

Performance Team Rules and Regulations

by Koni Riley

Coaching a team/teams through competition season is a stressful process for most directors. School sponsored teams are often bound by a myriad of rules and enforcement policies that helps minimize commitment and behavior problems. Community/all star performance teams are usually comprised of dancers from different schools that must travel a good distance for classes and practices. It is especially important to set stringent guidelines and policies for studio and community all star teams because they only practice two or three times a week versus a daily practice schedule. Defining and communicating your group levels, tuition details, and performance rules are necessary ingredients for community teams. While there are numerous ways to structure your performance team/s, below are examples of guidelines that have proved successful for me.

MEMBERSHIP:

Strictly Rhythm: 4th-6th Rhythm Express: 6th-9th Rhythm Elite: 8th-12th
* 1 will stop membership when there is a natural break in the scores.

ALTERNATES:

Performance team alternates are treated exactly like the members and must abide by all the same rules and receive the same benefits. The only difference is that they do not perform with the team unless a member is absent from that particular performance. We also have tryouts for each individual routine, so a dancer that makes alternate at tryouts will still have opportunities to dance during the year. Also, if an alternate performs a particular routine better than a team member, the alternate can be moved into that dancer's spot.

TUITION AND FUNDS:

1. Each child trying out will owe a \$25.00 tryout fee before the first tryout class. This goes into the teams' accounts after the judges are paid.
2. Tuition is \$70.00 for SR or \$75.00 (Express, Elite or SR that are taking more than just level 2 classes.) per month for unlimited classes. For other siblings it is \$20.00 for combination classes and \$15.00 for all other classes a month. If you have two children on the teams the first is regular price and the 2nd is 1/2.
3. The tuition break starts after this year's tryouts and goes until the next year's tryouts. Along with the tuition break comes some class responsibilities. You must be enrolled in three classes (Just 2 for SR - Pom and Jazz) in addition to your performance team class. They are Pom, Jazz and Hip Hop for Express and Elite. During the school year you may not miss each required class more than three times or you will receive a demerit per class that you miss over three times. You also must perform in the recital in your required classes.
4. If you make the team there will be a \$150 deposit due by August 1st. You will get \$50 back, if you complete your year commitment for the team. \$100 will be used towards the competition fees during the year. If there is any money left after our last competition then we will give it back to you. The other \$50 will be used as a costume deposit, to make sure that I get everything turned back in at the end of the year. You will get your deposit back when you graduate from school, if you decide not to try out again, or if you do not make the team one year. (If you do not ask for your deposit back I use it as a donation for the team.) If you are dismissed or chose not to do team anymore, the team will not receive your \$150 deposit. ELITE: Your deposit will be \$400. \$200 for competition fees, \$150 into your account and \$50 into the slush.
5. You will be responsible for getting your child to and from performances, practices and competitions.
6. When there is a due date on a specific payment, it must be paid in full by that date or there will be a \$5.00 late fee per week added to your total.
7. There are basic items that each dancer must have throughout the year.
 1. Dance Dimensions T-shirt, Sweatshirt and tank top
 2. Dance Dimensions bag (the lg. one)
 3. Black Jazz (Elf) Shoes and Dance Sneakers
 4. Silver Poms (I'll order these -about \$35.00)
 5. Black Cotton Jazz Pants, and Black Lycra Jazz Pants
 6. Windsuits, you can purchase these or have team pay for them.
 7. Misc. items like ribbons, socks, special bras, tights, lipstick, etc.

FUND-RAISERS:

1. On each team, we will have fundraising committees that will organize all fund-raisers, and most of them will be done at the studio.
2. A parent must attend at least three fund-raisers for the Rhythm Elite team one fund-raiser for Express and Strictly Rhythm, or your child will have \$50.00 deducted from their account and given to the other team members.
*If it is a fund-raiser that requires all parents to be there in shifts, it does not count toward your minimum



attendance requirement, likewise if a parent is at the fund-raiser in place of their child it doesn't count towards it either.

4. If you do not attend a fund-raiser for whatever reason, excused or not, you do not get to use the money that the dancers made at that particular fund-raiser towards the next performance team purchase.

COMMITTEES OR POSITIONS

1. President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer
2. Fund-raiser Committee, Social Committee
3. Travel Consultant, Costume Chairman, Public Relations (newspaper)

ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY, BEHAVIOR AND DRESS CODE

1. Attendance and punctuality are extremely important. Remember that you were chosen to be on this team and I expect it to be a priority. If you are very sick or out of town you must call and let me know. I will work with you the best that I can, but remember that this is a team and you are getting a big tuition break.

