

MINIKETTES DANCE TEAM CONSTITUTION PREAMBLE

FORWARD

The Minikettes are an introductory student organization that participates in a football, contest, and spring show performance during the regular academic year. The purpose of this team is to expose the students who are interested in being a Markette to the daily work habits, expectations and responsibilities that are required in Markettes. Being a member of the Minikettes in no way guarantees membership into the Markette Dance Team. Minikette members will be expected to abide by and uphold most of the Markette rules and expectations. This is implemented to ensure that all students understand and experience what would be expected of them should they make Markettes following try-outs.

PREAMBLE

Activities

- A. I will participate in daily classes, performances, after school activities, and other required functions.
- B. I know that all Minikette activities are mandatory for everyone and that the only excuses for absence are those listed in the Constitution.

Moral Code

- A. I will conduct myself in a lady-like manner, remembering that I am representing my district, school, family and self at all times.
- B. I will carry out all instructions with a conscientious and enthusiastic attitude.

Costumes

- A. Costumes should be worn with respect and dignity. I will keep them in perfect condition or I will be responsible for replacing the imperfect pieces.
- B. I know the costumes consist of the following:
 - 1. All costumes issued throughout the year.
 - 2. All props, poms, t-shirts and accessories
- C. I know it is my duty to know when each costume is required and to wear it properly. I alone am responsible for my costume.

Attitude

- A. I understand the duty of the director(s) in leading and organizing all team activities.
- B. I will not hold any personal prejudices and/or grudges and will practice the rules of good sportsmanship at all times.
- C. I will try at all times to make the dance team an outstanding organization with loyalty, dignity and honor.

MINIKETTE TEAM CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section I: Basic Tryout Requirements

- A. The term of a team member begins on the day that that member's name is officially posted and continues until the completion of each school year, official termination of membership or transfer from high school. Throughout the member's official membership, each member is responsible for adhering to all rules and regulations specified in this constitution.
- B. If a current 9th grade member wishes to continue on the team for her 10th grade year, she must try-out again.
- C. In order to gain membership each girl must fulfill all of the following requirements:
 1. Prospective members must be in grades 8-9th to try out. Members of Minikettes may only be 9th-10th grade to maintain membership.
 2. Each performance may have its own tryouts once a member is selected for the dance team.
 3. Prospective members and their parents(s) must be fully aware of the expenses of dance team as explained in the initial information form
 4. Prospective members may have to obtain a physical filed out by a licensed physician and have it turned into the director(s) before the football performance.

Section II: Maintaining Membership

Each member must adhere to and abide by all rules and regulations as set forth in the Constitution and by the dance team director(s).

- A. Grade Restrictions
 1. Basic Requirements
 - a. Each member must meet "no pass-no play" requirements to participate. Ineligible students will be placed on probation.
 - b. All grade averages will be checked immediately after the close of each grading period.
 2. Disciplinary Actions for Failure to Meet Grade Requirements
A girl is ineligible from all extra-curricular dance team performances until she regains her eligibility.
 3. Loss of Membership
 - a. A member who is ineligible for two grading periods will be subject to dismissal or put on probation.
 - b. A member who is ineligible for two grading periods will be dismissed.
 - c. If a member is dismissed because of grades, that member is to remain off the team for the remainder of the year.
- B. Conduct Restrictions/Probation
 1. Basic Conduct Requirements
 - a. It is expected that a dance team member's conduct in all classes will be satisfactory.

- b. Any member who receives three N's in one school will be put on probation.
- 2. Loss of Membership
 - a. Any member who receives a "U" in conduct will be subject to dismissal from the team.
 - b. Once a member is dismissed from the team for conduct or probation, the member can only be reinstated after review by the principal and director(s).
- 3. Miscellaneous Conduct Requirements
 - a. Minikette members are expected to abide by the rules and regulations as stipulated in the Spring Branch Independent School District Handbook. Infraction of these rules resulting in discipline will automatically result in demerits or dismissal from the dance team.
 - b. A dance team member may be dismissed from the team if found guilty of any of the following:
 - 1. Smoking
 - 2. Drinking
 - 3. Illegal Drug Usage
 - 4. Using undesirable language or unacceptable behavior (as judged by the director(s))
 - 5. Defacing of Property
 - 6. Fighting
 - 7. Being suspended, being expelled, or being assigned home bound instruction.
 - c. A Minikette member will be subject to dismissal from the team on the member's second assignment to in-school suspension.
 - d. A Minikette member will be immediately dismissed from the team if assigned to SAC/alternative.

