



GERMANTOWN MAVERICKS

The following forms will need to be turned in to Mrs. Roberson in Trailer 309 (to the left of 7th/8th grade car rider line/cafeteria side of school) by Friday, February 21st:

- _____ Try Out Application (completed)
- _____ \$40 Cash Tryout Fee (exact amount please)
- _____ Copy of CURRENT physical (must be dated February 20, 2022 or after)

I HAVE READ THE ATTACHED NOTE, TRYOUT PROCESS SHEET and give permission for my child, _____, to try out for a position on the 2023-2024 Germantown Middle School Dance Team. I also understand that if my child is selected, I must be willing to pay for all dance needs. I understand that there is a \$40 NONREFUNDABLE tryout fee.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Student's Name (printed) _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Student's 5th block teacher _____

**Germantown Middle School
Dance Team Constitution
2023-2024
GERMANTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE TEAM**

ARTICLE I Qualification of Candidates

SECTION 1: Candidates for the Germantown Middle School Dance Team must be currently enrolled in Madison County Schools. The team tryouts are open to students in grades sixth and seventh.

SECTION 2: Each candidate must have attained a cumulative average of 70 or above. Furthermore, all students selected for the team are expected to have no failures throughout the year and keep class attendance in good standing.

SECTION 3: Each candidate must participate in the entire audition clinic. Exceptions may be made in extenuating circumstances. These exceptions are up to the discretion of the sponsor.

SECTION 4: Upon selection, parents and candidates will sign and return a form stating that they have read the policies outlined for the team program and understand the rules/regulations for participation. These signatures also indicate an acknowledgement of the physical requirements for participation. Parents will assume responsibility for any injuries that may occur as a result of practice or performance.

ARTICLE II Responsibilities of the Team

SECTION 1: The Germantown Middle School Dancers will perform at the following activities and events:

1. All home football games
2. Any home 8th grade Boys varsity basketball game (at halftime)
3. Pep rallies
4. Community events

SECTION 2: All team members are required to attend a summer camp chosen by the sponsor. This camp is mandatory. All members must be able to meet the financial obligation of the camp. If a team member has difficulty meeting financial obligations, the sponsor should be consulted and will do her best to assist.

SECTION 3: All Germantown Dance team members are also required to attend all summer practices. More than 2 missed summer practices will result in the dancer being pulled from the home routine at UDA Camp. All vacations and appointments should be made at times that do not conflict with practices.

SECTION 4: If a conflict occurs between a scheduled activity and outside interest, Germantown Dance Team activity takes precedence. Dance performances, including trips, come before other performances or travel opportunities. **DO NOT** make vacation or travel plans during seasonal performances/practices.

ARTICLE III
Rules and Regulations for Dance Team

Academics, Attitude, Attendance, Appearance, and Dismissal

SECTION 1: Dancers are subject to all rules and regulations of Germantown Middle School. They must also follow the guidelines and procedures of the Germantown Middle School Dance Team Constitution.

SECTION 2: Dancers are expected to maintain an academic average of at least 75% in all coursework with no failures. Grades will be checked at every distribution interval.

a. Grades will be checked at every progress report/ report card. If a Dancer fails a class or falls below a 65% average, she will be put on probation. This means that she will be able to participate in all performances, but her grades will be monitored very closely.

b. If a Dancer placed on probation fails a class or earns below a 65% average for the next progress report/ report card reporting period, the Dancer will be suspended from all performances until the next grade reports are sent out. The Dancer will still be expected to attend practice/performance.

c. Any suspended Dancer may participate in performances again once the next progress reports/ report cards are checked and the student has pulled up the grade. If the suspended Dancer does not pull up her grade by the next report card, she will be dismissed from the team.

SECTION 3: Dancers are expected to maintain a positive attitude and a high standard of behavior.

- a. Dancers are representatives of Germantown Middle School and should conduct themselves in an appropriate manner for upholding the integrity and character of Germantown Middle School and the Germantown Middle School Dance Team program in and out of uniform.
- b. Dancers are expected to show respect for those in authority including faculty, administration, sponsors, teachers, and etc.
- c. Dancers are expected to have no behavioral problems during the school year. Any office referrals will result in immediate suspension from performances for at least one week, but no longer than three weeks. Behavior problems that persist will result in the dancer being dismissed from the team.
- d. Dancers should respect each other as teammates and work coherently as a group. If the attitude or conduct of any Dancer should have a negative effect on the team or the school, the sponsor(s) will hold a conference with the Dancer outlining the expected behavior improvements. If there is no immediate correction of the behavior or conduct, the Dancer will be sidelined until further notice. Behavior problems that persist will result in the Dancer being dismissed from the team.

