

SEVEN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL SAPPHIRES DANCE TEAM CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. GOAL

- A. The goal of the document is to develop a set of uniform guidelines for the Sapphires Dance Team at Seven Lakes High School. These guidelines will focus on the membership requirements and performance expectations of the Sapphires Dance Team. The rules, guidelines and the demerit/merit system of the SLHS Sapphires will be enforced 24 hours a day 7 days a week and during the summer.

ARTICLE 2. NAME AND COLORS

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Sapphires Dance Team.
- B. The colors of this organization shall be navy and orange.
- C. The mascot is the Spartan.
- D. The flower is the white rose.

ARTICLE 3. PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of this organization shall be the following:
 - 1. To promote school spirit and represent the pride and reputation of Seven Lakes High School at any designated athletic function and various other school functions on or off campus.
 - 2. To render services to the school and community.
 - 3. To develop in each member positive traits such as leadership, integrity, individual responsibility, and community awareness.
 - 4. To build character and confidence.
 - 5. To encourage scholarship and physical fitness.

ARTICLE 4. HISTORY

- A. The Seven Lakes High School Sapphires Dance Team was established in 2005. The founding Director is LaKeisha McGowen.
- B. The original team consisted of 11 students.

ARTICLE 5. DIRECTOR

- A. The Director is the leader of the organization. The Director must first approve all operations.
- B. She assists all officers and team members.

- C. She is the treasurer and manager of all funds and is the designer behind all performances.
- D. She will pace rehearsals and dismiss all meetings and practices.
- E. Merits and demerits are only given with her permission.
- F. She shall supervise and oversee the Sapphires Booster Club serving as a member of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 6. MEMBERSHIP

- A. The term of membership is defined as June-June.
- B. Membership shall be open to all current students at Seven Lakes High School who meet the requirements set by the Director and Katy ISD.
- C. All who are interested in becoming a member must complete the entire tryout process and agree to be governed by the Seven Lakes Dance Team Constitution, KISD Dance Team Handbook and KISD Student Code of Conduct.
- D. Certain medical conditions may disqualify a candidate from trying out. The Director will base her decision on recommendations made from a Certified Attending Physician and SLHS Administrators.
- E. Sapphires parents must be willing to support the member in complying with all the rules and regulations of this organization. Parents must sign the constitution in agreement to abide by its contents.
- F. All members of the Dance Team must be enrolled in Dance Team Class and willing to attend all schedules practices, performance, and other activities as set by the Director.
- G. All current Dance Team members must audition yearly, if not, they will be considered resigning their positions.
- H. Should a Dance Team member drop out or be dismissed she will automatically be transferred to elective dance class or P.E. for the remainder of the semester.

ARTICLE 7. REQUIREMENTS:

In order for a candidate to become and remain a member of the Sapphires, she MUST:

- A. Have an Application and Code of Conduct on file with proper signatures.
- B. Have a uniform contract on file.
- C. Be able to attend all practices, performances and activities as set by the Director.
- D. Have poise, posture and present a good appearance.
- E. She must maintain a 2.0 scholastic average for the current school year.
- F. Members must maintain good citizen marks, attendance, and classroom performance and behavior. No "U's" in conduct during the current school year. No more than two "N's" in conduct.
- G. Have a current physical on file and make sure that it remains up to date. They expire after one year.
- H. Be physically, emotionally, and mentally capable of drilling, dancing and marching extensively in both the heat and the cold in both in door and outdoor conditions.

- I. She must be able to give freely of her time for any Sapphire activity throughout the year. During high performance and competition months **Sapphires must come first over other activities outside and inside of school.**
- J. She and her parents must be fully aware of the expense. They must be willing to meet all financial obligations including admissions, and purchasing of all parts of uniform, and other expenses that may occur throughout the year.
- K. The parents must be willing to assist their daughters in obeying all rules and regulations of the school and the organization without any reservation.
- L. Must fulfill her quota of fund-raising projects to be determined by the Booster Club Executive Board and Director.
- M. She must not hold jobs that interfere with ANY dance team activity. Work is never an excuse to miss practice, performance, or any other scheduled activity.
- N. She may not have served in any form of campus-based Alternative School or off-campus Alternative school, been suspended or expelled from school during the current school year.
- O. Must follow TEA guidelines regarding grades (NO PASS, NO PLAY in regards to practices and performances).
- P. Upon acceptance into the Dance Team, each member will be required to attend every day of preparatory workshops and summer camp(s).