Section III: Attitude Requirements

- A. A member is expected to exhibit a positive attitude at all times. A member should never take part in or encourage complaining, griping, or speaking poorly about the Minikette team, the school, and/or the director(s).
- B. A member is expected to fully support any project undertaken by the dance team.
- C. Expulsion by the director(s) for poor attitude will occur only after consultation with the principal and any teacher involved.
- D. A member must not participate with or administer any type of internet websites, or electronic communications i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat emails, etc. that complain about or negatively speak about the dance team, the school and/or the directors(s).

ARTICLE IV GENERAL POLICIES

Section I Excused Absences

- A. Absence from any dance team activity is unexcused except for the circumstances listed below:
 - 1. Personal illness or accident
 - 2. Death in the family
 - 3. Prearranged special activities with approval by the director(s)

- B. It is the responsibility of the student to meet with the director(s) and obtain approval no less than twenty four hours before the time of the requested absence. The absence will otherwise be unexcused and demerits will be issued.
- C. The director(s) may be informed by email of a member's absence as long as it is sent 2 days in advance so the director(s) can respond and approve or disapprove the absence. Without a response email from the director(s) the absent member will be unexcused and demerits will be issued.

Section II General Requirements

- A. All dance team members are expected to attend and participate in all activities, classes, practices, performances, and team functions.
- B. It is expected that each dance member realize that to attain championship performance standards, the following conditions must be met:
 1. Tryouts will be held for all team performances.
 2. Once a member passes a dance tryout, the member may not be allowed to perform if the member misses a scheduled practice.
 3. A true-effort must be made to schedule doctor's appointments for non-practice days and/or times.
 4. If a dance team member misses any class or practice, the member is responsible for any instruction missed. She will also be held responsible for any announcements made or routines taught in her absence.
 5. All members whether they are performing or not are required to attend ALL practices.

ARTICLE V ORGANIZATON EXPENSES

- A. Each member will be given an estimated cost sheet.
- B. If a member is dismissed or is no longer going to be part of the dance team; the member is still responsible for all monies owed. The member may not be able to have a schedule change and/or records will be held until the member's account is paid in full.
- C. All monies paid toward the dance team are non-refundable the moment money is spent for the members.

ARTICLE VIII TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

In officially terminating membership, the following conditions must be met:

- A. Written statement of membership termination which specifies the general reason for leaving must be signed by the member and forwarded to the member parent(s).
- B. The member will receive a class schedule change and be cleared from team records only after the member turns in all costumes, equipment and accessories, etc.

Appendix B Demerit and Merit System

- A. Demerit System
 1. Demerits may be given to all given to all dance team members by the directors at any Minikette function
 2. Every Thursday before technique classes, if a member received a demerit during that week, she will have to perform a designated kick combination or conditioning for the

director. The punishment alone does not clear the demerit, it must be accompanied by 10 merits. Demerits must be cleared the week they are earned or they become permanent.

3. If a member fails to come Thursday to perform the designated kick combination or conditioning, the demerits will be doubled.
4. The 5th time a member is given a demerit for the same infraction, that demerit and every subsequent demerit for the same infraction becomes permanent.
5. A record of all demerits and merits received by each member is to be kept by the Directors or Markette Dance Officers.
6. Demerits are accumulated from August to May.
7. A member may receive 15 demerits; 16-19 designates probation.
8. Upon receiving the 20th demerit, the member will be dismissed.
9. Any member who receives 3 or more demerits in one week, after the start of school will be benched in the following weeks of performance, during football season, regardless of the number of merits received.
10. For the remainder of the year, any member who receives 5 or more demerits in one week will be removed from a competition dance and/or spring show dance, regardless of merits received.

