

2020-2021*
Pine Tree High School

Pirate Precision
Drill Team

Constitution and By-Laws
for Participation

**The guidelines set forth in this constitution become effective immediately upon the student being chosen to the Precision Drill Team.*

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PURPOSE OF THE PIRATE PRECISION DANCE TEAM

The purpose of the Precision Dance Team is to encourage quality performance, academic standards, loyal school spirit, and high personal values among its members. Through the development of dance technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline and sportsmanship in each individual member, the Precision will fulfill its purpose for Pine Tree High School and the community of the Pine Tree Independent School District.

WHO'S WHO

DIRECTOR

The Precision director is responsible for all decisions affecting the team under the guidelines of Pine Tree High School and Pine Tree ISD.

PIRATE PRECISION MEMBERS

Membership Qualifications

1. The team shall consist of Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior full-time students.
2. The term of the team runs one year from selection to try-outs.
3. There shall be team managers chosen by a set of criteria determined by the director.
4. A selection approach whereby a set of criteria is met and /or points accrued shall determine who is selected to the squad.
5. New students will be considered based on previous experience and special audition.
6. All girls selected to drill team in the Spring of 1998, and succeeding years, shall be required to try-out again. Each member must accumulate 90 merits to earn the right to try-out again. After making and serving on the line for three years, a member earns her spot on the line and does not have to try-out her fourth year. If a member joins the team as a first year Sophomore or Junior, she must try-out to earn her Senior position. (i.e.....Each member must serve for two years before earning an automatic third year placement on the team. Each member, however must earn 90 merits to earn this senior year placement.)
7. If a Precision member decides to graduate high school a year early, the member will be classified as a Junior until January of the school year. Then, the member will be classified as a Senior at the same time other students are classified by the school.

Selection Process

1. The performance of the candidates will be evaluated and scored by at least (3) judges who are not associated with Pine Tree Schools. These judges will be approved by the Fine Arts Director. Team selection will be closed to the public.
2. The judges will score the candidates in the following areas:
 - Appearance
 - Dance ability and technique
 - Projection
 - Kicks
 - Splits

These areas will count for 70% of their total score.

3. A student must be in good standing in the principals' office at Pine Tree High School. "Good Standing" will be determined by reviewing the student's discipline record. Points will be given according to the following criteria and rating and will count 15% of their total score.
 - 15 pts = clear discipline record
 - 10 pts = 1 discipline referral (including referrals for tardies)
 - 5 pts = 2 discipline referrals
 - 0 pts = suspension from school or 3 discipline referrals for tardies or assignment to ISS

4. Grade eligibility is crucial to involvement in the Pirate Precision Dance Team; therefore, the students will be rated according to grades recorded for the year and this rating will count for 15% of their total score.
 - 15 pts = Passing all subjects every grading period
 - 10 pts = 1 grade below seventy (70)
 - 5 pts = 2 grades below seventy (70)
 - 0 pts = 3 grades below seventy (70)
5. A completed parent-student contract must be on file in advance of tryouts.
6. Each candidate will furnish her own outfit, which will consist of a form fitting black tank top, black leggings, and shoes that will be specified by the director prior to try-outs.

PIRATE PRECISION DANCE OFFICERS

A Precision Dance Officer must be dedicated to the team and demonstrate responsibility, the ability to get along with others, dance ability, and choreography skills. Under the Precision director, they help choreograph, plan activities, and assist in administrative duties.

Dance Officer Qualifications

To be considered for a Dance Officer, one must:

- 1.) Be a sophomore or junior member auditioning for the next school year
- 2.) Be a one year member.
- 3.) Possess strong leadership qualities
- 4.) Possess creative performance qualities.
- 5.) Have an excellent disciplinary history.
- 6.) Exemplify pride, spirit, and an enthusiastic attitude.
- 7.) Have accumulated 125 merits.
- 8.) Complete an officer notebook to be used in conjunction with the interview with the judges.
- 9.) Must turn in a paper to the director justifying her dedication to the team and her responsibility level. She must also state why she feels she should be selected.

