

# West Virginia University

## Mountaineer Mascot Application

### 2008-2009

#### ***What are responsibilities of the Mountaineer Mascot?***

(The below responsibilities are excerpted from the Mountaineer Advisory Committee Manual Regulations, which governs the Mountaineer Mascot.)

- The Mountaineer will attend **ALL** home football and men's and women's basketball contests, including any home contest during any WVU class breaks. The Mountaineer will attend any away contest determined by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.
- The Mountaineer is encouraged to attend all approved events such as;  
Other Mountaineer Athletic Events      Alumni Events  
Visit WVU Children's Hospital      Visit WV Schools  
Other University Designated Events      Community Events
- The Mountaineer will conduct himself/herself in a suitable manner required of a representative of West Virginia University. If the Mountaineer Advisory Committee finds that the Mountaineer has not acted in an appropriate manner, then the Mountaineer will be replaced.
- The Mountaineer is responsible for the everyday care, cleaning, and handling of the rifle. The Mountaineer must pass or have passed WV Hunters Safety Course.
- The Mountaineer is not, **UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**, allowed to participate in an endorsement of any corporation or commercial product for profit. The Mountaineer can **ONLY** take part in media campaigns approved by WVU Media Services, or WVU Institutional Advancement.
- While in uniform, the Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages during any event that is sponsored by WVU or with which WVU is associated. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume alcohol while in uniform prior to, during, or after any athletic contest. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** consume any alcoholic beverages while traveling in any University vehicles, including University buses and vans.
- The Mountaineer **WILL ALSO** limit his/her consumption of alcohol while out of uniform. He/She **Must Not** engage in any form of public intoxication.
- While in uniform, the Mountaineer **WILL NOT** use any tobacco products. The Mountaineer **WILL NOT** use any tobacco products while traveling in any University vehicles, including University buses and vans.
- If the Mountaineer is caught using any illegal substances, he/she will be suspended on the spot. The Mountaineer is under supervision of the WVU department of Intercollegiate Sports and is subject to random drug testing.
- The Mountaineer and the Alternate Mountaineer are the **ONLY PERSONS** permitted to fire the Mountaineer rifle.
- The Mountaineer is **NOT ALLOWED** to accept money or gifts for appearances. He/She can accept reasonable reimbursement for travel expenses.

## ***What are the eligibility requirements to be the Mountaineer Mascot?***

To be eligible for initial consideration and continued participation as the West Virginia University Mountaineer, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1) The student must be enrolled as a **FULL-TIME** undergraduate or graduate student at West Virginia University. He/She must be a student on the Morgantown campus of West Virginia University.
- 2) The student must have and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

## ***How does the selection process work?***

After each candidate turns in an application for the position, the Mountaineer Mascot selection committee, which consists of several WVU students, faculty, and staff members, review the applications. Depending on the number of applicants, the committee will select no more than ten candidates to participate in a half-hour interview. After the interview process, the top four candidates based on a combination of their interview and application scores will participate in a mascot try-out during a WVU basketball game. During the mascot try-out, the top four candidates will get to wear buckskins and carry a musket. Also during the try-out, members of the selection committee will evaluate the candidate's performance and interaction with the crowd. The committee will then select the new Mountaineer Mascot with the highest score based on a combination of their application, interview, and try-out scores. The candidate with the second highest score will be selected as the Mountaineer Mascot Alternate. The selected applicant will begin his/her term as the Mountaineer Mascot at the annual Blue and Gold football game in April. Between the time of selection and the Blue and Gold football game the incoming Mountaineer Mascot will work with the current Mountaineer Mascot using the current Mountaineer as a mentor to learn about the role of the Mountaineer and how to conduct him/her self as the Mountaineer.

## ***Social Justice Policy:***

"West Virginia University is committed to social justice. The Mountaineer Mascot selection committee concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive application process based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. The Mountaineer Mascot selection committee and the Mountaineer Advisory Committee do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran's status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this selection process will be appreciated and given serious consideration."

- Mountaineer Mascot Selection Committee Social Justice Policy

## ***What is the timeline of the selection process?***

- Applications will be available at the E. Moore Hall front desk, the Mountainlair front desk, the Evansdale Residential Complex front desk, on the MIX, and by e-mailing [lindsayrdarling@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayrdarling@gmail.com) or [lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu) from **Tuesday, January 15**, to **Tuesday, January 29**. No applications will be given out after **January 29**.
- The application and essays must be submitted to the E. Moore Hall front desk by **Tuesday, February 5, 2008, at noon**. Completed applications and essays can also be returned via e-mail to [lindsayrdarling@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayrdarling@gmail.com).
- All applicants must be available for an interview scheduled on **Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**, at the Erickson Alumni Center. If you are selected for an interview, you will be contacted by Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Finalists must be available for the cheer-off competition, to be held on **Saturday, February 23** during the WVU men's basketball game.
- The announcement of the Mountaineer Mascot will be on **Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** during the WVU-Pitt men's basketball game.

## ***Application Check List: (Application Must Be Type Written)***

- \_\_\_\_\_ Read Application Thoroughly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility Requirements
- \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Five Essay Questions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Two Letters of Reference
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application completed and turned in by **Tuesday, February 5, at noon**

If you have any questions regarding the application, please feel free to e-mail Mountaineer Selection Committee Chairperson, Lindsay Darling at [lindsayrdarling@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayrdarling@gmail.com) or Co-Chairperson Lisa Costello at [lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu).

**Keep The Application Up To This Point For Reference**

Candidate ID number (for committee use, do not fill out): \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Information:** *(Application Must Be Type Written)*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WVU ID Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birth Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Local Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember that the Mountaineer Mascot Application is due on **Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at noon**. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Selection Committee Chairperson, Lindsay Darling at [lindsayrdarling@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayrdarling@gmail.com) or Co-Chairperson Lisa Costello at [lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:lisa.costello@mail.wvu.edu).

Candidate ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

***Applicant Academic Information:***

Major(s) Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
(I.e. Freshman)

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Last semester GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and City)

\_\_\_\_\_

***WVU and Community Involvement:***

***WVU Activities: (You may use attached sheet)***

(I.e. organizations, positions held, honors, awards, etc Ex. Golden Key International Honor Society  
President – 2002-2003)

***Community Service: (You may use attached sheet)***

***Work Experience: (You may use attached sheet)***

Candidate ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Mountaineer Mascot Essay Questions:***

Please answer the following questions. Each answer MUST NOT exceed one double-spaced typed page.

1. How would you portray West Virginia and WVU as the Mountaineer Mascot?
2. Why should you be the Mountaineer Mascot?
3. What does “mountaineer spirit” mean to you?
4. Describe your most gratifying college experience.
5. As the Mountaineer Mascot how could you promote positive fan behavior?

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Candidate ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Candidate's Reference Lists:***

Each candidate must have two references at least one reference must be affiliated with WVU. Reference cannot be students or family members. Each reference must send the selection committee a letter of reference on behalf of the candidate. If we do not **receive** both of your references, it will harm your application score.

#### **Reference 1:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Reference 2:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Please have both references send a letter of recommendation to:**

Chairperson, Mountaineer Selection Committee  
Mountain Honorary  
Erickson Alumni Center  
PO Box 4269  
Morgantown, WV 26506-4269

You may personally deliver letters to the Erickson Alumni Center, located off of Patteson Drive. Please remember that all letters received after **noon on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**, will not be included in your application packet and will harm your application score. Please feel free to e-mail Lindsay Darling at [lindsayrdarling@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayrdarling@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

***Thank you for your application and good luck!***