

Guidelines for the Bellaire Belles Dance Team 2018-2019

1) PERFORMANCE TRYOUTS

- A. Tryouts are held prior to most performances.
- B. The director(s) may define tryouts as a formal auditioning process or general observation of the members.
- C. Each member is required to participate in tryouts. Provisions for auditions may be made for excused absences on the day of formal auditions.

2) ATTENDANCE

- A. All members are required to attend all practices and performances whether performing or not. Tutoring sessions, work, and other extra-curricular activities must be scheduled outside of dance team practice (usually Mon-Thurs until 4:30 p.m.).
- B. Excused absences follow the students' guidelines for excused school absences with documentation provided to the directors.
- C. Members will be allowed 2 excused absences from practices for the semester without penalty. Excessive absences, even though excused may result in the loss of a position in a performance.
- D. Absence from a dance team function due to detention is considered unexcused.
- E. Members are expected to travel to and from dance team functions with the team if a bus is provided. A member may leave a function only with his/her parent/guardian (or a designated adult) if a note is received in advance. Members may not leave with boyfriends.
- F. Members are expected to be in attendance for the entire event except in the case of an emergency. We will announce the departure time for Thursday night games.
- G. Members may be removed from dances for absences.
- H. Students who have a major event planned for the fall may be excused from one game during the football season if the director(s) have a note stating the event's time, place, and reason for attending by September 1, 2018. After this date, no absence will be excused. Unexcused game absences may result in removal from the following game or performance.
- I. 4 unexcused absences (class, practice, or performance) during football season or 3 during competition season may result in removal from the team.
- J. Leaving early or missing a portion of practice will be considered an absence.
- K. If a member is absent when a dance is taught, then it is that member's responsibility to learn the choreography outside of official practice time.

3) EXPENSES/COSTUMES

- A. Each member is responsible for paying for practice uniforms, shoes, warm-ups, and any other apparel the group may need. Any travel expenses are also the responsibility of the member.
- B. The field uniform and team contest costumes are furnished by the Belles and the Belle Booster Club. Each member is responsible for the maintenance of these uniforms and costumes. Any missing or damaged pieces will be paid for by the member to whom the uniform/costume is issued. Before costumes are issued, a deposit of \$150.00 will be collected. This deposit will be held until costumes are returned in good condition and clean. When costumes are returned, the deposit is voided & returned.
- C. In an effort to keep costs as low as possible, there will be fundraising events. Fundraising events will benefit the team in general. Each member is expected to participate fully.
- D. Each member is expected to remit payments for balances according to the due dates given.

4) GRADE & CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS

- A. A member must meet all grade requirements as outlined by the State Board of Education, Texas

Education Agency, the University Interscholastic League and state law.

- B. Any student who receives a grade lower than 70 during a six-week period will be ineligible and will be placed on probation. The member must participate in practice, but he/she may not perform with the dance team or attend its performance functions. Uniforms may not be worn to game while on probation.
- C. Any member who is placed on grade probation will be assigned an alternate position. Once the member has regained eligibility, he/she may audition for the dance.
- D. All Belles should maintain E average in conduct. Insubordination will lead to dismissal.

5) PERFORMANCES

- A. Members are expected to arrive at performances in costume and make-up (ready to perform). Anyone who is late will sit in the back.
- B. Everything needed for a performance will be carried in the Belle bag.
- C. Members who are wearing unacceptable, incomplete performance attire will not be allowed to perform. **DO NOT FORGET POMS.**
- D. During football games, talking is allowed in the stands, but turning around in the stands is not permitted.
- E. Members must use the restroom before we are seated in the stands at the beginning of the game or during the third quarter when we go to the concession area.
- F. During a football game, members must keep lines straight with bags and poms lined up as directed by the officers.
- G. Members may not talk on cell phones during the game until directed to notify their transportation of pick-up times.
- H. Only water may be consumed in the stands. During the third quarter break students may have clear drinks and non messy food such as popcorn. No nachos or chili.
- I. Members should make all arrangements with parents before the game or during the third quarter break. Students may not have visitors in the stands during the game.

6) CLASS PROCEDURES

- A. Members should arrive 5 minutes after tardy bell in correct attire and shoes.
- B. Members are expected to sit with their company/flight in designated area for roll call member not dressed correctly (including shoes) will be penalized one point from his/her final grade each day.
- C. During class time, grades on dance performance (memory/technique) will be given weekly.
- D. Participation is required each day. Do not ask to sit out. If you are sick, you should be at home. Only doctor's notes will be accepted for non-participation. Dressing out is still required for injured belles. They must still stretch and do what they can during class in order to receive credit for the class.
- E. Members who are repeatedly tardy, not dressed, or displaying a lack of effort can be removed from the team.
- F. The designated end time of practice is when students will be dismissed from the cafeteria.
- G. Finally, members do not make excuses, but strive to improve and grow as dancers. Ask for help if you need practice.

7) MERITS

- A. Merits are given to a Belle for going beyond what is required.
- B. A certain number of merits are required to move up to Varsity (determined by Directors)
- C. Merits are used in determining the selection of honor corps and officers.
- D. Senior achievement award goes to the senior that has accumulated the most merits as a Belle.