

FCA Drill Team Varsity and JV Constitution

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the FCA Drill Team shall be two-fold: to perform and entertain audiences through precision dances and to boost the morale and spirit of the school. The purpose shall also be to develop character, leadership, and individual responsibility in each member, while maintaining high moral standards. It is the drill team members' purpose to represent our high school in a manner which will reflect credit upon the school, as well as upon the members of this organization. Each member agrees to abide by the rules and regulation set forth in this constitution.

ARTICLE II: TRYOUT QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

- A. Membership in the varsity organization shall be restricted to girls that are in the freshmen, sophomore, junior, and senior classes. Membership in the junior varsity organization shall be restricted to 7th and 8th grade.
- B. Selections will be made in the spring of the year preceding the school year in which the drill team members will serve. Information will be distributed prior to tryouts. The Director(s) will handle, on an individual basis, circumstances preventing a prospective member from participating in tryout week.
- C. At least one parent of each candidate must be present at the parent orientation meeting or must contact the Director(s) prior to the tryout date.
- D. All candidates must attend all tryout clinic practices.
- E. Candidates will be expected to perform a specific required routine and kick series at tryouts. Members will be selected by a panel of qualified judges. Judging will be based on:
 - 1. Routine Execution
 - a. Precision/sharpness
 - b. Rhythm/timing
 - c. Memory
 - d. Showmanship (projection, smiling, energy, eye contact)
 - 2. Basic Skill/Technique
 - a. Kicks
 - b. Splits
 - c. Dance
 - 3. Overall Impression
 - 4. Daily audition scores (attitude, teamwork and work ethic)
The performance of the candidate for drill team membership will be evaluated and scored by a Panel of three – six qualified judges. Selection of the team will be based on the sum of the judges scores and the daily audition scores added to the totals.
- G. Candidates must have on file:
 - 1. Tryout Application Form
 - 2. Intent to Participate waiver and release for Tryouts
 - 3. Athletic Physical Form – completed by a doctor
 - 4. Covid 19 Release Form

- H. Anyone who meets the above qualifications will not be discriminated against because of race, creed or handicap.
- I. If a student transfers to FCA during the school year and would like to audition for the drill Team, the Director(s) may schedule a personal tryout for the new student.

ARTICLE III: PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- A. A candidate must WANT to be a drill team member. A candidate must be willing to accept constructive criticism that will help her attain excellence.
- B. A candidate must understand **that it is a privilege, not a right**, to be a drill team member.
- C. A candidate must be willing to abide by rules and follow directions from the Director(s).
- D. A candidate must demonstrate responsibility at all times.
- E. A candidate must have good coordination and rhythm with the ability to learn dances in a short period for performances.
- F. A candidate must be able to offer constructive criticism to other team members when asked to do so.
- G. A candidate must be willing to participate in fundraising projects.
- H. A candidate must understand that any decision made by the Director(s) is in the best interest of the team.
- I. A candidate must have excellence as her goal and understand that the schedule and discipline of a drill team member demands a high degree of determination, hard work, strength, dedication, self-discipline, and loyalty to the team.
- J. A candidate must have a desire to cooperate – to be “one of the group”. Individual exhibitions are not for the drill team in practice or in performance. Learning to perform in unison is imperative.
- K. A candidate must want to act – as in DRAMA! Projection is very important.
- L. A candidate must enjoy learning dances, performing, and promoting school spirit.
- M. A candidate must get a physical yielding that she is physically able to complete all requirements of the team, including daily kicks and running. Medical documentation may be required if a health condition arises that interferes with her ability to participate. Communicating that documentation to the Director(s) is the member’s responsibility.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- A. There will be no set number of members. Membership depends on the scores of the candidates at tryouts.
- B. Drill team members must tryout every year. Positions are not guaranteed each year.
- C. Members will participate in all activities in which the organization is involved. This includes all parties and activities (summer pool party, Christmas party, etc.) that promote team bonding outside of practice. Exceptions may be approved by the Director(s).
- D. Members must exhibit and maintain a satisfactory attitude toward school policies and regulations.
- E. All members are expected to promote and represent the organization in all outside activities, including but not limited to, social networking websites. A separate parent and student commitment agreement will be signed in order to be a participating drill team member. Anyone refusing to sign will not be allowed to participate.