ARTICLE 8. AUDITION:

- A. Tryouts will be held during the fall semester or as deemed necessary by the Director with administrative approval.
- B. Newly selected dance team members will be chosen by a panel of three to four impartial judges. No judges will be employed with KISD.
- C. Candidates may be judged by some or all of the following:
 - 1. 1-2 minute technically based routine
 - 2. High kick series (technique, height, endurance, and flexibility)
 - 3. Showmanship and memory
 - 4. Across the floor technique (Leaps and turns)
 - 5. Right and left splits
- D. Candidates must have all required forms turned in by the assigned date and signatures from the designated persons.
- E. A Certified Physician licensed by the State Board must fill out a current physical form.
- F. Any student who is on suspension/expulsion during the time of tryouts will forfeit their right to tryout.
- G. Candidates must have not been placed in any campus-based Alternative School or to the OAC or have been suspended during the current school year.
- H. Candidates must maintain an overall 2.0 GPA during the current school year.
- I. Candidates must not have any "U's" in conduct during the current school year.
- J. Each candidate must attend the tryout clinic and complete the entire tryout process. Absences will only be excused if there is a death in the immediate

- family or serious illness with a Doctor's excuse. The Director must be given notice of the absence prior to the beginning of the tryout practice.
- K. Candidates transferring from another Dance/Drill Team may be admitted with a letter of recommendation from their previous Director and a one minute solo performance demonstrating certain skills necessary to become a member of the Sapphires Dance Team. The director will determine which skills are necessary for audition.
 - L. The director will determine if a transfer candidate meets the criteria for team membership.

ARTICLE 9. EXPENSES AND FUND-RAISING

- A. Sapphires and their parents are entirely responsible for any and all expenses required for membership. Initial membership fee should not exceed \$750.00. This does not include the cost of additional dance supplies, dance clinics/workshops, choreographers, individual contest fees, individual costume fees, special gifts, yard signs, parent polo shirts, etc.
- B. Names or initials must be written or embroidered on the inside of every single individual piece of practice attire.
- C. An item list for the following year will be given to the member during the Spring Semester.
- D. Each member is asked to participate in all fundraising efforts. Members are given a quota in which they are asked to meet in order for them to fulfill their financial obligations to the team. Each member will be given a fair/share amount that will need to be fundraised by January as approved by the Booster Club Executive Board. However, if a parent wishes to pay the cost themselves they must pay on the payment plan and sign the waiver.
- E. Any money fundraised by a Sapphire or parent may not be dispersed to any individual at any time. Funds may not be used for individual benefit unless it is a trip year. Monies raised during a trip year may be used to pay for the member's trip expense only and not for any other personal need.
- F. Membership fees are dues that maybe accessed yearly to help cover correspondence, flowers or cards, decorations and any other materials.
- G. Lil'Sis/Big'Sis and other gifts this will cost each girl approx. \$50.00 yearly
- H. Letter Jacket- Full Payment will be due at the time the order is placed. Parents are responsible for the cost of the letter jacket. Students must meet the approved letter jacket point requirements. **(See Letter Jackets)**
- I. Unless arrangements have been made with the directors, students who have not paid for travel in full may not participate in the trip.

ARTICLE 10: EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS:

- A. Members will be issued uniforms, costumes, props, rain ponchos, poms, etc. throughout the year. If an item is lost, misplaced, stolen, or damaged, the member will be responsible for the cost of replacing the item.

- B. The field uniforms are provided by KISD, and therefore belong to the district.
- C. The user will assume 100% liability for the care of the uniform and any other materials issued.
- D. The user will pay full payment of lost or damaged items.
- E. A uniform contract will be given to each member to sign. It lists the items that have been issued.
- F. Any item not returned must be paid for by the Sapphire who it was issued to.
- G. The uniform or costumes may not be **altered** in any manner without the Director's permission first.
- H. Uniforms and costumes are to be kept neat, clean, and in good condition at all times.
- I. Uniforms and costumes are to **never** be left on the floor. They must be hung up after the performance.
- J. Uniforms and costumes are never to be worn outside of the performance area. After games and performances, return to the Dance Gym to take off the uniform before going out in public. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- K. Uniforms or costumes are never to be worn without Director's permission.
- L. No pieces of the uniform are to be taken off at a game or performance unless given permission from the Director to do so.
- M. The uniform or costumes may not be loaned to anyone at any time.
- N. The Sapphire is responsible for dry cleaning costs of the field uniform and any other costumes as deemed necessary by the Director.
- O. No jewelry or nail polish is to be worn with the uniform or costumes. Proper hair and makeup is to be worn while in uniform or costume.
- P. **NO FOOD OR DRINK** while in uniform or costume. Only water and/or approved snacks are allowed when in uniform or costume.
NO EXCEPTIONS!

ARTICLE 11. SUMMER PRACTICES AND LINE CAMP

- A. Summer pre-camp practice may be held one to two weeks prior to attending line camp. Post-camp practice is held one to two weeks prior to the first day of school.
- B. All Sapphires must be in attendance at both pre-camp and post-camp practices unless given special permission by the Director one month in advance. For every day of summer practice that is missed, the member forfeits one performance opportunity unless given permission by the Director.
- C. Any member who does not attend line camp will forfeit her right to perform for at least the first two performance opportunities.

