

Northville High School



Dance Team Handbook & Commitment Letter

2019-2020

I. Name and Purpose

A. The name of the team is the Northville High School Varsity Dance Team or Northville High School JV Dance Team.

B. The purpose of the dance team is to promote and maintain school spirit through performances at various athletic events, activities, and competitions. In addition, the purpose of the group is to develop character, leadership, individual responsibility, and to help prepare the dancers for dance in a college setting.

II. Team Membership Qualifications

1. A team member is expected to remain on the dance team for the entire season unless they are dismissed for a rule violation.
2. A team member must be enrolled in grades 9-12 during the upcoming year at NHS with at least a 2.0 GPA.
3. A team member and their parent(s) or guardian(s) will read, agree to, and sign the commitment letter acknowledging their agreement of the rules and guidelines in this handbook before the start of the new season.
4. A team member must be able to give freely of their time for dance team activities. Practices and performances will be after school, some evenings, and some weekends.
5. The dance team member and parent(s) or guardian(s) must be aware of the expense.
6. The dance team member must be willing to participate fully in all fundraising activities, and their parent(s) and guardian(s) must be willing to do this for them.
7. **All dance team members parents must signed up to help with 2 booster committees.**
8. The dance team member and parent(s) must be willing to pay for UDA camp & UDA nationals in Orlando Florida.

III. Responsibilities of a NHS Varsity/JV Dance Team Member

A member of the dance team is expected to display the following characteristics. A member who does not display these characteristics will be subject to suspension or dismissal from the team.

1. Willing to display school spirit and be a positive representative of NHS.
2. Must show good sportsmanship.
3. Must have a general good attitude.
4. Must not drink, smoke, or use mood-altering drugs, or participate in any activity degrading the team's reputation. All athletic rules as stated in the Northville Public Schools Extra-Curricular, Co-Curricular and Athletic Student Code of Conduct apply and these rules will be enforced for the dance team.
5. Must not represent poor behavior/misconduct which includes profanity.
6. Must be responsible for the information discussed at practice.

IV. Leadership Roles

A. Captain(s) – The NHS Dance Teams shall have 1 or more captains as determined by the coach.

B. Qualifications and duties of the captain:

1. Shall serve as a leader within the group at practice and maintain discipline.
2. Shall enforce all rules of the team and communicate freely with members and coach.
3. Shall be in charge of recording and reporting absences and tardies to the coach.
4. Shall communicate with the coach any violations or poor sportsmanship-like conduct committed by a team member.
5. Shall be able to lead warm-ups.

C. Selection of Captain(s) – Will be selected by the coach.

D. Vacancy – In case of a vacancy, a team member may be chosen by the coach to fill the vacancy.

V. Performance and Competition Requirements

1. All team members will perform during the season, unless there is a team violation, injury or extreme incompetent knowledge of the routine. All spots and formations will be approved and decided by the coach. Formations and spots may be changed on any given day in accordance with daily evaluations of each individual dancer.
2. All members are required to attend all performances and games, whether they perform or not, unless excused by the coach.
3. The coach may suspend a member from any performance for other reasons such as: attendance, tardies, attitude, behavior or violating the demerit system.
4. All team members are expected to be proud of what the team accomplishes. If a team member is caught disrespecting other teams or any awards won, they will be subject to discipline action.
5. No dance team member will perform or compete until that dancer has demonstrated the ability to do a given routine. This is determined by daily evaluations in practice and performances during the season. The coach will determine which dancers will compete.
6. Once the game calendar is distributed, the coach will notify the team members of the dates.
7. Proper hair and make-up must be worn to all performances, and this includes school functions.
- 8. All dance team members will be required to audition for their spot in the competition routines. Some dancers will make both, some will make one and others might not make any. All members will still be expected to learn both routines and be able to step in at any given moment!**

VI. Practice and Practice Etiquette

A. Practice

1. Team members will be expected to practice at every scheduled practice.
2. The coach and/or captain(s) may call or change practices, as necessary. A week notice will be given, if possible.
3. The summer intensive is mandatory.
4. Absences from practice two weeks prior to a performance or competition may result in a formation change or a removal from the performance at the coach's discretion.
5. Must participate in a minimum 1 hour work out, of the dancers choice, each week during the entire season, including summer.