- F. All members are required to attend summer practice and drill team camp. No drill team member may leave camp or practice for any reason other than illness, injury, or death in the family. The member may leave with a relative only, who must contact the coaches and provide written documentation of the member's removal from camp. Exceptions may be approved by the Director(s) prior to summer camp or practices.
- G. The term of membership shall be recognized as the time immediately following drill team tryouts until tryouts the following year.
- H. A member's resignation will be accepted only after the member has initiated a conference with the Director(s). A letter of resignation must follow the conference and all financial obligations must be met. All school properties must be returned in good condition or paid for in full. There will be no reimbursement of any fees paid if a member resigns from the team.
- I. Any member who chooses to quit or is dismissed from drill team at any time (with the exception of scholastic dismissal) must wait one calendar year to audition for the team again.
- J. Members may be a part of outside activities. Drill team should be a priority and members will need to provide a listing of activities and scheduling conflicts to the director(s). We are willing to work with other coaches regarding scheduling conflicts. Members are responsible to learn missed choreography if they have a conflict.

ARTICLE V: MANNERS AND ATTITUDE

- A. Manners should be used at all times to adults and fellow members. Mutual respect and politeness among members are expected.
- B. A member is expected to exhibit a good attitude and be courteous and friendly. Any conversation and/or actions should reflect our character. Members should not take part or encourage complaining or gossip.
- C. Good sportsman-like behavior toward other teams is expected.

ARTICLE VI: ABSENCES AND TARDIES

- A. Every member must be present and on time for camp, all practice sessions, pep rallies, games, and activities, etc. Only excuses approved by the Director(s) will be accepted and each will be evaluated individually.
- B. During football and basketball season, if a member is more than 15 minutes late or absent from any practice, they may be removed from the performance based on what is in the best interest of the team unless approved by Director(s) prior.
- C. The only exceptions to the rule above are a funeral, school approved absence or college visit, IF approved by the Director(s).
- D. A student or parent MUST notify the Director(s) of an absence prior to practice, or it is considered unexcused.
- E. An unexcused absence or tardy could result in pulling from routine or disciplinary actions.
- F. Juniors and seniors may miss for college visits, preferably at the beginning of the week, without being pulled from a football or basketball routine with the Director(s) approval.
- G. If a member misses any practice, she is responsible for any instruction missed. She will be held responsible for any announcements made or routines taught in her absence.

- H.
- I. Members must have good attendance records at school. Any student who is absent from school will not perform on the day of the absence unless excused by the coach in advance. Team members should be at home if they are ill on the day of a scheduled performance.

ARTICLE VII: PRACTICE SESSION RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. After school and summer practice sessions will be required. Time specifications for these will be established as camp dates and other school schedules become available to the Director(s). Summer practice for all members is mandatory upon notification of these dates and times unless cleared with the Director(s) prior.
- B. Members will arrive on time to practice and stay until dismissed by the Director(s).
- C. Extra practices may be called if necessary and all members will be required to attend.

