

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR FIELD MUSIC SCHOOL

Fort McHenry NATIONAL MONUMENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE

Baltimore, MD
June 22-24, 2018

FIELD MUSIC STANDARDS

The following are standards for field musicians participating in The National Civil War Field Music School (NCWFMS). They have been developed by field musicians active in Civil War re-enacting and have been updated by the musical faculty of the NCWFMS. These standards can be used to help you determine your current level of performance and set goals for your future advancement as a field musician.

The concept of The National Civil War Field Music School is to help you improve your musical, as well as military, impression. Do not feel that if you cannot meet these standards you shouldn't attend. On the contrary, this is an ideal time to work with first-rate instructors who have proven themselves in the area of field music.

Students are also highly encouraged to seek instruction with a fife, drum or trumpet (bugle) instructor before attending the school.

Please be aware, the NCWFMS has recently began using the Nevins manual for duty music. We have posted all of the common camp duties at www.nationalcivilwarfieldmusicschool.com, along with a list of other music manuals and resources, many of which can be downloaded or purchased online.

If you have any questions, please contact me at nationalfms@gmail.com.

Now get practicing, and we'll see you in June!

Donald Hemnitz,
Music Director

FIFE

Beginner Level

Anyone who is not yet at the below-listed Novice Level

Novice Level

- Must be able to play all the notes on the fife correctly and perform major scales of G, D and A – two octaves
- Must be able to play five tunes that were used in the Civil War period (select from list of tunes below)
- Must be able to play the following Camp Duty Tunes (from any manual of the period including Nevins, Howe, Hart or Bruce and Emmett) to a level of proficiency which makes them recognizable to other fifers, officers, and troops:
 - Three Cheers
 - Slow Scotch
 - Three Camps

Intermediate Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e. almost without mistakes):

- Must be able to play 10 additional tunes from the period (select from list of tunes below)
- Must be able to recognizably play the following additional Camp Duty tunes (from any manual of the period including Nevins, Howe, Hart or Bruce and Emmett):
 - Breakfast Call (Peas Upon a Trencher)
 - Rogue's March
 - Two additional Reveille tunes
 - Adjutant's Call
 - Tattoo

Advanced Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e. without mistakes):

- Must be able to correctly play the remaining Camp Duty
- Must be able to play Funeral March No. 1 (Howe or Hart) and Merry Men from the Grave
- Must be able to correctly play the full Reveille
- Must be able to correctly play an additional 15 Civil War tunes (select from list of tunes below)

DRUM

Beginner Level

Anyone who is not yet at the below-listed Novice Level

Novice Level

- Must know the first 13 of the 26 Basic Rudiments open
- Must be able to perform fairly well, and up to speed:
 - 5 stroke rolls
 - 7 stroke rolls
 - flam, ruff, and paradiddle closed
- Must have a good understanding of tempo, and keep a steady beat
- Must be able to beat two different marching cadences
- Must be able to beat at least two of the Reveille tunes (from any manual of the period including Nevins, Howe, Hart, and Bruce and Emmett)
- Must be able to beat the following Duty drum beats to a level of proficiency which makes them recognizable other drummers, officers, and troops:
 - Drummers Call
 - The Assembly
 - The Long Roll

Intermediate Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e. almost without mistakes):

- Must know the remaining 13 of the 26 Basic Rudiments open
- Must be able to beat the first 13 Basic Rudiments and most of the remaining 13 closed
- Must be able to beat additional Duty Beats including:
 - Breakfast Call
 - Dinner Call
 - Adjutant's Call
 - Drill Call
 - All Officers' Call
- Must be able to beat the first part of the Reveille
- Must be able to play beats for at least 10 different tunes used in Civil War reenacting (from list below), including Army 2/4, Army 6/8, and other commonly used beats

Advanced Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e. without mistakes):

- Must be able to correctly beat the remaining Camp Duty Beats
- Must be able to correctly beat the full Reveille
- Must be able to correctly perform the beats for an additional 15 Civil War tunes

BUGLE

Beginner Level

Anyone who is not yet at the below-listed Novice Level

Novice Level

- Must be able to sound all five notes on the bugle correctly.
- Must be able to sound the following infantry bugle calls to a level of proficiency which makes the call recognizable by other buglers, officers, and troops:
 - Assembly of the Buglers
 - The Assembly
 - Forward
 - Halt
 - Commence Firing
 - Cease Firing
 - In Retreat March
 - Reveille
- Must be able to recognize and identify the following calls when heard:
 - Officers' Call
 - To Extinguish Lights
 - Taps
 - Tattoo
 - To The Color
 - Attention
 - Quick Time

Intermediate Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e., almost without mistakes):

- Must be able to sound the following infantry bugle calls almost without mistakes:
 - Officers Call
 - To Extinguish Lights
 - Taps
 - Tattoo
 - To The Color
 - March in Retreat
 - Quick Time
 - Deploy as Skirmishers
 - Fix Bayonet
 - Unfix Bayonet
 - Lie Down
 - Rise Up
 - By The Right Flank
 - By The Left
 - Flank
 - Rally By Four

- Must be able to use double-tonguing on calls requiring its use
- Must be able to recognize 50% of all of the remaining infantry bugle calls, and the following other branch calls:
 - In Battery (Artillery)
 - Commence Firing (Artillery)
 - Cease Firing (Artillery)
 - Assembly of the Buglers (Artillery/Cavalry)
 - The Assembly (Artillery/Cavalry)
 - The Charge (Cavalry)

Advanced Level

In addition to thoroughly mastering the requirements of the previous level (i.e. without mistakes

- Must be able to sound 80% of the remaining infantry bugle calls without mistake, and to instantly recognize the other 20% of those calls
- Must be able to sound the other branch calls listed in the previous level, and to be able to recognize at least 50% of the other branch calls
- Must be able to use triple-tonguing on calls requiring its use

TUNE LIST FOR FIFERS AND DRUMMERS

Below is a list of recommended tunes for Fifers and Drummers. Students are encouraged to learn tunes, arrangements, and settings that are appropriate to the time period of the Civil War. While there have been many post-war influences on fifing and drumming, the goal of the National Civil War Field Music School is to strive for an authentic representation of drill beats, calls, and music that would have been heard by the troops between 1861 and 1865.

Arkansas Traveler
Battle Hymn of the Republic
Bonnie Blue Flag
British Grenadiers
The Campbells are Coming
Carry Me Back To Ole Virginia
Colonel Robertson's Welcome
Dixie
Dog and Gun
Downfall of Paris
Empty Pockets Quickstep
Frog in the Well
The Garry Owen
The Girl I Left Behind Me (any version)
Hail Columbia
Hail to the Chief
H--- on the Wabash
House O'Duncan
Jefferson and Liberty
La Belle Catherine
Listen to the Mocking Bird
Minstrel Boy
My Lodging's on the Cold Ground
Old 1812
Old Dan Tucker
Oyster River
Poor Cato
Pop Goes the Weasel
Rakes of Mallow
Rally 'Round the Flag (Battle Cry of Freedom)
Road to Boston
Rory O'Moore
St. Patrick's Day in the Morning
The Star Spangled Banner (1850's version)
Tatter Jack
Three Cheers into The Red, White, & Blue
Wearing of the Green (Gray)
White Cockade
Yankee Doodle