B. Practice Etiquette

1. Be ready to practice promptly, wearing appropriate attire and shoes. Hair should be pulled away from the face to avoid distractions. Absolutely no gum chewing.
2. Be attentive and listen to all instructions.
3. Participate fully in all practice activities and classes. Full-out performance is expected every practice. Please notify the coach before practice of any injury, which would prevent full-out performance. All injuries should be brought to the attention of the coach immediately.
4. Make every effort to correct mistakes that are identified by the coach or captain(s).
5. Team members will treat fellow members, captain(s), and the coach with respect in and out of practice. Any team member exhibiting disrespectful behavior may be asked to leave practice and will be suspended from practicing with the team until resolved. Foul language is considered disrespectful behavior and will not be tolerated.
6. Dance team members must be dedicated to not only hard work in practice, but be responsible to be prepared for the next practice. If a team member feels the need for extra practice time, they should ask another team member for help.

C. Practice Apparel

1. Appropriate dance shoes must be worn at all times.
2. Appropriate dance clothes should be worn during class and rehearsal.

D. Costumes

1. The coach and costume committee will decide the costumes for performances and competitions.
2. Proper hair and make-up, as decided by the coach, must be worn to all performances, and this includes school functions.

VII. Attendance

If a dancer must be absent, reasons for an excused absence include, but are not limited to: illness, religious observances, or other outside commitments agreed upon by the coach. Do not schedule doctor/dentist appointments during practice time. These are not considered excused absences, unless they are of an emergency nature.

1. A team member must contact the coach via telephone (additionally by email) as soon as possible prior to being absent from practice or a performance.
2. When a team member is absent, it is their duty to find out what was missed and be prepared for the following practice.
3. Attendance will be tracked in an attendance log. Two (2) absences may result in a formation change or a removal from the performance at the coach's discretion.
4. Tardy is defined as not being ready to practice at the designated start time. Two (2) tardies may result in a formation change or a removal from the performance at the coach's discretion.
5. Team members cannot miss any practices two weeks before a competition, unless approved by the coach. Missing practice within the two-week timeframe may be cause for removal from performing at that competition. Removal from a competition is grounds for possible removal from the team.

VIII. Calendars

A. Scheduling

1. Once the game calendar is distributed by Athletics, a schedule of performances will be given out.
2. Team members will receive information regarding competitions, games, practices, and fundraisers via email. Please check your email regularly and thoroughly read all emails.
3. A schedule of your studio competitions and commitments must be given to the coach by September 13, 2019. This should include a full year calendar and all weekend events. Any additional studio commitments must be given to the coach as soon as they are made available.

B. Intensive

1. The summer intensive is mandatory. All choreography will be taught during this time August 24th-August 30th.
2. Dance team members are to assume the cost of the intensive.

C. Camp

1. UDA camp is mandatory for all team members JV & Varsity. July 15th-18th.
2. Dance team members are to assume the cost of the intensive.

D. UDA Nationals in Orlando Florida

1. Nationals is mandatory for all team members JV & Varsity. January 29th-February 3rd. Dance team members are to assume the cost of nationals. Flights, room and board & food.

IX. Financial Obligation

If a dancer does not meet all financial obligations, schedules, records, and diplomas will be withheld until financial obligations are resolved. Students will not be allowed to pass through Fall Schedule Pick-up until all debts from the previous school year are paid.

A. Participation Fee

1. The Participation fee is a predetermined fee voted on by the NHS Competitive Dance Team Booster Club. This fee is **non-refundable**. This fee is not associated with any Pay-to-Participate Fee for NHS Athletic Teams.

B. Other Fees subject to Financial Obligation

1. Summer Intensive
2. UDA summer camp
3. Repair or replacement of Uniforms or Competition Costumes
4. Mandatory dance shoes
5. Costumes for the Showcase
6. Warm-ups
7. Spirit wear for Nationals
8. UDA Nationals Trip
9. Family Banquet Fees, if attending

Northville High School Competitive Dance Team Commitment Letter 2019-2020

We have read the NHS Dance Team Handbook and are aware of the rules and requirements of the team. We will abide by them as a committed team member of either the NHS Varsity Competitive Dance Team or NHS JV Competitive Dance Team, and as the parent(s) of our team member.

We understand that there will be various team events, competitions, and fundraisers and that membership on the team requires full participation in each.

Team Member name (Please Print)

Team Member Signature & Date

Parent or Guardian name (Please Print)

Parent or Guardian Signature & Date