

Royal Pride Drill Team Informational Sheet

What is Drill Team?

Drill team is a group of dancers who perform dance routines in unison. Teams perform visual routines at football games, both in the stands during the game, and on the field at halftime. During the spring, teams often perform at basketball game halftimes, and compete in many different dance styles at competitions sponsored by dance and drill team companies.

Here at GOHS the Royal Pride Drill Team consists of three seasons, Football Season, Contest Season and Show Season. The team does have the potential to travel in the future, and may do so on a year to year basis. Being a Royal Pride member is a full year commitment, and there is no off season.

What is the purpose of our Organization?

The purpose of our Organization is to encourage quality performance, high academic standards, loyal school spirit and high personal values among members. Through the development of dance technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline and sportsmanship in each individual member, the Royal Pride Drill Team will fulfill its purpose for the benefit of Grand Oaks High School and the community of Conroe ISD.

What is the Difference between the Dance class and Drill Team?

We have two Dance Programs here at Grand Oaks High School. The Dance Department is an "in school only" class taken for a fine arts or P.E. Credit. In the Dance Department you will study all genres of dance and will perform in an annual spring show as a part of your class requirements.

Drill Team is both an "in school" and extracurricular activity that takes up one (double blocked) period for Drill Team Members, as well as daily practices after school. Drill Team Practices are currently held from 3:00-5:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, and we do plan to stick to afternoon rehearsals for the 2019-2020 school year. The Drill Team performs during halftime at football games, at pep rallies, basketball games, school & community events, etc. They also compete at dance competitions and put on a spring show or travel depending on the year.

How time consuming is the Royal Pride Drill Team?

Being a Royal Pride member is a full year commitment and requires a lot of dedication. Extra practices are added in the second semester as we prepare for our contest season with additional Saturday practices beginning in November/December/January.

Your family schedules will sometimes have to be adjusted to accommodate your commitment on the team. This is a TEAM activity, so each girl must be present for rehearsals and performances.

Emotional Involvement.

Each member will have their own triumphs and disappointments in Royal Pride. The love and support of family will be Important during these times. *Remember* that learning to deal with frustration and pressures are a part of the maturation process. Your **positive attitude** and **communication** will influence your experiences along the way.

What type of dancing do we do?

We promote a large variety of dance styles on this team including but not limited to Kick, Pom, Streamer Jazz, Hip Hop, Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Modern, Novelty, Military, etc.

How we strive for high Academics:

Each Royal Pride member is responsible for passing all classes and remaining eligible according to UIL standards. Academics are also maintained through tutoring after school.

What discipline is expected on the team?

As a member you are asked to represent yourself as a young lady or gentleman at all times both in and out of school. Our guidelines are written out in our Royal Pride Constitution which is signed by all members and parents of our organization.

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We base our discipline off of a merit and demerit system. Merits serve as a reward for good behavior, school and community involvement, exceptional academics, etc. Demerits serve as a way to maintain organization and structure among the team.

How much does being on the Royal Pride Drill Team cost?

- CISD will check out field uniforms, rain ponchos & costumes to Drill Team members.
- Team members are responsible for purchasing their team practice attire, warm ups and individual team items such as uniform shoes, uniform hats, hat covers, a day uniform consisting of team jerseys and jeans, tote bag, garment bag, etc. This typically runs on average around \$800 for your first year of membership. Once you are a returning member, you will not need to buy all of the items and will be able to keep most practice items for many years.
- Members are required to pay their team camp and choreography fees each year which typically run on average around \$200.
- Depending on the year, a competition fee may also be taken up in the amount of \$250-\$300 per member in the months of November-January to help pay for competition registration, transportation, costumes, choreography, props, song rights, etc.
- Booster Club membership dues are \$200 per member and can be worked off in part with volunteer hours of support.
- In all, it costs around \$1,200 to begin your first year as an RP member. After that, your cost will decrease significantly.

Other quick facts about the drill team:

- Dance experience helps, but is not necessary to make the team.
- Dance experience does not guarantee you a spot on the team.
- An "A" in dance class or encouragement to tryout from the dance teacher does not guarantee you will make the team.
- All members follow a STRICT disciplinary system.
- There is no standard of appearance required, but your appearance must be within the CISD Student Handbook. Hair must be natural colors and the only piercings allowed are ears. No visible tattoos or any other piercings (lip, face, or unnatural ears piercings) are permitted without approval from administration.