

East Chambers Jr. High Dance Team Constitution for 2012 - 2013

I. Requirements for Dance Team Tryouts

- A. Students grades 6-7 are eligible to tryout if other eligibility requirements are met.
- B. The following completed forms must be turned in by deadline set by the sponsor:
 - 1. Permission form signed by parent/guardian and candidate indicating agreement and understanding of the rules and requirements of dance team.
 - 2. Medical Release Form.
- C. Must be in attendance on day of tryouts for tryout practice as well as tryout before judge. Attendance at tryout workshop held prior to tryout day is mandatory.

II. Procedures for Selection of Members

- A. Tryout sessions will take place during a week in the Spring.
- B. During the tryout session, candidate will learn basic dance team dance steps. Candidate will also learn a dance routine that incorporates the above.
- C. Candidates will be assigned tryout groups according to instructions of sponsor.
- D. Candidates will be taught and scored by at least two impartial judges.
- E. Candidates will be judged according to the following criteria: (80% of score)
 - 1. Routine memory
 - 2. Showmanship
 - 3. Coordination & Rhythm
 - 4. Personal appearance
- F. Candidates will be scored by drill team directors (20% of score).
- G. A specific score total, not a set number of members, determines the number of team members selected.
- H. Drill team member names will be posted the evening of tryouts.

III. Responsibilities of Dance Team Members

- A. Maintain a record of school pride, high moral character, and exemplary community representation.
- B. Must get along well with teachers, students and team members.
- C. Uphold good physical condition.
- D. Member must abide by all requirements of constitution.
- F. You are to come to practice with the proper outfit on, no jewelry including earrings, proper black sock and required shoes. Hair in a ponytail with all hair clipped back, no bangs or flyaway hairs are permitted. No gum chewing.**
- G. Students must maintain an average of 70 or greater in all classes.
- H. Six hours of community service provided with our group playing bingo and visiting with residence at the Winnie Arboretum. Girls will be assigned certain Saturdays to Attend.

IV. Attendance

- A. Attendance is required at all practices, rehearsals, performances and meetings scheduled or specially called by the sponsor. Below are required activities:
 - 1. Summer Camp during the month of July or August preceding the start of school.
 - 2. Called meetings before, during, and after school to discuss uniforms, fund raising, camp, etc.
 - 3. Home and away Football games
 - 4. Charity or community events designated by sponsor
 - 5. After school and evening practices—two a week
 - 6. Any other events required by the sponsor.
- B. Excused absences – applies to all practices, events, and games
 - 1. Granted only for the following reasons:
 - a. Illness of member
 - b. Serious illness in the family
 - c. Death of a family member (or a close relationship)
 - d. Participation in a special activity related to school or community
 - e. Medical appointments that cannot be scheduled for any other time.
 - f. Marriage ceremony of an immediate family member
 - 2. **For an absence to be excused, the sponsors must be notified prior to the absence, except in case of emergency. Exceptions to the above list must be approved by sponsors.**
- C. Unexcused Absences
 - 1. If a member is absent unexcused from any of the following activities--the member may be dismissed from the team. **The ONLY way a member can be excused from these activities is with a doctor's note due to illness, a death or serious illness in immediate family, marriage ceremony of an immediate family member or involvement in UIL activity or school related function:**
 - a. Football games
 - b. Pep rallies
 - c. Dance team camp
 - d. Other special practices or performances designated by sponsor.
 - e. Homecoming performance
 - f. Houston game performance
 - g. Beginning of year review and sleepover
 - h. Schlitterbahn end of the year party.
 - i. High School Drill Team ¼ performance fundraiser
 - j. Community service

V. Demerit System

- A. Begins the first day of election.
- B. All demerits will be signed by the squad member in manner provided.(charts, notebooks, etc.) Demerits are issued by the sponsor for an infraction of a rule.
- C. A record of demerits is maintained by the sponsor. Member may view her record upon request.
- D. A letter is sent informing parent of demerit record.
- E. Three (3) demerits = no performance at pep rally.