ARTICLE 12. ATTENDANCE

- A. Members must be at all scheduled practices and functions unless given special permission by the Director **prior** to an absence.

- B. Absence from any practice or performance is considered unexcused except for:
 1. Personal illness (with excuse note and phone call) if excessive must accompany a doctor's note
 2. Funeral or death in the immediate family (with excuse note and phone call)
 3. Special school activities with special permission secured from the director **prior** to the absence (with excuse note and reminder phone call)
 4. Religious Holiday
 5. Excused absence from school as noted by the attendance office.
 6. An absence due to illness and the directors are notified the day of the absence by the student, parent or school.

NO TRIPS TO Granny's, doctor appointments or WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- C. Attendance must be regular. Members are expected to be in attendance for the entire event except in the case of an emergency; leaving practice early is considered an absence for the entire practice. Members may be removed from dances for excused or unexcused absences.
- D. Absence from school the day of the performance prohibits participation in the performance.
- E. Absence from the final practice with the band could result in removal from the performance.
- F. If it proves necessary for a Dance Team member to be absent from school, practice or performance for any reason, she **MUST** notify the Director via email or phone. Failure to notify the Director of an absence will result in an unexcused absence and removal from a routine if a performance is within that week.
- G. If a member is absent from any function, she must present a signed admittance slip on the day she returns after the absence. After the third day, the absence will automatically be considered unexcused and demerits will be issued.
- H. Consequences:
 1. A student who is absent for more than 50% of the school day cannot participate in after-school or night activities on the missed day.
 2. Any member who is not performing, no matter the reason, must be at all performances and practices with the team. She must wear the appropriate attire and abide by all rules and regulations.
 3. Failure to meet the requirements defined in the Dance Team Constitution will automatically result in an unexcused absence and further disciplinary actions may be taken at the Director's discretion.
- I. If a student is absence from practice, but attends school during the day, the absence to practice will be unexcused.

ARTICLE 13. ADDITIONAL EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- A. Sapphires are encouraged to participate in other extra curricular activities just as long as it doesn't heavily interfere with Dance Team functions.
- B. The Director will try to accommodate the member's extracurricular activity, but they must realize that the Director has the right to decline requests to miss practices, functions, and performances.
- C. It is the responsibility of the Dance Team member to give the date and time to the Director ahead of time at least two prior to the event.

ARTICLE 14. PROBATION

- A. Definition – A member shall not be able to perform in any performance or represent the organization in any fashion (ex. Wearing attire to school) but must be in attendance at ALL scheduled practices, performances and activities in proper attire assigned by the Director. Probationary period will last for at least two weeks and the Director will determine the length. All rules and regulations still apply at all times.
- B. Any officer placed on probation for any reason will temporarily lose all officer privileges including wearing any assigned attire that distinguishes her as an officer.
- C. The Director along with administrator approval may place a Dance Team member on probation at any time for any infraction of the Seven Lakes Sapphires Constitution, KISD Dance Team Handbook, and/or KISD Student Code of Conduct or as deemed necessary.
- D. A member will be placed on probation for excused or unexcused absences from a practice at which the dance team is rehearsing with the band. The probation will affect any performances associated with the specific dance numbers that were rehearsed during the period of the absence.
- E. Grade/Conduct Probation:
 - 1. During this time, a Dance Team member will not be allowed to participate in any performance opportunity or represent the Sapphires. However, she must still be at all practice and activities and in proper attire assigned by the Director.
 - 2. A student who receives, at the end of any UIL grading period, a grade below 70 in any class (other than an identified advanced class) may not participate in extracurricular activities for three school weeks and will be placed on probation. The member must participate in practice, but may not perform with the dance team or attend its performance functions. The student regains eligibility after the seven calendar day waiting period has ended following a grading or the three school weeks evaluation period when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has earned a passing grade

(70 or above) in all classes, other than those that are advanced. The director will assign student study hall and weekly tutorials.