Section I: Demerits

Tardies

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Failure to turn in paperwork or supplies on time | 1 |
| 2. Late for class/practice or performance | 1 |

Uniforms

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Incomplete performance uniform | 1 per piece |
| 2. Not wearing correct practice attire | 1 |
| 3. Wearing colored nail polish for performances | 1 |
| 4. Wearing undergarments with uniform | 1 |
| 5. Not properly dressed on designated days (pep rally, trip, ect.) | 1 |
| 6. Failure to put props, clothing, equipment, trash in
Proper places or leaving anything out in dance room | 1 |
| 7. Borrowing any items and not returning the next day | 1 |

Grooming

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Dirty costume | 1 |
| 2. Rips in tights (must pay/replace) | 1 |
| 3. Improper care/cleaning of performance costumes | 1 per piece |
| 4. Hair not properly done as requested for practice/performance | 1 |
| 5. Improper make- up and/or no make up | 1 |

Conduct

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Talking during practice (after order was given) | 1 |
| 4. Not obeying director commands | 1 |
| 5. Not standing as directed for a performance | 1 |
| 6. Chewing gum at practice or performance | 1 |
| 7. Failure to not turn cell phones off/silence | 1 |
| 8. Talking on cell phones at non-designated times | 1 |

10. Improper attitude	1
11. Changing or removing clothes in public	1
12. Failure to inform directors of academic or discipline problems with progress reports or report cards	1
13. Inappropriate conduct or unbecoming acts of a lady (Use of profane language, Kissing in the hallways, sitting in others laps, etc)	1-5
14. Insubordination	1-5
15. Disciplinary offense not specifically mentioned	1-5
16. Assigned to AEP (probation)	7
17. Smoking at school or any school function (dismissal)	20
18. Use of alcohol or drugs (dismissal)	20

Absenteeism

1. Unexcused absence from any practice	4
2. Absent from school or practice without emailing before school starts	2
3. Leaving practice and/or function early without prior permission	2
4. Not attending a committed function- without director approval	2
5. Missing a performance (w/o permission)	3-5

Section II:

B. Merit System

1. The directors may give to the team members, regardless of company
2. A record of merits received by each member is to be kept by the Lieutenants; Officers Merits are kept by the Major.
3. Merits are accumulated from June to May
4. Ten merits equal a removal of one demerit
5. 75 merits are required to audition for Markettes in the spring.
6. Merits may NOT be accumulated to gain eligibility for a performance. Gaining merits can only delete demerits from an eligibility stand point but will stay a part of their permanent record.

Section I: Merits (opportunities but not limited to)

1. Attending non-required games at Memorial, Tully, etc. with dated ticket
2. Attending non-required games/events held at other schools with dated ticket
3. Attending special approved functions (dance clinics etc...)
4. Attending dance classes outside of school
5. Tasks designated by the directors (signs, posters, drinks, etc)
6. 6 weeks averages (It is the member's responsibility to show proof to the director the week report cards are received)

All A's and two B's and all E's and S's

All A's and one B and all E's and S's

All A's and all E's and S's

Appendix C Minikette Conduct Code

Section I— Each dance team member should set a good example at all times. Members of the dance team are expected to have and maintain a character above all reproach. Personal appearance and habit of which there can be no criticism are expected since dance team members are constantly representing the school in an out of school hours.

1. Every member will at all times conduct herself as a lady
2. The use of profanity will not be tolerated at any time
3. There will be no public displays of affection with boyfriends
While at school, at a school function or in uniform
4. Every member will be respectful to all adults, including school Officials, chaperones and directors
5. Any members quitting the dance team or dismissed from the dance team will remain off the dance team for the rest of the year.

Section II: Additional Penalties

1. When a member is to be absent it is her responsibility to contact the director before 7:45 am the day she is absent or she will receive demerits and the absence will be unexcused
2. If the director(s) are informed by email of a Markettes absence, please be able to provide documentation of the date and time of which the email was sent
3. If a member cannot attend a committed function, she is to notify the directors as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in demerits.
4. All students who participate in the football game performance must be in half-day attendance (3 periods, excluding lunch) the day the game is scheduled.
5. If a member is absent on the day of a tryout, she may forfeit her ability to try-out for that dance.
6. A member may be cut from a performance if the member is absent from any practice.
7. A member who is cut from any performance is still expected to dress out and attend all practices and performances with the team.
8. Any unexcused absence from any performance will result in dismissal or demerits as designated by the directors.
10. With accordance to the demerit/merit system, the director with administrative approval will determine the number and kind of demerit/merit given with regards to special circumstances.

Memorial Minikettes Constitutional Agreement

I have read and understand the Memorial Minikette Constitution and will abide by its rules and regulations. I understand what is expected of my daughter while she is a member of the dance team.

Parent signature

date

I have read and understand the Memorial Minikette Constitution and will abide by its rules and regulations. I understand what is expected of me while I am a member of this dance team.

Minikette signature

date

Director signature

date