**Argyle High School Majestics**

**Varsity & JV Drill Team 2020-2021**

**Handbook**

**PURPOSE & EXPECTATIONS Purpose of the Drill team:**

The purpose of the Drill team is to give qualified Drillrs an opportunity to participate in an extra-curricular activity that will help develop poise, character, leadership and responsibility, encourage physical fitness, scholarship, as well as, a tradition of high standards in precision Dance and drill routines. Responsibilities of the Drill team:

As a member of the organization, I will:

1. Promote and live by high moral standards
2. Always apply the “TEAM” concept to the organization
3. Act respectful and disciplined at all Argyle High School functions
4. Encourage sportsmanship, school spirit and support interest in all sports, fine arts, and other activities of our school. Any openly hostile actions by members/parents of the organization toward each other, the officers, or the director may result in IMMEDIATE removal from the organization. **ALL DIRECTOR DECISIONS ON ANY MATTER ARE FINAL.**

**EXPECTATIONS**

* Drill team is beyond curricular activities and requires a multi-disciplined attitude. Should you choose to be involved in other extracurricular activities (in or outside of school) in addition to Drill Team, those extracurricular activities cannot interfere with rehearsals and/or performances, unless it is a school-excused event. However, failure to meet the expected requirements and performance guidelines can result in removal of dances, disciplinary action, or removal from the team depending on the severity of the situation.
* Drill team has an extremely high set of standards. Drill team members are responsible for exceeding behavior expectations of the school.
* Drill team is not a right but a privilege for the dedicated student. All members must respect their position on the team at all times and realize that they are continuous role models for all.
* Drill team members should not receive excessive Corrective Conditioning or any discipline referrals at any time.
* Parents and members are to recognize Drill team rules at all times.
* Standards of Drill team will not be lowered to accommodate members.
* All teachers at AHS will be given lists of members and will be asked to contact the Director if problems arise so that consequences may be administered. Respect for teachers, administrators, and each other is expected at all times.
* Drill team members should strive to work towards independence, positive attitude, dedication, self-discipline and role modeling at all times. Laziness and bad attitudes will not be tolerated at any time by members, and could affect their next year’s try-out and/or membership on the current team.
* Drill team members will always conduct themselves in a lady-like manner in and out of school. Proper presentation through attire, actions, language and academic standards will be expected.
* Drill team members may not give, send, or forward inappropriate pictures to other people electronically or by hard copy.
* Drill team members will not falsify documents or compel others to do so.
* Drill team members should not drink alcohol, smoke,vape, or engage in drugs nor should they attend parties with alcohol and/or drugs.
* Members who have any form of social media (such as but not limited to; websites, personal home pages, blogs, text/ group messages, chat rooms or similar websites/files accessible through a server or internet) will be expected to keep their sites clean and free of vulgarity, nudity or any inappropriate phrases or pictures or retweets. Members may be asked to provide the Director with “permission” to view sites.
* Drill team members should understand that the Director may give CC’s for offenses that have not been included or inadvertently excluded if necessary.
* The purpose of this Handbook is to remain fair and consistent.

**VARSITY AND JV DRILL TEAM DEFINITIONS**

* Varsity Drill Team will be comprised of 10th-12th Grade Students, who meet an average score of 80 or more from the judges on the day of tryouts. Members but also meet all requirements set forth in the tryout packet by the director.
* JV Drill Team will be comprised of 9th-11th Grade Students who score an average score from all 3 judges between the range of 65-75 on the day of tryouts. Members but also meet all requirements set forth in the tryout packet by the director.

**DRILL TEAM DUTIES/ RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

* The Drill team will be appropriately placed based primarily on dance skills and technique.
* The Drill team will have officers who will assist in leading the team under the Director’s leadership.
* The Drill team may perform in other performances deemed appropriate by the Director. Such performances may be mandatory and may include Mavs/Cowboys games, pep rallies, basketball games, spring show, etc.
* Being on the team does not automatically place members in routines.
* Members not consistently performing at the required level may be removed from the team. This is at the Director’s discretion.

**ATTENDANCE** The best way to contact the Director regarding a question, concern, or to let her know about an absence is via **email**.