ARTICLE VIII: ROUTINE EVALUATIONS, TRYOUTS & PERFORMANCES

- A. The Director(s) reserve the right to hold routine evaluations/tryouts for any performance throughout the year. Aspects of the routine to be judged will be:
 - 1. Knowledge of the routine
 - 2. Projection
 - 3. Style
 - 4. Technique
 - 5. Overall impression
- B. A member unable to meet the standards set for that performance will not be allowed to perform in that particular performance, but she must attend the performance in uniform and assume her responsibility as usual.
- C. The Director(s) has the final decision on who makes the performances, and that decision may not be argued.
- D. Any member who misses formation settings or performance day practice may be eliminated from that performance or a future performance.
- E. Any member that misses any practice the week of a performance, will not be allowed to perform in the routine scheduled.
- F. Drill team members will be encouraged to be aware of their appearance and to maintain it in mutually satisfying condition.
- G. Inability to perform:
 - 1. Any member suffering from illness or injury for more than 2 days will be excused from workouts with a doctor's note.
 - 2. Grade Probation – Any member failing to meet the grade requirements as set forth by FCA guidelines will be expected to be present, dressed out, and working out with the drill team. She must continue and uphold all responsibilities **She must attend performances with the team and may NOT wear team-oriented uniforms until grades are restored to passing and she regains eligibility.
 - 3. Any member “cut” from a particular performance must be present, dressed out, and continue to work out with the drill team. She must continue to uphold all responsibilities.

IX. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- A. Members will buy their necessary drill team clothing as required.
- B. All financial obligations regarding uniforms must be cleared by the dates set by the Director(s). If a balance remains by the first performance try-out, the member will be ineligible to perform that particular performance and will remain ineligible for all performances until the balance is cleared.
- C. Members will occasionally wear designated items to practice according to the Director(s).
- D. A complete uniform and equipment check-in will be held prior to any activity/performance. At this time the member should be completely ready and remain ready for the activity/performance. This includes hair and make-up.
- E. Uniforms are to be clean, in good condition, and fit properly before each performance.
- F. Uniforms will be worn at school and drill team functions that the Director(s) select.
- G. All uniform are to be worn by MEMBERS ONLY. For example, do not loan out uniform pieces for Halloween.
- H. Uniforms are NOT to be worn to any other event or place other than drill team activities. For example, members must change out of the uniform before going out after a football game.
- I. All uniforms are to be worn ONLY when assigned.
- J. Each member will be issued formal field uniforms, costumes, props, poms, and/or equipment for use throughout the year. The members assume full responsibility for the care of these items.
- K. Prior to the end of the school year, all uniforms, costumes, props, poms and/or equipment that the member does not own must be returned in good condition, or the member will be charged for the full amount needed to replace it. Items Must be cleaned as specified by the coaches.
- L. Jewelry or nail polish may not be worn while in uniform or during any Performance.

ARTICLE X: TRANSPORTATION

- A. The drill team will perform at home games and some away games. Team members are responsible For their transportation to and from these games.
- B. In the event that the team travels together to an away game, competition, or event And transportation is provided by the school, the members will be required to follow School policy and rules regarding van/bus conduct.
- C. In case of an emergency, a coach may approve other means of transportation. Each Student must have signed the transportation section in the parent and student commitment Agreement document prior to traveling with the drill team.
- D. Notification must be provided by a parent prior to an event if their child is to ride home With another family.

ARTICLE XI: FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL SEASON

- A. A complete uniform check will be held prior to any activity/performance. At that time, the member should be and remain completely ready for the activity/performance. This includes hair and make - up.
- B. Members must remain in the stands at all times unless given permission to leave by the Director(s). The Director(s) will designate break times.
- C. Members are a group and will sit as a group. There will be NO visitors beside or within the group.
- D. There will be no gum, eating or drinking in the stands without permission.
- E. Members will be allowed water during the game.
- F. Members will participate in the cheers as initiated by the cheerleaders or drum line.
- G. No part of the uniform may be removed without permission.
- H. Members must conduct themselves in a responsible, lady-like manner at all times.
- I. Cell phone use in the stands will not be allowed unless permission is given by the Director(s).

ARTICLE XII: COMPETITIONS

- A. The drill team may attend various competitions during the year, with the location and number attended at the Director(s) discretion.
- B. All members must attend every competition unless on grade probation.
- C. Tryouts may be held for dance routines.
- D. Additional practices after school or on weekends may be held.
- E. If tryouts are held for a dance, those members must attend every practice to maintain their place. Excessive absences may result in removal from the routine.
- F. The Director(s) will determine/have final say over all music and uniform/costumes.

