Lewisville High School Drill Team Handbook Farmerettes Varsity Drill Team

Director: Hannah Pascual Assistant Director: Allyson Turquette

ARTICLE I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the LEWISVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT DRILL TEAMS shall be two-fold: to perform and entertain audiences through precision drill dances and to boost the morale and spirit of the school. The purpose shall also be to develop character, leadership, and individual responsibility in each member, while maintaining high moral standards. It is the drill team members' purpose to represent each high school in a manner which will reflect credit upon the school, as well as upon the members of this organization. Each member agrees to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this constitution.

ARTICLE II: TRYOUT QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Membership in this organization shall be restricted to LEWISVILLE ISD high school students. Varsity may consist of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

B. At least one parent of each candidate must be present at the parent orientation meeting or must contact the director <u>prior</u> to the tryout date.

C. All candidates must attend all tryout practices or communicate in advance regarding conflicts.

D. Candidates will be expected to perform required routines and kick series at tryouts. Members will be selected by a panel of qualified judges. Judging will be based on:

- 1. Projection
- 2. Dance technique
- 3. Kick technique
- 4. Memory

E. The performance of the candidate for the line membership will be evaluated and scored by a panel of three qualified judges. Selection of the line members will be based on the sum of the scores of the three judges.

F. Candidates must have on file:

- 1. Signature Acknowledgement Form
- 2. Physical Evaluation Form completed by a doctor
- 3. Tryout Declaration Form
- 4. Extracurricular Code of Conduct

G. Anyone who meets the above qualifications will not be discriminated against because of race, creed or handicap.

ARTICLE III: PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

A. A candidate must WANT to be a drill team member. A candidate must be willing to accept criticism that will help them attain perfection.

B. A candidate must understand that it is a **privilege**, not a right, to be a drill team member. **Directors** have the right to hold members to a higher standard than average students.

C. A candidate must be willing to abide by team rules and follow directions from the director and officers.

D. A candidate must demonstrate responsibility at all times.

E. A candidate must have good coordination and the ability to learn dances in a short period of time for performances.

F. A candidate should be willing to participate in fundraising projects.

G. A candidate must understand that any decision made by the director is in the best interest of the team.

H. A candidate must have perfection as their goal and understand that the schedule and discipline of a drill team member demands a high degree of determination, hard work, strength, dedication, self-discipline, and loyalty to the team concept.

I. A candidate must have a desire to cooperate – to be "one of the group". Individual exhibitions are not for the drill team line in practice or in performance. Learning to perform in unison is imperative.

J. A candidate must enjoy learning dances, performing, and promoting school spirit.

K. A candidate must get a physical yielding that they are physically able to complete all requirements of the line, including daily kicks and running. Medical certification may be required if a health condition arises that interferes with her ability to participate. Communicating that certification to the director is the member's responsibility.

L. A candidate will not be allowed to try out if they fail to meet the director's expectations for behavior or directives during the clinic or on the day of tryouts.

M. Students with visible tattoos or facial piercings will not be allowed to audition, as members are not allowed to have either.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

A. There will be no set number of members. Membership depends on the scores of the candidates at tryouts.

B. Once a candidate has been selected for Varsity, that member does not have to try out for Varsity again during their high school career, IF the member remains in good standing. See **ARTICLE XIX: Probation and Dismissal** for more information on this topic.

C. Members will participate in all activities in which the organization is involved. This includes all activities that promote team bonding outside of practice. Exceptions may be approved by the director.

D. Members must exhibit and maintain a satisfactory attitude toward school policies and regulations.

E. All members are expected to positively promote and represent the organization in all outside activities, including but not limited to, social networking websites. Members will be required to communicate with the directors through several sites, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Charms. Members are expected to behave appropriately on all social media sites. A separate contract regarding this topic will be provided.

F. All members are required to attend summer practice and drill team camp. Exceptions must be approved by the directors IN ADVANCE.

G. The term of membership shall be recognized as the time immediately following drill team tryouts through team tryouts the following year.

H. A member's resignation will be accepted only after the member has initiated a conference with the director. All financial obligations must be met. All school properties must be returned in good condition or paid for in full.

I. Any member who chooses to quit or is dismissed from drill team at any time (with the exception of scholastic dismissal) must wait one calendar year to audition for the team again.

J. Members may be a part of outside activities; however, drill team must come first. Exceptions will be made with PRIOR APPROVAL.

K. Members may not have any visible tattoos & facial piercings.

L. Members and at least one parent must attend the first Booster Club meeting.

M. Members must attend the new team ceremony held after tryouts, or inform the directors of conflicts in advance.

ARTICLE V: Respectful Behavior Expectations

A. Decorum and polite conduct should be used at all times to adults, officers, and fellow line members. Mutual respect and politeness among members is expected.