SECTION 4: Dancers are expected to attend all scheduled practices and performances.

- a. Dancers are expected to attend in-school (4th block) practices.
- b. Dancers are expected to attend after school practices during the entire first semester. Those days and times will be determined by the Sponsor.
- c. Dancers are expected to comply with rules and regulations stated in the Rules/Grades/Penalties (see pgs. 7-10)
- d. The Dance period during the school day is a scheduled practice. Dancers should not schedule appointments or other activities during this class period or during after school practice. A Dancer who does not participate in a mandatory practice or practice immediately prior to a performance will not be allowed to perform but must attend the performance in full uniform.
- e. Any Dancer who has an unexcused absence from practice will sit out the next performance.
- f. Any Dancer who misses a scheduled practice or performance is responsible for learning missed material and contacting a senior in order to be notified of announcements. This Dancer will also be required to condition .5 miles for each missed practice.

- g. Any unexcused absence from a performance will result in a grade of zero for that performance. If a Dancer has 2 unexcused absences from a performance then she will be dismissed from the team.
- h. If a Dancer misses more than 2 consecutive performances with an excused absence, then she will be required to make up the missed performances at the sponsor's discretion.
- i. Dancers are required to perform for all 4 quarters of the football game on the sideline. Dancers are expected to return to their sideline position with two (2) minutes remaining in third quarter. Failure to do so will result in the dancer being suspended from performance from the fourth quarter of that game and a five (5) point deduction for that game.

SECTION 5: In the event that an injury or illness incapacitates a team member, a written doctor's excuse must be submitted to the sponsor. This excuse should specifically dictate the type and degree of physical activity allowed. No injured or ill Dancer will be permitted to practice or perform until fully recovered and released by a doctor. Illnesses and injuries should be reported immediately to the sponsor. Dancers may e-mail the sponsor in order to leave a message regarding an illness or injury.

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SECTION 6: Dancers are expected to follow all guidelines established for appearance, practices, and performances. Dancers must also be in good health and be physically able to perform all movements and conditioning activities deemed appropriate by the sponsor.

SECTION 7: Failure to abide by the rules and regulations established for the Germantown Middle School Dance Team will be reflected in the grade for the Dancer and could result in being sidelined or dismissed from the team. (see Rules/Grades/Penalties on pgs. 7-10)

SECTION 8: Attitude, attendance, and preparation for class will affect the Dancer's grade for 4th period fall semester and 4th period spring semester. A grade will be assigned for each week of practice and each performance during the course of the year. Points will be deducted from practice and performance grades as outlined in the Rules/Grades/Penalties (see pgs. 7-10).

ARTICLE IV Uniforms and Expenses

SECTION 1: An itemized list of expenses will be distributed at a meeting to take place before the new team has been selected. This list will include the estimated cost of expenses and camp fees. The list is subject to change.

SECTION 2: Dancers must sell ads for the All Sports media guide. Parents of dancers should join the Mavs Booster Club. Dancers are encouraged to participate in all approved fund-raisers that benefit the team as a whole. Such activities will raise funds in the name of Germantown Middle School Dance team in order to purchase needed items for the team and activities.

SECTION 3: New uniforms are ordered every 2-3 years and are purchased by the Mavs Booster Club. Proper uniform fit will be checked and approved by the sponsor.

SECTION 4: Dancers are expected to take proper care of all uniforms. All uniforms should be ready to be worn for performances at any moment. With the exception of practice uniforms, all uniforms should be washed according to the instructions given by Varsity. In order to prevent discoloration and shrinking, uniforms should never be dry cleaned or dried in a machine dryer. Uniforms should be stored in a location safe from damage by other clothing or accessories. In the event a uniform is damaged, the uniform will be replaced at the expense of the Dancer.

GERMANTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE TEAM
Rules /Grades/Penalties

Failure to abide by the following rules and regulations will result in grade deductions, demerits and/or extra conditioning.

Section 1

No member **shall be late or absent** from any event. There are, however, unavoidable events that may, on rare occasions, cause a member to be late or absent. They are defined later in this section.