ARTICLE XIII: SPRING SHOW

- A. Practice sessions for Spring Show may be held after school or on weekends. Absences may eliminate a member from a dance.
- B. Members will be expected to help with props, sets, publicity, tickets, and any other attributes of the show, as designated by the Director(s)/coaches.
- C. Members may not miss practice two weeks prior to the show, or she may be removed from the dances worked on for the day, unless prior approval is given by the coaches.
- D. Director(s) will determine/have final say over all music and uniform/costumes.

ARTICLE XIV: PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Parents must give their permission for their daughter to fulfill all the responsibilities of being a member of the drill team before she is officially accepted.

- B.** Parents must be willing to meet all financial obligations involved in having their daughter as a drill team member. All payments are final. Any member who is removed from the team will not get a refund on their team payments.
- C.** Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all activities, except when transportation is provided by the school.
- D.** Parents are encouraged to participate in various fundraisers. These fundraisers help defray the cost for each member of the drill team.
- E.** Parents must be willing to cooperate with the coaches and keep them informed of dates that might conflict with drill team activities.
- F.** Parents are strongly encouraged to sign up for any volunteer committees throughout the year that may occur.

ARTICLE XV: SOCIAL EVENTS

- A.** Members are encouraged to attend any social activity, team building, member recognition and or parties.
- B.** Each member will be expected to promote and represent our organization above reproach in all outside activities.

ARTICLE XVI: MANAGERS

- A.** There may be one or more managers selected by the coaches.
- B.** Managers are non-performing team members and must uphold all duties, rules and regulations presented in this constitution.
- C.** Managers will attend all practices, performances, and activities. Lack of attendance, excused or unexcused, may result in dismissal from the team.
- D.** Managers are responsible to the Director(s).
- E.** Managers will wear uniforms designated by the Director(s).
- F.** Managers must be willing to participate in fundraising projects.

ARTICLE XVII: DISCIPLINE

- A.** The Director(s) will be responsible for handling disciplinary issues.
- B.** See Code of Conduct for explanation.

ARTICLE XVIII: PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

A. Scholastic probation

1. If a student fails a class on her report card, she is on probation for 3 weeks. At the end of the 3 weeks, she must be passing all classes to regain eligibility.
2. If a member fails a class for 2 consecutive report cards, she will be dismissed from drill team for the remainder of that school year. Any exceptions will be determined by the administration. She may audition for a position on the next year's team if she meets the following stipulations:

- a. She must have failed only the 2 consecutive report cards that caused her to be dismissed from the team.
- b. She must meet all eligibility requirements for try-outs as stated in the constitution.

B. General probation

1. Failure to comply with any regulation as stated in the constitution may result in probation for the member in question until the reason for probation is corrected to the satisfaction of the Director(s) and administrators.
2. A member on probation may not participate in performance activities but is required to fulfill all other responsibilities unless otherwise stated by the Director(s) and administration.

C. Dismissal

1. Drill team members must display appropriate behavior both in and out of school. Dismissal from the team may occur for reasons including but not limited to:
 - a. Violation of drill team standards of conduct, grades, and performance.
 - b. Violation of Founder's Classical Academy Policy/Code of Conduct when the violation is
 - In-school suspension (at the Director(s) discretion)
 - placement in out-of-school suspension

ARTICLE XIX: AWARDS

- A. Awards may be given throughout the season at the Director(s) discretion.

ARTICLE XX: CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

- A. The constitution is subject to change at any time.
- B. If necessary, the Director(s) may alter rules in the constitution according to the situation. For example, a member becomes ill at an out-of-town football game and is allowed to be transported home by another parent after contacting her parents.
- C. The Director(s) may add Articles to the Constitution as needed for the high school drill team.
- D. The Director(s) may enforce other rules, as they become necessary during the school year, for the benefit of the organization.