Sample Constitution

Based on the Corsicana HS Calicos Dance Team Constitution

Article I

Purpose

The purpose of the Corsicana High School Dance Team shall be twofold: to perform and entertain audiences through precision dances, and to boost morale and spirit of the school and school district. The purpose shall also be to develop character, leadership, and individual responsibility in each member, while maintaining high moral standards. It is the Calicos purpose to represent Corsicana Independent School District in a manner which will reflect credit upon the district, as well as each member of the team. Each member agrees to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth in this constitution.

Article II

Qualifications and Requirements

A. Membership in this organization shall be restricted to spring semester freshmen, sophomores, and juniors currently enrolled in Corsicana High School. After selection during the fall semester, all new members will be considered trainees until the next fall semester. These trainees will participate in fundraisers and performances approved by the director and principal.
B. Anyone who meets the above qualifications as well as the qualifications outlined in this constitution will not be discriminated against because of race, creed, or educational handicap. Candidates who are physically handicapped must have physicians, principals, and directors permission to participate in all Calico activities.
C. At least one parent or guardian must be present at the parent orientation meeting or must contact the director for a make-up meeting at the director's convenience.
D. A candidate must be present and on time for all pretraining sessions and tryouts.
E. Students who have been assigned In School Suspension (ISS) or suspended will not be able to audition for the dance team. ISS assignments for minor offenses may be excused by the principal.
F. Candidates will be expected to perform a required tryout routine. Judging will be based on the following areas:
    a. dance ability and style

b. showmanship and projection
c. splits, leaps, turns, jumps, toe-touches
d. kicks

G. The judges will use a "yes" and "no" system of judging. To become a Calico, all judges must award a "yes". (A copy of a score sheet is located at the end of this constitution.)
H. Score sheets will be available to candidates after tryouts. The date and time will be announced by the director at the conclusion of tryouts.
I. Candidates who have been dismissed or have resigned from the team will not be allowed to audition for the team again unless the principal and director have given prior permission.
J. Members must have on file:
    a. tryout application
    b. current report card with attendance record
    c. travel release
    d. student/parent/director contract
K. Transfer students
    a. Any sophomore, junior, or senior dancer who transfers into Corsicana ISD from another school system will be able to audition for the Calico Dance Team provided that the request is made prior to summer drill team camp. The transfer student must learn a routine at camp and audition with at least two qualified judges and the director. A transfer member must have on file the same application as a current line member (see Art. II, Sec. J.).
    b. Any sophomore, junior, or senior dancer who transfers into Corsicana ISD from another school system and has been participating on a dance/drill team, may audition for the dance team director. The transfer student must provide a letter of recommendation from the former drill team director and a report card showing passing grades and acceptable conduct to the principal and dance director upon completion of all enrollment procedures to Corsicana High School. A transfer member must have on file the same application as a current line member (see Art. II, Sec. J).

Article III

Personal Qualifications

A. You must want to be a Calico. If you really want to be a Calico you will gladly accept criticism that will help you attain perfection.
B. You must be willing to abide by the rules and follow directions.
C. You must enjoy learning and performing dances.
D. You must demonstrate responsibility at all times.
E. You must want to learn to act…as in drama! Projection is very important.
F. You must be willing to participate in fundraisers and activities 100%.
G. You must understand that any decision made by the director is in the best interest of the team and individual members.
H. You must have perfection as your goal and understand that the schedule and discipline of Calicos demands a high degree of determination, hard work, strength, dedication, self-discipline, and loyalty.
I. Calicos are a healthy weight for their size.

J. You must have a desire to cooperate – to be "one of the group". Individual exhibitions are not for the Calico line.
K. You must be able to perform the dance style that has been a Calico tradition since 1985.