Dance Officer Selections

- 1.) A panel of qualified judges will select the officers, and the tryouts will be closed to the public.
- 2.) Prior to the tryout date, the candidates will be scored and ranked in the following areas:
 - (a) Grade Point Average – A cumulative grade point average for the year will be figured for each candidate. The candidates will then be ranked.
 - (b) Merits – The candidate with the most merits will receive 25 pts., the second lowest, 24 pts., etc.
 - (c) Demerits – The candidate with the least demerits will receive 25 pts., the second lowest, 24 pts., etc.
 - (d) Vote – The returning team members will vote for the candidates they would like for officer. The candidate receiving the most votes will receive 25 pts., the second highest votes will receive 24 pts., etc.

These scores will be ascertained before the day of try-outs, but they will not be announced to the candidate.

- 3.) The day of try-outs, each candidate will be scored in the following areas:
 - (a) Performance of group Jazz Routine
 - (b) Performance of Kick Skills
 - (c) Performance of Required Skills
 - (d) Performance of Precision Officer Strut
 - (e) Performance of Original Solo Routine
 - (f) Interview with judges using a notebook prepared by each candidate
- 4.) All items will be totaled to give each candidate their final score. The senior candidate receiving the highest score will be Captain. The next highest scores will be Lieutenants.

Dance Officer Responsibilities

1. The responsibilities of all the Officers are:
 - (a) Work with the director to decide on all performances such as victory lines, hand routines, half time, contest, spring show, etc.
 - (b) Maintain a good working relationship with the director and other officers.
 - (c) Will set an example for other team members by maintaining a positive and cooperative attitude for promoting school spirit and team unity, and for remaining calm and flexible in times of crisis.
 - (d) Represents the organization in any function of the school or community.
 - (e) Officers shall check for attendance and tardies and hold inspections for her squad.
 - (f) Gives demerits to all officers and team members.
 - (g) Teaching under the direction of the director.
 - (h) Responsible for all props issued to her squad to and from any game or function and returning them in an orderly manner.
 - (i) Warming-up the team
 - (j) Responsible for their squad's attitude and morale-motivation and deciding specified awards.
 - (k) Provide individual help to each of the members in your squad in learning and perfecting dances.
 - (l) To clean up gym and dressing room each day and after performances.
 - (m) Be available to contact your squad members.
 - (n) Make gifts for the team
 - (o) Responsible for maintaining discipline and seeing that her squad is in order at all times.
 - (p) To be 10 minutes early to rehearsal and 15 minutes early to performances.
 - (q) To assist in Precision tryout clinic and tryouts if needed.
 - (r) May be required to attend a special officer summer camp.
 - (s) Perform all duties requested by the director.
2. The Captain is the superior officer of the Precision and is in charge at all times under the direction of the director. The responsibilities of the Captain are:
 - (a) To report directly to the director in all matters.
 - (b) To hold inspection for the other officers checking attendance and tardies.
 - (c) Assist in choreography and teaching of material, under the direction of the director.
 - (d) Helps with calendar and rehearsal planning.
 - (e) Helps remind members of what uniforms to wear, how to dress, the hair, and the time of the event.
 - (f) To help coordinate practices, pep rallies, and performances.
 - (g) To maintain impeccable behavior as an example for members.

3. The responsibilities of the Lieutenants are:
 - (a) To report directly to the captain in all matters.
 - (b) To assist the director and captain in any way.
 - (c) To assist in choreography and teaching materials.
 - (d) To check attendance at all practices and performances.
 - (e) To work with the director and captain in building pride, spirit, and good member relationships.
 - (f) To maintain impeccable behavior as an example for members.

4. Should an officer not uphold the responsibilities and standards of her office or follow the PTISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct, she may be removed her from her office. She may retain membership on the drill team.

5. A dance officer that receives 10 or more demerits will be removed from her office.

PIRATE PRECISION SOCIAL OFFICERS

Social Officer Qualifications

1. Must be a Junior or Senior, but no Junior may run against a Senior for a position. If no upperclassman is running for a position, a Sophomore is eligible.
2. Must run for a specific office.
3. Must create a digital portfolio that will include tasks decided by the Director.
4. Returning team members will vote for Social Officers based off of the digital portfolio that is presented.
5. Have accumulated 125 merits.