B. All members will use the words "yes ma'am" and "thank you" to show respect for each other. The use of this language is not meant to belittle, but to teach the importance of being polite, giving and receiving respect, and to use the mannerisms of a young adult.

ARTICLE VI: ABSENCES AND TARDIES

A. Every member must be present and on time for camp, all practice sessions, pep rallies, games, and activities, etc. Only excuses approved by the director will be accepted and each will be evaluated individually.

B. Work, driver's education, non-emergency doctor/dentist appointments, getting a driver's license, detention hall, and Wednesday/Saturday school are not acceptable excuses for being absent or tardy.

ARTICLE VII: PRACTICE SESSION RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Practice will be required each day during a specified class period. Physical Education, Fine Art or elective credit will be received for this class, and all practice requirements for this time are structured and specified. Students in this class must fulfill specific requirements for performances, which will be evaluated by the director as for any other academic class.

B. Before school, after school, and summer practice sessions will be required. Time specifications for these will be established as camp dates and other school schedules become available to the director. Summer practice for all members is mandatory upon notification of these dates and times.

C. Members will arrive on time to practice and stay until dismissed by the director.

D. It is the responsibility of each member to notify the director and officer of an absence **BEFORE** drill team practice. Failure to do so will result in a demerit.

E. Extra practices may be called if necessary and all members will be required to attend.

ARTICLE VIII: ROUTINE EVALUATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

A. The director reserves the right to hold routine evaluations for any performance throughout the year. Aspects of the routine to be judged will be:

- 1. Knowledge of the routine
- 2. Projection
- 3. Style
- 4. Technique
- 5. Overall Impression

B. A member unable to meet the standards set for that performance will not be allowed to perform in that particular performance, but must attend the performance in uniform or costume and assume their responsibility as usual.

C. The director has the final decision on who makes the performances and that decision may not be argued.

D. Any member who misses formation settings, practice with the band, or performance day practice may be eliminated from that performance or a future performance.

E. Inability to perform:

1. Any member suffering from illness or injury for more than 2 days will be excused from workouts only with a doctor's note.

2. Grade Probation – Any member failing to meet the grade requirements as set forth by "No Pass No Play" and UIL guidelines will be expected to be present, dressed out, and working out with the drill team. They must continue and uphold all responsibilities. ***They may NOT attend performances with the team and may NOT wear team-oriented uniforms until grades are restored to passing and regains eligibility.

3. Any member "cut" from a particular performance must be present, dressed out, and continue to work out with the drill team. They must continue to uphold all responsibilities.

ARTICLE IX: UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

A. Members will buy their necessary drill team clothing as required.

B. All financial obligations regarding uniforms must be cleared by the date set by the director. If a balance remains by the first performance, the member will be ineligible to perform that particular performance and will remain ineligible for all performances until the balance is cleared.

C. Members will wear designated items to practice.

D. A complete uniform and equipment check-in will be held prior to any activity/performance. At this time the member should be completely ready and remain ready for the activity/performance. This includes hair and make-up.

E. Uniforms will be worn at school and drill team functions that the director selects, not at the member's discretion.

F. Uniforms are to be clean, in good condition, and fit properly before each performance.

G. All uniforms are to be worn by MEMBERS ONLY. For example, do not loan out uniform pieces for Halloween.

H. Uniforms are NOT to be worn to any other event or place other than drill team activities. For example, members must change before going out after a football game.

I. Each member will be issued field uniforms, costumes, props, and equipment for use throughout the year. The member assumes full responsibility for the care of these items.

J. Prior to the end of the school year, all uniforms, costumes, props, and equipment must be returned in good condition or the member will be charged. Items must be cleaned as specified by the Director. If items are damaged, the member assumes responsibility for covering the cost of repairing or replacing the item. Members will not be cleared for membership for the following year without meeting this requirement.

ARTICLE X: TRANSPORTATION

A. Transportation will be provided by the school district. All drill team members are required to ride to and from drill team activities in the provided transportation.

B. Only parental permission IN EMAIL, sent by the parent to the directors 24 hours prior to the event, will release a member to ride home with that parent only.

C. Members will adhere to all bus transportation regulations.

ARTICLE XI: FOOTBALL SEASON AND BASKETBALL, ETC.

A. A complete uniform check will be held prior to any activity/performance. At that time, the member should be and remain completely ready for the activity/performance. This includes hair and make-up.

