



## THE 610 STOMPERS

### MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

Updated July 2024

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

On January 19, 2009, a brilliant idea was born. After a few meetings among friends and some brainstorming, the concept for the 610 Stompers emerged. With the help of its members, their Splits and a little luck, the Stompers became an integral part of the fabric of New Orleans. The 610 Stompers first performed publicly at the “Buddy D Parade” on January 31st, 2010. While leading the parade through the streets of New Orleans—from the Superdome down to the corner of Bourbon and Conti—the 610 Stompers were broadcast across America on major TV networks, such as ESPN. After the Saints defeated the Colts in Superbowl XLIV, the 610 Stompers performed in the Superbowl Parade, leading Coach Sean Payton’s float past over 800,000 Saints fans on a freezing cold February 9th evening, again being broadcasted across America. Since this incredible initial exposure, the 610 Stompers have grown both in numbers and in popularity. Initially, there were 44 men, and that number has grown to over 100. The 610 Stompers grew from performing in one Mardi Gras parade and a handful of charity functions in 2010 to performing in 4-6 Mardi Gras parades a year and numerous other functions such as Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Kentucky Derby Festival Pegasus Parade, and several professional sporting events halftime shows. Additionally, in 2014 the City of New Orleans proclaimed June 10th as “610 Stomper Day.” As more members have joined and new ideas have emerged, the original concept of the group has evolved. This evolution has created many new opportunities along with a number of growing pains. In order to help each 610 Stomper, Split, and Blue Jacket understand our group – and its requirements – the Board of Directors (“BOD”) has decided to create this “610 Stomper, Split, and Blue Jacket Membership Handbook” that will cover all the information needed to be a great member and to keep intact the reputation and integrity that this group has worked so hard to create.

## II. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

The 610 Stompers is committed to an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Our group is dedicated to doing our part to ensure that our influence is one that promotes equality and camaraderie within the community. Treating everyone we encounter with dignity and respect is foundational to this organization's core values. Each individual has the right to membership within this organization that promotes such respect and dignity. The 610 Stompers expect that all relationships among people within our organization will be free from explicit bias, prejudice, and harassment. The 610 Stompers will make every reasonable effort to ensure that all concerned are familiar with these policies and are aware that any complaint in violation of such policies will be investigated and resolved appropriately. It is the policy of the 610 Stompers to ensure equitable and fair treatment of all members regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or membership to any other historically marginalized or disenfranchised group. The 610 Stompers organization expressly prohibits any such discrimination or harassment.

### III. MEMBERSHIP

#### A. Active: \$250 (Rookie \$300)

- You are a dancing member, in full uniform, invited to all events.
- 1/2 of the Wednesday Night Practices (about 9). Note: Saturday practices do count towards your Wed. requirements.
- (2) Mobile Practices
- Attendance at Tryouts (1 day)
- Attendance at the Deb Ball
- (3) non parade events a year
- 1/2 the Mardi Gras Parades.
- In addition, your dance captains will be regularly evaluating your knowledge of the dance before you can participate in the event. If you don't know the dance – you will not dance.

#### B. Inactive: Free

- You were an active member of 610 for 2 or more years
- You do not dance
- You are allowed to come to practice, come to family days, be on our social media forums, and walk behind the truck during parades with jacket or casual shirt
- You do not get into our Stomper events free
- Stomper is allowed to return from inactive status upon written request or call, and approval from board
- If going inactive, please let us know

#### C. Splits: \$125 (Rooke \$175)

- Guard the stompers on the parade route and keep the crowd back from moving in on their formation.
- Active member with all privileges of an active stomper, minus dancing. Not all non-parade events will have room for splits, but when there is, you are welcome to go
- Expected to attend ½ the Mardi gras parades, (1) mobile practice, tryouts (1 day), and the Deb Ball

#### D. Blue Jackets: \$100

- Guard the stompers on the parade route and keep the crowd back, from moving in on their formation.
- Serve in other varying capacities: driving, DJing, vehicle and music equipment consultation.
- An active member with all privileges of an active stomper, minus dancing.