The Dancers must attend the following:

- All scheduled practices
- All home football games
- Any home 8th grade boys basketball games designated prior to the start of the season
- Pep Rallies
- Some Community Events

The sponsor(s) will notify all members as soon as possible of any travel, so that each member may contact her instructors to work out absences from class or exams in advance. While instructors are normally aware of the requirements of athletes to travel and miss class at times, each member must request permission to be excused and make arrangements to make up any work missed. It is the responsibility of each member to clear all class work and exams with her instructors in advance.

At no time is work, a family reunion, a party, vacation, or any event of this nature excused to miss practices, games or travel to games. The sponsor(s) determines what excuses are appropriate or inappropriate at the time of the event. Un-notified and/or inappropriate absences from a game or other event will result in a zero for the performance.

With exception of illness, the sponsor must be notified at least One (1) week in advance in writing prior to an absence for that absence to be considered for an excused absence. Final approvals are up to the sponsor(s).

Section 2

*Excused absences for a **practice** shall be defined as follows:*

- A. Sickness or injury that is severe enough to prevent a member from attending and watching. If the Dancer can attend class, she can attend practice. If at any time a Dancer is absent due to illness, she will be required to give the sponsor(s) a doctor's or parent's excuse within 24 hours of the absence. A parent's excuse will only be excused twice a semester.
- B. Death or severe illness in the immediate family. The sponsor(s) must receive either a written notice or a phone call.
- C. In the event of excessive absences due to injury/illness, the member may be asked to meet with the sponsor(s) to discuss her physical well being and progress toward healing. (An NG or 0 will be recorded in the grade book for missed activities. The Dancer's grade will change when the makeup work has been performed.)
- D. A college visit does not excuse a team member from a performance.

*Excused absences for a **performance** shall be defined as follows:*

- A. Sickness or injury **that is severe enough to prevent a member from attending and watching**. If at any time a Dancer is absent due to illness, she will be required to give the sponsor(s) a doctor's excuse within 24 hours of the absence. A parent's excuse will not be accepted as an excuse for a performance.
- B. Death or severe illness in the immediate family. The sponsor(s) must receive either written notice or a phone call.
- C. In the event of excessive absences due to injury/illness, the member may be asked to meet with the sponsor(s) to discuss her physical well being and progress toward healing. If a Dancer misses more than 2 consecutive performances, then she will be required to make up the missed performances at the sponsors discretion. (An NG or 0 will be recorded in the grade book for missed activities. The Dancer's grade will change when the makeup work has been performed.)
- D. School Related Trip (only 1 the entire year with 1 week written notice).

Section 3

*Unexcused **absences** for practice shall be defined as follow:*

- A. Work, family reunions, parties, vacations, routine doctor's appointments.
- B. Mild illness or injury (not severe enough to prevent attending and watching).

- C. Any absence where at least ONE WEEK WRITTEN notification was not given.
- D. Any parent excuse over twice a semester.

Unexcused absences for performance shall be defined as follow:

- A. Work, family reunions, parties, vacations, routine doctor's appointments
- B. Mild illness or injury (not severe enough to prevent attending and watching)
- C. Any absence where at least ONE WEEK WRITTEN notification was not given
- D. Any parent excuse

Section 4

Grade/ Demerit Deductions for weekly practice grade:

5 points/ 1 Demerit

- A. Late to practice
- B. Chewing gum during practice
- C. Late in turning in any assignment (money, permission forms, etc.) (5 points each day)
- D. Wearing any jewelry
- E. Demonstrating unsportsmanlike conduct (determined by the sponsor)
- F. Continuously talking or not paying attention during practice
- G. Failure to be courteous to other Dancers
- H. Hair not secure out of face with bangs pulled back.
- I. Not practicing full out at all times (unless directed otherwise by the sponsor)

10 points/ 2 Demerits:

- A. Failure to dress out properly for practice
- B. Using profanity
- C. Failure to bring any item (proper shoes, poms, etc.) to practice
- D. Use of cell phone during practice

20 points/ 3 Demerits

- A. Unexcused absence from practice. This includes late notification of an excused absence.
- B. Insubordination: direct refusal to follow a specific request from any adult or sponsor*

***Also subject to disciplinary action by the Germantown Middle School administration.**

***There are multiple opportunities to earn points or demerits back. Our goal is to empower the team to be as successful as possible. This requires EVERY dancer following team guidelines and expectations. Every action has a positive or negative impact. Every choice has a consequence – positive or negative**

If a Dancer's weekly practice grade falls at or below an 80%, they will not perform that week but must attend the performance in full uniform in order to receive an NM for the performance. Otherwise she will receive a zero for the missed performance.