B. Members must remain in the stands at all times unless given permission to leave by the director.

- C. Members are a group and will sit as a group. There will be NO visitors beside or within the group.
- D. There will be NO gum, eating, or drinking in the stands without permission.
- E. Members will participate in the cheers as initiated by the cheerleaders, band and Crew.
- F. Members will be allowed water during the game.
- G. No part of the uniform may be removed without permission.
- H. Members must conduct themselves in a responsible, polite manner at all times.

ARTICLE XII: CONTEST

A. The drill team will attend various contests during alternating years, with the location and number attended at the director's discretion.

B. All members must attend every contest unless on grade probation.

C. Tryouts may be held for contest dances. Every member is guaranteed to be in at least one dance.

D. Additional practices after school or on weekends may be held.

E. Members are responsible for financial expenses related to overnight contest trips.

F. After tryouts are held for a contest dance, those members must attend every practice in order to maintain their place. Excessive absences may result in removal from the routine.

ARTICLE XIII: SPRING SHOW

A. Practice sessions for Spring Show may be held after school or on weekends. Absences may eliminate a member from a dance.

B. Members may be responsible for buying costumes for Spring Show.

ARTICLE XIV: PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Parents must give their permission for their member to fulfill all the responsibilities of being a member of the drill team before they will be officially accepted.

B. Parents must be willing to meet all financial obligations involved in having their student as a drill team member. All payments are final.

C. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all activities, except when transportation is provided by the school district.

D. Parents are encouraged to participate in various Booster Club activities and fundraisers. These fundraisers help defray the cost for each member of the drill team.

E. Parents must be willing to cooperate with the director and keep her informed of dates that might conflict with drill team activities.

F. At least one parent of each Farmerette must attend the Booster Club meetings held once a month.

ARTICLE XV: Dance Officers

A. The Dance Officers consist of captain and lieutenants/ or at the discretion of the director depending on the year.

B. The Captain and Lieutenants must be on the Farmerette drill team for at least one year and must be on the team at the time of tryouts, attend the tryout meeting with a parent, and attend all tryout practices.

C. Members that are placed on a behavior contract will not be allowed to tryout for officer during that

same school year.

- D. Candidates must have on file:
 - 1. Officer Tryout Permission Form
 - 2. Farmerette Officer Position Statement Contract
- E. 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 and the director.

2. In the event of a tie, there will be call backs.

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

G. 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.

H. All Dance Officers are expected to promote and represent the organization above reproach in all outside activities. A separate Farmerette Officer Position Statement Contract will be signed in order to be a Dance Officer. Anyone refusing to sign this will not hold the position as a Dance Officer.

I. As a leader of an extracurricular organization, officers will be held to a higher standard than the rest of the team. Leading Farmerettes is a privilege, not a right.

J. It is the responsibility of the officers to assist the director with the performances of the team through choreography, teaching, and polishing of routines.

K. The officers must work closely with the director, Social Officers, Line Members, and Managers. It is their responsibility to set a good example for the members to follow.

- L. 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 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 Dance Officers is at the discretion of the Director.

- M. The Officers are responsible for the following duties:
 - 1. Making sure every squad member knows the particular routines and information.
 - 2. Helping the drill team cooperate with each other and with the director.
 - 3. To attend an officer camp of the director's choice.

4. To attend all Farmerette activities, camps, clinics, contests, parties, etc. held throughout the year.

5. To maintain a sense of responsibility for the organization by feeling privileged and honored to be an officer.

6. To hold inspections of their squads.

7. To understand that double demerits can be imposed on an officer who fails to report demerits when needed.

- 8. To assume any and all duties as specified by the director.
- 9. To understand that Dance Officers will have additional practices other than team practices.

N. The Officers will tryout for performances when the team is required to tryout for a performance.

ARTICLE XVI: Social Officers

A. The Social Officers will consist of a Head Sergeant and Social Officers, to be determined by the director.

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

C. Members that lose line tryout exemption due to grades or demerits will not be allowed to tryout for officer.

- D. Candidates must have on file:
 - 1. Service Officer Permission Form
 - 2. Farmerette Officer Position Statement Contract
- E. Selection of Social Officers:

1. The election of the candidate for Service 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.

F. The Social 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.

G. As a leader of an extracurricular organization, officers will be held to a higher standard than the rest of the team. Leading Farmerettes is a privilege, not a right.

H. All Social Officers are expected to promote and represent the organization above reproach in all outside activities. A separate Farmerette Officer Position Statement Contract will be signed in order to be a Service Officer. Anyone refusing to sign this will not hold the position as a Service Officer.

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

J. The Social Officers must work closely with the director, Dance Officers, Line Members, and Managers. It is their responsibility to set a good example for the members to follow.