#### E. Stomper Abroad: \$250

- An active Stomper in good standing who has relocated out-of-state, but still wants to come and dance during the times you can
  - Must show the dance chairs that you know the dance BEFORE you come to the event! DO NOT JUST SHOW UP.
  - If you need to go abroad, please let the board know.
- F. Split and BJ Reserves: Free
- Were an active member of the stompers for two or more years
  - Only want to help out during Mardi Gras times, if we need an extra hand
  - Welcome at practices and social media forums
  - Will not get into Stomper events free
  - Allowed to return from inactive status upon written request or call, and approval from board
  - If you want to be considered for this list, please email the board at [director@610stompers.com](mailto:director@610stompers.com) - please don't just show up for a parade

#### IV. GOVERNANCE

A. Board of Directors: The Board of Directors (BOD) is the governing body of the 610 Stompers. The current Directors are as follows:

- Rebecca Treuting (President) [rtreuting@gmail.com](mailto:rtreuting@gmail.com)
- Matt Bovia (Vice President) [matthewbovia8@gmail.com](mailto:matthewbovia8@gmail.com)
- Dan Sullivan (Treasurer) [dpsulliv@gmail.com](mailto:dpsulliv@gmail.com)
- Allison Slatten (Secretary) [allison.slatten@gmail.com](mailto:allison.slatten@gmail.com)
- Eric Aufderhar, [eric.aufderhar@gmail.com](mailto:eric.aufderhar@gmail.com)
- Patrick Bowden, [pbowden790@gmail.com](mailto:pbowden790@gmail.com)
- Paul Cusimano, [pcusimano@gmail.com](mailto:pcusimano@gmail.com)
- Kiley Martin, [kileymartin314@gmail.com](mailto:kileymartin314@gmail.com)
- Jon Tenholder, [tenhold@gmail.com](mailto:tenhold@gmail.com)

B. Committees

- Debutante Ball
- Ball Crawl
- Tryouts
- Marketing/Social Media
- Stompers Give Back
- Diversity & Inclusion (“610 Collective”)
- Dance
- New Member Onboarding
- Uniform
- Sponsorships
- Mardi Gras/ Parading
- Discipline
- 610 Member Only Events
- 610 Truck Krewe
- Other (events come and go, ex. = Calendar Release, Holiday Spectacular)
- Security

C. Events

- At each BOD meeting, events are chosen using the following criteria:
  - Will it be fun?
  - Does it further our mission? Do we dance?
  - Will it interfere with the current schedule?
  - Is it feasible, i.e., will enough Stompers show up?
  - Is it an appropriate event for the 610 Stompers to attend?
  - Is it being requested by a Stomper and/or Split?
  - Case-by-case consideration will be given to “time sensitive” events and events that have a limited number of spots.

- Event Posting
  - Generally, the date of each event will be posted on the 610 Stomper member Google calendar and emails within 4 days of the BOD approving the event or at least two weeks prior to the event.
  - On occasion, time will not allow for this but, every effort will be made to give adequate notice.
  - Signup for events will be posted on the 610 Stomper private website
- 610 Stomper App: Events and other information will also be available via the new 610 Stomper App.
  - Android users go to play store- search for SixTenMember - install the app.
  - iPhone users contact kevinmonahan@610stompers.com, and request a link to download the app.

## V. UNIFORMS

### A. Stompers

1. A great deal of thought has gone into the 610 Stomper uniform. It is the main symbol of our group and a source of pride for all members. Please treat it with respect.
2. Winter Uniform
  - Jacket: Red nylon jacket with embroidered logo on back. Your 610 Stomper-approved name is embroidered on left chest (right for Year 7, apparently) no higher than 2” above 2nd snap and no lower than 2” below 2nd snap. Yearly mustaches are sewn on right outer sleeve approximately 2” below the bend of the shoulder. Place the earliest year patch on top, with following years below in order. Bottom two buttons always buttoned.
  - Shirt: White tank top with logo on front. Shirt is always worn tucked in shorts.
  - Shorts: Sky blue shorts approved for each year.
  - Headband: Plain white.
  - Socks: Supplied knee-high tube socks with a thick red line between two thinner blue lines.
  - Shoes: Tennis/running shoes that are spray-painted with approved spray paint.
  - Spray Paint: Rustoleum Specialty Metallic “Metallic Brass” spray paint.
3. Summer Uniform
  - Shirt: Baseball style jersey with red sleeves, logo on front and “610” on back. Always worn tucked in shorts.

- Shorts: Sky blue shorts approved for each year.
- Headband: Plain red.
- Wristbands: Plain red. There are no white wristbands, so don't fall for it, Rookies.
- Socks: Knee-high tube socks with a thick red line between two thinner blue lines.
- Shoes: Tennis/running shoes that are spray-painted with approved spray paint.
- Spray Paint: Rustoleum Specialty Metallic "Metallic Brass" spray paint.

## B. SPLITS

### 1. Winter:

- White & Red Split Jacket - provided by 610 Stompers in Rookie year;
- Blue Split shirt with "security" emblem provided by 610 Stompers every year of membership;
- Pair of Blue Leg warmers - provided by 610 Stompers every year of membership;
- White & Gold Visor - provided by 610 Stompers in Rookie year;
- Split security Badge - provided by 610 Stompers in Rookie year;
- White "tennis"/"golf" skirt or White Shorts - provided by member; the skirts can have pleats or they can be plain,
- Shorts should be all white, except for brand logo, no patterns
- Pair of Red Tennis shoes - provided by member; may have white or blue stripe/logo, but nothing else;
- Tights/ Stockings - provided by member; should be from Body Wrappers Women's Ultimate Shimmer Footed Tights (Toast).

