Charles Cornelison. Cadets should always courteously greet any Highty-Tighty alumni they recognize.

## Annex 1

### A Summary of Band Company History

#### The Hired Bands

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University was founded on October 1, 1872, as the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (V.A.M.C.) at Blacksburg, Virginia. As a land-grant college, military training was mandatory for all able-bodied male students, so the student body was organized as the Corps of Cadets. However, there was no band within the Corps. One snare drummer and one bass drummer played a cadence to which the Corp marched when in formation.

At the first commencement exercises in 1875, the Lynchburg Brass Band became the first of four civilian bands hired by the college to provide music for the Corps. However, they were so bad that the Commandant of Cadets, Brigadier General James Henry Lane, CSA, ordered them to stop the music. Because of their poor performance, businessmen in Blacksburg formed the nine-member Blacksburg

Cornet Band with Professor J. B. Weiss as director. V.A.M.C. hired the Blacksburg Cornet Band to play for cadet functions beginning in 1876. Two cadets played with this band.

A professor named Albert Lugar had formed several good bands including ones in Salem and New Castle, Virginia. In 1881, he was teaching music to young men in the Glade School neighborhood near Blacksburg. They formed a band called the Wabash Band, and they were hired by the college to play for the commencement exercises in 1881. They also played concerts on campus each evening.

Later in 1881, the Acting Commandant, James Clark asked professor Lugar to form a brass band in Blacksburg to provide music to support the Corps of Cadets during parades and reviews. Professor Lugar formed the Glade Cornet Band from Blacksburg townspeople, and Thomas F. Schaeffer became its director. The Glade Cornet Band consisted of ten pieces, and they had their own distinctive uniforms with GCB lettered on their hats. The cadets called them the "Goose Creek Boys." The Glade Cornet Band was hired by the college to support Corps functions until 1892.

### Formation of the Cadet Band

In the spring of 1892, a six-piece drum and bugle corps was created by the new Commandant, Colonel John Alexander Harman. One of its members, Cadet Frank Daniel Wilson, sought out cadets who could play musical instruments. Combining them with the existing members of the drum and bugle corps, he created an unofficial cadet band, but the lack of experienced professional leadership was evident. Nevertheless, Cadet Wilson worked tirelessly and finally convinced the, Colonel Harman to form a cadet band. In the fall of 1892, the cadet band was officially created, however it was not distinct unit of the Corps. Rather, the members were assigned to the various lettered companies of the regiment, and played together as a band only when music was required for Corps functions. The first director, James Patton Harvey, was appointed by the college in May 1893. With the creation of the cadet band, the Glade Cornet Band was no longer hired by the college, but it continued to play concerts in Blacksburg until it was disbanded in 1899.

In September 1893, Band Company was formed as a separate and distinct unit of the Corps of Cadet, and it has remained so ever since. Although cadets did play together as a band in 1892, the formation of Band Company in 1893 is officially recognized as the formation of what is today the Virginia Tech Regimental Band, the Highty-Tighties.

Included in the Cadet Band was Professor Ellison Adger Smyth, who played clarinet with the band. He also provided music instruction for the cadets and was given the honorary rank of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel in 1894. The first cadet commander was a junior, Cadet First Lieutenant Frank Daniel Wilson, who had worked so hard to see that the Cadet Band came into existence.

### Chronology of Band History

**1893** – The V.A.M.C. Cadet Band made its first performance away from Blacksburg at the International Naval Rendezvous in Norfolk and Hampton Roads, Virginia. On campus, they played for all Corps functions as well as football games. They also gave several concerts.

**1894** – The Cadet Band travelled to Richmond to participate in the unveiling of the Confederate Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument at Libby Hill. They provided the personal escort for Virginia's Governor Charles T. O'Ferrall.

**1896** – The Band returned to Richmond and took part in the laying of the cornerstone for the Jefferson Davis Monument. Again, they were selected to provide escort for Governor O'Ferrall.

**1896** – During the school year, the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College changed its name to Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the Band became officially known as the V.P.I. Regimental Band.

**1898** – Commandant of Cadets, First Lieutenant David Cary Shanks, Jr. (Colonel in the Virginia Militia) was called to active duty in support of the buildup of forces for the Spanish-American War. Once in

Richmond at Camp Lee and promoted to the rank of major, Shanks wrote to director James Patton Harvey asking him and the Cadet Band to become the Regimental Band of the Second Virginia Regiment. However, the Governor of Virginia had decreed that the Corps of Cadets at V.P.I. would not be allowed to be a part of Virginia's volunteers for the war. To get around this decree, Director Harvey and most of the members of the Cadet Band put their education on hold and resigned from V.P.I. They were joined by four alumni of the Cadet Band and five members of the Glade Cornet Band, and they became the Regimental Band of the Second Virginia Regiment as Major Shanks had requested. The few Band Company cadets that remained behind at V.P.I. were directed by Cadet First Sergeant Frank Clifton Carpenter, who was promoted to cadet captain. He was officially made the interim director by the college. As part of the Seventh Army Corps, the Second Virginia Regiment was sent to Camp Cuba Libre near Jacksonville, Florida, for training, and spent several months there. However, the war ended before they were sent to Cuba, so they did not get to see any action in combat. They returned to Blacksburg and V.P.I. and were mustered out of Army service in December 1898.

