The following is a list of sounds we will be using in this year's battery ensemble. Please refer to the Cymbal Technique Legend for music notation.

**Crashes** – full body sound by creating a flam on the edge of the cymbal then on the face of the cymbal. Both high and low hold variations.

**Hi-Hats** – cymbals edges are pressed against body, arms off the body, press front of cymbals together to create a nice “chick” sound like hi-hats on a drumset

**Taps** – tapping the edge of one cymbal with the other

**Zings** – scraping outward along the inside of the bow of one cymbal with the edge of the other

**Clicks** – a tap while cymbals are resting against the body under the arms

**Dings** – a tap, but this time against the inside bell

**Sucks** – a vacuum effect achieved by placing the cymbals directly against each other vertically (but with one cymbal slightly higher than the other) and then aggressively bringing the cymbals in alignment with one another, causing the vacuum effect to occur

**Sizzles** – bringing the cymbals together, but with a gentler force causing a sustained “sizzle” to sound

**Sizz-Sucks** (fusions) – a sizzle followed by a suck

**Crunches** – slamming the cymbals together from a distance for a forceful hi-hat sound.

In combination with familiarizing yourself with these sounds, make sure to take care of your physical conditioning. Playing cymbals in a marching unit is quite a physical task and you need to carry the cymbals with ease. This packet also includes some strength building exercises for marching cymbals.

Cymbals are much like our marching bass drum unit and require a solid foundation in timing. You should be prepared to play both in a duple and triple meter. You should be able to clap on your hands through all your parts and rhythms.

This is a general guideline to our technique. Laying out a technique guideline on paper is sketchy at best due to the many interpretations each individual player will have of the information given. So use this as a guide and strap on your helmet for the season!