

The Constitution for McGREGOR GOLDEN FLAMES DANCE TEAM

I. Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to entertain, to establish dignity in ourselves and our school, to promote school spirit, and to encourage responsibility and self-discipline in every member.

II. Membership

The team shall consist of approximately 20 members, including officers. If fewer than 15 members are chosen, then two (2) officers will be chosen. If 15 to 20 members are chosen, then three (3) officers will be chosen. If more than 20 members are chosen, additional officers may be selected.

III. Try-Out Requirements

All candidates' grades, enrollment status, and discipline record will be checked by the principal. Excessive absences and/or frequent academic failures will be considered.

1. Candidates must have an academic (non-weighted) core-curriculum average of 70 or above for the current year.
2. Candidates must be enrolled in McGregor ISD in the 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grades for at least 12 weeks prior to try-outs, unless they have a recommendation from a dance/drill team director of their previous school.
3. Candidates must have no outstanding monetary obligations to the school.
4. Candidates will try-out before a panel of judges. Judging will include the following criteria: ability to perform dance routines (includes high kicks and splits), appearance (grooming and height-weight proportion), poise, posture, projection, and marching ability (please see enclosed score sheet).

Try-Out Requirements for Officers

Same as above plus:

1. Officer candidates must have been in dance team at least one (1) year.
2. Officer candidates must have an academic (non-weighted) core-curriculum average of 75 or above for the current year.
3. Officer candidates must score 75% or better on the Teacher/Administrator Evaluation. Evaluation sheets will be given to all teachers and administrators that have/had the candidate during the current year.
4. Officer candidates must have completed the officer application.
5. Officer candidates must have an attitude appropriate to accept responsibilities, model correct behavior, and encourage enthusiasm.
6. Officer candidates must choreograph a solo routine to be performed at try-outs before a panel of judges. The timed length of this routine should be approximately 1 1/2 to 2 minutes.
7. Officer candidates will wear their black turtleneck or black scoopneck leotard with their black dance pants for the solo routine.
8. Officer candidates must answer questions during an interview conducted by a panel of judges.
9. Please see Officer Information Packet.

IV. Responsibilities of Members and Officers

All members must meet all obligations throughout the entire year (please see included calendars).

1. Members must attend summer camps and practices. The dates, locations, and fees will be determined by May 15. These will begin shortly after try-outs and continue through the summer.
2. Members must attend all practices and performances. A weekly practice schedule will be determined by the director(s), as well as a fall and spring performance calendar (see examples from previous year).
3. Members must meet UIL requirements throughout the year of membership.
4. Members must meet all financial requirements.

Responsibilities of Officers

1. Officers must meet all responsibilities of members.
2. Officers must maintain a good relation with members, director(s), and other teachers.
3. Officers must set a good example, have a positive attitude, and provide leadership.
4. Officers must assist and support the director(s).
5. Officers will conduct training activities, teach routines, and assist the director(s) in other activities.
6. Officers are responsible for notifying other officers and members of meetings, practices, and other information as needed.
7. Officers must maintain academic eligibility.
8. Officers must enforce all rules and recommend merits and demerits as necessary.
9. Officers must be available for all practices and performances and additional time as determined by the director(s).

V. Financial Responsibility

1. Each member is responsible for providing performance and practice uniforms that will cost between \$175.00 and \$225.00 for the first year of membership, and does not usually exceed \$80.00/year during the remaining years on the team.
2. Each member may be required to pay all or part of summer camp fee.
3. Each member will also be assessed a \$25.00 uniform fee before any school-owned uniforms will be issued. This money will be used for cleaning and repairs needed at the end of the season.
4. Money for orders must be turned in by the due date. A two-week notice will be given. Orders will not be placed after the due date. (The above amounts will not be all due at once.)
5. Deposits will be due one week after try-outs. The deposit for returning members will be \$50.00, and the deposit for first-time members will be \$100.00.
6. The balance will be due on or before September 1st. Failure to pay balance in full by this date will result in the member losing all performance opportunities until the balance has been paid.

