



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS
WANDO HIGH SCHOOL UNIT SC-872



16 August 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR PARENTS OF WANDO HS AFJROTC CADETS

FROM: WHS TEAM SQUADRON COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: Introduction to Teams and Team Schedule for AFJROTC

1. Wando's Air Force JROTC program offers much more than just a class. As Cadets progress into the year, they will have the ability to explore the many opportunities with which this program can provide. One of the largest of these is participation in one of our teams. We currently have five teams under the Team Squadron. Cadets on teams attend practices after school, normally twice weekly, in order to learn and master the skills required to either compete against other schools, both on the local and national level, or to perform ceremonies in front of the school and the community. Our four competition teams are Drill Guard, Raider, Marksmanship, and Aeronautics. Our fifth team is the Honor Guard, which performs ceremonies as opposed to competing. Cadets are highly encouraged to join teams, and even vary which teams they are on throughout the year.

2. Drill Guard is a team which focuses on the perfection of military drill, marching, facing, etc. They do this competitively, both armed and unarmed, with the year culminating in Daytona Beach, Florida at the National High School Drill Team Championships, in which the best of our drill team goes up against the best from around the country. Drill cadets develop teamwork, discipline, ceremonial excellence, and a high degree of care and attention to detail to put into everything they do. Another part of Drill Guard is the Color Guard. In addition to competing, our Color Guard presents the American, State, and/or Air Force flags for events around the lowcountry, ranging from Wando football games to galas hosting Congressmen.

3. Raider Team is our physical fitness team. Cadets often join for one of two reasons, the first being to improve their physical fitness, the second is for competition. Raider competes at other schools locally, just like drill, but their competitions include Humvee pulls, rope bridges, and 5k

ruck runs. In addition to developing a high degree of physical fitness, Raider is among the most teamwork oriented teams.

4. Our Marksmanship teams competitively shoots Air Rifles. They attend competitions throughout the year and have the opportunity to qualify for the Civilian Marksmanship Program's AFJROTC regional competition in Anniston, Alabama each year. Although marksmanship alone is an inherently solo sport, the team has a very large focus on building community, support, and teamwork between members.

5. The fourth competition team is Aeronautics. Aeronautics, or just Aero, builds and flies rockets and drones, both recreationally and competitively. Cadets have the ability to qualify as a team for the annual American Rocketry Challenge, in which they compete to complete a mission against thousands of other amateur rocket builders from around the country. Aero also offers cadets the opportunity to utilize the units Flight Simulators, on which they can learn the fundamentals of aircraft flight, often supplementing what they may learn in AFJROTC classes.

6. Honor Guard is our fifth team. The focus of Honor Guard is to develop ceremonial perfection in cadets, working to develop the absolute best in them. Cadets learn about the American Flag and other symbols of our country. They hold and participate in ceremonies around the community to honor individuals, veterans, and the United States. Honor Guard cadets end up with discipline, integrity, teamwork, and an understanding of the importance of remembrance.

7. Teams are often the most popular AFJROTC activity, and the more cadets involved, the better. We in the Team Squadron want to promote the best in each team cadet so that they may become more successful in their team, their Flight, and their life as a whole. We encourage cadets to begin joining teams as soon as possible so that they can compete sooner. Team practices start the week of August 26 this year, and a weekly schedule is attached below. If you or your cadet have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Maj Farese or SMSgt Owen via email.

JACKSON H. POLLOCK, C/Maj, AFJROTC
Team Squadron Commander, Wando High School

Attachments:

1. Team Squadron Schedule 2024-2025

2024-2025 AFTER SCHOOL TEAM SCHEDULE

Monday:

Raider (1540 - 1730)

Drill Guard (1540 - 1730)

Tuesday:

Team Squadron Meeting (1540 - 1610)

Aeronautics (1615 - 1730)

Wednesday:

Raider (1540 - 1730)

Drill Guard (1540 - 1730)

Aeronautics (Flight Sim) (1540 - 1630)

Thursday:

Honor Guard (1540 - 1730)

Marksmanship (1540 - 1830)

Friday:

Raider (1540 - 1730)

Marksmanship (1540 - 1830)

Honor Guard (1540 - 1700)