

Constitution of the Spring Hill High School Pacesetter Drill Team

Article I. Constitution

The Spring Hill Drill Team will use this written agreement to insure the success of the group and each individual. The drill team and this constitution will be governed by the Spring Hill Independent School District, the high school principal, the drill team director, and the drill team members.

Article II. Name

From this day forward the name of this organization will be the Spring Hill Panther Pacesetters.

Article III. History

The Panther Pacesetters were established May of 2000 under the direction of D'Lee Reagh. Twenty-four young ladies became charter members of the Pacesetters. The team has created a tradition of excellence through performance, competitions, community service, and the support of other SHHS activities.

Article IV. Physical

Sports physical exams will **be required for first year members and will** need to be on file before drill team camp. Each member of the drill team must keep physically fit in order to perform properly and safely.

Article V. Grade Requirements

1. Each member **MUST** pass all courses and have satisfactory citizenship grade in EACH class at all times.
2. Failure to meet these standards will result in temporary suspension from participation in accordance with UIL and the school system eligibility policy.
3. **If a member is ineligible for two consecutive grading periods they will be dismissed for the remainder of the year. 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 during the school day and will be graded on a P.E. class scale.**
4. If a member fails to attain the required Satisfactory in citizenship, she will be placed on probation a minimum of seven days and she will miss the next scheduled performance or until the grade has been acquired. The member will also receive 5 demerits.

Article VI.

Attendance for Participation and Eligibility

A. Practice

1. Drill Team is a priority; please mark the practices before you schedule other activities.
2. Drill team practices will be scheduled by the drill team director.
3. **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.**
4. Summer camp and August practice schedules will be given to each member when determined.
5. Schedules will be given during the school year for required practices and meetings.
6. Work will not be an excusable reason for missing practices or performances. The Pacesetter will receive 5 demerits and will miss the next performance.
7. Absence from any session must be approved PRIOR to the date of absence, not after the absence.
8. An absence caused by ISS is considered unsatisfactory citizenship. 5 demerits will be given and the next performance will be missed.

B. Performances

1. Members will perform at all **varsity** football games, several home **varsity** basketball games, competition, Spring Show, and other activities upon invitation and budget provided.
2. Transportation will be provided to most events and girls are expected to ride to and from all performances on the bus.
3. In accordance with the band policy, if a parent or legal guardian signs for the Pacesetter, the member will be released to her parents or legal guardian ONLY.

C. Weekly Tryouts

1. Tryouts are held each week for that week's game. If the director feels that the member is not sufficiently prepared she may not perform at the game.
2. If a Pacesetter does not make the routine she is considered to be an alternate and will be expected to know the routine and attend practice the rest of the week.
3. As an alternate, she must still attend the game and sit with the group. **A doctor's note will be required if she is absent from the game or she will receive 5 demerits for an unexcused absence.**
4. **Any member who misses the weekly tryout will automatically become an alternate unless prior arrangements have been made with the director.**

5. If a girl misses a game or any performance, she will not participate at other performances at the director's discretion.
6. If a girl is selected to perform for Friday night's performance, she must attend drill team practices the REST of the week.
7. A Pacesetter will be removed from Friday's performance if she misses practice on the field or with the band. She will automatically become an alternate. If she is an alternate, she is expected to attend all practices. (refer to C. Weekly Tryouts, #2)

Article IX.

Conduct

A. Moral and Ethical Values

Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of any leading organization. Members of the Spring Hill Pacesetters must:

1. exhibit loyalty to Spring Hill High School at all times,
2. exhibit desirable moral character and behavior,
3. demonstrate leadership skills,
4. be willing to take and accept responsibility for the position,
5. maintain a pleasant personality at all times,
6. act in such a manner as to uphold the good reputation of Spring Hill High School,
7. be courteous and friendly wherever they are,
8. respect their director, officers, and other line members,
9. never use profanity

B. Probation, Dismissal or Resignation

1. Probation means not performing for a minimum of one week and not participating in activities during that week.
2. During probation, the member must attend practice and participate unless otherwise indicated by the director.
3. Upon receiving 20 demerits, she will be dismissed from the team.
4. If 5 demerits are received in one day the individual will not be permitted to participate in the performances for that week, but must still attend ALL rehearsals and performances and be an acting member of the drill team, or further demerits will be given.
5. When a Pacesetter has reached a total of 15 demerits the parents will be notified and she will not perform the next performance.
6. Truancy is not allowed and will result in probation.
7. Smoking is prohibited. This behavior can result in probation as outlined in Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.
8. **Caught in the act of, by her own admission has been drinking, in possession of alcohol off campus or at non-school sponsored, non-school related activities or test positive on a drug test (this policy is consistent with athletics).**
 - a. **1st offense –**