VI. Uniforms

1. Uniforms are to be kept clean and in good repair at all times. Care and cleaning instructions will be provided to the members. Failure to follow the instructions could result in damage that would require the member to pay for the item(s).
2. All uniforms must be completed by the designated dates.
3. Uniforms shall not be bought, made, restyled or changed in any way without the permission of the director(s).
 - a. When uniforms are issued, the director will check for fit and skirt length. Changing the fit or skirt length without permission could result in probation or dismissal.
 - b. Uniforms are not to be worn except for games and performances unless permission is given by the director.
 - c. When in uniform, all must be complete. No part should be missing. Not being in proper uniform will result in not performing. The second time means probation. A third time could mean dismissal from the team.
 - d. While dancing, NO jewelry is allowed, except for designated jewelry that would be part of a costume. No necklaces, no belly rings, and no earrings will be worn during practice, pep rallies, games or other scheduled events.
 - e. If a member resigns or is dismissed from the team, all school-owned uniforms are to be turned in immediately.
4. Damaged and lost uniforms belonging to the school will be paid for by the member. All school-owned uniforms are to be returned by the date designated by the director. Failure to return and/or pay for uniforms will result in the forfeiture of the member's position on the team. School grades and records can be withheld until all fees and damages have been paid in full.
5. School-owned uniforms issued to each member have a replacement value of over \$975.00. (please see included uniform list)

VII. Performance Requirements and Attendance

Excused absences from practices, performances, contests, and/or trips are:

- (1) Illness of member with a note from parent and/or doctor.
- (2) Death in the immediate family.
- (3) Special school activities or other absence previously approved by the director.

Arrangements must be made in advance of the time of the event with a note or phone call from the parent. Notes or phone calls received "after the fact" could result in an unexcused absence.

1. Every member will attend all practices and performances unless excused by the director(s).
2. Each day every member is expected to dress out in leotards, tights, and required shoes. If she does not for any reason, it will be considered an absence.
3. Try-outs will be held prior to the performance of each routine. Judging will be done by the director(s) with the help of the officers as needed.
4. A member who has an absence for a band-show rehearsal (ie, Monday nights) will forfeit her position in the band-show performance until subsequent selections are made.
5. A member who has two (2) excused absences during a week will forfeit her position for that week's performance.
6. A member who has one (1) unexcused absence from school will forfeit an upcoming performance.
(3 unexcused tardies = 1 unexcused absence)

VIII. Performing and Conduct

1. There will be no smoking, drinking, or unbecoming conduct at any practice or any other time a member is in uniform or representing the school.
2. Conduct of members should reflect the high expectations held by the community at all times. Members will refrain from public displays of physical violence, verbal abuse, affection, etc., that would demean the position of the member.
3. Tattoos, tongue rings, or any prohibited body-altering display will not be allowed. Tattoos that cannot be covered by uniforms will result in immediate dismissal.
4. Members will be expected to keep cell phones out of sight and out of use during all practices and activities. Cell phones may only be used after the practices and on the bus going to and from activities.
5. Each member must be willing to give afternoons and/or early mornings during the week to practice. Members will be expected to remain after school to complete work. Additional time may be required on the weekend.
6. Members will be expected to attend all varsity football games and additional activities as decided by the director(s) and/or principal. Additional activities will include, but are not limited to, performing at all director-selected contests, basketball games, parades, clinics, and spring revue (Show-Off Night).
7. Members will be excused from attending games or activities for only those reasons stated previously in this document. (VII. Performance Requirements and Attendance)
8. Members should be on time to all practices and performances unless permission has been given by the director prior to the scheduled practice or performance.
9. Members will cooperate with all teachers and administrative staff of McGregor High School. They must cooperate with the director(s), other dance team members, the members of the band and flag corps, and the cheerleaders.
10. If a member attends school but feels too ill to practice, she must inform the director before practice begins, with the understanding that this will be considered an absence and that the member is required to dress out during the practice.
11. At athletic games and other performances members will sit in or meet at the dance team assigned places. No outsiders will be permitted to sit with the group or visit during the game or performance time unless permission has been given by the director.
12. Any member who is not performing will attend the game or performance and will sit in the dance team assigned area. Failure to attend will result in suspension or loss of future performing privileges.
13. Members must travel to and from all out-of-town events in the vehicle provided by the school.

IX. Grading Procedures

The grade for the class will be based on participation and a member's ability to carry out assignments which may be physical or written. A merit-demerit system will be used by the director(s) as a basis for determining each member's grade in dance team class. One merit or demerit equals two (2) points. Merits---Each member will receive 100 points (50 Merits) at the beginning of each reporting period. To maintain this grade, a member must follow all rules and procedures as outlined in this document. Extra

merits may be earned when a member performs extra duties or tasks as designated by the director(s).

One merit will be given for the following:

1. Assisting the director or the officers.
2. Making props or costumes.
3. Cleaning the dressing room.
4. Being selected "Flame of the Week".
5. Doing any duty or activity designated by the director.