A. Illness is considered an excused absence.

B. If you are injured you must still come and watch class or support your team at competition or it is an unexcused absence.

C. School functions are excused, with a written note from your teacher.

D. Going out of town is excused with advanced notice.

E. If you are not in a routine for a performance you do not have to go watch, but if you do, you will get a plus merit. For competition, you still must go watch and support your teammates.

2. If you miss the performance team class the week of a performance it will be Miss Koni's discretion whether or not you will be able to perform or not. It will include, but is not be limited to these rules.

A. If we are having to re-do formations you will not be allowed to dance.

B. If we have not met for awhile to practice routines, you will not dance.

C. If we made some changes to the routine, you will not dance.

D. If we have an extra practice before our performance you will dance.

E. If we have been practicing these same routines every week, and you just happen to be sick or miss team and it is going to be more of a burden to your team to change formations then you will dance.

3. Behavior is also important. This is supposed to be a team of good and dedicated dancers, I should not have to deal with discipline problems.

A. The first time I call you down, your name will be on a behavior list.

B. The second time you will get a check mark and it will be a warning.

C. The third time you will receive a demerit.

4. You also must remember that you are a role model for all other students at Dance Dimensions and you need to behave accordingly. I will dismiss you for bad behavior outside of Dance Dimensions. Also there will be no piercings, except for ears, and no tattoos allowed. If you already have your belly button pierced, you must take it out for all D.D. appearances and performances. If you do not take it out you will not perform and this will be counted as an unexcused absence from a performance - 3 demerits

5. All team parents or guardians, must stay for class when there is a meeting. If you miss a meeting for what ever reason it is your responsibility to talk to your President and get all of the information!

6. You must wear all black to the practice before a performance and to all extra practices.

DEMERIT SYSTEM

(You are dismissed at 6 demerits)

1. Any costume or make-up problem (ex. granny panties, forgetting a piece of your costume or poms, ribbon falling out, not the correct lipstick etc.): 1/3 demerit

2. Tardy to practice or performance (less than 5 minutes)-1/3 demerit

3. Tardy to practice (more than 5 minutes)-1 demerit

4. Tardy to an extra practice the day or morning before a performance-2 demerits and if we have already practiced that routine you will not perform.

5. Tardy to a performance (more than 5 minutes)-2 demerits and you will not perform if we have already gone over the routines and had to change formations.

6. Excused absence from team class or performance =1 demerit

7. Unexcused absence from team class =2 demerits

8. Unexcused absence from extra practice or performance =3 demerits

*** You can get plus merits for attending workshops, conventions and non-required performances.



DISMISSAL

If you are dismissed or choose to quit the team...

1. You will no longer be allowed to participate in performance team activities, but you may continue in your other dance classes and tryout again next year.
2. You will not receive your deposit back, or the money in your account, and will no longer get a tuition break.

TEAM CONTRACT

1. I have read and understand all material about tryouts received during practices.
2. I understand that auditioning is a chance and I am willing to take that chance, and I will handle the outcome in a positive healthy manner.
3. I accept and respect the decisions made by the judges and instructors, and understand that they are working for the benefit of each dancer.
4. I will practice healthy competition at all times.
5. I am willing to meet all requirements for being a part of a Dance Dimensions Team.
6. I will follow all rules and regulations, and follow through on my dance decisions.
7. I will strive to be part of a team and not an individual.
8. I will give 100% for myself, the studio, and the team.
9. I will always have a positive attitude and be able to accept constructive criticism.
10. I will never show dissatisfaction about where I am placed in the formations. I understand that where I am placed is for the good of the team.
11. I will always practice and perform up to high standards, always trying to reach my personal best.
12. I understand that we will have tryouts for all routines and that it is Miss discretion who and how many should be doing that particular routine. I also understand that I can be cut or replaced from a routine at anytime.
13. I must have respect for authority (this not only means instructors, but older team members as well), for myself, and other students at the studio.
14. I realize that being part of this team would mean that I am a pace-setter for the studio. I will always be considerate of other dancers, and helpful to all students. I also realize that other dancers are watching me all the time, so I must set a good example and set my personal goals and morals high.

I have read the above rules and requirements and I agree to abide by them fully. If not, I understand that my child/I could be dismissed from the team. I also understand that any dismissal due to attendance, punctuality, behavior etc. is at Miss Koni's discretion. I agree that being on this team is a privilege, and I will treat it as so.

(parents signature and then the student's signature)

(date)

COMPETITION RULES

1. No panties
2. No Jewelry
3. No nail polish
4. No Boyfriends
5. Windsuits and black shoes for awards
6. For awards you may take off lashes and take down hair

