



GUARD

Color Guard Constitution

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Purpose

This organization is first and foremost a competitive performance ensemble. It shall also serve as a spirit organization to John B. Connally HS and promote school loyalty, spirits, sportsmanship, and citizenship. Additionally, it will serve as a foundation for growth for each member. Members will learn team-building skills, time management, and self-respect, among other great characteristics.

Behavior

We strive to create a learning environment for all members and staff. Behavior of the members towards each other and staff is crucial to the success and functionality of the guard.

Any member whose behavior is distracting, offensive, or creates disruption during rehearsals, competitions or other school events shall be given a verbal warning or receive an appropriate consequence as determined by the Director and staff.

Public displays of affection will not be tolerated during any color guard functions nor while in any sort of costume or uniform.

Any member that continues disruptive behaviors will be immediately removed from participation or the program. A parent/guardian will be contacted and the member shall be suspended from further team participation until the appropriate parties for final disciplinary action have reviewed the matter.

Attendance

All practices and performances are **MANDATORY**. The Directorship reserve the discretion to schedule additional practices as need and/or make alterations to the existing schedule (provided they supply adequate notice to all members).

It is expected that members will arrive and depart from all practices and performances in a timely manner and in accordance with the calendar schedule. Members that are tardy may be required to stay after and perform physical conditioning and/or other chores. Tardiness on performance days will carry a greater consequence, including possible dismissal from the group.

In case of injury or mild/non-contagious illness, members are still required to attend rehearsals. When observing rehearsal, members must be attentive of all the rehearsal.

Absence from a rehearsal during the week prior to a performance may result in the loss of performance privileges for that upcoming performance. Any member who missed the rehearsal before the day of a performance, with an excused or unexcused absence, will be suspended from performing (with exception under the Director's discretion); the member will still be required to attend the performance.

Any member who misses rehearsal will be responsible for what they have missed. The guard will not hinder rehearsal to re-teach individuals.

If an excused absence must occur on the date of a rehearsal or other important event, prior notification must be given to the Directorship with a minimum of one week in advance. Failure to notify directorship within a week will automatically be considered an Unexcused Absence. 3 Unexcused Absences will result in the loss of a performance position, 5 Unexcused Absences will result in removal from the program. 3 Excused Absences will result in a warning issued to the member and their parent/guardian. 5 Excused Absences will result in the loss of a performance position.

Healthcare appointments should be scheduled outside of rehearsal and event dates. A calendar will be provided to assist in making arrangements.

Excused Absences Examples

- Illness (with note from parent/doctor)
- Family Emergency/Event
- Class Requirements

Unexcused Absences Examples

- Work
- Routine Doctor's Appointments

- Vacations
- Driver's Ed courses

**Any situations not listed will be decided as Excused or Unexcused at the discretion of the Directorship.*

Image & Dress Code

General Protocol

Makeup is required to be worn by all members (male and female) - no exceptions. Show concept/aesthetic will dictate color palette, amount of makeup, etc.

Any and all dramatic changes to hair length, color, texture, etc. must be communicated to the Directorship beforehand. Natural hair colors only; artificial colors are prohibited.

Nails are to be kept fingertip length. Polish is prohibited unless it is French tipped. Exceptions will be made if certain polish colors are needed for costume.

Rehearsal

All members are required to wear the expected attire to all rehearsals. Failure to adhere to protocol will result in a warning and/or demerits.

On special rehearsal days, member will be required to have hair and makeup prepared; future notice will be given.

- All black (no graphics or colors), form-fitting dance clothing.
 - No baggy clothing.
 - Black with white athletic sneakers required.
- Hair pulled back: buns, ponytails, or headbands.
- Prohibited: jeans, non-athletic attire, loose jewelry.

Spirit/Pep Days

All members are required to wear Spirit Uniforms (or assigned garments). Hair and makeup for all members must be worn in the specific assigned fashion.

