CONSTITUTION

**ARGYLE HIGH SCHOOL DRILL TEAM**

ARGYLE  INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2019 – 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

So that all dance students in Argyle High School will be afforded the opportunity to explore, display, test, evaluate, and refine their talents, based upon their individual development, the Fine arts Department will provide opportunities for successful student self-expression and personal growth as artists, citizens and life-long learners, fostering community/parental support through school, district-wide and state and/or national levels of performance.

ARTICLE I. GOAL

The goal of this document is to develop a set of uniform guidelines for the Drill Team Organization at Argyle High School.  These guidelines will focus on the proper implementation of tryouts, membership requirements, and performance expectations of the various organizations.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Each member will give of his/her time to participate in required activities throughout the year.  The individual should not hold a job or participate in an outside dance activity that will interfere with spirit group activities. If an outside activity interferes with the student’s involvement, the student may be removed from membership in the organization.

Section II. Each member will participate in all assigned fundraising activities to meet his/her financial obligation.

Section III. The members and their parents shall be aware of the responsibilities and expenses of the individual groups stated in the tryout packet distributed to all prospective members.

Section IV. The parents must be willing to support the member in complying with all rules and regulations of the school and the organization.

Section V. Students who for whatever reason has been dismissed from a spirit organization on two (2) separate occasions are ineligible for membership.

Section VI. Students who quit drill team will be ineligible to tryout the following year. An appeal, in extenuating circumstances, may be made to the director/coach.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section I. Dance/Drill Team

Dance Team membership is open to ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. Students will specialize in advanced dance styles and technique.  To become a member, the student must participate in a tryout procedure and follow rules and regulations set forth by the school. Requirements for competition team selection will be specified at a later date.

ARTICLE IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

Section I. All members will attend athletic events, practices, activities, and competitions designated by the director.  Members must participate in projects to promote school spirit and assigned fund-raising activities.

Section II. Any member who does not meet performance expectations during practice in-class, or before or after school, or who has one or more absences from practice, may be excluded from participation in that week’s performance.

Section III. All members are expected to maintain eligibility.  Grades will be reviewed each nine weeks. Receiving one or more “F’s” in a nine-week period will result in scholastic probation for three weeks.  Receiving an “F” in any two nine-week grading periods may result in dismissal from the group.

ARTICLE V. ATTENDANCE

 Section I.

1. Attendance at all Drill Team activities is required.
2. A member may have no more than three (3) unexcused absences from meetings and practices.  The member may not accumulate more than ten (10) absences from activities for the entire year.  Absences in excess of three (3) unexcused or ten (10) for the year may be grounds for probations and/or dismissal from the organization. Cases of prolonged absence may receive special consideration when presented to the director in writing.

1. Excused absences include:
	1. Personal illness or accident
	2. Funeral or death in the family
	3. Special school activities which are approved in advance by the director
	4. Religious holiday
	5. Weddings in the immediate family

Note: Out of town trips, vacations, and work are not excuses for missing required spirit group activities.  (Unscheduled playoff games included)

1. In order to receive an excused absence from practice, a member

Must present a WRITTEN note (from the parent/guardian) to the director.  The note must include the member’s name, date, reason for absence, and parent and/or guardian signature and phone number.  In any case the director may ask for more paper work to excuse the absence.

1. In case of illness, a parent/guardian must notify the director by telephone or email prior to the practice or performance, and the member, upon returning, must present a written note with the information stated above. (Section D)

2. An unexcused absence is automatically given if a note is not presented to the director.  This may affect the student’s

 standing or membership in the organization.

 E. When a member is absent, it is his/her responsibility to call a fellow member to find out what was missed and what is required

 upon his/her return (proper uniforms, meeting deadlines, etc.)

 F. Any member who misses one practice may forfeit performing in the next scheduled performance.

G. Any member who misses assigned games may be subject to performance penalties.

Section II. Performances/Games

1. All members shall attend all varsity football, assigned basketball, and all other designated events.  Competition beyond the district level will necessitate further participation (playoffs). (Administrative approval required).
2. An unexcused absence from a performance/game will result in performance penalties, demerits and/or probation.

C. To excuse an absence from a game, see Article VI, Section I, D.   The member will be required to attend the next scheduled game.

D. Only in cases of extenuating circumstances will a student be allowed to leave a game or function with his/her parents/guardians.   The following procedure must be followed:

1. A note must be presented to the director and administrator.            It must state the member’s name, date of the game, name and signature of the parent/guardian, and phone number.  The reason for the request must be outlined in the written statement.

 2. Parents must personally take responsibility for the member by meeting the director in the stands at the end of the game.   If the adult who is to take the member does not follow this procedure, the member must return on the bus with the group.

