

MANSFIELD ISD HIGH SCHOOL DRILL TEAM CONSTITUTION

The purpose of Drill Team is to promote school spirit and loyalty, to display leadership and integrity at all times, and to strive for excellence in dance through quality training and performances.

OBJECTIVES

1. To promote the type of sportsmanship that will help students acquire the basic attributes of good citizenship.
2. To develop a wholesome school spirit.
3. To develop school loyalty.

ARTICLE I: REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS TO AUDITION

SECTION 1: GRADE LEVEL

At the time of the audition, the candidate must be enrolled in Mansfield ISD (MISD) and auditioning at the school where the student is approved to attend for the next school year. A candidate may audition at only one MISD School.

SECTION 2: ACADEMIC STANDING

Drill Team candidates must:

- Be on schedule to meet MISD graduation credit requirements. Freshmen must have at least 2 ½ credits. Sophomores must have at least 7 ½ credits, and Juniors must have at least 12 ½ credits.

SECTION 3: PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Candidates must present proof of a physical examination by a health care professional using a District approved form prior to the clinic and audition dates.

Essential physical functions of a drill team member are:

- Exhibit rhythm and coordination in performing dance routines.
- Demonstrate stamina in performing regular physical activities that involve physical endurance and fitness.
- Perform routines in both indoor and outdoor setting, in heat and cold weather.

SECTION 4: ATTENDANCE

- Students must be present before the judges in order to be eligible for selection.

SECTION 5: PRE-AUDITION CLINIC

Candidates are expected to attend all training clinics at the times designated by Mansfield ISD.

- Each pre-audition clinic acquaints candidates with the format of auditions and offers instruction for a kick routine and a dance routine which will be performed during the audition.
- Should a candidate not be present at a clinic session, he/she is responsible for learning any missed material on his/her own time

SECTION 6: PARENT MEETING

A parent/legal guardian is expected to attend an organizational meeting scheduled by Mansfield ISD.

- Any parent/guardian who is unable to attend this meeting should contact the Drill Team Instructor prior to the date of this orientation to receive information regarding the drill team audition process.

SECTION 7: DOCUMENTS

Candidates must submit all required documents by the designated deadline.

- Application with enrollment confirmation
- Drill Team Constitution Agreement Form
- UIL Concussion Acknowledgement Form
- UIL Rules and Regulations
- Pre-participation Physical Evaluation and Examination
- MISD Emergency Information Cards

ARTICLE II: SELECTION PROCESS

A judging panel will score all Drill Team candidates.

- The drill
- The judging panel will consist of at least three impartial, diverse, professional judges assigned by the school district.
- All candidates will appear before the judging panel in the designated uniform:
 - black leotard or tank top
 - solid black dance pants or capris
 - jazz shoes, dance paws, or tennis shoes
 - Cover-ups and t-shirts are not allowed
- Hair of candidates must be up and pulled away from the face.

- Candidates, school representatives and judges are the only persons allowed into the clinic sessions and auditions. Parents, relatives, friends or other visitors are not allowed into the clinics or auditions.
- The size of each drill team is determined through the use of a "break-point" system.
 - At the completion of the auditions, the "break-point" in scoring will be decided by the drill team instructor. This will be the official "break point" for determining the final drill team size.

All candidates must receive at least 50% of the possible points in order to be considered for the drill team.

ARTICLE III: DRILL TEAM MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1: TERM

The term for Drill Team participation begins after the Spring Show and continues through the Spring Show the following year.

SECTION 2: DANCE CLASS

- A. All Drill Team Members must enroll in and attend dance class.
- B. All Drill Team Members are expected to participate in all class activities. Any student absence will be considered unexcused unless the sponsor is given prior notification or an excuse from a health care professional is presented prior to the activity.
- C. All Drill Team Members must be dressed and ready to begin each day on time. Designated officers may have earlier reporting times as designated by the sponsor.
- D. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

SECTION 3: REHEARSAL SESSIONS

- A. All Drill Team Members are expected to attend all rehearsals, including those after-school and in the summer. Any student absence will be considered unexcused unless the sponsor is given prior notification or an excuse from a health care professional is presented prior to the activity.
- B. All Drill Team Members will be required to attend a summer dance camp. Failure to attend the camp may result in dismissal from the squad.
- C. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

