



Rockwall High School Stingerettes

Guidelines

1. What should I expect from being a member of the Stingerettes ?

Being a member of the Stingerettes provides an opportunity to enter into a unique world of drill team. Through the art of dance, you will learn time management, commitment, sacrifice, and the sheer joy of meeting a common goal through hard work and dedication. You will learn about yourself, share a common bond and a close relationship with others, and create life-long friendships. Additionally...

- You will gain poise, grace and self-control.
- You will contribute to your life, your school and your community.
- You will learn skills that will help you in the work force, with your family and with your friends.
- You will become more self-sufficient and more supportive of others all at the same time.
- You will learn the classic benefits of teamwork and sisterhood. Along the way, you might even learn some dance!

All of these gifts are available to you when you become a Stingerette.

2. Understanding the time and financial commitment of the Drill Team

Being selected as a Stingerette is an outstanding achievement, but it's a commitment that must be taken seriously. A young lady must have the support and the understanding of her family. The decision to audition must be thoroughly discussed. The commitments should be realized from the beginning. To remain a member of the team, a girl must maintain a passing grade average in each of her courses. She must maintain a certain level of dance ability, keep in good physical shape and uphold all of the guidelines established for the drill team organization.

When a young lady becomes a member of the Stingerettes, her entire family becomes involved as supporters, spectators, and helpers. Being a drill team member makes many demands upon the member and her family in terms of time, money, and emotional involvement. It is important to be aware of these commitments before trying out for the team. However, we hope you will decide that the benefits far outweigh the sacrifices involved.



3. Time commitments for members and their families

There are many long hours required of drill team members both before and after school, and some evenings and weekends. The team works all year long. There is rarely any downtime.

- **Football Season:**

We start in the summer before school is in session; perform at all football games, home or away.

- **Contest Season:**

Contest Season is the second major part of the drill team season. Practice for the contest season begins in late Fall with the competitions taking place in early spring. where you learn different routines to perform in front of judges. Contests usually take place in different high schools, and most team and officer routines are performed on the gym floor. There are tryouts for each routine in which a girl must pass in order to perform. During the competition season, anyone can enter a solo, duo or trio routine if they choose to but it's not a requirement.

- **Spring Show:**

We finish the year with an annual Spring Show and tryouts for the New Year.

We also attend pep rallies, basketball games and parades throughout the year. As a result, family schedules will sometimes have to be adjusted to accommodate the drill team member's commitment to the organization. This is a team activity. Each girl may be present for all rehearsals, performances, etc. Parents are required to give of their time as well and must attend all monthly Booster Club meetings, serve on committees, help with fundraising to cover team expenses, help with costumes and props, and most importantly, parents are asked to attend as many team performances as possible.

4. Financial Commitment

Every effort is made to keep expenses reasonable, but there are **considerable** costs associated with being a member of the drill team. In an effort to ease the financial burden, fundraisers are scheduled to help defray expenses. Each family must support these events by giving their time and talents because each family directly benefits from the money raised.



5. Emotional Involvement

The love and support of each member's family will be very important to her as she travels the drill team journey. Help her to celebrate her triumphs and console her during her disappointments. Learning to deal with success and failure in a constructive and positive manner is an important tool that will help her later in life. Your positive attitude will greatly influence your daughter's reactions to her experiences. We like to consider ourselves a Stingerette family. Just as you would do for your own family, cherish and protect our family. Your words and actions should reflect our family's positive image. We must always consider what is best for the whole. We must all be willing to "give and take" for the sake of the team. By working together, we will have a wonderful drill team family.

The Officers consist of a Captain and 4 Lieutenants, or the discretion of the director. The Captain must be a senior. The Captain and Lieutenants must be on the Stingerette 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.

6. OFFICERS

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. It is the responsibility of the officers to assist the director with the performances of the team through choreography, teaching and polishing of routines. The officers must work closely with the direct, Service Officers, Line Members, and Manager(s). It is their responsibility to set a good example for the members to follow.

