



Waco ISD Drill Team Constitution and By-Laws

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**WACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DRILL TEAM CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

HIGH SCHOOL

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Waco Independent School District, establish this constitution to promote school spirit, enthusiasm, student leadership and uphold the tradition of the Waco Public Schools.

Section 1 The Waco High School Drill Team shall be called the Waco High Scarlet Line.

Section 2 The University High School Drill Team shall be called the University High Highlighters.

**ARTICLE I
ELIGIBILITY**

Section 1 Senior – 15 Credits

Section 2 Junior - 10 Credits

Section 3 Sophomore – 5 Credits

Section 4 Freshman – Current and Incoming

Section 5 To be eligible, students must have grades above 70 in each class, the minimum standard for other groups sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League.

Section 7 Students should dress according to school policy at all times, in or out of uniform, and act as positive role models.

Section 8 After being selected, candidates must pass a general physical examination which must be on file with the sponsor/director prior to attending summer camp. Physicals must be updated regularly.

Section 9 A candidate will not be eligible if she or he has previous suspensions (including OOS or excessive ISS) or, assignments to the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program School, (See Article XII, section 5 for additional information.)

Section 10 A candidate will not be eligible for one calendar year if she or he has ever resigned or been dismissed. The calendar year is one year from the date of resignation or dismissal.

Section 11 Each candidate must be enrolled in a Waco public school to participate and meet eligibility requirements per UIL sanctioned activities.

- Section 12** Candidates must be academically eligible at the most recent eligibility check and at the time of tryout clinics and tryout dates.
- Section 13** Each candidate and one parent/guardian/caregiver must attend a Parent and Student Informational Meeting.
- Section 14** Each candidate and one parent/guardian/caregiver must sign and return an acknowledgement of Waco ISD Extra-Curricular Standards of Behavior. (Constitution and By-Laws)

ARTICLE II OFFICER CANDIDATES QUALIFICATIONS

- Section 1** Officer candidates must have served as continuous line members for one year and have an overall grade average of 80 from the previous semester – in addition to minimum UIL eligibility requirements.
- Section 2** An officer candidate will not be eligible if he/she has a previous suspension, ineligibility for an academically eligible period based on UIL Standards, or assignments to the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program School, (see Article XII, section 5 for additional information.)
- Section 3** A candidate will not be eligible for one calendar year if she or he has ever resigned or been dismissed. The calendar year is one year from the date of resignation or dismissal.
- Section 4** If an officer is benched for any rule infraction, the officer may be relieved of her or his title and placed back in the line.
- Section 5** Candidates for officer positions must submit a notebook and complete all special requirements set forth in the tryout requirements listed.
- Section 6** Officers chosen will be determined by the quality of candidates available. Titles for officer positions will be determined by the sponsor of each organization. Rankings will be determined by the panel of qualified judges.
- Section 7** In case of a tie score, both persons will assume the rank.
- Section 8** If an elected officer is not able to complete his or her term as officer, the person with the second highest score will advance.
- Section 9** Officers are required to go above and beyond the call of duty. This includes attending practices, always setting a good example, always having a good attitude, and treating members and sponsor/director with respect, etc.
- Section 10** Officers will assist in planning and preparing various activities to raise

money.

- Section 11** The sponsor, and assigned administrator, will make every effort to provide a diverse panel of **three** qualified judges to evaluate and select the officers of the drill team. Officers selected will be based upon the following point system: notebook = 20 points, solo = 40 20-points, technique = 20 points, interview/Q&A = 40.
- Section 12** Officers will have additional payments as determined by the sponsor, with principal approval and disclosed in the tryout packet. Payment schedules will be determined by the sponsor, with approval by the principal.

ARTICLE III SELECTION

- Section 1** Information, selection and tryout window should be from February through May.
- Section 2** The sponsor, and assigned administrator, will make every effort to provide a diverse panel of **three** qualified judges to evaluate and select the officers of the drill team.
- Section 3** The judges will evaluate and select drill team members based on the performances of selected and practiced routines, jumps, motions, knowledge of routines, rhythmic ability.
- Section 4** The sponsor/director and graduating senior drill team members will assist the candidates in learning the routines for the tryouts during the practice periods.
- Section 5** Candidates for drill team will be required to participate each day during all practice periods, unless a medical excuse is provided by a doctor.
- Section 6** There will be no limit on the number candidates selected for the drill team. The number will be limited only by the number of candidates the judges select as qualified candidates. Number on the squad will be decided by the largest natural break in the judges' scores.
- Section 7** All candidates must be present for tryouts.
- Section 8** Candidates must attend school the entire day on the day of tryouts.
- Section 9** The sponsor/director may, at their discretion, use graduating senior drill team members to assist during tryouts. These members must leave campus once tryouts end, before counting and calculating begin. They may not return until after results have been posted.
- Section 10** Judges, drill team sponsors, cheer squad sponsors, administrators, security personnel, and drill team sponsors from other schools will be the only ones allowed to watch tryouts. The sponsors/directors and administrators are the only ones allowed to tally and calculate score sheets.