3. Receiving an "N" in conduct on a report card will result in probation for three weeks.
 4. Students receiving detention (3-hr ASD, Saturday ASD) will result in probation for one week.
 5. Students who receive more than 2 referrals a semester will result in probation for two weeks each time 2 referrals are accumulated.
 6. A student on probation will be replaced in all dance(s) at the director's discretion and may or may not regain a spot in the dance(s) once the probation period has ended.
- F. Demerit Probation:
1. During this time, a Dance Team member will not be allowed to participate in any performance opportunity or represent the Sapphires at anytime. However, she must still be at all practice and activities as assigned by the Director.
 2. After receiving the 10th demerit, the member will be placed on demerit probation for a set time of two weeks. During that time, should she receive another demerit the probationary period will be extended to by one week.
- G. Any Sapphire receiving a citation from a law enforcement officer, other than a minor traffic violation will be placed on probation. A parent/student conference may take place with an administrator to confirm reasons for the citation. The administrator in charge and Director will determine the length of the probation period.
- H. Any Sapphire accused of breaking the law will be placed on probation until found guilty. If found guilty, the Dance Team member will be dismissed from the organization.
- I. During the probationary period a Sapphire may also be assigned at least 10 hours of approved community service.
- J. Any officer receiving 5 demerits will be placed on probation for two weeks. At that time she will operate as a line member and the Colonel or Lt. Colonel will oversee her company.
- K. A member will be suspended from the dance team or placed on probation according to the guidelines of the demerit/merit system. A student's probation, for any reason, will begin with the first performance following the member's violation.
- L. A suspended member may not try out again the following year. The only exception is in the instance of suspension due to ineligibility.

ARTICLE 15. DISMISSAL

- A. Definition – A member shall not be permitted participation in any activity of the Sapphire Dance Team for the remainder of the school year. A dismissed member

- must fulfill all financial obligations, turn in all issued uniforms and supplies, and receive a schedule change out of Dance Team class.
- B. She shows lack of cooperation or disloyalty to the officers, Director and/or fellow teammates.
 - C. Repeatedly showing public display of affection while in uniform, costumes, or attire.
 - D. Any assignment to campus-based alternative school or any other form of alternative school.
 - E. Any Dance Team member discovered being truant from class or school.
 - F. More than two unexcused absences from a game, competition or other mandatory activity.
 - G. Members found or discovered drinking alcohol, smoking, or using illegal drugs, in or out of uniform, on school premises, as a part of a school activity, regardless of its location, will be dismissed. Students who are found in pictures to be in the presence of alcohol or other illegal substances will be subject to consequences, which may result in dismissal.
 - H. Members who accumulate 15 or more permanent demerits will be dismissed. Any officer who receives 10 or more permanent demerits will be demoted.
 - I. Any Dance Team member who receives an "F" in a six weeks grading period two times in a row or more than two times a semester will be dismissed.
 - J. Any Dance Team member who receives three N's in conduct or one U in conduct at any given time during the school year will be dismissed.
 - K. Members found or discovered stealing in or out of school will be dismissed.
 - L. Members found or discovered fighting in or out of school will be dismissed. Fighting will be defined as any physical or verbal violence against another person.
 - M. Members may be dismissed at anytime for violation of the Seven Lakes Constitution, KISD Dance Team Handbook, or KISD Code of Conduct as deemed necessary by the administrator in charge and/or Director.
 - N. Once a member has been dismissed, they are not allowed to wear any Dance Team attire or uniform pieces to school or in public. All property of SLHS and KISD must be turned in immediately.
 - O. Should any officer or line member be overly disrespectful to the director(s) or school faculty may be dismissed.
 - P. Any student member of the Sapphires representing themselves, or their organization, in an unfavorable, questionable or illegal manner through electronic media (i.e. websites, personal home pages, blogs, text messages, chat rooms or similar websites/files accessible through a server or internet) or using electronic communication devices in a such way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace on their organization or members of any other organization including themselves (i.e. camera phones, digital photos, electronic descriptions) may be subject dismissal from the organization. Everyone's situation will be investigated by the director and campus administrator before actions are taken. The campus administrator and director will make the final decision.

ARTICLE 16. DEMERIT SYSTEM

- A. The demerit system is defined as a system of cuts and infringements of rules and regulations.
- B. Demerits may be issued to all dance team members by all dance officers and the Directors. If a dance team member has a question about a demerit, she must set up a conference with the directors within 2 school days of receiving the demerit to discuss the demerit given.
- C. Each member must keep a record of her demerits/merits. She may be questioned at any time regarding the balance of her demerits.
- D. When a member receives a demerit, she will receive notification of the demerit and must sign for the demerit at the time it is given. A member must be notified of a demerit given to her within two school days of the offense. When a demerit is given, the member must sign for the demerit; if she has a question regarding the demerit, she may then conference with the directors. Conferencing is not the responsibility of the dance officers.
- E. Demerits are accumulated from the start of membership until membership has ended. Demerits/merit system will be in force at all times.
- F. You can receive 10 demerits with no penalties. On the 11th demerit, you automatically go into a probationary period of two weeks. Any demerit earned after the probation period will result in an additional week of probation. On the 15th demerit you will be dismissed from the organization. An officer will be demoted to a line member after she receives 10 permanent demerits.
- G. The Director and administrators have the authority to give demerits for offenses which have not been included or which have been inadvertently excluded. Demerits will be assigned as they occur. The Director or administrator according to the severity of the offense will determine the number of demerits issued. Keep in mind that 10 demerits places a member on probation and 15 will dismiss that member from the team.
- H. Demerits will only be removed if merits are earned before the demerit. 5 merits will erase 1 demerit only. If a demerit is issued for the same offense twice it will become permanent.
- I. The demerit/merit system may be used at officer try-outs if the director(s) so desire.