The social officers will be elected by a majority vote of the returning members.

Social Officer Responsibilities

The social officers will:

1. Promote good relations among similar organizations with the school.
2. Promote good relations with teams from other schools.
3. Be available for summer meetings.
4. Keep an organized notebook of responsibilities to be passed on.
5. The responsibilities of the President are to organize:
 - (a) Committees to complete work for all social functions of the team.
 - (b) Spirit booster activity for band.
 - (c) "Spirit Sheet" contest for homecoming.
 - (d) Spirit parties for the drill team
 - (e) The slide presentation for spring show
6. The responsibilities of Secretary are:
 - (a) All thank you notes.
 - (b) All Precision Birthdays.
 - (c) To assist the president in her duties.
7. The responsibilities of the Historian are:
 - (a) To acquire pictures and publicity from the year to be put into a scrapbook.
 - (b) To assist in creating social media posts, fliers, graphic designs, etc.
 - (c) To assist the president in her duties.

8. The responsibilities of the Chaplain are:
 - (a) To lead the team in the pre-performance circle.
 - (b) The quote for the week
 - (c) To be a friend and confidant to members of the team
 - (d) To assist the president in her duties.
9. Should an officer not uphold the responsibilities and standards of her office or follow the PTISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct, she may be removed her from her office. She may retain membership on the drill team.
10. A social officer that receives 10 or more demerits will be removed from her office.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRECISION MEMBERS

Participation in the Precision Dance Team is an honor and privilege, therefore, each member shall fulfill these responsibilities to her fellow teammates.

Practices and Performances

1. All team members are **required** to attend summer camp. Officers may be required to attend an additional camp. Summer camp tuition must be paid for by the student/parent.
2. Drill team members must attend all events (practices and performances) scheduled by the director. Any drill team member missing an event without notifying and receiving director approval prior to the time of the scheduled function will be placed on organizational probation unless extenuating circumstances prevail which are acceptable to the director. Practices include those called during the summer months.
3. Work cannot interfere with scheduled rehearsals. Work is not an excused absence from rehearsal or an excuse to leave early or to be late.
4. Doctor and/or dental appointments must not interfere with a scheduled rehearsal. These appointments are not excused. (Refers to routine appointment, not emergency!)
5. Punctuality for being at roll call and readiness for departure shall be expected by each member. Student should anticipate the schedule by 15 minutes.
6. Drill team members are expected to attend classes on the day an event is scheduled.
7. There may be tryouts to determine the line that will perform in a routine or performance for football games, pep rallies, trip performance, spring show, etc.
8. A member will not be allowed to perform or attend event if hair is not a natural color.

Conduct

1. Drill team members must promote and maintain good relationships with faculty, administration, and student body and work cooperatively with the band, cheerleaders, and other organizations of the school.
2. Drill team members must exhibit good taste in appearance and social behavior at school and away from school.
3. Each member should refrain from complaints about the drill team, other members, officers, and the director. Others will only respect our team as much as we do.
4. Members must obey rules of good sportsmanship at all times.
5. Members may not make personal remarks to the viewing stands or players while on the court or field.
6. Members are required to sit as a group in viewing stands throughout the entire event.
7. Transportation for away games or activities will be provided by the school. Members are required to ride to and from games in provided transportation.
8. Discipline procedures will follow the PTISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct, PTISD Student Handbook, and the Drill Team Constitution.

Uniforms:

1. The Precision performing uniform should be kept spotless at all times. Jewelry and nail polish are not allowed with the Precision uniform. Make-up, hair, and uniform should be in good order at inspection. Precision members are expected to wear the game uniform with pride and confidence.
2. The Fine Arts Director shall approve all uniform and equipment selection and purchases.
3. The basic Drill Team uniform will be furnished for performing Drill Team members (except boots and hat which should be furnished by the member.)
4. Each Drill Team member will be required to buy practice attire. These will be ordered through the director and/or booster club.
5. A schedule will be given to each member of specific attire to wear daily. This helps in polishing and aides in discipline.
6. You must wear performance footwear.
7. Always use a cover-up coming to and leaving rehearsal.
8. No cover-ups during rehearsal.
9. No holes in rehearsal attire, hair out of face, no bulky jewelry, no body piercing, no tattoos, no non-natural colored hair
10. Make sure everything is labeled.