- F. Six (6) demerits = no performance at pep rally & football game.
- G. Nine (9) demerits = no performance at 2 pep rallies & 2 games.
- H. Ten (10) demerits = dismissal.
- I. Demerits will be issued as follows:

Infraction(s):	Demerits:
1. Tardy	1
A. Tardies are excused only for the following reasons:	
1. Unavoidable car trouble.	
2. Emergency situations (illness in family, personal illness, etc.)	
3. Arriving late from doctor or dental appointments or unavoidable situations.	
B. For a tardy to be excused, a written note must be presented to the sponsor at the next practice member attends. Otherwise, tardy will be unexcused.	
2. Unexcused absence from practice	3
3. Leaving before dismissed (practice, performance, etc.) without sponsor approval	2
4. Using cell phone (without sponsor approval)	1
5. Improper uniform or appearance	1
a. Proper dress at all activities as assigned	
b. Hair must be in ponytail unless otherwise instructed by sponsor. (If hair is too short, it must be secured back away from the face.)	
c. Undergarments should be worn that are suitable and NOT SEEN while in uniform.	
d. NO artificial nails will be allowed (anytime). Natural nails must be kept to a reasonable length as determined by the sponsor.	
e. NO fingernail polish will be allowed (anytime).	
f. Absolutely no jewelry.	
g. Uniform pieces, including practice clothes, game uniform, and windsuit are to be worn only by the Dance Team member.	
6. Failure to bring uniform/prop to game/practice	1
7. Chewing gum during practice/performance	1
8. Public display of affection	1
9. N or U in conduct	1
10. Detention for disciplinary reasons(disrupting class, disrespect, cursing, etc.) Lunch detentions (accumulation of 3)	1
11. Inappropriate behavior during practice	2
12. Inappropriate behavior during performance	3
13. Show of disrespect	2 – 4
14. Assigned ISS or Saturday School – due to behavior	3
15. Misconduct/ inappropriate behavior for a dance team member or a representative of our school such as: (theft, drug/tobacco/alcohol use or possession, obscene phone use, cyberbullying, sexting.etc.)	5 - 10
16. Suspension from school	5 – 10
17. Encounters with the law or involvement in unlawful activities that are considered behavior not appropriate for a Dance Team member or	5 - 10

representative of our school. (Discretion of sponsor and/or administrator)

18. Expulsion or AEP placement 10

J. Although a member is not allowed to perform due to demerit violations, the member is still required to attend dance team practices and performances. Uniform is worn at the discretion of the sponsor.

K. Demerits will be recorded beginning 1st parent meeting until the next squad is chosen.

L. If a member exceeds the number of demerits allowed, member cannot tryout for junior high dance team for the next year without sponsor and administrator approval.

M. In the event a member acts in an inappropriate manner not covered by the demerit system, the sponsor and/or administration has the authority to render appropriate punishment (demerits, dismissal) from team for misconduct.

VII. General Rules and Regulations

A. Members are not excused to leave drill team practices early to go to other activities unless approved by sponsor.

B. All team members are required to travel to all events with the team. Members are allowed to leave the event with an adult if a note, signed by the parent or guardian and approved by LouAnn Rainey, is presented to the sponsors. This note has to be presented before the member may leave with the adult.

VIII. Financial Responsibility

Fundraising opportunities will be available as needed to offset or cover cost of individual items. An approximate value of the items the girls will be fundraising for will be given at the time of tryouts. A list of how much each girl has earned will be noted. If a student is unable to fundraise then their items must be paid for by September 1st 2009. Student will not be allowed to perform if items are not paid in full.

IX. Resignation of Members

Member must submit a resignation letter including parent/guardian signature to the drill team director. All uniforms and school purchased items need to be returned promptly.

X. The coaches/sponsors are directly responsible to the principal for the welfare of the drill team organization; therefore, they shall have the authority to make any decision necessary for the welfare of the organization. Any action that needs to be taken concerning a situation not addressed by this constitution, or extreme cases of opposition to stated policies, will be the responsibility of the coaches/sponsors with the consultation of the administration.

XI. East Chambers Jr. High does not discriminate against any student on the basis of sex, race, creed, or financial status.