* All members must be present and on time for all practices, performances, and all other activities of the organization.
* All absences must be approved by the Director.
* The director must be notified in advance **(email)** of your absence. Members must bring a note from the doctor upon returning to practice. The note must state the time of the doctors appointment and time of the departure. Without a note, the absence is unexcused and CC’s will be given at the discretion of the Director.
* All members will attend practice sessions as scheduled. Work, other activities, etc. are not excuses for missing a practice or performance and is unexcused. We will practice on designated Saturdays.
* If you are absent from school the day a performance is scheduled, or absent from a final rehearsal, you will not participate in that performance unless specifically authorized by the director or principal.
* A member who attends practice and sits out due to illness/injury will not receive CC’s since they are in attendance. If a member fails to know the choreography, they may still be removed from a dancel based upon the Director’s discretion.
* During football season, you will not be able to perform Friday night if you miss the day of tryouts or band run through day. In addition, missing more than one day each week may also cause the member to be ineligible for the performance.
* During competition season, a member may not have more than two-excused absences in order to participate in competitions. If a member has more than 2 excused absences, the director has the discretion to remove that member. The director also has the discretion to remove any member from a competition dancel for any reason.
* All participation in performances is at the Director’s discretion. Director is not required to dance everyone in all performances. Members are not guaranteed a performance spot, and the placement is based on ability, attitude and practice attendance.

**SUMMER CAMP/ SUMMER PRACTICES**

* The director will determine summer camp and summer practice sessions. Each member will be given a schedule of dates and times. Your attendance is mandatory. Members will not be excused to go on family vacations. If you miss two days of summer practice, you will not be eligible to perform in the first football game. By missing more than two days, you are subject to dismissal from the organization.
* Required summer technique hours are mandatory. Failure to turn in technique hours will result in removal from a dance or dances, until they have been turned in and recorded.

**DRESS/ GROOMING**

• The director will determine appropriate uniforms/costumes.

• The uniform/costume will be worn as directed by the director and officers. The director has the final decision on all costumes/uniforms. Uniforms/Costumes are never to be worn in public unless authorized by the director.

• Uniforms must be returned by the time of deadline to the director or an itemized bill will be sent home for the parents to pay the school for items.

• Each member is responsible for the maintenance of issued costumes. The repair and/or replacement of damaged articles will be the responsibility of the individual member.

• Drill team is a vigorous sport and each member is expected to maintain good health and physical appearance. Due to health and injury concerns, have facial piercings (except ears) or tongue piercings. ONLY team earrings may be worn during performances. All jewelry will not be worn during rehearsals.

• Members may not have tattoos that are visible when wearing practice or performance attire. Bandages are not acceptable as a coverup for tattoos.

**FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Drill team is an expensive activity. Members must purchase all mandatory practice attire at the beginning of the year but there are expenses year round.
* Any necessary travel and costume expenses may be required at a later date.
* Summer camp is mandatory. By not attending summer camp, you will be subject to dismissal from the organization. The cost of summer camp will be the individual’s responsibility.
* Members are required to pay for Booster Club Dues. These dues will cover costume fees or purchases, party expenses, contest entry fees and bus fees. Most trips are optional and travel fees are charged to girls when they sign up for a trip. Those fees are not considered part of the Booster Club dues.
* Each year the Drill Team may travel in and out of the state of Texas. If you decide to go on the trip you must make sure you are up to date on all financial responsibilities that come along with travel. Travel may be required for competition.

**PERFORMANCES/PERFORMANCE RESTRICTIONS**

* As a member of the Drill team, you will have many performance opportunities. You will perform at all varsity football games, pep-rallies, UIL competitions, basketball games, parades, Drill competitions, and spring show. All performances are mandatory.
* Once selected as a member, each member will TRYOUT for performance throughout the year in front of the director and officers. If a member is deemed as not being performance ready (i.e. memory, technique (dancel and/or kick), splits, and presentation), she will not be permitted to perform until she has properly learned the routine. The director will have the final authority over who will perform.
* As a member, you may NOT be able to perform if you:
  + Not performance ready (kicks, splits, Drill, technique, etc.) as determined by the director
  + Miss more than one day of weekly practice (excused/unexcused)
  + Miss band rehearsal
  + Miss the final day of rehearsal
  + Are absent from school on the day of the performance
  + You come to the performance in an incomplete uniform
* Members who are absent on try-out day will not be placed in a routine until the member has tried out for the routine.
* The Director may place members in a routine without try-outs based on her knowledge of member’s abilities.

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**TRANSPORTATION FOR PERFORMANCES AND OUT-OF-TOWN TRIPS**

* Bus transportation will be provided for all performance that the organization attends as a group. Members are required to ride to the performance with the group and return home with the group and director.
* In the event a parent/guardian must take his/her child from a performance for an emergency, a written note must be given to the director prior to the event. The director must approve the request at least 24 hours in advance.
* Members are required to provide their own transportation to and from all practices.