Below is a **partial** listing of demerit offenses:

****Note:** All items in **bold** are consider permanent demerits and may not be removed by merits at any time in the membership year.

Permanent Demerits:

Offense	# of Demerits
Possession or use of any tobacco or tobacco related products on or off campus	15
Drinking, smoking, use of illegal substance on or off campus	15
Using or possessing or being under the influence of any mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-affecting drug on or off campus	15
Stealing and/or fighting on or off school property	15
Indictment for a felony, or a Class "A" misdemeanor committed on or off campus	15
Suspension, Expulsion, or placement in Alternative School	15
Misuse of internet, email, and/or social webpage. This includes but not limited to: inappropriate content or language, sexual content, or illegal substances or paraphernalia	11 to 15
Truancy from class or school	11 to 15
Being in a picture that contains illegal substances (ex. Drugs, alcohol) where either the student or others in the picture are in possession of the substance	11 to 15
Engaging in lewd, disruptive, or other offensive conduct that affronts school district standards of propriety on or off campus	11 to 15
"Public Display of Affection" Defined as: ANY physical contact (other than holding hands or hug) with the opposite sex while in SAPPHIRE clothing and/or kissing or groping at any time.	5
The use of disruptive or profane language	5
Assigned to detention or Saturday School	2
Receiving other discipline action as a result of tardies or dress code	2
Knowing lying to director (forgery)	5
Improper conduct in public after being warned	2

Starting or partaking in gossip	1
Disrespect or insubordination to officer or fellow teammate	1 to 5
Disrespect or insubordination to the Director *Grounds for immediate dismissal	5 to 15
Leaving or walking out of practice without permission	2
Non-attendance at any scheduled competition without prior permission from the Director	5
Non-attendance at any scheduled game or other required activity without prior permission from the Director	5

****Disrespect - arguing, raising voice, rolling eyes, or talking back
****Insubordination - going against something you have been asked to do

Removable Demerits:

Offense	# of Demerits
Failure to wear correct uniform or costume to a performance (includes hair, makeup, accessories, etc.)	5
“Passion Markings”	5
Boyfriends, friends or unexpected guest disturbing practice	3
Leaving the stands without permission	3
“Babysitting” during practice or activity	3
Improper care of uniform, costume, or school issued property	2
Eating or drinking in uniform or costume	2
Unexcused absence to practice	2
Late to practice, performance or activity	1
Talking while in the performance area (football field, basketball court, stage, contest floor, etc.)	1
Drinking or eating in the stands without permission	1
Excessive talking or turning around while in stands line or at attention	1

Not paying attention to commands given by Director or officer	1
Unsportsmanlike conduct includes not cheering	1
Allowing a non-member to sit within our stand lines without permission	1
Not participating in stand routines	1
Not smiling or having proper showmanship during performance	1
Inappropriate behavior on the bus	1
Leaving before being dismissed	1
Excessive loudness	1
Talking while going to the restroom or practice area	1
Taking off a piece of the uniform without permission (including hat or hair piece)	1
Wearing dirty or non-repaired uniforms or costumes	1
Forgetting required items for performance	1
Wearing jewelry or colored nail polish in uniform or costume	1
Failure to dress out without permission	1
Excessive talking or goofing off during practice	1
Chewing gum	1
Wearing jewelry	1
Wearing wrong practice attire on assigned day	1
Late to Roll Call lines	1
Marking dance routine	1
Leaving personal items in dance gym	1
Allowing non-dance team member wear any Sapphire attire without permission (including family members)	1
Allowing non Sapphires in the dance gym or locker room	1

**The directors shall have the authority to give demerits for offenses which have not been included or which have been inadvertently excluded when necessary. The number of demerits given will directly reflect the severity of the offense.

ARTICLE 17. MERITS

- A. 5 merits will eliminate 1 demerit. Merits may only eliminate demerits if received prior to the demerit.
- B. Merits are considered a privilege and it is not required of the Director to award them.
- C. Merits will only be awarded and approved if necessary documentation is turned within 1 week of the event. Game Tickets, signatures and contact information must be provided before the director will approve a merit.
- D. Merits can be awarded for the following:
 - 2 "A" Honor Roll
 - 1 Extra activities not required (basketball game, soccer game, etc.)
 - 1 "A/B" Honor Roll per six weeks
 - 1 Attending outside dance class (per class)
 - 1 Decorative Posters for dance gym and or/locker room
 - 1 Staying after to clean up dance gym or locker room
 - 1 Assisting a Sapphire with homework or tutorials
 - 2 Community Service Project (per event)
 - 1-5 Going above and beyond on a performance, practice, assignment, etc.
- E. The director may also award merits for good behavior, going above and beyond, and community service. Mrs. Copeland must approve all merits first. Do not just assume merit points will be awarded.