- Section 11** Drill team sponsors from other schools must have special permission from the principal to observe for training purposes.

ARTICLE IV RESPONSIBILITIES

- Section 1** Maintain UIL eligibility each grading period and uphold the image and attitude of a leader. Grades will be checked each eligibility period.
- Section 2** Squad members selected must meet UIL eligibility Guidelines and be knowledgeable of UIL rules.
- Section 3** If a member is ineligible for 2 eligibility periods any time in one year, loss of membership will occur.
- Section 4** Drill team members are required to attend and participate in all events designated by the sponsor/director. No exceptions without 24-hour approval by the sponsor/director.
- a. Emergencies and illnesses will be accepted as excused with a note or call from a parent or doctor.
 - b. When absent it is the member's responsibility to find out what they have missed.
- Section 5** Cell phones will not be permitted during practice, performances or other events, unless authorized by the sponsor/director.
- Section 6** An unexcused tardy will be issued if a squad member is not present at the start of practice and does not have an excuse acceptable to the sponsor/director.
- Section 7** All drill team members must ride the provided transportation to any "away" event. Any member not riding the provided transportation on returning trip must have written permission from a parent/guardian/caregiver to ride home with his or her parent/guardian or another drill member's parent/guardian only. This notification must be made in written form 24 hours prior to departure. The request for permission for (away games) must be made in writing to the sponsor/director or principal/designee.
- Section 8** Drill team members will plan and set up pep rallies, raise funds as needed, paint signs, boost school spirit, and show support for all sport/teams and other teams or activities designated by the sponsor/director.
- Section 9** Leadership is paramount to drill team. Drill team will always encourage good sportsmanship and actively discourage those students and others who exhibit poor sportsmanship. They shall always lead support for our teams and school and never be a part of cheers or yells against opposing teams, players, or spectators: and discourage those who do.

- Section 10** Drill team members must be prepared to come early and stay late whenever it is necessary. The sponsor/director and members will plan a schedule.

ARTICLE V SUMMER CAMP

- Section 1** Summer Camp is selected by the sponsor/director and is mandatory for all drill team members, no exceptions.
- Section 2** Drill team members must be prepared to come early and stay late whenever is necessary. The sponsor/director and members will plan a schedule.
- Section 3** Summer duties will be determined by the sponsor/director and will be disclosed in the tryout packet along with summer schedules. No member will be excused from more than three summer practices. Any absence above three for any reason will be considered unexcused. The member will be dismissed with the fourth unexcused absence.
- Section 4** An unexcused tardy will be issued if a squad member is not present at the start of practice and does not have an excuse acceptable to the sponsor/director.
- Section 5** Camp dates should be published by the end of the current school year.
- Section 6** Drill team members may not be responsible for any dependents during camp.
- Section 7** No visitors are permitted in the area for practice.
- Section 8** Only water may be consumed in uniform.

ARTICLE VI PRACTICES AND APPEARANCES

- Section 1** During the school year, practice will be daily during the dance class period and may continue after school as needed. Extra practices will be assigned according to the discretion of the sponsor/director throughout the school year.
- Section 2** Drill team will attend all assigned practices dressed out appropriately, including shoes.
- Section 3** All practices are closed to friends and parents.
- Section 4** Any tutorials or make-up work should be done around practice. Practice time is not time to take care of tutoring needs. Special arrangements will have to be made with the teacher or tutor to accommodate the practice schedules.
- Section 5** Drill team members may want to provide peer tutoring to each other under the supervision of the sponsor/director.