 3. Any exceptions to this procedure must be approved by the director and an administrator.

Section III. Class Attendance

 A. A student must present an admittance slip to the director following an absence.

 B. When a member is absent, it is his/her responsibility to call another member to find out what he/she is required to do the day he/she returns.  (See Article VI, Section E)

Section IV. Tardies

 A. Members must be at designated functions at specified times. tardies will result in a MAJESTIC.

1. Class tardies will be handled according to school policy.

ARTICLE VI. MERITS/DEMERITS

Section I. All merits and demerits received by the student will be approved by the director and will be in effect for one semester.  A student may cancel demerits by acquiring merits during any semester. The ratio is three merits for each demerit.

Section II. Merits

6 Straight “A” report card

1-10 Special assignments by the director

1. Super spirit and yelling

6 Perfect attendance record for nine weeks

Section III. Demerits

 Students may accumulate demerits at any time following membership selection.  Demerits are issued for improper conduct.  Demerits will not affect the grade but will affect active status in the organization.  All demerits issued must have director approval, and will be in effect for one semester.  One demerit can be cancelled by earning three merits during a semester.

 A. Attendance and Tardies

 3 Unexcused absence from game or activity

 2 Unexcused absence from practice or meetings

 1 Tardy to practice, games, roll call, trips, etc.

 B. Uniform

 2 Failure to wear proper uniform when required

 5 Failure to remain in uniform

 C. General

 1-5 In-school suspension

 1-5 Disrespect towards director and fellow teammates

1-5       Failure to fulfill assignments or instructions given by director

 D.   MAJESTICS

Students will be assigned a “MAJESTIC” for the following reasons :

1. Tardy to roll call
2. Failure to be in correct uniform
3. Failure to be prepared for practice with all items

Section IV. REWARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

A. A member accumulating 5 or more demerits in a semester will be    placed on spirit probation unless merits have been accumulated to offset demerits.

B. A member accumulating 10 or more demerits   will be dismissed from the organization and may be denied future participation.

 C. In order to be eligible for end-of-the-year awards, attendance must be in accordance with the Constitution and the member must be in good standing.

ARTICLE VII. PROBATION

 Section I. Scholastic Probation

Receiving one or more “F’s” in any nine-week grading period will constitute scholastic probation.  This probationary period will coincide with state law. “No pass, no play”. The student must be passing all classes as indicated on the progress report.  The member will participate in practices but will not be allowed to perform, will not wear the uniform and will not travel with the team. This type of probation will affect the student’s membership in a spirit group.  Receiving an “F” in any two nine-week grading periods may result in dismissal from the spirit group. (See Article V, Section III)

Section II. Spirit Group Probation

When a member is placed on spirit group probation, the member and his/her parents will be notified to attend a meeting with the director and or administrator to discuss the consequences for violation of the standards of conduct set out in the Spirit Group Constitution.

A. The length of spirit group probation is 15 consecutive school days.

 Weekends are included in the probationary period but are not part

 of the 15 day probation.

B. A student must within the fifteen-day probation period complete an assignment as specified by the director to remove the five demerits.

C A member violating this probationary status will be dismissed from the organization.

D. When on spirit group probation, the member will not be able to participate actively in the group (perform or serve as an officer) but must attend all practices, group functions and be in uniform. In the event of probation a member may be removed from an officer position.

**E. Violation of the Student Code of Conduct may result in additional consequences.  See Student Code of Conduct and Student-Parent Acknowledgement Form.**

Section III. Reasons for Dismissal:

Drill team members must display appropriate behavior both in and out of school.  Dismissal from the team may occur for reasons including but not limited to:

1.  Violation of drill team standards of conduct, grades and performance.

2.  Violation of the Argyle High School Student Handbook when the violation results in:

        a.  in-school suspension (at the director’s discretion)

        b.  placement in out-of-school suspension

        c.  placement in the Alternative Education Center

        d.  expulsion to the DAEP

3.  Violation of the AISD Student Code of Conduct when the violation results in:

        a.  in-school suspension

        b.  placement in out-of-school suspension

        c.  placement in the AISD Alternative Education Center

        d.  expulsion

4. . A member accumulating 10 demerits will be dismissed from the organization, regardless of merits accumulated.

5. Violation of the Argyle Majestics Social Media Contract.

6. A member being placed on Spirit Probation twice will be dismissed from the spirit group.

ARTICLE VIII. TRYOUTS

Section I. Procedures

A. Each candidate trying out for a position on Drill Team will try out in front of a panel of impartial judges.

B. All candidates will be required to attend a mandatory tryout meeting scheduled by the sponsor.  At that time the candidate will receive a “tryout packet” outlining projected costs, tentative schedules, and a copy of pertinent parts of the Constitution/Handbook.

C. To establish eligibility for tryouts, a candidate must:

 1. Submit a tryout application

2. Submit proof of insurance

3. Be a member in good financial standing with the district,   campus, and required outside instruction (example: gymnastics).

D. A candidate is expected to attend the tryout workshop and a mock tryout.  If a candidate misses the mock tryout session, he/she is automatically withdrawn from tryouts, unless candidate has prior approval for absence from the director. All mock tryouts and tryouts are closed to spectators.