Article IV

Membership

A. There will be no set number of members. Membership depends on three judges voting "yes". Returning members are not guaranteed a position on the line each year.
B. Returning members must audition each year.
C. Members will participate in all activities which the organization is involved.
D. Members must exhibit and maintain a good attitude toward school policies and regulations.
E. All members are required to attend drill team camp each summer. No drill team member may leave camp for any reason other than illness, injury, or death in the family. The member may only leave with a relative who must contact the director.
F. The term of membership shall be recognized as the time immediately following drill team tryouts through the following tryouts.
G. A member's resignation will be accepted only after all financial obligations are complete. All CHS/Calico Booster Club owned property must be returned in acceptable shape.
H. Transfer students
    a. Any sophomore, junior, or senior dancer who transfers into Corsicana ISD from another school system will be able to audition for the Calico Dance Team provided that the request is made prior to summer drill team camp. The transfer student must learn a routine at camp and audition with at least two qualified judges and the director. A transfer member must have on file the same application as a current line member (see Art. II, Sec. J.).
    b. Any sophomore, junior, or senior dancer who transfers into Corsicana ISD from another school system and has been participating on a dance/drill team, may audition for the dance team director. The transfer student must provide a letter of recommendation from the former drill team director and a report card showing passing grades and acceptable conduct to the principal and dance director upon completion of all enrollment procedures to Corsicana High School. A transfer member must have on file the same application as a current line member (see Art. II, Sec. J).

Article V

Parental Permission and Responsibilities

A. Parents must sign a permission slip after reading all guidelines. A meeting will be scheduled for all parents of prospective members. A parent must attend.
B. Parents must be willing to meet all financial obligations involved in having their child as a member of the dance team.
C. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to all activities, except when transportation is provided by the school district or booster club.
D. Parents are encouraged to participate in the Calico Booster Club.

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

Article VI

Practice Session Responsibilities

A. Practice will be required each day during a specified time period. Physical Education or Dance Fine Arts credit will be awarded for this class and all practice requirements for this time are structured and specified. Students in this class must fulfill specific requirements for performance, 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 sessions 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 will be dismissed by the director. D. On a performance day, members must attend school for at least half a day or be excused by the principal and director.
D. It is the responsibility of each member to notify the director of their absences before drill team class. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action.
E. Work cannot be given as an excuse for missing a scheduled practice or performance. The school work program will be considered.

Article VII

Routine Evaluation and Performance

A. Each week during football season there will be a routine evaluation judged by the director and dance officers. The director will make the final decision on the number of dancers who will perform that week. If a member is not selected for that week's performance, they will still be expected to practice and attend that week's function(s). Aspects of the dance to be judged will be knowledge of the routine, projection, and overall impression, height of kicks, dance technique, and splits. During football season, the previous week's performance will enter into the decision-making process.
B. If a member misses a practice, they will be replaced unless excused by the director.
C. Any member who misses evaluation day will be eliminated from that performance unless prior arrangements have been made with the director.
D. Inability to perform:
    a. Any member suffering from illness or injury will be excused from workouts or performances only by a written note from a parent or physician. More than three days will require a doctor's note.
    b. Grade probation – Any member failing to meet the grade requirements set forth by the state and CISD will be on grade probation. All members on grade probation will be expected to be present and dressed out for all practices. The member must learn all routines and go through the routine evaluation. If a member is on grade probation, they will not be able to perform outside of the school day.
    c. Any member, who is not performing, must continue to dress, workout, and uphold all responsibilities as an "alternate" on various practices.

d. Any member missing camp practice will miss a performance during football season for each day of practice missed unless excused by the director in advance.
e. If a member misses more than 5 practices (unexcused) during contest season, then the member will be assigned an alternate position.
f. If a member misses practice during the week of contest, the member will be assigned to an alternate position unless excused by the director.
g. If a member misses more than 5 practices (unexcused) during spring show season, the member will be assigned to the stage crew.
h. If a member misses practice during spring show week, the member will be assigned to the stage crew unless excused by the director.

E. A complete uniform check will be held 30 minutes prior to the activity or performance. This includes hair, make-up, hats, etc… Fingernail polish and jewelry may not be worn with any part of the uniform unless it is part of the costume. Dirty uniforms or refusing to follow the director's directive on hair, make-up, hats, etc… will receive one week probation.
F. At all times, members will be expected to conduct themselves in a respectable manner. There will be no excessive talking, eating food, drinking, or gum chewing unless the director has given permission. Unruly conduct or the use of profanity will not be tolerated. The director reserves the right to dismiss any member immediately if unacceptable conduct or the use of profanity is observed.
G. Visitors (family members, partners, friends, etc…) are not allowed around the team unless the director has given permission.
H. No part of the uniform may be removed unless the director has given permission.
I. Report cards must be given to the director at the end of each grading period. Failure to do so could result in probation until a report card is presented to the director.

