

\*\*\*\*\*MARCHING UNIFORM INFORMATION\*\*\*\*\*

Your child was fitted for their marching uniform recently, and assigned a specific uniform. These uniforms can be taken home for hemming after the band's group picture.

The uniform pants have snaps inside the pant leg for the hem, HOWEVER, because the snaps do not always stay, we are requiring each child to have their marching pants hemmed/tacked themselves. You are welcome to ask another parent or have a professional hem them, but **THEY MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED!!!** Please read over all the instructions carefully.

It is important to make sure the pants, jacket and bag are all returned to the school hemmed/tacked and ready for marching season by Tuesday August 24, 2010. The first game is Friday August 27, 2010 and all pants must be hemmed.

If you do take your pants to a professional please make sure you take the attached instructions.

It is important that while you have the uniform at home, you buy your child KNEE LENGTH black-black socks. Please make sure the black on the socks are not faded and match the black in the pants. These socks can also be used during concert season. ALSO it is important that the socks are snug at the top so that they do not fall down the child's leg while marching. If you have any questions or have any problems, feel free to contact me any time.

THANKS

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## **HEMMING THE UNIFORM PANTS FOR THE MIGHTY MUSTANG BAND**

**\*\*\*NOTE: Pant lengths have already been approximately determined. Please follow the instructions below to double-check the length. Adjust as necessary and then follow the rest of the instructions for hemming.**

***Please read and follow instructions carefully and exactly!!!***

Each pant leg has snap adjustments located on both the inside and outside leg seams. The last two are male snaps which fold up to meet 1-12 female snaps. Use the male snaps to create a firm anchor at the hem's edge.

Have band members put on the bib pants with their band shoes on.

Before determining pant length, adjust the shoulder straps to achieve proper crotch position. Pants should not hang unreasonably low in the crotch area. These uniforms are designed to have the hem come as closely as possible to brushing the top of the shoes. Again, band members **MUST** have their band shoes on when being fitted.

Have the student stand straight, at attention, looking straight ahead. If the length needs to be adjusted, determine the correct length and snap both male snaps into the correct female snaps. Counting from the top snap down, "snap number" refers to the number of the first female snap used.

The correct length of the pants should be right at the top of the marching shoe when viewed from the front. There should be **NO BREAK** in the front of the pant leg.



Pants will appear to be too short from the side view. They will have a "high water" appearance.



After the hem length has been determined, the student should remove the pants without unsnapping the new hem length.

**DO NOT CUT ANY FABRIC when adjusting the hem!**

DEEP HEMS are acceptable. If the pants are still too long after using the last available snap, please contact

the Uniform Mom, Melissa Disiere (713-824-4164), for proper hemming instructions. In rare circumstances, you may have to have such a deep hem that only one snap can be used on each side. That will be acceptable. It will hold sufficiently once the hand-stitching is done to tack the hem in place.

### **TACKING THE HEM**

Use sturdy, doubled, **BLACK** thread ONLY.

Safety pins and tape are NOT acceptable.

Use of iron-on hem tape or hem adhesives is NOT allowed.

**DO NOT USE A SEWING MACHINE** as that would permanently damage the pants.

Hem stitching SHOULD NOT BE VISIBLE on the top side of the garment.

**YOU WILL NOT HEM ALL THE WAY AROUND EACH PANT LEG.** Each leg will be tacked down in two places. You will only tack the hem on the flat, opened out seam flaps where the snaps are. Using a hem stitch, stitch ONLY across the width of the opened seam flap from one side to the other. Please tie final stitch off securely. (You will have at least an inch – probably slightly more – to sew a very strong tacking.) AGAIN, please make sure the stitching does NOT show on the top side of the garment.

### **PRESSING THE HEM**

Once you have finished hemming the pants, the new hems will need to be pressed. **CAUTION!!!! AN IRON SHOULD NEVER TOUCH THE UNIFORM DIRECTLY, SO PLEASE USE A **PRESSING CLOTH OR RAG** OVER THE FABRIC.** If a hot iron directly touches the uniform, it will damage the fabric, causing it to take on a shiny appearance. We **DO NOT** want that!!!

Do **NOT** press with high heat and **DO NOT PRESS OVER THE SNAP AREA** as high heat will melt the snap imprint onto the outside of the garment!!!!

Once again, if you have any questions at all, please contact Melissa Disiere – 713-824-4164 (Cell); 281-993-1183 (Home). Email: [MBDisi@aol.com](mailto:MBDisi@aol.com) or [melissad@mdjwlaw.com](mailto:melissad@mdjwlaw.com)