- **The Officers are responsible for the following duties:**
 - **Making sure every squad member knows the particular routines and information.**
 - **Helping the drill team cooperate with each other and with the director.**
 - **To attend an Officer's Camp of the Director's choice**
 - **To attend all Stingerette activities, camp, clinics, contest, parties, etc. held throughout the year**
 - **To maintain a sense of responsibility for the organization by feeling privileged and honored to be an officer**
 - **To hold inspections of their squads**
 - **To understand that double demerits will be imposed on an officer who fails to report demerits when needed**
 - **To assume any and all duties as specified by the director**
 - **To understand Officers will have additional practices other than team practices**



7. SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Social Council will consist of a representative of each grade level. The President must be a senior. The Social must be on the Stingerette drill team for at least one year and must be on the team at the time of election.

The Social Council 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. The Social Council is responsible to the director for the morale of the team through activities, team building, member recognition and parties. The Social Council must work closely with the Director, Officers, Line Members, and Manager(s). It is their responsibility to set a good example for the members to follow.

- **The Social Council Representatives are responsible for the following duties:**
 - **The Social President utilizes the other members as her "committee" to plan activities and more.**
 - **One Social Member will be in charge of motivation, including Circle Up prior to performances, inspirational speeches, monthly quotes for the bulletin board, birthday circle and birthday handouts.**

8. NEW GIRL SARGEANT

- **She will be in charge of the new Stingerettes. She guides them through each activity throughout the year and is someone they can go to with questions and concerns**

9. BIG SIS/LIL SIS

One Senior/Junior Stingerette is paired up with a new line member. This Big Sis is in charge of guiding her thru the process. Helping her learn routines, being her guide at social events and if needed –sharing rides to and from practices. Its tradition to share gifts with your Big Sis at events such as Line Camp, 1st Game, Homecoming, Senior Night, etc. Gifts do not have to be of a certain monetary value—just a token for each other to cement the bond they are building.

10. SHOWSTOPPERS/KICK COMPANY

Members for both these teams are selected on a tryout basis and it's done after the new line members are selected. This is an Elite dance group that will require more time and sacrifice. If you are selected, be prepared to learn a variety of dances and know that you may be in 6-7 dances in competition and show. An additional fee may be required to cover additional costuming/choreography.



11. Drill Team Tryout Information

It's almost that time of year again when young ladies from all over, decide they would like to try out to be a member of the Rockwall High School Drill Team. Being a member of the varsity team (the Stingerettes), or the Junior Varsity team (The Jacket Babes) is a huge privilege and a role that you will be honored to have if you are selected for the team but it does take some preparation and discipline. And, no matter how old you are, it's never too early to begin.

- **Tips for Preparing for Tryouts:**

- The tryout is very heavy on technique, both dance and kick
- We look for double and triple pirouettes, perfect grande jetes, strong second leaps, and switch leaps.
- Performance and confidence are huge advantages as well.
- Dedication and determination

- **Physical Requirements**

- All candidates are also required to be in good physical shape. Conditioning is highly recommended. Our routines are very demanding and require stamina.
- If she is not currently in a sport—running or taking technique and ballet classes is highly recommended.

- **MANDATORY Tryout Meeting**

- The tryout information meeting will take place on TBA
- The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 PM.
- All candidates that wish to tryout MUST have a parent at this meeting.
- Mandatory tryout workshops will on
- The actual tryouts will occur on TBA.
- All workshops will run from TBA pm each day.
- The members that make the team will be announced that evening.



Stingerette Line Member Contract

I, _____ the parent(s) of

_____ have read and discussed the

Information provided to us. We, along with our daughter understand the personal and financial commitment that will come with being selected as a member of the drill team. We agree to fully support our child in this decision and will abide by the rules and traditions that govern this program.

Parent

Parent

Stingerette

Signed on _____ of _____ 20____

Received by Jessica Jackson –Director or Amy Snider-Asst. Director



Stingerette Officer Contract

I, _____ the parent(s) of

_____ have read and discussed the

Information provided to us. We, along with our daughter understand the personal and financial commitment that will come with being selected as a member of the drill team. We agree to fully support our child in this decision and will abide by the rules and traditions that govern this program. I understand that as an Officer for the Stingerette Drill team I will be dedicated to my team and fellow officers. I understand that personal commitments or social gatherings will not take precedence over required practices. I also understand that additional practices may required without prior notice. Unless permission is requested from the Director with advance notice—no more than 2 missed practices will be allowed.

Parent

Parent

Stingerette

Signed on _____ of _____ 2010

Received by Jessica Jackson –Director or Amy Snider-Asst. Director