Article VIII

Absences and Tardiness

A. All members must be present and on time for practices, games, camps, pep rallies, and planned activities. Only excuses approved by the director will be accepted and each one will be evaluated individually. Disciplinary grounding, work, bad weather, and/or principal/teacher detention hall will not be excused.
B. Excused absences from a Calico function will include participation in another approved school function or observance of a religious holiday. All other excuses will be evaluated on an individual basis.
C. An absence from a planned Calico activity will result in additional missed performances, probation of 1-6 weeks, or dismissal. Each case is evaluated on an individual basis.
D. If a member is tardy to a practice and has been replaced, the member will automatically be dropped to an alternate position.
E. Excessive tardiness in Calicos will result in an automatic probation/ suspension from the team. Eight tardies is considered excessive in a school year's time period.
    a. First Warning: 1 week probation
    b. Second Warning: Probation

c. Third Warning: Suspension

Article IX

Grading System

A. Grades given to Calicos will be based on effort, attitude, performance, sense of responsibility, and achievement. Blanket grades will not be given. Grades are assigned to Calicos for all functions before, during, and after school hours.
B. Conduct grades are based on appropriate or inappropriate behavior. The Calico member will be informed when their conduct grade has been lowered. All conduct grades range from an "A" (excellent) to an "F" (unsatisfactory).
C. Grades will not be given on fundraisers. Fundraising money is used for activities not funded by the school district. Failure to meet all requirements in regards to fundraisers will result in not being able to participate in activities funded by the Calico Booster Club or the high school activity account. 100% participation in fundraising is a must! Members who do not participate will be required to pay their own way on any trip or contest.

Article X

Probation/Suspension

A. General Probationary Procedures
    a. Failure to comply with any regulations as stated in this constitution may result in probation for the member in question until the reason for probation is corrected to the satisfaction of the director and/or principal. If the problem is not corrected, automatic suspension will occur.
    b. Minor infractions of the rules (gum chewing, tardiness, wrong/dirty uniforms, etc…) will receive kicks or laps. Infractions that are repeated will receive 1-6 weeks probation or complete suspension from the team.
    c. A member on probation will not participate in performing activities, banquets, or meetings unless the director gives permission.
    d. If a member is dismissed from an organized activity, probation or suspension may occur. Each case will be evaluated individually.
    e. Any member assigned ISS for minor infraction of school rules can be dismissed from the team after a review by the principal and director.
    f. Suspension/Expulsion from school will be grounds for dismissal from the team. No exceptions.
B. Scholastic Probation
    a. If a member fails the same class for two consecutive grading periods or more than two nine weeks total, they will be dismissed for the remainder of the year. Upon dismissal, the member will not receive credit for the class unless they transfer into a physical education or dance class. If a schedule change cannot be made until the end of the semester, the former member must continue to dress out and participate in practices and rehearsals and will be graded on a dance class scale. (See the officer constitution for additional guidelines pertaining to officer auditions.)
    b. If a member fails more than three classes in a nine-week grading period, then the member will be dismissed from the team with no probation. Upon dismissal, the member will not receive credit for the class unless they transfer into a physical education or dance class. If a schedule change

cannot be made until the end of the semester, the former member must continue to dress out and participate in practices and rehearsals and will be graded on a dance class scale. (See the officer constitution for additional guidelines pertaining to officer auditions.)

c. If a member receives more than 1 "B" in citizenship in one grading period, then one week probation will occur. If a member continues to receive a "B" in; the same class each nine weeks thereafter, one week probation will occur again. Anything lower than a "B" in citizenship at any time will receive two week probation. (See the officer constitution for additional guidelines pertaining to officer auditions.)

d. Following grade/conduct dismissal, a prospective member must have the director's and principal's permission to audition for the team again. If the prospective member is placed on the team following auditions, they will be considered a new line member.

C. Probation Procedures

a. first warning – verbal warning, parent contact, and documentation in the director's officer

b. second warning – verbal warning, documentation in the director's office, documentation in the principal's office, parent contact, and probation/suspension may occur.

c. third warning and fourth warning – conference with director, parent, counselor, principal, and probation and suspension may occur.

d. "severe clause" – a member may be removed at any time by the principal and/or director for major disciplinary problems.

Article XI

Conduct

A. Games

a. Members will meet at the bus or designated area at a designated time. All members march in as one group.