ARTICLE 18. LETTERING

- A. Must be a member of the Sapphires.
- B. Must not have been placed on academic or discipline probation more than once.
- C. Accumulate 20 Points and 10 Merit points by the time of the letter jacket fitting.
 - 1. Senior Member (10 points)
 - 2. Basketball Game Performance (1 point per game)
 - 3. Spring Show (1 point per season)
 - 4. Football Game Half-time performance (1 point)
 - 5. Pep Rally Performance (1/2 point)
 - 6. Competition Routine (1 for each routine per season)
 - 7. Division I rating on a solo, duet or ensemble at competition (1 point per season)
- D. Members must be in good financial standing to letter. All accounts must be cleared.
- E. Been enrolled in and/or completed an "upper level" Dance Team Class, e.g. 3,4
- F. The Director has the final recommendation and makes the determinations of who will and will not receive a letter jacket.
- G. Should you be removed from the dance team or resign your position points are deleted.

In addition to the above criteria, the student must also: complete the following:

- 1) Participate as a member of the dance team in a minimum of **2** Dance Team competitions and participate in Spring Show.

“Students wearing letter jackets represent more than their own individual achievement. Any student committing a serious offense as describe in the Katy ISD Student Code of Conduct, or the organization constitution, which may being disrepute on the organization, school, or district, will forfeit the award jacket if the offense occurs at any time during the remainder of the student’s high school career.” **Should a student be removed from dance team, the letter jacket must be returned but the student may keep the contents from the jacket. Regardless of if the district, campus, individual or combination of any funded the jacket**

ARTICLE 19. TRANSPORTATION

- A. Members must ride the bus to and from all away games, out of town activities and other functions unless authorized by the Director.
- B. We go as a "TEAM" and we leave as a "TEAM"
- C. The parent/guardian must pick the Dance Team member up directly after the activity.
- D. Members will provide their own transportation to meetings, practice, clinics, etc.
- E. In case of emergency special permission can been granted to a parent to take their child home after a game, performance, etc. Notice must be given to the Director in writing 3 days in advance. Dance Team members can only be released to a parent in the cases. The director will access each situation.
- F. Sapphires will stay for the entire event until dismissed by the Director. Failure to do so will result in demerits.
- G. May not travel with stuffed animals, toys, balloons, flowers, or jam boxes on the bus. These items are to be left in the dance team locker room and must be taken home after we return.
- H. No food or drinks allowed on the bus without the permission of the Director.

ARTICLE 20. Performance

- A. Everything needed for a performance will be carried in the dance team tote bag, hanging bag or costume box.
- B. Members who are wearing unacceptable, incomplete performance attire will not be allowed to perform.
- C. During football games, talking is allowed in the stands, but turning around in the stands will not be permitted.
- D. All officers will lead their company into the stands or performance area in an appropriate manner designated by the directors.
- E. Officers will sit in front of her company during football games and maintain proper behavior of her company.
- F. Members must use the restroom before leaving the school for a performance. Members will be allowed to leave the stands to use the restroom only during the 3rd quarter of a football game. Emergencies must be approved by the directors.

- G. During a football game, Sapphires must keep lines straight with bags and poms lined up as directed by officers.
- H. Members must not attract improper attention to themselves while representing the team.
- I. Eating and drinking during a game or while in costume is not permitted, unless otherwise approved by the directors.
- J. During the 3rd quarter of a football game, Sapphires may drink sodas or water provided by the booster club, but they must be clear in color so as not to stain the uniform.
- K. Visitors will not be permitted to talk to individual members unless approved by the directors.
- L. During contest season, if a member is unable to participate in team performances for any reason, she may not participate in a duet, ensemble, or a solo unless approved by the directors.
- M. If a member is unable to physically participate in practice for a period of more than a week, she will be replaced in any dance in which she is currently participating. For a member to return to performance eligibility, she must bring a doctor's note releasing her to practice and perform. In extreme cases only, members will be allowed to re-audition in situations in which the Director determines that the removed member is better able to perform than her replacement.