SECTION 4: ACTIVITIES/PERFORMANCES

- A. All Drill Team Members are expected to participate in all events. Any student absence will be considered unexcused unless the sponsor is given prior notification or an excuse from a health care professional is presented prior to the activity.
- B. All Drill Team Members will be required to attend special performances, fundraisers, and competitions as designated by the sponsor. All of these events are mandatory unless otherwise stated by the sponsor.
- C. All Drill Team Members must be at all events on time.
- D. Due to the year-round nature of the activity, it is recommended that participation in other school teams, squads, or other nonacademic groups is not allowed without the prior approval of the drill team instructor. Limited exceptions are possible on an individual basis. However, we encourage all students to participate in co/extracurricular activities. MISD expects the drill team instructor and the student to see a positive resolution during a scheduling conflict.
- E. All Drill Team Members must use school transportation to any out-of-district school-sanctioned activity. Rare exceptions may be made at the sponsor's discretion.
- F. Pregnant Drill Team Members must present written proof from a health care professional as evidence of physical ability to participate in drill team activities.
- G. Each Drill Team Member will be expected to perform with maximum effort unless a note from a health care professional has been submitted to the sponsor prior to the activity or event.
- H. If a Drill Team Member expects to be absent from a practice or activity, the sponsor must be given prior notification. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence.
- I. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

SECTION 5: CONDUCT

Drill Team Members are expected to maintain high standards in academic performance and behavior and to serve as positive role models for the student body. Drill Team Members who do not meet these standards are subject to school disciplinary consequences and Drill Team consequences including probation and dismissal.

ANY DRILL TEAM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THEMSELVES, OR THEIR ORGANIZATION, IN AN UNFAVORABLE, QUESTIONABLE, OR ILLEGAL MANNER THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEDIA (I.E. WEBSITES, PERSONAL HOME PAGES, BLOGS, TEXT MESSAGES, CHAT ROOMS, OR SIMILAR WEBSITE/FILES ACCESSIBLE THROUGH A SERVER OR INTERNET) OR USING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN SUCH A WAY AS TO BRING DISCREDIT, DISHONOR, OR DISGRACE ON THEIR ORGANIZATION OR MEMBERS OF ANY OTHER SCHOOL ORGANIZATION INCLUDING THEMSELVES (I.E. CAMERA PHONES, DIGITAL PHOTOS, ELECTRONIC DESCRIPTIONS) WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS DETERMINED BY APPROPRIATE SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND/OR ORGANIZATION SPONSORS/DIRECTORS/COACHES, INCLUDING PROBATION OR DISMISSAL.

A. ACADEMIC PROBATION

- A Drill Team Member will receive 3-week probation if he/she does not meet the UIL academic guidelines for eligibility (No Pass/No Play).
- During academic probation, drill team members are required to participate fully in classtime practices and activities.
- Drill Team Members are not allowed to participate outside of class during this academic probation.

B. DISCIPLINARY PROBATION

- All Drill Team Members are expected to follow all school policies and to exhibit good sportsmanship.

- Any Drill Team Member who receives a disciplinary consequence from a campus administration of suspension (In-School or Out-of-School) will receive 1 week of probation.
- Each campus sponsor will utilize a Demerit/Merit system. Campus documents describe the demerit/merit system. Accumulation of a specified number of demerits can lead to probation or dismissal from the drill team.
- Any Drill Team Member who misses more than one practice in a week, whether excused or unexcused, may be benched for one activity or event.

Disciplinary Probation Process:

- Each disciplinary probation period will be 1 week in duration. The sponsor will determine the week the probation is served.
- Drill Team Members will not be allowed to actively participate in any contest, game, activity, or pep rally.
- Drill Team Members are required to participate fully in all practices
- The drill team sponsor shall make every effort to hold a conference with a parent/guardian and the student anytime a disciplinary probation is assigned.
- Any disciplinary action taken by the drill team sponsor may be appealed to the campus principal or designee. Because drill team is an extracurricular activity, the decision of the campus administrator is final and may not be appealed beyond the campus level.

C. DISCIPLINARY DISMISSAL

- A Drill Team Member may be dismissed from the squad if he/she accumulates 3 probations, academic and/or disciplinary, during the term of participation.
- Any Drill Team Member who receives a disciplinary consequence of Expulsion or removal to DAEP (BIC) will be dismissed from the squad.
- Any Drill Team Member found in possession, transmittal, sale, attempted sale, using, or under the influence of a controlled substance, dangerous drugs, or alcohol will be subject to dismissal from the squad.
- Any Drill Team Member found smoking, using, or possessing tobacco products – including e-cigs and personal vaporizers - on any school property, at any school function, or while representing the school may be dismissed from the squad.

- Any Drill Team Member engaging in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual conduct may result in dismissal from the squad.
- Any Drill Team Member will be automatically dismissed if he/she organizes or is involved in a hazing incident.

“The term hazing means any assumption of authority by a student whereby another student suffers or is exposed to any cruelty, intimidation, humiliation, embarrassment, hardship or oppression, is required to perform exercises to excess, to become sleep deprived, to commit dangerous activities, to curry favor from those in power, to submit to physical assaults, to consume offensive foods or alcohol, or the threat of bodily harm or death, or the deprivation or abridgement of any right.”(Section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965).

