

## Ball Apparel

### The Dress, Gloves and Shoes

All debutantes must obtain a floor-length white evening dress. The colour must be as close to white as possible (not pale pink, pale blue, pale green etc.!).

Suggestions of where to shop for white long dresses:

- <https://1861.ca/collections/bride>
- St-Hubert Street, Montreal

Debutantes must also obtain long white gloves that go **above the elbow**.

- Amazon.com is a great place to look for these
- Bridal stores on St. Hubert Street in Montreal also carry gloves
- Ardene has carried gloves in the past as well

Debutantes will also wear a tartan sash. This can be a family tartan or can be purchased or borrowed from the society. *(If a debutante does not have a family tartan, it is suggested that she wear the Montreal 1642 Tartan.)*

Debutantes will be provided with a wrist corsage on the evening of the ball.

Since the ball is a long evening with lots of dancing, low heels (around 2.5 – 3-inch heels) are strongly recommended.

- The Bay and Payless are great places to start looking

A changing room will be provided for debutantes to share on the night of the Ball. Debutantes should plan on being at the Hotel by late afternoon so that they can be ready for the formal photo session and final dance practice. Ball Day (Friday) will be a busy day!

Some examples of what has been worn in the past:



## The Debutantes' Tea

The Debutantes' Tea is an afternoon event (*usually a Saturday afternoon in November*) that gives debutantes the chance to get to know female members of the St. Andrews Society. Expect both standing and sitting, games and light refreshments.

Attire is business casual. This includes:

- Daytime dresses
- Skirt or dress pants paired with a blouse

\*The shoulders and chest should be covered, and skirts should be no shorter than two inches above the knee. Low heels or flats are acceptable.

The best choice is an outfit that you feel comfortable and confident in.

Think of what you might wear to attend a church service or formal family lunch or dinner.

*Tip:* tops or dresses that expose the shoulders can be worn with a blazer or cardigan.

Some examples:



## Thank-You Notes

It is important to thank the hostess for putting on the Debutantes' Tea by sending a written note of thanks.

The most important things to strive for when writing a thank-you note are sincerity and promptness. You'll find that once you get started, it only takes a few minutes to write, so it is suggested that you write the note soon after getting home from the tea and mail it as soon as possible.

The note does not need to be long, but it should be personal and heartfelt. Use your natural voice, and the message will come across as sincere. Be sure to actually say "thank you" and mention the occasion or reason for the note.

Please address the hostess as Mrs. XYZ in your note.

Mailing address to use:

*TO BE CONFIRMED*

## Debutantes Cocktail

At the cocktail, (*on the Wednesday of Ball Week*) you will be presented as a debutante to the Ball Guest of Honour and to the members of the St. Andrew's Society. This is where the short biography you submitted with your application will be read aloud.

The dress code is modest cocktail attire. This includes:

- short afternoon or cocktail dresses (for example, a "little black dress")
- Long dressy skirt and dressy top

Wear low, comfortable heels. It is suggested that you wear the heels you will be wearing to the ball in order to get comfortable walking and dancing in them.

Some examples:



## Community Service

It is expected that both Debutantes and Escorts will volunteer at the Annual Children's Christmas Party of the St. Andrew's Society at the Black Watch Armoury on Bleury Street (*Held on a Sunday afternoon in December*). As a volunteer, you will work to set up and take down the décor for the event, and to animate the various stations at the party. The event is held in conjunction with the St. Andrew's Society Youth Committee. Attendees (parents, grandparents, etc.) bring food and drinks to the party and volunteers assist with the arts & craft, cookie decorating, colouring, and games.