ARTICLE 21. DANCE OFFICERS

- A. All officers are required to follow all standards set forth in the constitution explicitly.
- B. All officers are required to attend officer camp and other dance training camps in the summer as selected by the Director.
- C. She must be able to afford the extra expenses involved in being an officer. These expenses can change from year to year.
- D. All Officers are required to enroll in the designated Study Hall (officer) period.
- E. All officers are required to be present at all practices, meetings, and functions.
- F. Tryouts for Dance Officer will take place during the spring semester. You must tryout on the assigned day designated by the Director.
- G. All those interested in trying out for dance officer must compete with a solo in at least one contest. The solo must be completed on the designated day assigned by the director. If it is not presented the student will not be able to go through the audition process.
- H. The Director will designate requirements for officer tryouts every year. Candidates must have filed the appropriate application and must have met all deadlines set by the Director.
- I. Dance Officers must have been a Sapphire for at least one year before being eligible to tryout. If a Dance Team member is on probation at the time of tryouts, she will forfeit her right to tryout for a position on the Dance Officer line.

- J. Dance Officers will be placed on probation on the 5th demerit and demoted on the 10th.
- K. Specific ranks and duties will be given to the newly selected officers after tryouts have taken place.
- L. In case of increased or decreased membership in the Sapphires, the number of officers will be increased or decreased proportionately as needed.
- M. The top position of Colonel must be a returning senior officer and have one year of experience as a member of the Dance Officer line unless a returning officer is not on the try-out panel. Lt. Colonel (s) and Lieutenants may be seniors or juniors. In the event an officer position becomes vacant prior to officer camp, the Sapphire with the next highest score may fill the position. This will be determined by the director and campus administrator.

- N. Officer Requirements:
 1. Must be ambitious, determined, and maintain pride in one-self and the organization.
 2. She must learn everything expected of the organization.
 3. She must cooperate with the Director and other officers.
 4. She must fully support the Director and other officers.
 5. In addition to fulfilling requirements for membership, she must have a 2.5 grade point average at the time of tryouts designated by the Director.
 6. She must maintain a sense of responsibility for membership of the organization, set good and high standards, and wear the Sapphire name with pride.
 7. She must always work to perfect and better herself as a leader and as a performer.
 8. She must remember that we are only as strong as our weakest member.
 9. She must be responsible for her squad members and make sure that they perform to the highest degree of proficiency.
 10. She must be willing to come 10 minutes early and stay 10 minutes late to all functions.

- O. Selection: (may include some or all)
 1. Selected by a panel of three impartial judges.
 2. Must perform a dance choreographed by them. And perform a solo at one competition selected by the director.
 3. Must perform a group dance learned prior to try-out day.
 4. Must present a written interview done with director supervision.
 5. Must present a creative project, which includes choreography ideas. The project will be different each year.
 6. Must perform a teaching situation in front of judges. Will consist of at least 2 – 8 counts of movement.
 7. Team Vote
 8. Judges Interview

9. Director Evaluation

11. Merits, Demerits, attitude and leadership will be taken into consideration.

P. DUTIES:

Colonel

1. Commanding officer at all times.
2. Call team to attention for roll call, performances, etc.
3. Gives whistle and verbal commands.
4. Keeps strict supervision of all other officers.
5. Works with the director and other officers on choreography.
6. Responsible for planning all entrances and exits with the advice of the director. Must inform all other officers of the entrance and exits prior to rehearsal.
7. Prepares a checklist of things to do each week.
8. Teach routines, clean and choreograph.
9. Together with the Lt. Colonel is in complete control at games, performances or other performances in the event the director is absent.
10. Performs any assigned duty given to her by the director.
11. Promotes loyalty within the officers and team.
12. Recommends demerits and merits for the team, with director approval.
13. Report any misconduct to the director.
14. Perform a solo at Spring Show.

Lt. Colonel

1. Conditions/Warm-up/Technique with the team.
2. Performs Colonel duties in the absence of the colonel.
3. Teach and choreograph routines
4. Promotes loyalty within the officers and team.
5. Performs any duty assigned her by the Director.
6. In charge of music.

Lieutenants

1. Warm up/Technique with the team.
2. Keeps detailed information about her squad information, demerits, merits and absences.
3. Check roll of her squad at all functions and turn list in weekly.
4. Teaches and Choreograph routines.
5. Types what to wear sheets.
6. In charge of all props. (Making sure they are counted, stored and packed for performances)
7. Check company appearance before performance. Make-up, uniform, hair, etc...

8. Pass-out and collect costumes from her squad. Keep accurate records concerning who has turned in their costumes.
9. In charge of sound systems.