Grade/ Demerit Deductions for performance grades:

10 points/ 2 Demerits

- A. Late to game or performance
- B. Continuously talking or not paying attention at a game or performance
- C. Chewing gum while in uniform
- D. Wearing any jewelry other than designated approved jewelry
- E. Failure to wear designated Dance attire to school on game days
- F. Hair not styled as indicated by the coach

15 points/ 3 Demerits

- A. Using profanity
- B. Use of a cell phone during a performance (unless approved by the sponsor(s))
- C. Not performing full out

20 points/ 4 Demerits

- A. Failure to wear the appropriate clothing to a performance (will also result in the dancer sitting out the performance)
- B. Failure to bring poms, shoes, etc. (will also result in the Dancer sitting out the performance)

Any unexcused absence will result in a grade of zero for the performance. In the case that a Dancer has 2 unexcused performance absences, she will be dismissed from the team.

Any excused performance absence will result in a grade of NM (which does not count for or against the Dancer).

Section 6

Penalties for office referrals:

- A. Any Dancer that receives after school detention or corporal punishment will condition extra at practice at the sponsor's discretion.
- B. Any Dancer that receives in school detention will not perform for that week if there is a performance and/or will condition extra at practice at the sponsor's discretion.
- C. Any Dancer that receives out of school suspension will be dismissed from the team.

Other disciplinary actions

- A. Since we cannot foresee all situations that may arise during the Dance season, the sponsor(s) reserve the right to assign grade deductions or otherwise take disciplinary action for offenses that may not be specified above.
- B. Any behavior deemed inappropriate by the sponsor, athletic director, and/or principal may also warrant immediate removal from the team.

Germantown Middle School

Dance Team Constitution 2023-2024

I have read, completely understand, and agree to the attached constitution set forth for being a part of Germantown Middle School's Dance team. I agree that this is a yearlong financial and behavioral obligation and plan to make this serious commitment for the entire school year. I know this will be a demanding responsibility, but I plan to work hard at being the best Dancer for Germantown Middle School.

Dancer Signature

Date

I have read, completely understand, and agree to the attached constitution set forth for my child being a part of Germantown High School's Dance team. I understand this is a yearlong financial and behavioral commitment and ensure that my child will take this responsibility very seriously. My child has permission to try out for the GMS Dance Team. I am also aware that an up to date physical must be turned in before tryouts. I also understand that there is a \$40 cash tryout fee that will be due on February 21, 2023. Tryout forms and fee can be turned in to or Mrs. Roberson at GMS (portable 309)

Parent's Signature

Date

Philosophy/Mission of GMS Dance

- To promote and uphold school spirit, to develop a sense of good sportsmanship among the student body, and to better relationships between schools during all athletic events.
- To support our football AND basketball teams by dancing regularly scheduled games and if applicable, play off games.
- To represent the school and community through the public performance of quality dancing while promoting and enhancing the dignity and reputation of Germantown Middle School.
- To foster development of essential character qualities. These include: a sense of personal integrity, a responsibility for legitimate authority, a responsibility for one's actions and a respect for the time, talents, abilities and accomplishments of others.
- To provide each athlete with a positive emotional outlet, a good social experience and a worthy use of leisure time.

GMS Dance Program Overview:

Dancers understand that teamwork and the maintenance of discipline is the key to the success of the spirit program. Dancers are dedicated to promoting spirit, enthusiasm, and a positive winning attitude through example. Adherence to the Dance Program rules and regulations are necessary to maintain morale, discipline and effective learning. Consistent enforcement of these rules and regulations is also necessary to ensure the safety and general well-being of each individual dancer. Joining the team is voluntary, not mandatory. It is a privilege NOT a right and may be revoked by the school personnel when a dancer violates the rules and regulations.