**CORRECTIVE CONDITIONING SYSTEM** This organization will be governed by a Corrective Conditioning system (CC’s). The system will begin with the first official meeting after try-outs or after amendments have been made, and will continue throughout the school year. CC’s serve as a way to maintain organization and structure among our team. We strive to teach that there are consequences for actions and taking precautions prior to the receiving CC’s, helps avoid more extreme consequences later.

* The Drill team year is defined as tryouts to banquet of the following year.
* The Director may assign CC’s to members and has the authority to adjust the amount of CC’s according to the infraction and any reoccurrence thereafter.
* In the absence of the Director, Dance officers may assign Corrective Conditioning.
* CC’s may be assigned during school, at any school or drill team function on or off campus.
* Each member is responsible for abiding by the Corrective Conditioning policy designed by the Director.

**CORRECTIVE CONDITIONING ASSIGNMENTS**

CC’s will be issued for, but not limited to, the following infractions:

▪ Late to practice

▪ Late to performance/ leaving on trip

▪ Chewing Gum

▪ Wearing jewelry

▪ Wearing nail polish while performing

▪ Failure to wear designated item

▪ Public appearance in the uniform without permission

▪ Talking during a performance while lined up on field

▪ Any public display of affection in school or school related activity

▪ Poor conduct on bus

▪ Leaving practice or class without permission

▪ Grades below 75 in any class

▪ Failure to obey formal commands of the Director and officers

▪ Showing disrespect toward an officer or Director

▪ Failure to participate at practice

▪ Failure to inform Director of Detention or ISS/OSS assignment

▪ Failure to have appropriate hair or hair falling down during performance

▪ Failure to pay any due/fees on time (unless arrangements are made ahead of time with Director)

▪ Bad attitudes/bringing morale down on team (to be decided by Director, includes talking negatively about teammates, discussing quitting, etc.)

▪ Cell phone going off in practice

▪ Any violation of football and performance guidelines.

▪ Loss of any piece of uniform or attire

▪ Negligence of uniform/costume/equipment or Missing parts of uniform

▪ Eating or drinking in uniform, unless instructed otherwise

▪ Any other offenses deemed necessary by Director

5 **CC’S WITH MORE PERMANENT CONSEQUENCES:**

▪ Assignment to ISS or OSS

▪ Discipline referral

▪ Undermining the Director’s authority

▪ Talking back to Director

▪ Unexcused absence from performance or required function

▪ Unexcused absence from a practice

▪ Disrespect toward the Director/Teacher/Administration

▪ Unladylike conduct (deemed by Director)

▪ Inappropriate language

▪ Misuse of social media and electronic devices as deemed by the Director and or Administration.

▪ Any other offense deemed necessary by the Director.

Any student member of the Majestics Drill Team representing themselves or their organization, in an unfavorable, questionable or illegal manner through electronic media (i.e. websites, personal home pages, blogs, text/ group messages, chat rooms or similar websites/files accessible through a server or internet), using electronic communication devices in a such a way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace on their organization or members of any other organization including themselves (i.e. camera phones, digital photos, electronic descriptions, social networking) may be subject to dismissal from the organization. The director and campus administrator will investigate every situation before actions are taken.

The campus administrator and director will make the final decision on all punishment. Below is

* **Misuse of internet and/or electronic media(1st offense) CC’s, possible suspension**
* **Misuse of internet and/or electronic media(2nd offense) Director discretion**
* **Inappropriate language on social network sites(1st offense) CC’s**
* **Inappropriate language on social network sites(after 1st offense) CC’s, possible suspension \* At the Director’s Discretion**

**OFFICERS AND CORRECTIVE CONDITIONING**

* Officers are expected to abide by the policies of the team and to be mature in handling their leadership positions.
* Improper behavior of any officer could result in Corrective Conditioning and/ or Demotion of their position.
* Examples include but are not limited to:
  + 1. Abuse of authority
  + 2. Unnecessary criticism of a member
  + 3. Failure to make sure CCs have been completed.
  + 4. Failure to set a good example
  + 5. Failure to meet responsibilities
  + 6. Failure to fulfill duties

6 **PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

**DISMISSAL** from the organization or being placed on a **behavior contract** may be a result of, but not limited to, the confirmation of your involvement in the below listed violations:

* Experimenting with or the use of drugs/alcohol, including association with underage drinking in or outside of school
* Possessing, selling, giving, or delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of any drug or controlled substance
* Possessing any drug paraphernalia
* Possessing, Selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind
* Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint, or volatile, mood altering chemicals
* Participation in any illegal activity and any conduct that results in arrest or citation
* Possessing, smoking, selling, or using any tobacco product
* Suspension from school for any reason
* Theft/Stealing
* Fighting
* Failure to cooperate with school officials
* Three or more unexcused absences in a semester
* Inappropriate touching in public places, sexual gestures, or exposing parts of the body that are ordinarily covered up in public
* Inappropriate Behavior
* Any act, in the opinion of the director and/or principal, which has or will adversely affect the reputation of the organization.
* Failure of school administered random drug testing
* Any school violation that results in DAEP placement, suspension or expulsion.
* An ISS placement due to discipline or any other discipline issues deemed by the Director.
* **Failing 2 consecutive nine weeks in the same class or 3 consecutive nine weeks for any classes.**
* Other circumstances may arise throughout the year, and any decision regarding the member’s placement on team will be at the discretion of the Director and Administration if necessary. A member who has been dismissed from the drill team may not try-out the following year unless the Director deems otherwise.

**GRADES** Members will be given grades in Majestics based on the following: Execution and memory of performances, completion of required work, and participation in class and community service hours.

* All members must meet UIL rules and regulations for grades set forth by the state.
* All members will enroll in Drill team class as assigned by the director. Grades will be assigned in accordance with established AISD grading procedures.
* Progress Reports and Report Cards will be checked and CC’s will be given for every grade under a 75.
* Eligibility is checked at three, six and nine week period of each nine weeks. It can be lost at the six week period of the first nine weeks. After the first six weeks, eligibility can only be lost at the end of each nine weeks. If a Dancer loses eligibility, it may be regained at the end of the three, six or nine week grading period of any nine weeks.
* Dancers will remain ineligible for at least three weeks. They may be reinstated at the three week progress report with a passing grade in all classes in accordance with UIL policy.
* Ineligible Dancers still must attend all practices but may not perform or participate in any Texas Star function until eligibility has been regained.
* When eligibility is regained, immediate participation may not be permitted based on the impact on upcoming performances. The Director retains the right to make this decision once reinstatement has been granted.
* Majestics Members will be dismissed after failing two consecutive nine week periods in the same class, or failing three consecutive nine week periods for any class.
* Members who fail prior to a Drill team trip will not be able to attend the trip and will not receive any refund for the trip. It is the member and parent’s responsibility to stay on top of grades, not the Director.
* In the case of any individual discrepancy, the Director and administrators will convene to consider the preponderance of evidence to make a final determination.
* Grades start over when the school year starts over.
* Candidates who have had ISS may be ineligible to try-out and may be asked to conference with the Director to decide eligibility.

**PROBATION**

Any member placed on probation status will be on probation for 3 weeks. The member will not be allowed to perform at any Majestics performances for 3 weeks. The member will be allowed to participate in practice but not perform. If the member is an officer, she will step down from her duties during probation status. If discipline action is taken in the summer, then the 3 week probation starts the day school begins.

**TERM REQUIREMENTS**

* The Director and Administration may require a membership contract due to prior disciplinary issues. Failure to adhere to the membership contract will result in immediate dismissal from the team.
* Membership is a one-year commitment. Candidates or returning members should not consider or discuss quitting mid- year as it brings team morale down. Such discussions may result in disrespect CC’s.
* If a member must resign, she will not be allowed to participate in social events or performance activities. Members who resign will be moved into a any other available non-elective class during the same class period. Former members may not wear Majestics attire to school and must turn in all uniform and costume pieces within 7 days, dry cleaned. Failure to turn in all items will result in hold notices and may receive other consequences by the school. .
* Members who resign will not be refunded any money that they have paid to the organization leading up to that date.
* Members may not return the next year if all balances are not paid in full by the try-out date.
* Members must be in 9-12th grade during membership.
* Members must have a physical completed before team camp each year.
* Members must complete and turn in consent to random drug testing form.

**TRYOUTS**

* All current members of the Majestics Drill Team must tryout each year in order to continue membership. Any member who was dismissed from the 2019-2020 Majestics Drill Team may not participate in the 2020-2021 team tryouts**.**
* In order to audition for the Majestics Drill Team, you will need to attend a tryout clinic and perform in front of a panel of 3 experienced judges, the director, and administrator.
* Candidates will be evaluated on their most recent report card and performance criteria that will include technical elements.
* Any candidate who leaves try-outs before judging is completed will be cut from the team.
* Candidates will not be allowed to try-out or return to the team unless members and parents have read and completed the Parent Consent Form, Handbook test, and signed the last page of the Handbook.
* All decisions are final and non-negotiable.
* Candidates who do not make the team are encouraged to register for Dance I class will be beneficial in helping girls make the Drill team the following year.
* All decisions are final for team and officer tryouts.
* Any member that has been on the team for one full year is allowed to try out for Service Officer. Any member that has been the team for two full years is allowed to try out for Dance officer.
* Officer tryouts also include a detailed notebook, interview, team vote, Dance and kick evaluation, solo, and any other assignment assigned by the director. The director has the discretion to modify the tryout process from year to year as the director sees fit.