Competition/Performance Days

All members are required to wear Spirit Uniforms (or assigned garments) when not in show costume. Hair and makeup for all members must be worn in the assigned fashion.

Miscellaneous Information

The Director has the discretion to assign specific dress code on non-specified days.

Performance Days

Dress Code

Arrive in required apparel as described in Image & Dress Code.

Transportation

Transportation to and from competitions and performance events will be facilitated by district-ordered buses.

Members may ride home with a parent/guardian only with permission from the Director. The member must submit a written note on the Thursday preceding the event. Parents may not write a note for their child to ride home with someone other than a guard parent/guardian. The member and parent must check out with a Director before leaving.

Academics & Eligibility

Members must meet all UIL Eligibility Guidelines of at least 70% on all subjects to remain eligible.

Per UIL guidelines, students must be academically eligible in order to participate in all extracurricular activities. Eligibility is determined at the end of the 2nd and 3rd 9-week grade checks.

Important Dates

- TBA

If ineligible, the member is expected to attend all rehearsals (unless dismissed by the Director). However, the member is not permitted to travel with, perform, and/or compete with the Connally HS Color Guard. Membership may be terminated if the member is ineligible for two reporting periods in a row.

Tutorials

Members are REQUIRED to attend two tutorials per week. A note from the respective teacher must be provided by Friday of each week (email or handwritten). Failure to complete this requirement will result in a demerit per tutorial unfulfilled. Demerits gained from unfulfilled tutorials may be forgiven by attending additional tutorials the following week.

Managers

Managers are expected to follow all guidelines of the Constitution, as they are considered full members of the organization. Attendance at all rehearsals, events, and competitions are required, unless instructed otherwise.

Managers will fulfill tasks provided by the staff. These tasks will range between “household” responsibilities, paperwork, etc.

Discipline

Demerits

Demerits are cumulative from the day the member is accepted into the program. Demerits are to be issued at the discretion of the Director. Demerits may be recommended to the Director by Leadership members.

Demerits will be based on a scale that correlates to the severity of the offense. Receiving **5** Demerits will result in a warning, **10** will result in a parent conference, and **15** will result in probation or termination. Offenses that are not listed will be scaled at the discretion of the Director.

Demerits can be removed at the discretion of the Director by providing service to the team via chores, spirit gifts, etc.

1 Demerit	2 Demerits	5 Demerits
Unexcused <i>tardiness</i> to rehearsal.	Unexcused <i>absence</i> from rehearsal.	Unexcused <i>absence</i> from event.
Unauthorized use of electronics during rehearsal.	Unexcused tardiness to event.	Leaving an event without permission.
Rehearsal day dress code violation.	Event day dress code violation.	Disrespect to Director/Leader.
Tutorial unfulfilled (see Academics).	Improper/disruptive conduct.	Social media violations.
		Misrepresentation of the program at school, at an event, or online. Including PDA.
		Office/teacher referral.

Immediate Removal

A member may be immediately removed from the program for the following major disciplinary infractions:

- Use of illegal substances on campus or public. This includes admitting to promoting drug, alcohol, or tobacco use on social media.
- Truancy or skipping class.
- Receiving 3 or more days of ISS from any administrator for violation of school policies.
- Suspension or expulsion from school.
- Fighting.
- Theft.
- Engaging in bullying in person or online.
- Engaging in conduct that results in arrest.
- Failing to comply with the Director's instructions, repeated insubordination to the Director/Leadership, or repeated disruptive behavior.

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING
for the Connally High School Color Guard Handbook

*****Due Last Friday in April*****

Please check one the following regarding Connally Color Guard publication and media release information:

_____ I give permission to use my child's image on the Connally Band webpage or any CHS band media.

_____ I do not give permission.

I/We have read and understand all of the information from the Connally High School Color Guard Handbook and agree to abide by the stated policies.

Student's Printed Name:

(Last)

(First)

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent(s) Signature(s):

_____ Date _____