- Section 6** Members must be at school the entire day in order to participate in the performance/event scheduled. The sponsor/director may only grant exceptions to this rule after receiving approval from the principal. Failure to perform in a scheduled event will result in two demerits.
- Section 7** School related and outside responsibilities cannot interfere with drill team requirements. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered.
- Section 8** Drill team members should become knowledgeable of district rules and basics of all types of district sponsored athletic events.
- Section 9** All drill team members should be enrolled in the dance class. (See Article XII, section 5 for additional information.)
- Section 10** Drill team members must attend after school practice or events as assigned by the sponsor/director.
- Section 11** Drill team members may not be responsible for any dependents during practice or performance.
- Section 12** Members must audition for all performances. Those members with the strongest ability will be selected to perform; the sponsor/director will determine which members do not demonstrate the ability to perform a routine. Students may also be disqualified from participation because of disciplinary action and failure to participate in weekly practices, including those held after school.
- Section 13** Ineligible candidates may not wear their uniform or be on the field or in the area of performance.
- Section 14** Drill team members, ineligible to participate with the squad, may attend the event as a spectator.
- Section 15** All members must wear the appropriate uniform to participate in the performance. Each uniform worn for a performance will be selected by the sponsor/director, including warm-ups. Failure to comply will result in benching from the event and two demerits being issued.
- Section 16** All appearances and routines must first be approved by the principal/designee. If appearance or performance is altered by a drill team member, the member, or members, will be automatically dismissed.
- Section 17** The eligible drill team members, whether performing or not, will sit in the stands at all games in certain formations, yell with the cheerleaders, and do hand routines to the music.
- Section 18** Members must call their line officer if they are going to be late or going to be absent from a practice or event.

ARTICLE VII UNIFORMS

- Section 1** Each student must pay a fee which is used for clothing, accessories, make-up, and summer camp. **Money is not refundable. Orders cannot be canceled after they have been placed.**
- Section 2** The total fee for drill team will be determined by the sponsor/director, with principal approval, and disclosed in the tryout packet. A payment schedule will be determined by the sponsor/director, with approval from the principal. Each member will retain possession of jazz pants, tights, shoes, and camp wear. **All uniforms are the property of the District and must be returned with other attire and accessories no later than April 1.**
- Section 3** The first installment of one-half of the total fee will be made by a set date following the tryout period.
- Section 4** The final installment, or remaining 50%, is due on or before September 1st, as determined by the sponsor/director, with principal approval.
- Section 5** Failure to make payment or arrangements on time will result in suspension until arrangements are made with the sponsor/director and principal/designee. Drill team members will not be allowed to attend camp until payment for camp fees and camp clothes are paid. Uniforms will not be issued for the school year until the financial commitments are met.
- Section 6** Practice clothes and all other apparel, materials, and equipment, should be kept in a secure location throughout the day. **You are responsible for lost, stolen or vandalized property.**
- Section 7** If any items are lost or damaged, the member is required to **replace it at his/her own expense.** If lost articles have not been replaced, the team member will not be able to perform.
- Section 8** All uniforms must be neat, clean, and acceptable to the sponsor/director. Cleaning the uniform is the sole responsibility of each member. All uniforms issued must be returned in the same condition or the member will be responsible for paying the amount to replace it.
- Section 9** Only water may be consumed in uniform.

ARTICLE VIII GAME EXPECTATIONS

- Section 1** Be on time to the game, after breaks, and to performances.
- Section 2** Breaks during any events will be at the discretion of the sponsor/director.

- Section 3** No jewelry is to be worn at events or practices, this includes any body piercing. Nails, make up, hair style, and accessories shall be determined at the direction of the sponsor/director.
- Section 4** Wear assigned uniform (including socks and shoes) to games and school.
- Section 5** No talking, gum chewing, food or drink during an event other than break time.
- Section 6** Drill team members will abide by rules of good sportsmanship within the group and at all school events.
- Section 7** No early dismissal from games or meetings unless previously approved by the sponsor/director and principal/designee.
- Section 8** No visitors are permitted in the area for performance.
- Section 9** Members will not be allowed to leave the stands unless excused by the sponsor/director.

ARTICLE IX CONDUCT/DISMISSAL

- Section 1** All members must show respect by way of uniform attention when the National Anthem or school song is played.
- Section 2** Members must participate in all fundraising activities. Members are responsible for anything they are selling. Regardless of the circumstances, the members are responsible and must turn in either the money or the product. Fundraising proceeds are public funds and will be used for the benefit of the entire squad.
- Section 3** During fund raising events, all money due must be turned in by the set date, or the member may not perform in current performances, or tryout for the next year's team. Failure to turn in fund raising money on time will result in two demerits. Any mitigating circumstances must be submitted in writing to principal/designee for approval.
- Section 4** Drill team members will exemplify and model the Student Code of Conduct. The following expectations for behavior and demerit assignments become effective immediately after being selected for the squad:
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|----|---|------------|
| a. | Unexcused absence from any event | 2 Demerits |
| b. | Insubordination-intentionally disobeying the rules | 2 Demerits |
| c. | Disrespect to the sponsor/director or member | 2 Demerits |
| d. | Failure to carry out responsibilities | 1 Demerit |
| e. | Talking to non-members when team is in formation or | |

