

DRUM MAJOR, VARSITY AND JV MAJORETTE POLICIES

The drum major and members of the majorette lines are, first and foremost, members of the ORE CITY REBEL BAND. As student leaders, their attitude and behavior MUST be exemplary. Each person selected for a position of leadership is expected to follow these rules and regulations without exception.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A) Applicants for drum major, varsity majorette, and/or JV majorette must:
- 1) Have participated in UIL Marching Contest with the ORE CITY REBEL BAND during the year in which tryouts are held. JV members moving up from middle school must have participated in solo and ensemble competition and All Region Band during their 8th grade year. In case of a transfer student, they must have verification from their former band director that they marched with the band at UIL (or comparable state organization) Marching Contest during the school year in which try-outs are to be held.
 - 2) Have and maintain no lower than a grade of 85 in band.
 - 3) Have and maintain a good discipline record, as certified by the appropriate principal. School policy as outlined in the student handbook relating to tardies, absences, conduct, and other attitudes or acts that affect and/or hinder the rights of education of other students apply to all areas of being a majorette or drum major, including after school and summer rehearsals. A student who has committed any serious offense, as defined in the Ore City Student Code of Conduct, will not be allowed to tryout. Chronic behavior problems could result in an applicant not being allowed to tryout.
 - 4) All positions are for a one year term only.
 - 5) Be certified by the director/sponsor as having a cooperative attitude and the ability to work cooperatively with other students and the director.
- B) If a person is selected for a position and fails to maintain any of these standards, they are subject to dismissal from that position.
- C) Any person who was selected to a position and fails to complete the requirements of that position, by dismissal or resignation without just cause, is not entitled to any recognition or benefits of that position, including, but not limited to, the privilege to tryout for majorette and/or drum major for the upcoming school year publications.
- D) Any student feeling they have just cause or/and undue hardship MUST discuss this with the director/sponsor and put their justification in writing prior to resigning their position. If it is found that the student has an undue hardship due to circumstances beyond their control, recognition and benefits MAY be granted under extenuating circumstances.

II. MUSICAL REQUIRMENTS

- A) All applicants, majorette and drum major must play-off the following scales by memory prior to the audition date: Bb, Eb, Ab, and the chromatic scale in two octaves. Scales will follow the ATSSB All Region Band, and perform a class one solo or in a class one ensemble the following year.

III. TWIRLING REQUIRMENTS

- A) It is not necessary for applicants for drum major to know how to twirl. If the Drum Major wishes to twirl with the other majorettes, the applicant must have tried out and have been selected as a majorette at the time of the tryouts. In the event of a non-twirling drum major, the drum major will wear the regulation military uniform.
- B) Candidates for majorette will be required to know the fundamentals listed on the tryout form.
- C) Each candidate will prepare an original dance-twirl routine no longer than 3 minutes long
- D) A person selected by the director/sponsor will teach a group routine to all applicants. When a group routine is taught, all applicants must attend all group rehearsals in order to try-out.

IV. JUDGING

- A) Tryouts will be closed to the public. School administrators may be present, if they desire. Outgoing senior majorettes may also attend.
- B) At least 3 impartial judges will be selected by the director/sponsor
- C) Applicants will draw for performance positions. The contestant's appearance, showmanship, twirling ability, and attitude will be considered in selection members of the majorette line.
- D) The number of majorettes selected will be dependent of the quality of the applicants, but will not exceed 8 for the varsity line and 8 for the JV, with one or two drum majors.
- E) A head majorette MAY be selected to assist in the day-to-day operation of the majorette line, coordination of practice times, and other duties as assigned by the director/sponsor. The head majorette will also coordinate any JV performances. JV performances guaranteed, but not limited to are all pep rallies, homecoming, and all games after marching contest. The student selected for head majorette will have been a majorette at least one year and one who has demonstrated a high degree of responsibility, cooperation, and twirling ability.
- F) Drum major applicants will be judged on leadership ability, attitude, poise, dignity, the ability to think and reach quickly, and cooperation with the band director and other band members, as well as execution of a drill prepared for try-outs by the director. Specific whistle and vocal commands will be listed on the try-out form.
- G) A minimum score of 170 must be earned in order to receive a position on the line.
- H) Following tryouts, the judges will confer and make their final decisions, which will be announced immediately following tryouts.

V. DEMERITS

- A) Demerits will be given for broken rules in the constitution and other behavior problems. A form stating the majorette and parent/guardian understand all the rules and the demerit system will be signed by both the student and parent and will be kept on file. Failure to sign or return the signed letter may result in removal from the line.
- B) When demerits are given, they must be worked off at the next regular practice. If not, they will be doubled at each following practice until worked off.
- C) A record of demerits will be kept on file with the sponsor for the entire year. Any demerits earned will be shown to the judges for the following year.
- D) Demerits will be worked off by doing one routine of the sponsor's choosing mistake free to counts (not music). One routine works off 5 demerits.
- E) Any majorette accumulating a total of 30 demerits at one time is subject to immediate removal from the line.
- F) The sponsor/director can give demerits at their discretion.
- G) Other penalties will include running laps on the track, suspension from performances, and possible extra duties. This is at the discretion of the sponsor.