Merits

Precision members will be allowed to earn merits during the summer beginning on set date for the year. She may continue to earn merits during the school term, except if she is ineligible because of grades. All merits must be submitted in writing by the member within 2 weeks of earning the merits. If a member wishes to become an officer candidate she must accumulate 125 merits by officer try-outs. The due date for accumulating merits will be determined by the director in relationship to the try-out date.

C – recorded by Captain

Y – You must turn in a proper merit slip

B – recorded by Booster club

If you have a question about something not listed, ask the director or captain if you earn merits for the activity and, if so, how many.

CAMP

C Attendance 20

MINI CLINICS

C Attendance 3

SPORTS & EVENTS (PTHS ONLY)

Y Basketball, Soccer, Track, Baseball, Etc. 5 per event

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Y Volunteering or participating in service projects 3 per hour

MONEY MAKING PROJECTS

B Work at project 1 per hour/maximum 30

SPECIAL HONOR

Y Class Officer 3

Y Club Officer 3

Y Club Member 3

Y 3.5 GPA 3 per semester

Y Student Council Representatives 3

Y National Honor Society 3

Y Math/Science Team Member 3

Y Thespian 3

Y Represent PTHS in pageant or court 3

Y Placing in UIL Competition 3

Y Honor Roll (As and Bs) 1 per 6 Weeks

MISCELLANEOUS

C Parades 5

C Volunteering for extra Precision events
(appearances, performances, etc.) 5

Y Attending any school or professional show 5

Y Dance performance in concerts, show, or competition 3 per routine

Y Performing in school productions 10

Y Attending dance performance as a spectator 2

Y Attend other teams Spring Show 3

***Precision members (including seniors) must obtain 45 merits by the end of the first semester to remain on the team for the second semester. Members must accumulate 90 merits to earn the right to try-out again.

AWARD SYSTEM

In order to be considered for a letter jacket in the Precision, a member must:

1. Be a one-year member.
2. Accumulated 90 merits.
3. Attend and actively participated in 10 football games. The only way a member may miss a game and still be eligible for a jacket is if the Director has approved the absence. (i.e... other school activities, family emergencies, etc.)
4. Participated in all Spring Show rehearsals and performances.
5. Have been eligible for participation for at least 80% of the school year.
6. Must be in overall good standing within the organization to letter. (conduct, grades, etc.)

DEMERITS

A member will be placed on probation for one week after receiving three demerits in one week. An accumulation of a total of twenty-five (25) demerits at anytime in the year will be cause for suspension from the organization. When issuing demerits, the director may use her discretion as to the severity of the offense. When a member accumulates 20 demerits, they will then follow the PTISD Extra Curricular Code of Conduct. Demerits will be given for the following offenses:

** Tardiness (1 per 10 minutes up to 2)	1
**Unexcused absence from practice	3
**Uniform (including boots and hat) not clean	1 per item
**An incomplete uniform (including inappropriate Make-up or hairstyle and missing items in travel bag)	1 per item
**Gum chewing while in uniform	1
**Eating or drinking in uniform without permission	1
**Failure to turn in fees without just reason	1 per day
**Failure to cooperate during practice	1-5
**Seen in any part of uniform in public places Before/after a performance	1
**Changing on the bus without permission	1
**Leaving poms, clothing parts, parts of uniform or equipment at school or in bus	1 per item
**Conversation with non-members while in formation	1
**Failure to bring poms to pep rally	1
** Failure to wear team t-shirt and attire when assigned	1 per item
**Cell phone use during practice	1
**Cell phone use during game or performance	2
**Wearing incorrect practice attire (or no cover-up)	1 per item
**Wearing any jewelry during practice	1 per item
**Wearing any jewelry during performance	2 per item
**Wearing unapproved jewelry during a Precision event	2 per item
**Body ink visible during practice	1 per item
**Body ink visible during performance or Precision event	2 per item
**Failure to follow instructions	1-5
**Disrespect for an officer or director	1-5
**Inappropriate conduct	1-25
**Unexcused absence from performance	5
**Failure to ride on specified bus to team events and return in bus, unless excused by director.	5
**Being assigned to Saturday school	5
**Being assigned to In School Suspension	10 per day
**Failure to comply with district policies regarding drinking, smoking, and drugs	15-25