K. The director may remove the Social Officers 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 Social Officers is at the discretion of the director.

L. The Social Officers are responsible for the following duties:, which may include, but are not limited to:
1. The Head Service Officer utilizes the other Social Officers as her "committee" to plan activities and more.

2. All Social Officers are responsible for increasing team morale through team building activities, member recognition, birthday celebrations, etc.

ARTICLE XVII: MANAGERS

A. There shall be one or more managers selected by the director.

B. Managers are non-performing team members and must uphold all duties, rules and regulations presented in this constitution.

C. Managers will attend all practices, performances and activities. Lack of attendance, excused or unexcused, may result in dismissal from the team.

- D. Managers are responsible to the director.
- E. Managers will wear uniforms designated by the director.
- F. Managers must be willing to participate in fundraising projects.

ARTICLE XVIII: DEMERITS AND PENALTIES

A. The directors will be responsible for handling demerits.

B. Demerits are the means by which the director determines which members are not upholding their obligations to the drill team.

C. Demerits cannot be worked off.

D. If a member feels they have received demerits in error, they must notify the director at once so that the situation can be rectified immediately. It is the member's responsibility to keep up with their demerits by asking the Directors.

E. Demerits will be given in and out of class for reasons including, but not limited to:

Attendance:	Number of Demerits:
Tardy to practice, performance or mandatory activity	1 first 20 minutes, 2 for 20+
Unexcused absence from practice or other mandatory activity	3
Leaving early without the Director's permission	2-5
Unexcused absence from a performance	5
Attire:	Number of Demerits:
Wearing incorrect clothes/uniform	1 per piece
Wearing inappropriate school attire	1
Wearing (not nude) nail polish for a performance	1
Wearing incorrect makeup	1
Wearing jewelry at practice or a performance	1
Wearing inappropriate clothes during school hours	1
Wearing unpolished boots or shoes with holes for a performance	1
Wearing tights with runs in them for a performance	1
Wearing incorrect clothes for spirit days	1
Lending Farmerette attire to a non-Farmerette member	1
Conduct:	Number of Demerits:
Talking at inappropriate times	1
Late to football stands	2
Forgetting to bring an item	1
Dirty uniform/ and or not taken care of properly	1
Chewing gum	1
Using profanity	1
Using a cell phone at inappropriate times	1
Not cheering at a pep rally/game or event that requires spirit	1
Not following instructions	1

ANY INFRACTION NOT LISTED ABOVE Demerits start at first new team practice.	DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION
Demerit Dismissal	16
Demerit Probation	15 demerits
Suspension from school	16=dismissal from team
Being assigned ISS	3 per day assigned
Multiple conduct infractions are potential dismissal from team	director discretion
Conduct Infraction (referral, detention, etc)	2-5- director discretion
Infraction of School Rules:	<u>Number of</u> <u>Demerits:</u>
Inappropriate conduct	2-10
Behavior that is disrespectful to a teacher or administrator	3
Behavior that is disrespectful to the Director	3
Behavior that is disrespectful to a Farmerette member/leader/booster	2-5
Physical displays of affection (kissing, touching inappropriately, etc)	2-5
Negative social media posts	2-5
Visible tattoo	1
Missing a deadline	1
Eating in uniform	1
Leaving a mess behind you	1

H. Penalties

- 1. 5 demerits = Suspension from a performance, student conference
- 2. 10 demerits = Suspension from another performance, parent conference
- 3. 15 demerits = Suspension from a third performance; parent conference
- 4. 16 demerits = Dismissal from the team

ARTICLE XIX: PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

- A. Scholastic probation
 - 1. If a student fails a class on the report card, or the first 6 weeks of school, they are on

probation for 3 weeks. At the end of the 3 weeks, they must be passing all classes to regain eligibility.

2. If a member is ineligible for 2 consecutive report cards, they will be dismissed from the drill team for the remainder of that school year. They may audition for a position on the next year's team if she meets the following stipulations:

a. They must have failed only the 2 consecutive report cards that caused her to be dismissed from the team.

b. They must meet all eligibility requirements for tryouts as stated in the constitution.

c. They may not fail another report card once they resume team membership. If they do fail again, they will automatically be dismissed.

B. General probation

1. Failure to comply with any regulation as stated in the constitution may result in probation for the member in question until the reason for probation is corrected to the satisfaction of the director and the administrators.

2. A member on probation may not participate in performance activities, but is required to fulfill all other responsibilities.

3. Members will also be put on a contract by LHS Administration outlining the resulting punishment and future expectations for behavior.