**1901** - The V.P.I. Cadet Band traveled to the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. While there, they played "The Thunderer" for the march's composer, John Phillip Sousa. The "March King" was impressed, and at a concert given by his band, he dedicated a performance of his march, "Hands Across the Sea," to the V.P.I. Band.

**1902** - The V.P.I. Band played traveled to the Charleston Exposition, to play for Teddy Roosevelt. During the parade, they played "Dixie" seventy-two consecutive times. The Band marched in front of Teddy Roosevelt who said, "There goes the Nation's strength." He also directed an aide to take motion pictures of the cadets as they passed in review.

**1904** - At the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, the V.P.I Regimental Band again spent time with John Philip Sousa who met each member of the Band personally.

**1905** – James Patton Harvey resigned as band director and was replaced by Hugh Douglas McTier.

**1910-1911** – Hugh D, McTier resigned as band director, and was replaced by Cadet Marsden Churchill Smith for the 1910-1911 session. In 1911, James P. Harvey again assumed the position of band director.

**1913**- James P. Harvey was stricken by a stroke and became unable to perform his duties as band director. Henry Harris Hill, an Associate Chemist with the Agricultural Experiment Station took over the position of band director, but allowed Harvey to keep the position officially and draw his pay while disabled. This arrangement remained in place until Harvey passed away in June 1915.

**1915** – Peter Ubaldo Jauntolo replaced James Patton Harvey as the permanent band director, but served for only one year.

**1916** – James Solomon Schaeffer, became the new band director. Jim Schaeffer was the son of Thomas F. Schaeffer, who had directed the Glade Cornet Band while it was hired by the college to play for Corps functions between 1881 and 1892. Jim Schaeffer had been a hired member of the Band between 1908 and 1912. In those early years, the college hired semi-professional musicians to be members of the Cadet Band to play with them and provide musical instruction, and Jim Schaeffer was one of them. After serving four years between 1912 and 1916 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery Band of the United States Army, the younger Schaeffer returned to the Regimental Band, and remained as director or assistant director for the rest of his life.

**1917** - The V.P.I. Band played in their first Presidential Inaugural Parade for President Woodrow Wilson in Washington, D.C. It was at this parade where the drum major, Cadet Harry Preston Humphries, had a strong gust of wind blow his baton from his grasp as he was transferring it from one hand to the other in preparation for a salute to President Wilson. He quickly retrieved the baton and gave a perfect salute to the Commander-In-Chief.

**1919** – The Cadet Band became known as the Highty-Tighties. The name was derived from a cheer commonly used throughout the Army. The Band modified the cheer for its own use, and with some relatively minor changes, it is still used today. (See Traditions Section)

**1921** – The size of the Highty-Tighties continued to grow and exceeded forty members as well as an additional twenty-six members in the Bugle Corps. V.P.I. decided it needed an older and more experienced band director, so William Luther Skaggs was hired for the position. Jim Schaeffer was retained as the assistant band director and instructor of music and would remain in those roles until he again became band director in 1937.

**1921** – The Highty-Tighties and the Corps of Cadets traveled to Richmond to participate in a parade honoring Field Marshal Foch of France who had been the commander of Allied forces during World War I. Although a story in the Band's folklore stated that the baton-dropping incident happened at this parade, it actually happened at the 1917 parade for President Wilson as described above. Further, noting to do with naming the Band the Highty-Tighties was associate with this parade as was claimed for several years in folklore. The name was originated as described in the 1919 entry above.

**1931** - The Highty-Tighty jazz band adopts the name "The Southern Colonels".

**1934** - The Highty-Tighties were the Presidential Honor Band for President Franklin D. Roosevelt in Salem, Virginia, during the dedication of the veterans hospital there.

**1935** – V.P.I. President, Julian Burruss present the Highty-Tighties with the white citation cord for meritorious service during the Spanish-American War as the Regimental Band for the U.S. Army's Second Virginia Regiment. President Burruss had been a member of the Corps of Cadets when the Band volunteered for this assignment.

**1937-1940** - The Southern Colonels traveled to Europe aboard the battleship USS NEW YORK, and played in night clubs throughout Germany and France.