Demerits--A member's grade will be lowered two (2) points for each demerit received during a given reporting period. Demerits may be given by the director(s) or officers. One demerit except where otherwise indicated, will be given for the following:

1. Excessive moving or talking at a practice or performance, includes cell phone use.
2. Not wearing the appropriate practice apparel or correct uniform.
3. Being late to class, practice, or a performance.
4. Wearing a uniform that is not appropriately maintained (not clean, not pressed, unhemmed, etc.).
5. Using profanity. (3 demerits)
6. Talking back to the director or the officers. (3 demerits)
7. Having an unexcused absence for class, practice, or performance. (3 demerits)
8. Committing any repeated inappropriate behavior that conflicts with the member's ability to carry out her responsibilities, an officer's ability to carry out duties, or the director's ability to direct the organization. (2 demerits)

Along with the grade reduction, the accumulation of three (3) demerits within a week results in the member performing an activity assigned by the director (i.e. ten 8-counts of high kicks, lunges down the court, etc.). With the accumulation of additional demerits within a week, a member will be required to do an additional activity for each demerit.

Any member who receives five (5) or more demerits during a reporting period will be placed on probation.

X. Reasons for Punishment or Dismissal

Reasons for punishment by forfeiting a performance include:

1. With two (2) or more excused absences from practice during the week, the member will forfeit her position for that week's performance. Excused absences are:
 - (1) Blue slip from the office indicating an excused absence.
 - (2) Doctor or dentist appointment with a note from the doctor.
 - (3) A previously approved school-related absence.
2. With one unexcused absence from practice during the week, the member will forfeit an upcoming performance, chosen at the director's discretion.
3. With an absence from class and/or school on the day of a performance, the member will forfeit her position to perform that day unless prior notification and arrangements have been made with the director(s).
4. When a member is late without a valid reason, this will count one-third (1/3) of an unexcused absence. Three (3) unexcused tardies will be considered one (1) unexcused absence.

Reasons for suspension/dismissal may include:

1. Failure to comply with the rules listed in this document or accumulation of more than fifteen (15) demerits per semester.
2. Failure to maintain academic eligibility.
3. Poor health, physical disability, or any physical condition that would cause one to be unable to perform normal activities that are required of dance team members.
4. Three (3) unexcused absences from summer practices, extra practices, games and/or performances.
5. The violation of rules of McGregor ISD which requires suspension or dismissal from school.

XI. Requirements to Letter in Dance Team

A member may letter if she:

1. Is an active member in good standing who has accumulated the minimum-point requirements (please see included jacket requirements). The member will receive (take possession of) the jacket upon the completion of the year.
2. Has no outstanding monetary obligations to the school.
3. Meets all rules applying to procedures used to determine eligibility to letter for athletes, band members, etc.

The director(s) has the authority to decide any matters relating to dance team not covered in the above rules and the “intent” of all dance-team rules. The director(s) may consult with the principal, the faculty, the coaches, the member’s parents, or anyone involved before making a final decision. Decisions are at the discretion of the director(s).

I have read all of the above rules, and I understand and agree to all of the conditions. I am also aware of the obligations to the dance-team program if selected as a member and additional obligations if selected as an officer. I have discussed with my parents these responsibilities.

Signature of Candidate

Date

I have read all of the above rules, and I understand and agree to all of the conditions. I am aware of the obligations to the dance-team program if my daughter is selected as a member and additional obligations if she is selected an officer. I have discussed with my daughter these responsibilities, and I have given her permission to try-out.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I have discussed with the principal and the director(s) my responsibilities if selected to the dance team, and I understand that my academic, attendance, and enrollment status will be checked by the principal before try-outs.

Signature of Candidate

Signature of Principal

Signature of Director

STUDENT’S COPY

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I have discussed with the principal and the director(s) my responsibilities if selected to the dance team, and I understand that my academic, attendance, and enrollment status will be checked by the principal before try-outs.

Signature of Candidate

Signature of Principal

Signature of Director

RETURN THIS COPY TO THE DIRECTOR

REFERENCED INFORMATION PACKET

Contents

School-Owned Uniform List

Jacket Requirements

SCHOOL-OWNED UNIFORMS

The following is the list of school-owned uniforms, totaling over \$900.00, that are your responsibility for the upcoming year. Hopefully, your only cost will be to keep the uniforms cleaned and in good shape so that the uniforms can be used again. Regular and proper cleaning is the responsibility of the member.

Unless it has been indicated otherwise, all items must be clean when returned. Also, when returning the uniforms, place on hangers or in bags as indicated.

All uniforms will be checked for cleanliness and damage at the end of the year.