ARTICLE 22. SOCIAL OFFICERS

- A. MISSION: To promote spirit and enthusiasm within the team and help to improve relations amongst Sapphires.
- B. All Social Officers are required to follow all standards set forth in the constitution explicitly.
- C. Social Officer Candidates must be in good standing to qualify for tryouts.
- D. Social Officers must have been a Sapphire for at least one year before being eligible to tryout.
- E. If a Dance Team member is on probation at the time of tryouts, she will forfeit her right to tryout for a position on the Social Officer line.
- F. Social Officers will be placed on probation on the 5th demerit and demoted on the 10th.
- G. Specific ranks and duties will be given to the newly selected officers after tryouts have taken place.
- H. Selection of the Social Officer shall be held on a date designated by the Director.
- I. The Director will set selection criteria.
- J. The social officer line shall consist of: a President, Vice President, Secretary, Historian and Spirit Leader. At the discretion of the judges and directors, new position can be added based on the number of girls selected.
- K. Social Officers members are required to attend a summer camp selected by the Director.
- L. In the event an officer position becomes vacant prior to officer camp, the Sapphire with the next highest score may fill the position. This will be determined by the director and campus administrator.
- M. Selection:
 1. Selected by a panel of three impartial judges.
 2. Must complete the social officer notebook, project board and any other projects provided by director for the selection process.
 3. Director's Evaluation.
 5. Judges Interview.
 6. Team Vote
 7. Merits, Demerits, attitude and leadership will be taken into consideration.
- N. Duties:

President

 1. Call social officer meetings to order and preside over them. Provide the director a copy of the minutes.

2. Responsible for arranging Secret Sis, Big Sis/Lil Sis and gifts for other dance team.
3. Responsible for seeing that the cheerleaders and dance team work closely together.
4. Responsible for spirit project within the school.
5. In charge of dressing room.
6. In charge of Bulletin Boards.
7. Arrange at least 1 service projects.
8. Make sure all decorations are kept updated.

Vice President

1. Assist President as needed.
2. Assumes President Duties in her absence.
3. Makes needed posters.
4. Decides on Spirit Activities.
5. New Member Liaison.
6. Coordinates casual fun activities.
7. Determine Banquet Theme, Colors, Decorations and Gifts along with booster club representative.

Secretary

1. Coordinates and organize Sapphires Birthday Parties. Make sure you seek the booster 2nd Vice President for parent donation.
2. Types correspondence and handouts.
3. Writes, thank you notes, send cards and flowers.
4. Newsletter/E-mail updates
5. Update Six Weeks Roll Call Board

Historian

1. Keeps written and pictorial account of all events of the dance team.
2. Post pictures of Spirit Girl and Dance Girl of the Week.
3. In charge of publicity to local papers, school papers and yearbook. Please seek the help from the booster club historian and publicist.
4. Post pictures of Sapphire functions for each company. Get pictures from other social officers.

Spirit Leader

1. Song Leader
2. Gives birthday ribbons or other item for each girl
3. Make posters to promote fellowship, loyalty and unity.
4. Prepares spring and fall motivational activities.
5. Make sure games are planned for every function.

ARTICLE 23. MANAGERS

- A. MISSION: To support the Director with organization and record keeping.
- B. Selection of managers shall be held on the date designated by the Director.
- C. Each member will carry out all duties as manager specified by the Director.
- D. Managers will abide by the Seven Lakes Sapphires Constitution, KISD Dance Team Handbook, and KISD Student Code of Conduct.
- E. Managers are required to purchase certain attire and materials as needed and attend summer camp with the team.

ARTICLE 24. COMPETITION AND SPRING SHOW

- A. The Director may select two or more contests during the fall and spring semesters.
- B. In addition, a Spring Show may be held after competition.
- C. Both activities are mandatory unless the Director approves extenuating circumstances.
- D. Practice Attendance:
 - 1. If a student is not attending a contest or participating in the spring show, you are still required to attend all practices.
 - 2. A student may be required to attend all scheduled activities even if you are not performing.
- E. Performances:
 - 1. If a student do not attend a contest or participate in the show, you stand to forfeit performing at any further functions. You may also forfeit your ability to tryout for dance or social Officer.
 - 2. During competition season the director will decide if a member will maintain a spot in the routines. If student is absent, fail to perform the skills correctly or improve skills the director may replace that student with a permanent alternate. The director will evaluate each situation.
 - 3. Should a student become injured or sick she may give up some or all spots within a dance and is not guaranteed to those spots once she is well.
 - 4. Student must be financially eligible to participate during contest season.
- F. Deposits/Entry Fees:
 - 1. All competition deposits and entry fees are nonrefundable.

ARTICLE 27. AMENDMENTS

- A. The Director and administrators reserve the right to amend the constitution at any time as long as notification has been given to every Sapphire and parent.
- B. Notification must be given at least 2 weeks in advance before the amendment is to go into effect.

**SEVEN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL SAPPHIRES
DANCE TEAM CONSTITUTION**

I have received a copy of the Seven Lakes High School Sapphires Dance Team Constitution. I have read and understand the conditions for tryouts and maintaining membership in the Sapphires organization. I agree to abide by all policies and procedures governing this organization.

If for any reason this contract is broken my daughter and I understand the consequences for her actions. I will not ask the Director for special privileges or to break/bend the Constitution.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date