**1953, 1957, 1961** - The Highty-Tighties won three consecutive Presidential Inaugural Parades, a feat never accomplished by any other band.

**1964** - The Highty-Tighties marched on national television as the opening band for the New York World's Fair.

**1965** - The Highty-Tighties march as "Retiring-Champions" in the Presidential Inaugural Parade. The parade was ruled non-competitive only days before the event, and it has remained so ever since. Many journalists remarked that the Highty-Tighties were the best band in the event.

**1969** - The Highty-Tighties marched in President Nixon's Inaugural Parade as "undefeated champions" and were presented with a new ribbon featuring three silver stars on a white field, representative of the three consecutive wins. Earlier Bands were awarded the white ribbon with a single star for a Presidential Inaugural Parade first place appearance.

**1970** - The Highty-Tighties again play for President Nixon, this time in Roanoke.

**1973** - The Highty-Tighties represented Virginia in President Nixon's 2d Inaugural Parade.

**1975** - Females became members of the Regimental Band for the first time.

**1977** – The Highty-Tighties marched in the Presidential Inaugural Parade for Jimmy Carter.

**1977, 1981, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2007** - The Highty-Tighties marched in Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in New York.

**1982** – The Highty-Tighties performed at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**1983** - The Highty-Tighties played Ruffles and Flourishes & "Hail to the Chief" for President Ronald Reagan at the Conservative Political Action Committee (PAC) in Washington, D.C.

**1988** - The Highty-Tighties marched in the Inaugural Parade for President Ronald Reagan as a marching unit without instruments rather than as a band.

**1988, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1999** - The Highty-Tighties marched in Macy's Christmas Parade in Atlanta, Georgia. This parade is now known as the Eggleston Children's Foundation Christmas Parade.

**1994, 1996, 2004, 2008** - The Regimental Band marched in the Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington, D.C., continuing a tradition that dates back for more than half a century.

**1995** – The Highty-Tighties marched in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade.

**1995** - The Highty-Tighties marched in the Gator Bowl parade.

**1997** - The Highty-Tighties represented Virginia in President Clinton's second Inaugural Parade.

**1997** - The Highty-Tighties marched as honor band in the Ft. Myers, Florida, Festival of Lights Parade.

**2001, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2014** – The Highty-Tighties marched in the Savannah St. Patricks Day Parade in Savannah, Georgia.

**2002, 2014**- The Highty-Tighties Marched in the Governor's Inaugural Parade in Richmond, Virginia.

**2002, 2012** – The Regimental Band traveled to Florida to perform at the Universal Studios in Orlando.

**2002, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2015** - The Band traveled to New Orleans to appear in the Mardi Gras Parade.

**2005** – The Highty-Tighties participated in their eleventh Presidential Inaugural Parade, playing for President George W. Bush.

**2006** – The Highty-Tighties participated in the inaugural parade for Virginia Governor Tim Kane.

**2009** – The Highty-Tighties marched at the inaugural celebration for Barack Obama in Washington, D. C.

**2008, 2009, 2012** – The Highty-Tighties marched in Martinsville Speedway for NASCAR.

**2015** – The Highty-Tighties participated in the International Tattoo in Norfolk, Virginia.

In addition to the parades enumerated above, the Highty-Tighties have participated in dozens of other parades including Apple Blossom Parades in Winchester, Virginia, Azalea Festivals in Norfolk, Virginia, and Wilmington, North Carolina, and St. Patrick's Day parades in Savannah, Georgia. In doing so, they have amassed more than one-hundred and fifty trophies for their excellence in marching. By 1970, the Highty-Tighties had won 129 first place trophies in 130 marching competitions, with only one second place. In the four decades since then, most parades had become non-competitive, but the Regimental Band has continued to display a level of marching precision not matched by any other bands.

## Annex 2

### Performance Symbology

These command abbreviations and direction listing are used by the Drill Captain in diagramming a performance and will be posted to illustrate shows. All Cadets are responsible for learning shows. In the sections below, a number sign indicates where a count number (i.e. for how many counts the move would be performed) would be seen in the symbol, while a <DIR> indicates where a direction command would be seen.

#### Command Abbreviations

F#	Forward March
MT#	Mark Time
HLT#	Halt
HLT END	Halt until the end of the song
4CT <DIR>	Four Count Turn
SL#	Step Left
SOR#	Step Over Right
CM#	Counter March
RM#	Rear March
ROB#	Right Oblique
LOB#	Left Oblique
LEG#	Legato Step
FTL#	Follow the Leader

#### Direction Commands

<u>        </u> PB	Towards the Press Box
SS	Towards the Student Section
HT	Towards the Highty Tights endzone
MV	Towards the Marching Virginians endzone

## Annex 3

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