	performing a chant, cheer, etc.	1 Demerit
f.	Unladylike conduct/public display of affection	2 Demerits
g.	Failure to cooperate during practice	1 Demerit
h.	Failure to maintain uniform	1 Demerit
i.	Incomplete or modified uniform	1 Demerit
j.	Tardy to practice, performance or event	1 Demerit
k.	Chewing gum, eating and drinking during game or performance	1 Demerit
l.	Failure to perform a chant or cheer for any reason other than medical	2 Demerits
m.	Using profane language	5 Demerits
n.	Wearing uniform articles other than on designated days	1 Demerit
o.	Causing unnecessary disturbances during a meeting, practice, or performances.	2 Demerits
p.	Failure to perform in a performance or at an event	2 Demerits
q.	Failure to turn in fund raising money on time	2 Demerits
r.	Fighting	10 Demerits

****When issuing demerits, the sponsor/director will use discretion as to the severity of the misdemeanor and the evidence as presented. Upon receipt of each demerit, the drill team member and sponsor/director will have a conference. The following will also occur:**

- With 3rd Demerit: Conference with drill team member, parent/guardian/caregiver, and sponsor/director
- With 5th Demerit: Conference with drill team member, parent/guardian, sponsor/director/caregiver and principal/designee. The member will be put on probation and benched from the next activity/game including pep rally if applicable
- With 10th Demerit: Dismissed from squad

Section 5 All appearances and routines must first be approved by the principal/designee. If appearance or performance is altered by a drill team member, the member, or members, will be automatically dismissed.

Section 6 Members will be dismissed for any of the following **at any time**:

- a. Disorderly conduct – fighting, arguing, disruption of school environment
- b. Smoking in uniform
- c. Drinking alcoholic beverages in uniform
- d. Disobeying team rules
- e. Disobeying school rules

- f. Benched for the same offense 3 times
- g. Ineligible for any 2 academically eligibility grading periods based on UIL
- h. Not attending required events repeatedly
- i. Failing to fulfill any duties as assigned
- j. Fighting
- k. For any pre-existing or current medical or physical condition which may prevent a drill team member from fully participating in all activities, a medical doctor's written permission is required for the student to continue participating in all activities.
- l. Altering an approved appearance or performance

Section 7 The sponsor/director and principal/designee will decide when to dismiss members.

Section 8 A member may not rejoin the squad for one calendar year if she or he has previously resigned or been dismissed.

ARTICLE X COMPETITION

Section 1 A competition drill dance team may be selected by the sponsor/director.

Section 2 The competition(s') location, date, and time will be decided by the sponsor/director.

Section 3 All members of the competition squad must attend all practices.

Section 4 Funds must be raised to cover the cost of competition by the competitors as determined by the sponsor/director.

Section 5 Failure to participate and put consistent effort into raising funds to cover costs of competition will result in dismissal from the competition squad only.

ARTICLE XI CLASS

Section 1 All drill team members should be enrolled in dance class (See Article XII, section 5 for additional information).

Section 2 Drill team members must make and maintain a notebook at the request of the sponsor/director.

Section 3 Members must lead fitness and conditioning activities.

Section 4 All drill team members' grades will be given by the sponsor/director based on TEKS and in accordance with WISD grading policy. Grades will be taken during the following activities:

Practices
Performances
Promptness
Class participation
Class assignments
Written assignments
Dressing out

ARTICLE XII SPONSOR/DIRECTOR AND DUE PROCESS

Section 1 The sponsor/director will be assigned or selected by the principal/designee.

Section 2 The sponsor/director is required to have CPR and First Aid Certification.

Section 3 The sponsor/director and principal/designee serve as the court on judgment of probation, and suspension, and dismissal.

Section 4 If any questions arise concerning a certain probation or suspension, the case will be referred to the principal/designee by the sponsor/director.

Section 5 If the sponsor/director and principal/designee agree that a special circumstance or situation exists, which warrants altering or setting aside of the above articles, a written agreement specifying the nature of the circumstance and the exact provision which will be made, must be submitted to the District Administrator. The agreement must be signed by the sponsor/director, principal/designee, student and parent/guardian/caregiver to be valid.