REMEMBER: If an item has been damaged beyond repair, the value for replacing the item must be paid. Stains and damages due to improper cleaning or handling will result in the member replacing the item in question. If the damage can be repaired, the cost of the repair must be paid. If any repairs are known to be needed, please make a note of these and pin it with the damaged uniform. If an item has been lost, the value for replacing it must be paid.

IMPORTANT: All items will be returned by the date assigned to you. If the uniforms are not returned as needed, then demerits will be given and the member must attend class for the exam period. The member will do assignments as issued by the director, as well as losing exam exemptions from other classes (school policy).

UNIFORMS	REPLACEMENT COST
1. Dress Uniform	
White Bodysuit	\$48.00
Black Top w/ sequined design	\$65.00
Black Skirt	\$30.00
White Skirt	\$35.00
Sequined Overlay	\$52.00
Designed Overlay	\$50.00
Designed Gauntlets	\$15.00
Sequined Gauntlets (small bag)	\$17.00
Sequined Bands (small bag)	
Waist	\$10.00
V-Waist	\$10.00
Ankles (each)	\$ 5.00
Wrists (each)	\$ 4.00
Performance Shoes (per pair)	\$29.00
2. Performance Uniforms (folded in tote bag)	
Black Sleeveless Turtleneck Leo	\$22.00 (XL sizes \$24.00)
Black Sleeveless Scoopneck Leo	\$23.00 (\$25.00)
Black Long-sleeved Turtleneck Leo	\$25.00 (\$27.00)
Black Jazz Pants	\$30.00 (\$32.00)
Black Dance Pants	\$26.00 (\$28.00)
“Flame” Leotard	\$40.00 (\$42.00)
Sleeveless Half-Tops, T-shirt Tops	\$25.00 (\$27.00)
Color-block Flame Top w/ zipper front	\$32.00 (\$37.00)
Long-sleeve Half-Tops	\$34.00 (\$36.00)
Black A-Line Skirt	\$26.00 (\$30.00)
Black Ankle Pants	\$19.00 (\$21.00)
3. Practice Leotards and Biketards (folded in tote bag)	
Sleeveless Biketards (each)	\$23.00 (\$28.00)
Sleeveless Turtlenecks (each)	\$19.00 (\$24.00)
Long Sleeved Turtlenecks (each)	\$24.00 (\$29.00)
4. Other (folded in bag)	
Windsuit Jacket	\$50.00
Windsuit Pants	\$22.00
GF Tote Bag	\$19.00
GF Garment Bag	\$18.00
5. Additional Items used for Contest or Show-Off Night	prices vary (\$20.00 - \$90.00)

Dance Letter Jacket Requirements

established March, 2002---revised March, 2006
beginning with the 2002-03 School Year

	Team Expectations	Team Bonus	Officer Bonus
Dance Membership Activity Points (2 points per semester) <i>Dance Officer Activity Points</i> (3 points per year)	4		3
Line-Camp Participation (2 points maximum) Nomination for Best Dancer/Kick Club at camp Selection as Best Dancer/Kick Club at camp <i>Officer Camp Participation</i> (2 points maximum)	2	1 1	2
Attendance at Summer (non-camp) Practices (5 points maximum)	5		
Accumulation of 4 or fewer Demerits per Six-Week Grading Period (2 points per six-weeks---12 points maximum)	12		
UIL Participation in Half-time Show (1 point per routine) 1st Division at UIL Region Marching Contest Advancement to Area and/or State Marching Contest (2 points per contest---4 points maximum)	3	3 4*	
Participation in Half-time Feature Routines (1 point per performance---10 points maximum) Selection as Flame of the Week	10	1	
Participation in Non-Contest Event (1 point per event---5 points maximum)	5		
Participation in Clinic or One-Day Workshop (1 point per event---2 points maximum) Nomination for Best Dancer/Kick Club Selection as Best Dancer/Kick Club	1	1 1	
Participation in Contests (1 point per team routine---3 points maximum per contest event) Ratings Value per Team Routine (1st-2nd-3rd* 1 0 -1) Selection as BEST IN CLASS for Team Division Rating Value per Solo/Ensemble Routine (1st-2nd-3rd* 1 0 -1) <i>Rating Value per Officer Routine</i> (1st-2nd-3rd* 1 0 -1) <i>Selection as BEST IN CLASS for Officer Division</i>	4 (7) 3*	3 2*	3* 3

Point-variance due to contest results--maximum points illustrated

Deductions

Ineligible due to no-pass/no-play (per three-week period)	-1
Sent to ISS (per five-days of each assignment)	-2
Suspended (per occurrence)	-4
Sent to AEP (per occurrence)	-10

Total 100 points for Jacket