1. Will spend 30 minutes of physical activity per day, four days a week for four weeks. This time will not be during practice and under the supervision of the director. The physical activity will be determined by the director. (Example: high kicking or running)
2. The member will also forfeit the privilege to tryout for an officer position.
- b. 2nd offense –
 1. Agree to participate in an assistance and drug/alcohol education program
 2. Agree to a 30 day suspension
- c. 3rd offense –
 1. Dismissed from Pacesetters for one calendar year.
9. Fighting constitutes dismissal from team.
10. Any Pacesetter representing themselves, or their organization, in an unfavorable, questionable or illegal manner through electronic media (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 such a way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace to the Pacesetter organization, including themselves (camera phones, digital photos, electronic descriptions) will be subject to the disciplinary actions determined by the Pacesetter director, including probation or dismissal from the squad.
11. If probation is received for any of the above mentioned behaviors the candidate will forfeit the right to tryout for officer.
12. Any action of a member deemed inappropriate by the director or school principal or any violation of school policy, rules, and regulations could result in probation or dismissal.

C. Resignation

1. A letter of resignation signed by the parents/legal guardian and Pacesetter must be submitted to the director.
2. A member's resignation will be accepted only after all financial obligations are complete. All Pacesetter owned property must be returned in acceptable shape.

D. Games

1. Members will meet at the bus or designated area at a designated time. All members march in as one group.
2. Members must remain in the stands at all times unless given permission by the director or captain to leave.
3. Members will sit as a group in assigned seats.
4. No visitors are allowed unless approved by the director.
5. There will be no candy, gum, food or drinks in stands unless approved by the director.
6. Restroom breaks will be given in emergency situations.

- 7. Juice or water may be provided by the Pacesetter Booster Club or 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.**
- 8. Members will participate in cheers as initiated by the band, cheerleaders, and drill team officers.**
- 9. Cell phones must stay in the Pacesetter bag during the entire game. Checking or talking on the cell phone during a game will constitute a demerit unless prior permission was given by the director. (refer to demerits #14, #15)**

Article X. Demerits and Merits

A. Demerits

Demerits are to be used as a disciplinary tool. They will be given for violations of rules.

- 1. A total of 20 demerits will automatically terminate a member.
- 2. If 5 demerits are received in one day the individual will not be permitted to participate in the performances for that week, but must still attend ALL rehearsal and performance and be an acting member of the drill team, or further demerits will be given.
- 3. When a Pacesetter has reached a total of 15 demerits the parents will be notified and she will not perform the next performance.

Offense	Demerits
1. Tardy to practice	1
2. No shoes at practice	1
3. Forgetting Hat, boots, or poms at practice	1 (each)
4. Hair down and unpinned for practice	1
5. Talking during practice	1
6. Unnecessary talking on the field	1
7. Moving at attention	1
8. Wearing fingernail polish or jewelry with any part of the uniform/jewelry at practice	1
9. Failure to call an officer when absent	1
10. Leaving articles in auditorium, gym or dressing room	2
11. Failing to return specific items on time	2
12. Gum chewing at practice or performance	2
<u>13. Talking on the cell phone during a game or practice</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>14. Checking your cell phone during a game or practice</u>	<u>2</u>
15. Tardy to performance	3
16. Wearing wrong practice outfit	3
17. Incompletion uniform (*must keep all hat/belt on until in car or on bus)	3

- | | |
|---|---|
| 18. Forgetting prop | 3 |
| 19. Smarting off to the director, officers, or line members | 3 |
| 20. Not maintaining Satisfactory Citizenship | 5 |
| 21. Unexcused absence | 5 |
| 22. "Passion Marks"/PDA | 5 |
| 23. Missed practice or performance because of work | 5 |
| 24. ISS | 5 |
| 25. Any other action deemed inappropriate by director | (with counsel
from director
and/or principal) |

*20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25 will result in probation

B. Merits

- 1. During the school year merit opportunities will be available. The director will set the guidelines, requirements and number of merits given for each opportunity. However, merit opportunities are not guaranteed.**
- 2. Merit opportunities can be either mandatory or optional.**

Article XIII.

Uniforms and Equipment

- 1. Pacesetters will purchase all practice clothes, pep rally outfits, and accessories as approved by the director.**
- 2. All financial responsibilities regarding drill team payments must be cleared before the first football game. The director may grant exceptions.**
- 3. Uniforms must be kept clean and in good condition.**
- 4. Each member must mark her name in each piece of practice wear, pep rally outfits and accessories.**
- 5. School issued items will be checked out to each member. Each member assumes 100% liability for the care and return of each item.**

Article XIV.