### 2. Summer:

- Blue Split shirt provided by 610 Stompers every year of membership
- Pair of white ankle socks - provided by member;
- White & Gold Visor - provided by 610 Stompers in Rookie year;
- Split security Badge - provided by 610 Stompers in Rookie year;
- White "tennis"/"golf" skirt or White Shorts - provided by member; the skirts can have pleats or they can be plain
- Shorts should be all white, except for brand logo, no patterns. During summer, plain white capri pants are also acceptable;

- Pair of Red Tennis shoes - provided by member; may have white or blue stripe/logo, but nothing else.
3. Jacket Embroidery: Only seasoned splits may get their name embroidered on the jackets. New splits do not get to pick their name; it will be given to you at the end of the year along with your jacket patch. Names go on the front left side (over the heart) of the jacket. Please use red or gold thread. Use any size and style font that you wish. The patch goes below your embroidered name.
- C. Blue Jackets
1. Winter: BJ's wear casual pants with any stomper casual shirt with Blue – BJ jacket, gold shoes
  2. Summer: BJ's wear any casual shorts with Stomper summer shirt with Gold shoes
- D. Uniform Usage and Care
- When wearing the uniform, you are representing the entire group. Please act accordingly.
  - The uniform is always worn in its entirety. Individual items should never be worn unless instructed by the BOD or member leading the event.
  - No part of the uniform is ever to be loaned out.
  - Nothing is to be embroidered/ironed-on or permanently affixed to the jacket, other than what's given out by the group.
  - Only pins received from events performed during the current year are allowed on jackets or uniforms.
  - It is the responsibility of each 610 Stomper to upkeep his uniform. Any rips, tears, holes, or areas that start separating are to be repaired by the wearer. If repairs cannot be made, the wearer is required to purchase a new jacket and turn in his old jacket. If uniform is not presentable, the wearer may not be able to perform at events.
  - Please arrive at events with a clean uniform and spray-painted shoes. We want to minimize spraying shoes at events whenever possible.

## VI. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS (Active Stomper)

### A. Active Stomper Requirements

1. Any active Stomper is welcome to participate in as many events as he would like as long as he meets the minimum requirements. Starting July 1st, the beginning of the 610 Stompers fiscal year, each Stomper is responsible for completing the following minimum requirements to maintain active dancing membership:

- Attend three (3) non-parade events throughout the year not including practices, Mardi Gras parades, and Stomper sponsored events including but not limited to the Deb Ball, the Ball Crawl, Tryouts, and Family Day.
- Attend and participate in 50% of all stationary practices, and 50% of all mobile practices. Practice schedules will be posted in advance so Stompers can properly schedule their time.
- During the Mardi Gras Season, each Stomper is required to attend and participate in at least 50% of all parades. Typically, the 610 Stompers will perform between 4 and 6 parades during the Mardi Gras Season. Parade schedules will be posted in advance. (In the case of an uneven #, round up)
- Attend all Stomper-sponsored events such as the Deb Ball, the Ball Crawl, and Try Outs, unless you've submitted a written note to the board letting them know ahead of time why you cannot attend.
- **Failure to fulfill these requirements without making prior arrangements with the BOD may result in being asked to become inactive or leave the 610 Stompers.**
  - If, as an active Stomper, you are having difficulty meeting these requirements, please contact a member of the BOD, and the matter can be discussed further. All cases will be considered on an individual basis.

#### B. Active Split Requirements

- Must be a female over the age of 21
- Must participate – that is, march in - at least 50% of the Mardi Gras parades the Stompers dance in
- Splits are encouraged to volunteer to help on at least one committee, during the year, for a Stomper sponsored event. (Tryouts, Debutante Ball, Ball Crawl, etc....);
- Must be able to attend both the Debutante Ball in the winter or the Ball Crawl in the summer.
- You must have the recommendation of a current 610 Stomper or Split. Each 610 member may only recommend one person.

#### C. Member Dues – See membership level costs in section III

- Payment is typically due in August.
- Dues can be paid in the following way:

- o Venmo (@Stomperdues)
- o Zelle ([director@610stompers.com](mailto:director@610stompers.com))
- o Checks made out to “610 Stompers, Inc.” and mailed to our mailing address, P.O. Box 1361, Metairie, LA 70004. If sending a check by USPS, make sure your grandson’s birthday card also gets sent out too.
- We do not want dues to be a barrier for membership participation. If you need assistance or need to make special arrangements for dues payments, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the BOD.