VI. PRACTICES

- A) Majorette practices before or after school **MUST** be attended. This includes summer practices.
- *B) If two or more summer practices are missed for any reason, the majorette will be given 5 demerits.
- C) If four or more are missed, the majorette will not be allowed to twirl at the first pep rally or football game.
- D) If a majorette is unable to attend 2 after school practices for any reason, she will not be allowed to twirl on the following Friday.
- E) A majorette may not be absent at school on the day of practice and then come to school for practice.
- F) Once the practice schedule is set, each member will be expected to be there for the entire schedule. No leaving early or being late.
- G) 3 tardies to practice will be treated as one absence.
- H) Any majorette having 2 unexcused absences of any type will be removed from the line. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to, any absence that the sponsor is not notified in advance.

VII. PERFORMANCES

- A) Majorettes will normally be allowed to perform one routine at pep rallies and at halftimes, as well as other events permitted by the director/sponsor, including fourth quarter at games. JV will perform @ pep rallies, but will not be permitted to twirl at ballgames until after UIL marching contest, unless there is a special performance, i.e. Homecoming, Diana game, etc. These performances will be decided by the director only. Also, 4th quarter performances will depend upon the skills and marching quality upheld by any girl on the JV line and will be at the discretion of the director.

- B) Excessive drops, lack of knowledge of the routine, and lack of cooperation, etc., will result in suspension from performance for a period to be determined by the sponsor.

VIII. FOOTBALL GAMES

- A) All majorettes will sit with the band in the assigned area. JV majorettes will sit with their section leaders.
- B) No friends, boyfriends, etc. may sit around the majorettes. This will be enforced; failure to comply with this rule could result in demerits or suspension from a performance.
- C) NO talking to people outside of the band, or ineligibles during the game.
- D) Pay attention to your band directors and sponsors while sitting in the stands.
- E) Third quarter will be given for restroom and concession breaks.
- F) Throw away your trash.

IX. UNIFORMS

- A) Uniforms will be pre-approved by the director/sponsor.
- B) All uniforms owned by the school will be issued at the beginning of the year, with the understanding that any pieces missing will be paid for by the majorette.
- C) JV majorettes must purchase their own uniform. (one per season) There is no money allotted by the school for these expenses. A fundraiser will be provided to JV twirlers to help offset these costs.
- D) Any majorette that is not performing due to injury, absence, or being benched for some reason, is required to suit out, sit with the band and march the drill during all performances. The only time a majorette is not in uniform is for grade ineligibility. (NO EXCEPTIONS)
- E) All members must turn in all school owned uniforms at the end of the year designated by the sponsor/director. A list will be kept of what belongs to the school and what belongs to individuals. The uniforms must be turned in dry-cleaned in the dry cleaning plastic with the receipt attached. If not cleaned and turned in on time, grades will be held for the year. The uniforms are safer at school than they are at home, so even returning majorettes will turn in the school owned uniforms at the end of the season. Lockers will be provided for storage of uniforms for varsity members. School uniform rules do not apply to JV majorettes because they must buy their uniforms.
- F) The sponsor or head majorette before each performance will make a uniform inspection. Things that may be checked:
 - 1. Boots, cleaned and polished
 - 2. Hats, brushed and cleaned
 - 3. Uniforms, cleaned and pressed
 - 4. NO NAIL POLISH

5. Hair/make-up done properly
6. Pantyhose, proper color and style
7. Individual hairstyles may be worn with the exception of Yamboree contest. Sponsor's choice for this event.

X. PERSONAL CONDUCT

- A) No smoking
- B) No drinking

XI. OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Due to the amount of practice time involved, and in fairness to the other people selected, majorettes and twirling drum majors, will not be active to participate in any other extracurricular activities involving after-school or weekend participation that conflict with band and majorette activities during marching season. This may be appealed to the director on an individual basis, but his/her word is final.

XII. GRADES

Eligibility is governed by UIL rules. A majorette may not wear her uniform or ride the bus, or perform when her grades make her ineligible. A majorette who continuously has failing grades 3 six weeks in a row, will not be allowed to try out the following year for majorette.

XIII. GOSSIPING

There will be no gossiping or backbiting about your fellow majorettes, the sponsor, directors, cheerleaders, or any other group amongst yourselves, within the student body, or the general public. If the sponsor, director, or any other school official hears you, you will be given demerits. Gossiping is anything that puts down, hurtfully criticizes a person's performance or character.

EXCEPTIONS

Any requirement contained within these band policies may be waived or amended by the director after consultation with the appropriate principal and/or superintendent. A waiver or amendment will be considered on an individual basis only after the student stating which policy he/she wishes to be waived or amended makes request in writing. Adequate justification for the request MUST accompany the request. Responses made will be made in a timely manner, usually within 5 school days, after receipt of student request.