DISMISSAL

1. Major infractions will be handled by the Director and Fine Arts Director in accordance with the conditions of this constitution, the Pine Tree Discipline Management Plan, the Pine Tree Drug/Alcohol Policy, PTISD Extra Curricular Guidelines, and the PTISD Student Code of Conduct.
2. A member may be dismissed from the team for an accumulation of twenty-five (25) demerits.
3. A member may be dismissed for being ineligible for two six weeks during the semester.

THE FOUR SEASONS

The Pirate Precision Dance Team is a year-round program with many fun exciting opportunities for its members. Here are some of the highlights of our “four seasons.”

Summer

The summer is a time of preparation for the upcoming school year. We attend camp as a team. This may be a home or away camp. The girls need to be available for a team meeting before camp to prepare. The dates and times are announced at the tryout meeting. Following camp, the girls report back to Two-A-Days or additional practices as set forth by the Director. During this time we review and polish all our football routines, pep rally routines, hand routines, and game procedures.

Football Season

This is an exciting culmination to the hard work from summer. As the members take the field for the first football game, they receive their earned reward for all those hours of summer practice. We maintain a busy schedule during football season with most rehearsals occurring in the morning before school. There may be extra rehearsals for Homecoming Week, Senior Week, etc. as we have more routines to prepare. We also plan and host a Precision Mini-Clinic. This is a great opportunity for the team to work together, be an example for younger Pirates in our community, promote our program, and make some money for our year.

Winter Season

Following football season we have a temporary lull in the frenzied activity of dance team. During that time we enjoy performing in the Longview Christmas Parade and an enchanted evening at the Precision Winter Formal. The formal is sponsored, planned, and executed by the Precision Booster Club. We encourage and need your support.

After the formal, we must coordinate our spring activities with the school calendar and follow the school board guidelines concerning travel. Every three years the drill team will have a performance trip opportunity. During this time we also begin planning our Spring Show.

The endurance, persistence, and fortitude the girls learn during this time will serve them well as they meet the demands of their futures in college and beyond.

Spring

We conclude our year with our annual Spring Show. This is a huge production. We honor our Senior Precision members each night at the show. This is truly a special event as we see the fruits of their labor and watch the dance team in full blossom.

During this season we also have the try-out clinic for the new team as well as try-outs. The Precision members are expected to help with this process.

We close out the year with a banquet to honor our Seniors.

As you can see, we have a very busy schedule. The girls receive many rewards from being a member of our structured atmosphere which strives to teach responsibility and self discipline.

Pine Tree Precision Constitution Student Agreement

I, _____, have read and understand the constitution of the Pine Tree Precision Drill Team. I understand that participation in the Precision Drill Team is a privilege, not a right. I am fully aware of the devotion I must have in order to be a member of the program. I also understand that I am expected to attend and actively participate in all Precision performances and events as set forth by the director. I agree to abide by the rules set forth for me by this constitution, the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, the PTISD Student Handbook and laws of the state of Texas. I understand that failure to comply with the rules and policies that are laid out in these documents will result in consequences as set forth by the director and administration team.

Student signature

Date

Pine Tree Precision Constitution Parent Agreement

I have read the Precision Constitution and am fully aware of the time, discipline, and expense that is required in order for my daughter to be a member of the team. I understand and agree to abide by all provisions of the Precision Constitution while my daughter is a participant of Precision. I further stipulate that I will support the Precision Director and Pine Tree High School in the enforcement of all policies and procedures.

Parent/ Guardian signature

Date