**DANCE OFFICERS**

* Dance officer candidates and current officers must be passing all classes. Dance officers who fail during their term will be dismissed from their office and will be placed as a team member.
* Replacement of the dismissed officer will be up to the discretion of the Director, depending on the time of year that the incident occurs.
* Dance officers must attend team and officer camp.
* The Dance officers will compete at a contest (in the officer division) at the Director’s discretion.
* Ranking of Dane officers will be up to the discretion of the Director.

**DUTIES OF THE DANCE OFFICERS**

* It is the duty of each Dance officer to assist the Director with all officers and team members in ranking order and to show respect for all officers and Director(s). If necessary, it becomes the officer’s duty to substitute for the Director in her absence.
* Dance officers may not discuss quitting or resigning at any time to team members or non-members as it will be considered a non-officer quality. Such behavior may result in Corrective Conditioning or removal from office. For such concerns, the chain of command is expected to be followed. It is up to the Director’s discretion how to handle such behavior.
* Dance officers will be required to have practices outside of normal team practices in preparation for camp and competition. Therefore, Dance officer practice hours are more in comparison to team hours.

**SERVICE OFFICERS**

* Service officer candidates and officers must be passing all classes. Members who fail a class will be removed from their office.
* Service officers must have been on the Majestics Drill Team for one year.
* Replacement of a dismissed Service Officer will be up to the discretion of the Director, depending on the time of year that it occurs.
* The Director will select the hierarchy of the Service Officers.
* Service Officers may be asked to attend a Service Officer camp or leadership workshop along with team camp at the discretion of the Director.

**DUTIES OF THE SERVICE OFFICERS**

* Service Officers may not discuss quitting or resigning at any time to line members or non-members as it will be considered a non-officer quality. Such behavior may result in Corrective Conditioning or removal from office. For such concerns, the chain of command is expected to be followed. It is up to the director’s discretion on how to handle such behavior.
* The Service line shall be responsible for each of their duties as stated in their requirements of their Service Officer guideline packet.

**CHAIN OF COMMAND**

Following the chain of command may help in minimizing problems. Members may be asked to complete a Grievance/Reconciliation Report.

* If a complaint from a member arises due to conflict or concern, the chain of command should always be followed. The chain of command is as follows:

1. Contact your Dance officer

2. Conference between member and Director

3. Phone call between parent and Director followed by conference if needed

4. Conference with parent, member and Assistant Principal over drill team if needed

* Parents are asked and expected to encourage their dancer to follow the chain of command to reduce negativity among members.
* Parents that do not follow the chain of command and go straight to the AP in charge of Drill team before contacting the Director, will immediately be redirected back to the Director.
* All decisions are final.

**BANQUET ATTENDANCE**

Members may attend Banquet based on the following:

* Members have had no major discipline issues (up to the discretion of the Director).
* All balances for the school year are paid in full up to the date of the event. (This shall also include any Holiday parties that the team should have)

**THE HANDBOOK**

All decisions made are final. The purpose of this Handbook is to remain fair and consistent.

• Each member will receive a copy of the Handbook. Each member and parent is expected to read it and have a signed contract turned in with both the member’s and the parent’s signature.

• If a parent is in question of a rule or procedure, it is the parent’s responsibility to refer to the Handbook before approaching the Director. The Director will refer to the Handbook.

• The Handbook will be reviewed and revised annually by the Director if necessary. The revised document will be submitted to the Argyle High School Administration for final approval.

**2020-2021 Handbook Contract**

I promise to uphold all the rules and regulations set forth in the Argyle High School Drill Team Handbook. I will be an example in behavior at school, at performances, and at home. Failure to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this handbook will be grounds for dismissal from the organization. I promise to always be concerned with my obligations. I will be committed to making this organization the best it can be.

In order to be a member of the 2020-2021 Majestics Varsity and JV Drill Team, the parent, and student must sign this form.

I have read and understand the rules and regulations of the Handbook. I understand that failure to follow the Handbook may result in my Dancer’s termination of membership.

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Student Name (Printed)

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Student Signature Date

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Parent Name (Printed)

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Parent Signature Date