



# Ophir Prison Marching Kazoo Band & Temperance Society, LMTD.

## New Member Policy

The OPMKB&TSL is always looking for guys who are crazy enough to want to be a part of our organization. However, there are a few “rules” to start with.

1. You have to be a guy (sorry Ladies; we LOVE you but Ophir is mandated by charter as a Men’s Prison).
2. You have to be a guy who can drink beer (or at least, doesn’t mind getting caught up with a bunch who do).
3. You have to be legitimately able to play an instrument\*.
4. There has to be an opening in your section (we have an upper limit on the size of each different section in the band)<sup>†</sup>. If your section is currently full, we’d love to take your contact information and will be happy to get back to you if an opening becomes available; however, due to shortage of cell space at the Prison we can’t accept more inmates than what is specified by section limits.
5. You have to be interested (and available) enough to participate regularly. We typically rehearse once or twice a month on Sunday evenings, at varying locations in the general vicinity of Ophir (which, in turn, is in the general vicinity of Sacramento, California), and typically play 10-12 gigs a year.

If you’re interested in becoming an Inmate, contact us to see if there is an opening in your section. We invite prospective members to become a “Probationary Inmate”, issue them a music folder in return for a \$25 deposit, and invite them to participate in rehearsals and selected gigs for a 6-month period. We provide uniform shirts for Probationary Inmates at all gigs.

At the end of 6 months, we invite Probationary Inmates to play an audition (consisting of several commonly-played Ophir tunes) for a small group consisting of at least Rufus, the section leader, our music directors, and possibly others. Following this, we make a decision as to whether we want to invite the Inmate to be a permanent member. If not, we will return their \$25 deposit when they return their music folder to us. If so, we will apply their \$25 deposit toward a one-time \$50 membership fee, and issue them a uniform shirt of their own.

That’s the policy in a nutshell. If you meet the criteria and you’re crazy enough to be interested, contact Rufus at [rufus@ophirprison.com](mailto:rufus@ophirprison.com) for further information. And as always:

Up Yours,  
Rufus T. Whizbang  
Dum Major, OPMKB&TSL

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\* Although we are regularly looking for “Guards” – non-playing members who assist with logistics, keep the Inmates in line, verify beer quality, etc. Inquiries regarding availability of Guard positions are also welcome.

<sup>†</sup> Note that *section size* is not the same as *performance size*; we have a separate specification for the size of each section during any given performance. Players are chosen for each performance based on the characteristics of the gig, musicianship, participation, and a variety of other factors including Rufus’ whims and hangover state.