



# Queen City Juvenile Pipes and Drums

Membership Program

# Band History

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- QCJPD was founded in 2015 by members of the Charlotte piping/drumming community with the following goals in mind:
  - Teach youth the great highland bagpipes and drums
  - Offer a safe environment, following a proven educational model
  - Build a band capable of competently performing and competing in the Southeast
  - Provide instruction, equipping, and outfitting at a reasonable cost
- The band has performed many times locally and competed in the Loch Norman, Greenville, and Scotland County Highland games
- The group has grown from just a handful of players to over 20 students

# Band Funding and Cost to Run

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- To date, the only cost to students has been a one-time \$120 fee for the introductory 10-week session. This covers:
  - Practice chanter, reed, and instruction book for pipers
  - Drumsticks/mallets, practice pad and book for drummers
- The following costs have been absorbed by a few performance fees, fund-raisers, and the lending of personal equipment, but mostly from monetary donations:
  - Quarterly insurance premiums covering the band members, instructors, and rehearsal hall
  - All members: Uniforms
  - Pipers: Bagpipes, reeds, and maintenance items
  - Drummers: Drums, drum heads, harnesses, and cases
  - Entrance fees and supplies for competitions, and incentive items (student store)
- The band is very fortunate to have the use of Myers Park Presbyterian Church at no charge for its rehearsals

# Detailed Costs

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## Uniforms

Kilt	\$22
Vest*	\$0
Sporran	\$15
Hose & flashes*	\$20
Tie	\$7
Glengarry & badge	\$40
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>

## Bagpipe

Chanter Reed	\$12
Bag Cover	\$32
Drone Cords	\$22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66</b>

## Snare Drums

Drum	\$700
Carrier	\$160
Case	\$33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$893</b>

## Tenor Drums

Drum	\$400
Carrier	\$25
Case	\$30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$455</b>

## Bass Drums

Drum	\$600
Carrier	\$250
Case	\$45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$895</b>

## Other Costs

- Insurance: \$240 per year
- Competition fees: ~\$175 per event
- Website, printing, advertising student incentive supplies: \$200 per year

# Keeping Costs Low

We try very hard to make this as affordable as possible, searching for lightly used equipment, best-deals, and common colors/tartans to keep costs down.

## Our Uniform

Kilt	\$22
Vest*	\$0
Sporran	\$15
Hose & flashes*	\$20
Tie	\$7
Glengarry & badge	\$40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$104</b>

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Kilt	\$300
Vest	\$45
Sporran	\$33
Hose & flashes	\$35
Tie	\$20
Glengarry & badge	\$55
<b>Total</b>	<b>488</b>

## Other Bands/Retail<sup>1</sup>

\*Currently hand made by a band family member

<sup>1</sup>Loch Norman, J. Higgins, common experience

This allows us to provide a uniform at no additional cost to the members. Some bands have uniform fees up to \$1,000 upon joining.

# Membership Fee -- Why?

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- After the 10-week introductory course, costs continue but student contributions cease
- The funds for uniforms, instruments, insurance, and competition fees typically end up coming out of the instructors' pockets
- All instructors are volunteers, and most have no students in the band
- Learning to play an instrument is an investment, not only in time and effort, but monetarily -- most private lessons average > \$25 for a 30 minute lesson
- Students that are financial invested (backed by their parents) in a program are more likely to practice, attend rehearsals, and actively participate

# About the Ongoing Membership Fee

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- Starts after the conclusion of a paid initial 10-week session
- \$20/month per student
- Families with multiple students are \$10/month after first student, capping at \$40
- Due at the start of each month
- First month free if yearly dues paid in advance
- Students will not be charged for any month the band is dormant

# Comparing the Fee to Other Youth Activities

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- AYSO: \$160 per season<sup>1</sup>
- Karate: \$45-105- per month<sup>2</sup>
- Gymnastics: \$150-300 per month<sup>3</sup>
- Music lessons: \$15-45 per 30 minute lesson<sup>4</sup>
- Scouting: \$25-40 per year, plus local dues, plus uniform and event fees<sup>5</sup>
  
- QCPD: \$20 per month, or \$200 per year when paid in advance typically (QCPD is typically dormant in December)

<sup>1</sup>AYSO website

<sup>2</sup>Costhelper.com

<sup>3</sup>USA Gymnastics

<sup>4</sup>takelessons.com

<sup>5</sup>Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts websites



# To continue and grow...

QCJPD must start collecting a Membership fee for all students

Beginning January, 2019, QCJPD will start collecting the membership fee for all students who have completed their initial 10-week sessions.

Please contact one of the instructors if this becomes a hardship; partial scholarships may be available.

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