1. Privately paid instruction for candidates, by current members, is prohibited during the workshop period.
2. Membership is for the current year only.  All members of an organization must re-establish their membership through audition.
3. Candidates must clear all financial obligations prior to tryouts.
4. Candidates for an organization may submit to the organization’s director a letter from a physician licensed to practice medicine in the United States, describing any serious physical injury that may have an impact on the student’s ability to actively participate in the tryouts.  The physician’s letter must state; injury, limitations, and date for clearance to return to the activity.The director will provide copies of the physician’s letter to the tryout judges, on which the student’s name will be redacted and replaced by the student’s tryout number.  The judges may use their professional discretion in scoring the candidate.
5. Candidates who suffer a serious injury that may impact their ability to actively participate in the tryouts, may submit a videotape that contains a demonstration of the student’s current skills in high impact activities (e.g., jumping, turning, kicking, etc.), if such activities are affected by the student’s injury.  The videotape may not exceed 60 seconds in length and must be submitted on the day of tryouts. The use of videotapes at tryouts rests in the sole discretion of the organization director, whose decision is final.

Section II. Scoring Procedures

The following point system will be utilized in all tryouts.

Point System:

 Judge #1 100

 Judge #2 100

 Judge #3 100

300 points maximum

Judges’ scores: There will be three judges*.*  Points will be awarded according to the tryout score sheet.

Campus staff will tabulate judges’ scores.  Scores will be sorted by descending order. Candidates must achieve an average score of an 80 from the 3 judges to make the team. Determination will be made based on tryout numbers, rather than candidate names.

 Section III. DANCE OFFICERS

The officers will act as leaders of the drill team, both in and out of school.  They will conduct themselves with dedication, determination, and devotion to this organization. All Officers are expected to promote and represent the organization above reproach in all outside activities.  It is the responsibility of the officers to assist the director with the performances of the team through choreography, teaching, and polishing of routines.

A. The Dance Officers consist of a Captain and Lieutenants, number to be at the discretion of the director.

B.  The Captain must be on the Majestics drill team for at least two years and must be a Junior or Senior, and be on the team at the time of tryouts, attend the tryout meeting with a parent, and attend all tryout practices.

C.  The Lieutenants must be on the Majestics drill team for at least one year and must be a Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, and be on the team at the time of tryouts, attend the tryout meeting with a parent, and attend all tryout practices.

D.  Selection of Dance Officers

1.  The performance of the candidate for officer will be evaluated and scored by a panel of three qualified judges.  Selection of the officers will be based on the sum of the scores of the three judges, the director score and the team vote. The Dance officers will be based on a natural break based on the total score.

2.  In the event of a tie, the judges will decide if there should be callbacks.

3. The score will determine the rank of an officer.

K.  The director may remove the Captain or Lieutenants from their positions for the following reasons:

1.  Failure to uphold the responsibilities of their positions.

2.  Accumulation of 10 or more demerits while in office.

3.  Failure to maintain UIL eligibility due to failing grades.

*In the event of Officer dismissal, the number of Dance Officers is at the discretion of the Director*.

Section IV:  Social Officers

The Social Officers are responsible to the director for the morale of the team through activities, team building, member recognition, and parties.

A.  The Social Officers will consist of a President and a minimum of 2 Social Officers, to be determined by the director.

B.  The President must be a senior, unless there are only two or less seniors trying out for officer then the position of President Office opens to juniors.

C.  The Social Officers must be on the Majestics drill team for at least one year and must be on the team at the time of elections.

E.  Selection of Social Officers

1.  The election of the candidate for Social Officer will be voted on by the team and the director after presentations are made.

2.  In the event of a tie, there will be a run-off vote.

J.  The director may remove the Social Officer from their positions for the following reasons:

1.  Failure to uphold the responsibilities of their positions.

2.  Accumulation of 15 or more demerits while in office.

3.  Failure to maintain UIL eligibility due to failing grades.

In the event of Officer dismissal, the number of Service Officers is at the discretion of the director.

Section VI: Performance Auditions

A. Auditions may be held for performance routines.  All candidates are required to audition; unless an exception for medical reasons (as discussed below) has been granted previously by the organization sponsor. If auditions are required all candidates must participate.

B. Those members who fail to attain a performance expectation (to be determined by the individual director) will be pulled from that particular performance.

C. While student officers may be used to assist the director with auditions, under no circumstance will they have the responsibility of determining who will or will not perform.

D. All members (regulars and alternates) will continue to rehearse each routine daily.  No one will be allowed to sit out of practice except for medical reasons.

ARTICLE IX. HANDBOOK

Argyle High School’s Student handbook whose guidelines may address some of the articles in this Constitution in a more specific way.  This handbook should be an extension of this document and shall not contain information that is contradictory to the information contained in the document.