SECTION 6: FINANCES

Drill Team Members must meet the financial requirements outlined by the sponsor. Installment due dates will be set by the sponsors. Fees must be paid in a timely manner. All Drill Team Members are responsible for all uniforms, clothing, supplies and camp costs immediately after an order is placed. No refunds will be made for any reason. Supplies will not be distributed until all moneys are received and the Drill Team Member will not attend camp without full payment of his/her balance. Failure to comply may result in removal from the squad.

- A. A system of financial assistance is discretely made available to any Drill Team Member needing such assistance. The expenses related to participation will not preclude any candidate from auditioning for the drill team. Please contact the sponsor prior to auditions for this information.
- B. All Drill Team Members must attend fundraising functions and participate in team fundraisers as designated by the sponsor.

SECTION 7: UNIFORMS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE

- A. All uniforms for Drill Team Members must be laundered and cleaned prior to wearing.
- B. All Drill Team Members must wear a designated uniform and have designated supplies. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.
- C. Each Drill Team Member is responsible for immediately replacing any item that is damaged or lost.
- D. If removed from the squad, school issued uniforms and supplies must be immediately returned to the sponsor. Drill Team Members will be held financially responsible for these items.
- E. All Drill Team Members are subject to specific grooming and personal hygiene guidelines set by the sponsor. Visible tattoos must be covered and body-piercings, specifically tongue and facial

rings, must not be worn during drill team activities. Other guidelines of this nature will be determined and explained by the sponsor.

F. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

SECTION 8: REPLACEMENT

If a Drill Team Member is permanently dismissed from the squad, the sponsor and the principal will determine whether or not to fill the position. If the position is to be filled, then the candidate with the next highest audition score will fill the vacant position.

SECTION 9: OFFICER TRYOUT

A judging panel will score all MISD Drill Team Officer Tryouts.

- The drill team instructional staff shall complete a clinic evaluation rubric and leadership evaluation for each candidate prior to the end of the drill team clinic and/or officer tryout. This evaluation shall account for 40% of a candidate's overall tryout score.
- The judging panel will consist of three impartial, professional judges assigned by the drill team director. The combined total of the external judges shall account for 60% of an officer candidate's overall tryout score.
- Peer feedback may be conducted and only used to generate interview questions. Peer feedback may not be used a part of the overall calculations to the student's tryout scoring.
- All candidates will appear before the judging panel in the designated uniform:
 - black leotard or tank top,
 - solid black dance pants or capris, and
 - jazz shoes, dance paws, or tennis shoes.
- Cover-ups and t-shirts are not allowed.
- Hair of candidates must be pulled away from the face.
- Candidates, school representatives and judges are the only persons allowed into the tryouts. Parents, relatives, friends, or other visitors are not allowed into tryouts.
- The number of officers is determined by the drill team director.
- The drill team director shall be the individual vested with the primary responsibility for:
 - assessing the performance of each officer candidate using the clinic evaluation rubric,
 - hiring the judges,
 - creating the tryout material, and
 - selecting the officers.

The term for a Drill Team Officer participation begins after the Spring Show and continues through the Spring Show the following year.

- A. All Drill Team Officers must be a member of the drill team.
- B. All Drill Team Officers must enroll in and attend dance class.
- C. All Drill Team Officers are expected to participate in all class activities. Any student absence will be considered unexcused unless the director is given prior notification or an excuse from a health care professional is presented prior to the activity.
- D. All Drill Team Officers must be dressed and ready to begin each day on time. Designated officers may have earlier and/or extended reporting times as designated by the director.
- E. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

The tryout process is design to identify candidates that exhibit high level skills in: (but not limited to)

- Leadership
- Communication
- Dancing
- Choreography
- Teaching
- Teamwork
- Proactiveness
- Attendance & Punctuality
- Academics

Some responsibilities of an officer may include but not limited to:

Captain	Lieutenant (1 st , Sr, Jr)
Lead practice/rehearsal	Leads warm-ups
Communicate information to officers/team	Prepare squad for routines
Choreography routines	Communicate info. to squad
Critique and provide feedback	Maintain merit/demerit book
Lead officer meetings	Stretch team
Provide/give commands at events	Monitor social media
Promotes loyalty within the officer line	Make suggestions to the director
Report any misconduct to director	Record & report tardies & improper attire
Monitor social media	Assist w/ teaching choreography
Make suggestions to the director	Lead tutorials

Special Clause:

All drill team members, including officers, are governed by the MISD High School Drill Team Constitution, MISD Student Code of Conduct, and the MISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

ARTICLE IV: COMPLIANCE AND THE DRILL TEAM CODE OF CONDUCT

CODE OF CONDUCT

- A. Failure to comply with any of the policies, practices, and procedures as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action ranging from probation to permanent dismissal from the squad.

The MISD Extra Curricular Code of Conduct, MISD Student Code of Conduct and Drill Team Code of Conduct will be announced and distributed prior to auditions.