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

c. Members will sit as a group in assigned seats.

d. No visitors are allowed unless approved by the director.

e. There will be no candy, gum, food, or drinks in stands unless approved by the director.

f. Restroom breaks will be given in emergency situations.

g. Juice or water may be brought in the member's bag if it is in a closed container. Permission will be given when you may use your drinks. All drinks must be consumed before the beginning of the fourth quarter. No open drinks may be brought to the stands unless the director has given prior permission.

h. Members will participate in cheers as initiated by the band, cheerleaders, and drill team officers.

B. Conduct in General

a. Drill Team members' actions outside of drill team requiring any disciplinary procedure or suspension by administration involving

tardiness, truancy, misconduct or any kind, etc… will be reviewed by the principal and director and additional action may be taken.

C. Moral Conduct
    a. Drill Team members must display appropriate behavior both in and out of school. Probationary status, as well as, dismissal from the team, may be given to the member for the following reasons:
        i. smoking
        ii. medical condition
        iii. use of alcohol
        iv. use of drugs
        v. attending parties where drugs and alcohol are being used
        vi. use of profanity
        vii. uncontrollable family members or guardians around a drill team setting
        viii. harassment
        ix. citations involving drugs, alcohol, etc…
D. Unacceptable Conduct
    a. Lack of respect towards the director, officers, managers, parents, school personnel, school property, other team members will receive probation or suspension from the team. The director and principal will review all cases on an individual basis.
E. Parents, Guardians, Friends, and Family Members
    a. Parents, guardians, friends, and family members must remember that the rules set forth in this constitution are expected to be followed. Anyone who verbally threatens or abuses the director or members of the drill team will be asked to leave the function immediately.
    b. All parents, guardians, friends, and family members must refrain from talking to members of the drill team while they are in uniform and under the responsibility of the director.
    c. Only parents or legal guardians may check out a team member from the director and only if the proper documentation has been submitted to the director's office before the function. Emergency situations will be taken into consideration.

Article XII

Uniforms and Equipment

A. Calicos are expected to purchase their performing outfit.
B. Members will purchase all practice clothes, pep rally outfits, and accessories as approved by the director.
C. All financial responsibilities regarding drill team payments must be cleared before the first football game. The director may grant exceptions.
D. Uniforms will be worn at all school functions as selected by the director and approved by the principal.
E. Uniforms and practice wear must be kept clean and in good condition.
F. Each member must mark their name in each piece of the uniform/practice wear as issued.
G. Only members of the Calico Dance Team will wear uniforms. This includes your letter jacket and t-shirt.

H. School issued items will be checked out to each member. Each member assumes 100% liability for the care and return of each item.
I. Members will not be allowed to wear any part of the Calico uniform outside of drill team unless permission as been given by the director.

Article XIII

Transportation

A. Transportation will be provided to all school activities by the school district and/or Calico Booster Club when available. All drill team members must ride to the game together unless other arrangements have been made through the director and approved by the principal. A member may be dismissed to her parents only if the proper papers have been filled out, signed, and approved prior to departure. Other arrangements require a notarized letter and approval by the principal. Exceptions for emergency situations will be considered.
B. Calicos will conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times.
C. Members will abide by all school rules.
D. Members will abide by all school bus rules.

Article XIV

Spring Show

A. Each year the drill team director will decide if a spring show will be presented to the community.
B. All members will agree to an attendance and tardy policy. Each member will sign the attendance and tardy policy.
C. All choreography and duties will be assigned by the director.
D. Dances/performers can be cut from the show.
E. The director must approve all costumes, music, choreography, and props used in the spring show.

Article XV

Contest

A. Contests will be during the spring semester and will be determined by the director and approved by the principal.
B. The director will select all dance pieces that will be used at contests.
C. Each member that is eligible for contests will be guaranteed one performance. All members will audition for each spot on the contest team.
D. The director will decide on a schedule for practices.
E. All members will agree to an attendance and tardy policy. Each member will sign the attendance and tardy policy.

Article XVI

Officers

A. A separate constitution exists for dance and social officer auditions and officer responsibilities.

Article XVII

Amendments to the Constitution

A. The Corsicana Independent School District reserves the right to amend the Corsicana Calico Constitution at any time in the event that district, state, and/or federal laws change.
B. The Corsicana Independent School District reserves the right to amend the Corsicana Calico Constitution in the event that clarification of the rules and regulations are needed.