C. 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 Lewisville 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. placement in DAEP
 - e. expulsion
- 3. Violation of the LISD Student Code of Conduct when the violation results in:
 - a. in-school suspension
 - b. placement in out-of-school suspension
 - c. placement in the LISD Alternative Education Center
 - d. placement in DAEP
 - e. expulsion

(Reminder from Article IV)

I. Any member who chooses to quit or is dismissed from drill team at any time (with the exception of scholastic dismissal) must wait one calendar year to audition for the team again.

ARTICLE XX: SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

A. Service opportunities are types of community service that Farmerettes are asked to participate in

- B. Each member is encouraged to participate in service opportunities
- C. it is a privilege and expectation to serve your community as a Farmerette

ARTICLE XXI: AWARDS

A. Letter Jacket

 A Farmerette must order their letter jacket with their summer order after making drill team. The letter for their jacket will be awarded at banquet after the Farmerette finishes her first year.
If a member already has a letter jacket from another activity, they may wear the jacket, but cannot order Farmerette patches until after completing their first year on drill team.
Farmerettes are responsible for purchasing their own jacket and patches.

ARTICLE XXII: CONSTITUTION FORMAT

A. The rules and regulations in standard print are designated LEWISVILLE ISD rules and regulations.

B. The rules and regulations in *italic print* are specifically for the *Lewisville HIGH SCHOOL FarmeretteS*.

ARTICLE XXIII: CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

A. The constitution is subject to change at any time due to Texas Education Agency rule changes, or with approval from administration.

B. If necessary, the director may alter rules in the constitution according to the situation. For example, a member becomes ill at an out-of-town football game and is allowed to be transported home by another parent after contacting her parents.

C. The Director may add Articles to the constitution as needed for that particular high school drill team.

D. The Director may enforce other rules, as they become necessary during the school year, for the benefit of the organization.

Last Edited June 2024

Farmerette Constitution Agreement Form

I have read and agree to all of the stipulations within the Lewisville Farmerette Constitution. I acknowledge that by signing this document I am held accountable for all of my actions and I realize that there are consequences for not following all policies. I agree to follow all of the terms listed throughout this constitution and uphold the dignity that is entailed by being a member of Lewisville Farmerette Dance Team.

Date:_____

Farmerette Name:_____

Farmerette signature:_____

Guardian Name:_____

Guardian signature:_____

Farmerette Demerit System:

Attendance:	Number of Demerits:
Tardy to practice, performance or mandatory activity	1 first 20 minutes, 2 for 20+
Unexcused absence from practice or other mandatory activity	3
Leaving early without the Director's permission	2-5
Unexcused absence from a performance	2
Attire:	Number of Demerits:
Wearing incorrect clothes/uniform	1 per piece
Wearing inappropriate school attire	1
Wearing (not nude) nail polish for a performance	1
Wearing incorrect makeup	1
Wearing incorrect hair	1
Wearing jewelry at practice or a performance	1
Wearing inappropriate clothes during school hours	1
Wearing unpolished boots or shoes with holes for a performance	1
Wearing tights with runs in them for a performance	1
Wearing incorrect clothes for spirit days	1
Lending Farmerette attire to a non-Farmerette member	1
Conduct:	Number of Demerits:
Talking at inappropriate times	1
Late to football stands	2
Forgetting to bring an item	1
Dirty uniform/ and or not taken care of properly	1
Chewing gum	1
Using profanity	1
Using a cell phone at inappropriate times	1

Not cheering at a pep rally/game or event that requires spirit	1
Not following instructions	1
Leaving a mess behind you	1
Eating in uniform	1
Missing a deadline	1
Visible tattoo	1
Negative social media posts	2-5
Physical displays of affection (kissing, touching inappropriately, etc)	2-5
Behavior that is disrespectful to a Farmerette member/leader/booster	2-5
Behavior that is disrespectful to the Director	3
Behavior that is disrespectful to a teacher or administrator	3
Inappropriate conduct	2-10
Infraction of School Rules:	Number of Demerits:
Conduct Infraction (referral, detention, etc)	2-5- director discretion
Multiple conduct infractions are potential dismissal from team	director discretion
Being assigned ISS	3 per day assigned
Suspension from school	16=dismissal from team
Demerit Probation	15 demerits
Demerit Dismissal	16
ANY INFRACTION NOT LISTED ABOVE Demerits start at first new team practice.	DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION

1 acknowledge that I have read and will follow the guidelines and the Farmerette Demerit system for the duration of the 24-25 year. I understand that all demerits are at the Director's discretion and decisions are final. Farmerette Name Printed

Date

Farmerette Signature

Farmerette Parent Signature