Officers

1. There will be a minimum of three officers and a maximum of five officers.
2. The group will have one captain, one 1st Lieutenant, and one to three 2nd Lieutenants.
3. The officers will be chosen by outside judges.
4. An officer candidate must have been a line member the year prior to officer tryouts.
5. Their duties will be to help choreograph, teach routines, schedule, organize and help direct practices. The officers will assist the director in any other ways which they might be needed.
6. Drill team members will respect the decisions and actions of the officers or regard the possibility of probation or permanent removal.

7. The officers will regard the decisions of the director as if they were their own or face the possibility of losing certain responsibilities.
8. The officers will be held accountable by using an additional demerit system just for officers.
 - a. Abuse of authority 1-20
 - b. Unnecessary and inappropriate criticism of a member 1-12
 - c. Failure to give demerits when one should be given 1-12
 - d. Failure by officers to set a good example for fellow Pacesetters 1-12
 - e. Failure to meet responsibilities 1-12
9. *All other rules apply to officers. Remember, you are the **EXAMPLES**, not exceptions!!!!

Article XV. Social Officers

1. There will be a total of 4 Social officers; President, Vice President, Historian, and Chaplain.
2. President and Vice President will be elected by the following qualifications:
 - a. Must have tried out for Officer
 - b. Must not hold an Officer position
 - c. Voted by the line members of the current year
3. If a President or Vice President position cannot be filled by a member that tried out for officer then the position will be elected by line vote only.
4. Chaplain and Historian will be elected by line vote only.
5. Duties of each position are as follows:
 - A. President
 1. Plan and organize all social events within the Pacesetters
 2. **Be responsible for displaying a calendar of social events in Mrs. Reagh's room.**
 3. Organize Big Sis/Lil Sis
 4. Lead Pacesetters during 4th quarter when officers are visiting the other team
 5. Lead the Pacesetters in the absence of the officers at practice or performances
 6. Assist officers when needed
 - B. Vice President
 1. Assist President in planning and organizing all social events within the Pacesetters

2. Assist in organizing Big Sis/Lil Sis
3. Assist during 4th quarter when officers are visiting the other team
4. Assist President when needed

C. Historian

1. Keep a scrapbook of the entire year.
2. Present the scrapbook to the Seniors in May at a designated time.
3. Assist with the slide show at Spring Show

D. Chaplain

1. Motivation of the week at practice, an event or a performance.

Article XVI.

Line Members

1. Members are selected by an impartial panel of qualified judges and must tryout each year.
2. Any candidate wanting to gain membership to the organization must first meet the eligibility requirements and attend a series of practices prior to tryouts.
3. The candidate will be judged on their appearance, poise, kicks, splits, dance ability, and showmanship.
4. TRYOUT ELIGIBILITY:
 - a. All returning members must tryout. Being a member of the team does not guarantee reinstatement for the following year.
 - b. A former member trying out must have all financial obligations complete.**
 - c. A candidate may seek membership even if she has failed a course during the previous **grading period.**
 - d. She must be in good standing in the area of citizenship in all classes.
 - e. Students who have been assigned In School Suspension (ISS) or suspended will not be able to audition for the Pacesetters.**
 - f. Candidates who have been dismissed or have resigned from the team will not be allowed to audition for the team again unless the director has given permission.**
 - g. Each candidate should be in good physical condition due to the vigorous nature of the physical activity required.
 - h. Prior to tryouts, each candidate must have turned in to the director:
 1. Parental consent form
 2. Tryout application
 3. Any other required information.

B. Personal Qualifications

- 1. You must want to be a Pacesetter. If you really want to be a Pacesetter you will gladly accept criticism that will help you attain perfection.**
- 2. You must be willing to abide by the rules and follow directions.**
- 3. You must enjoy learning and performing dances.**
- 4. You must demonstrate responsibility at all times.**
- 5. You must be willing to participate in fundraisers and activities 100%.**
- 6. You must understand that any decision made by the director is in the best interest of the team and individual members.**
- 7. You must have perfection as your goal and understand that the schedule and discipline of Pacesetters demands a high degree of determination, hard work, strength, dedication, self-discipline, and loyalty.**
- 8. You must have a desire to cooperate-to be “one of the group”. Individual exhibitions are not for the Pacesetter line.**

Article XVIII. The Director

The director may be allowed to place certain restrictions upon the members of the drill team. Anytime a member fails to adhere to these requirements, she may be dismissed from the team.

Article XIX. Revisions

The Spring Hill Independent School District reserves the right to amend this constitution at anytime in the event that district, state, and/or federal laws change. SHISD also reserves the right to amend this constitution in the event that clarification of the rules and regulations are needed.