TRYOUTS

- Three outside judges, picked randomly by the Universal Dance Association, will judge and score the tryouts. These evaluations are confidential and will not be released to a candidate or a candidate's parents at any time for any reason. This is DISTRICT policy.
- The administration and head coach have NO involvement in the selection or scoring process. The team is selected via a natural break in the scoring. There is no set number of positions on the team.
- The scores, not the score sheet, of an individual candidate will only be released to the candidate or the candidate's parents or legal guardians after a request is submitted in writing. This must be a minimum of 36 hours after tryouts. Any email requests should be sent to the coaches with the proper administrator CC'd. Requests for scores will be answered within a week.
- The coaches should NOT be contacted via phone call or text message at any time during the tryout process.
- Results of the tryout process will be released via the GMS website on Friday, March 3rd at 9 pm.
- Candidates should remain on campus (waiting in a vehicle) until tryouts are completed in case of callbacks.
- Clinic will take place on Monday, February 27th and Tuesday, February 28th from 4-6 in the GMS gym. A "mock" tryout will take place on Wednesday, March 1st from 4-5 pm at GHS. Tryouts will also be at GHS on Thursday, March 2nd.
- For clinic and mock tryouts, dance attire should be worn at all times. (leggings, shorts, tanks and tshirts are all acceptable for the clinic. No crop tops or short shorts) Hair should be pulled back at all times. No jewelry should be worn. Jazz shoes should be worn at all times.
- For auditions, a black fitted tank top or shirt (no oversized shirts, crop tops or spaghetti straps) should be worn. The top should be plain/ no writing on the shirt. Black shorts or leggings are to be worn as well. Jazz shoes are required for tryouts. Hair should be pulled back. No headbands, bows or other hair accessories. No jewelry...that includes an Apple watch.
- Parents and students should sign up for the Try out remind: text to 81010. It is important for both parents and students to sign up. If there are any changes to our clinic schedule, etc. we can send this information out to you ASAP. This remind will also allow us to send a message regarding pick up time for tryouts, etc.

COST COMMITMENTS:

- Competition choreography fee – TBD (somewhere between \$150 - \$300 per dancer)
- Camp – UDA camp this summer. Cost last year was \$443. There will be 2 different payment dates. The first payment is due March 30th (\$221.50) and the second payment is due April 27th (\$221.50). All checks should be made out to Mavs Booster Club.
- Tennis Shoes - \$85
- Poms - \$60
- Team jacket and joggers - \$180 - \$200
- Backpack - \$70
- Hair accessories - \$25 - \$50
- Sports bras - \$30 - \$50
- Tan jazz shoes - \$50
- Earrings - \$40
- Camp/practice wear - \$175 - \$250
- Monthly technique fee - \$40 a month – Due by the 15th of each month
- Pep Rally clothing - \$ 75 - \$100
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Please note these prices may change (increase or decrease). Payment dates may change depending on shipment dates, etc. We try to give plenty of notice. If a dancer is not up-to-date on payments, she will not be allowed to perform until her account balance is paid.

TIME COMMITMENTS:

- **Sell ads for the All Sports program (March, April and May)**
- **Possible after school practice after tryouts occur**
- **Uniform fitting – date TBD**
- **Parent/Team meeting – TBD**
- **Choreography clinic – for UDA camp and for competition season**
- **Summer practice – TBD leading up to camp. We will not have practice the week of July 3rd – July 7th**

Judge's Score Sheet
Germantown High School DANCE TEAM Tryouts

Candidate Number: _____

Judge Number: _____

CATEGORY	POINT VALUE	POINTS RECEIVED	**For Tabulator Use**
TRYOUT ROUTINE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projection/Energy/Showmanship • Musicality (stays on beat) • Placement/Sharpness and Memory • Kick Technique 	10 10 10 10	_____ _____ _____ _____	_____/40 TOTAL
TECHNIQUE Double Pirouette (best side) Leap Right Leap Left Toe Touch Turns in Second <small>*They should, at minimum, complete two rotations and single out. They should not be scored higher for attempting for extra rotations.*</small> BONUS SKILLS Leap in Second Firebird Calypso	12 12 12 12 12 1 1 1	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	0 – did not attempt/execute 1 – below average 3 – average 5 – above average 6 – excellent _____/ 60 TOTAL
SIDELINE ROUTINE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projection/Energy/Showmanship • Musicality (stays on beat) • Execution of Movement and Memory • Overall Impression 	10 10 10 10	_____ _____ _____ _____	_____/40 TOTAL
OVERALL IMPRESSION – Appearance QUESTION TEACHER EVALUATIONS	15 10 10	_____ _____ _____	_____/ 35 TOTAL
TOTAL POINTS			_____/ 175 TOTAL