#### D. Behavior

- The 610 Stompers maintain a set of standing rules consistent with the purposes and goals of the Organization. These standing rules reflect each member’s recognition and acknowledgement that when we appear in public and identify ourselves as members of this organization, we are bound to represent the organization and our fellow members by our words and actions and that we agree to conduct ourselves in such a manner as not to bring discredit upon the Stompers or any of its members.

##### 1. Parades

- o During parades, the group that is dancing should always remain in formation unless otherwise directed. While dancing, 610 Stompers should not throw or receive any items as this may disrupt the formation.
- o Everyone will know people along the route; however, if you are in the dancing formation, respect the group and stay in formation. Your friends and family came to see your dance, not talk. If you know someone is coming up along the route, feel free to take the rotation off and meet them behind the truck.

##### 2. Events

- o Terms and conditions of each event will vary. Emails will be sent out informing the group of uniforms, perks, Splits, Blue Jackets, and 305 participation, and other important details. Please remember not to overindulge on any perk, be it food, beverage, gifts, bringing extra guests, etc. Always present yourself in a way that represents the group in a positive light.
  - a. Security a.k.a. Blue Jackets: Our Blue Jackets are responsible for making sure

events go well and have been given authority to make decisions in the best interest of the 610 Stompers. During any event, if anyone from the Blue Jackets, the BOD, or event chair gives you instructions, please follow these instructions.

b. General Conduct Policy: As ambassadors to New Orleans and as “pillars of our fine community,” there is an expectation that all Stompers engage themselves in an elevated manner, whether in uniform or out of uniform. At all times, members should engage in conduct within the standards of the Stomper organization. Examples of conduct that may result in suspension or termination of the organization include:

- Abusive or harmful language directed at a Stomper, Split, Blue Jacket, or member of the public;
- Threatening or enacting physical violence against a Stomper, Split, Blue Jacket, or member of the public;
- Sexual harassment of a Stomper, Split, Blue Jacket, or member of the public;
- Initiating or contributing to active litigation against the 610 Stompers organization as a party, as a representative, or in any other capacity;
- Engaging in criminal or illegal activity;
- Defrauding the 610 Stomper organization;
- Violation of the Stomper Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy;
- Egregious or persistent violation of Stomper Online and Social Media Policy;
- Any other conduct that is deemed unbecoming of a 610 Stomper.

*\*\*\*Any violations of the Stompers’ General Conduct Policy will be reviewed by the BOD and the Discipline Committee. Any disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion from the organization, will be determined on a case-by-case basis.*

#### E. Discipline

- The 610 Stompers have a “three-strike policy” for violations of code of conduct. A third infraction of the Stompers’ code of conduct will result in the member being asked to leave the organization.

- However, the BOD reserves the right to ask a member to leave the organization if a single violation is deemed particularly egregious, flagrant, or offensive.

F. Online and Social Media Policy:

- Members will not post or share nudity or obscene images or use profanity in any social media.
- Members are not to engage in or attempt to initiate religious or political debates and should generally refrain from posting any material that might be viewed as offensive by the public, whether on religious, political or other grounds.
- We will likewise refrain from posting anti-New Orleans comments or material. The 610 Stompers are both role models and ambassadors and are expected to keep these thoughts in mind when using social media.
- Members in the uniform of the Stompers, in real life and online, represent our entire organization. When in doubt, err on the side of caution.
- Any member who sees something on social media posted by another member that they believe is inappropriate should report the same to a member of the BOD.
- Any member who feels the need to engage in any type of activity prohibited under this policy in their social media posts must remove any and all indications that he or she is a member of our organization. By way of illustration, use of the term “works at 610 Stompers”, use of Stomper nicknames, photos of members in uniform in their profile picture or on their pages or photo albums are all examples of ways that members identify themselves as such on social media. If any of these are used by a member, this social media policy must be followed.
- The BOD may request that any social media posts that are in violation of our social media policy or that are contrary to our policy of inclusion and non-discrimination be deleted from a Stomper’s social media page.
- A Stomper who refuses to comply with such a request may be asked to leave the organization.
- A Stomper who violates the social media policy in either an egregious or a persistent manner may be asked to leave the organization.

G. Logo: The 610 Stomper logo is a registered trademark and is never to be used without direct approval from the BOD.



## **610 STOMPER FIGHT SONG**

(music and lyrics by Ted "Erratica" Dunaway and Alan Menken)

We are the 610 Men, and we march in unity

We're proud to be the pillars of our fine community

For ordinary men we dance extraordinarily

We're the 610 Men, and we march in unity

We dance along the avenues of every crowded street

And encourage every passerby to get up on their feet

And follow the 610 stompers on to victory

We dance with all our hearts and give it all to charity

Give me a six...(SIX).

Give me a ten...(TEN)

We're men 610 and we march in unity