

HARTFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL
2019-2020
DANCE TEAM

TRY OUT PACKET



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Tryout Packet

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Hartford Union High School Dance Team tryouts for the 2019-2020 season. We wish you the best of luck on trying out for the Dance Team. Becoming a Dance Team member is a full-time commitment. It is very important that students and parents read and understand the contents of this letter and the Dance Team Contract.

Commitment:

The tryouts are just the first phase of a very long season. We are a competition team as well as a team that supports and entertains at school events. Our season starts in June, with camps and practices, and goes into fall with football games. Winter brings basketball games and competitions. The HUHS Dance Team competes in Division 1 Pom, Jazz, Kick and Hip Hop within the Wisconsin Association of Cheer and Pom Coaches, or WACPC. WACPC is the sole facilitator for the Wisconsin Regional and State competitions. Faced with that type of competition and the desire to excel, the team will put in long practice hours after school, evenings, and at times, weekend practices. Hard work and dedication lead to fun and success! If you lack the dedication or commitment, cannot accept the concept of team and school spirit or question the standard set forth by this organization, please rethink your decision to try out. If you agree to all these things, we would love to see you at tryouts! Please read the Dance Team Agreement and understand all the expectations, and be aware of the rules, regulations, and procedures before committing yourself and your dancer to this agreement.

Good Luck on making the 2019-2020 HUHS Dance Team!

The following items are **REQUIRED** to be turned in to the coach by **September 4th** or **September 5th** (the clinic you choose to attend) before you can tryout.

- Dance Team Application**
- HUHS Dance Team Contract signed by Dancer and Parent**
- Infraction System signed by Dancer and Parent**

Tryout Info

WHEN:

Clinics will be held on two separate evenings. You choose which clinic works best for your schedule to attend. You may choose to attend both clinics if you would like the extra practice.

- Wednesday, September 4th 5:30-8:00
- Thursday, September 5th 5:30-8:00

Review Day will be held as a refresher and your chance to get any questions answered.

- Sunday, September 8th 3:00-5:00

Tryouts will be held on one day only. You will perform the routine and jumps in a small group.

- Monday, September 9th 3:00-5:00

WHERE:

- HUHS Cafeteria

ELIGIBILITY:

- Tryouts are open to any student who will be attending Hartford Union High School during the 2019-2020 school year.

WHAT TO BRING:

- If you have **NOT** participated in a sport this current school year you will need an Orange card to participate in tryouts.
- If you are an incoming Freshman you need to have the **"LIABILITY"** form signed by your parents.
- Dance Team Application - filled out
- Dance Team Agreement signed by Dancer and Parents
- Infraction System signed by Dancer and Parents
- Water Bottle
- Lots of energy and a great attitude!

WHAT TO WEAR:

- Anything that is comfortable to move in. Workout clothes are acceptable, but dance clothes are ideal.
- You must also wear dance shoes or tennis shoes.
- Your hair must be pull back in a ponytail or a bun. **No jewelry PLEASE!**

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Clinic: You will learn a short routine that includes the Pom, Jazz and Hip Hop genres. You will also learn a kick sequence. You will also work on the skills that you will be expected to know: Toe Touch, Right Leap, Left and Right Splits, single and double turns. Everyone will learn and practice as a large group.

Review Day: The routine you learned at the clinic will be reviewed, along with the kick sequence and the skills that were worked on.

Tryouts: You will then be evaluated in small groups by the coach and possibly other judges. You will be scored on the routine that you learned, the kick sequence as well as the following skills: Toe Touch, Right Leap, Left and Right Splits, single and double turns.

JUDGING CRITERIA: The following criteria will be considered during judging:

1. **Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop Routine** - Memorization, sharpness/power of movements, arm and body placement, control of movement
2. **Kick Sequence** - Kick height, supporting leg, straight kicking legs/no flicking, pointed toes, and snap of the kicks
3. **Knowledge of Routine** - Are you able to perform it confidently with good knowledge?
4. **Precision and Form** - Sharp movements, full extension
5. **Dance Ability and Rhythm** - Able to complete steps, in control, on beat
6. **Smile and Audience Appeal** - Do you appear to be having fun?
7. **Leaps** - good height, straight legs, pointed toes
8. **Turns** - single and double, solid "landing", pulled up through torso area, head spots
9. **Appearance** - neatly and appropriately dressed, hair pulled up in ponytail or bun

TEAM SELECTION:

Team selection will be posted on the Dance Team page of the Hartford Union High School Website by Tuesday, September 10th by 3:00 pm.

Note: There may be a JV and Varsity split depending on the number and ability of the dancers.

If your daughter is selected as a member of the 2019-2020 HUHS Dance Team there will be a **MANDATORY** parent/dancer meeting to be fitted for jazz shoes, unitards, leggings, etc. Date to be determined.

HUHS Dance Team Agreement 2019-2020

Parents and Dance Team candidate: Please read the following carefully. It is imperative that both parent and student understand the commitment, time, rules and expense that are required to be a successful and contributing member of this team.

Objective: To promote school spirit, to provide half-time entertainment at football and basketball games, pep rallies, and compete in local and state competitions. Also, to positively represent Hartford Union High School throughout the season while developing responsibility, teamwork, and work ethics.

Responsibilities:

1. ALWAYS conduct yourself in a positive way - you represent your team, but more importantly you represent Hartford Union High School, our school district.
2. Abide by the Dance Team Agreement, the Hartford Union High School District Code of Conduct, and WACPC rules.
3. Maintain the District's academic expectations.
4. Team members will not participate in any social gatherings that involve smoking, vaping, drinking or consuming other illegal substances. Any team member caught in a situation like this will be suspended for a portion of the season.
5. Dance Team members serve as ambassadors for Hartford Union High School. Dancers are expected to be positive reflections of the team both in and outside of school functions. This includes, but is not limited to overall attitude, school conduct and social media. While social media is a place for you to express your thoughts and opinions, any negative comments, inappropriate pictures, unacceptable language regarding the teams, specific member, other HUHS athletics or clubs, opposing team or self will result in removal of the team. It is expected that all the members conduct themselves in a respectful manner all the time. Anything less is unacceptable.

Practices:

1. Attendance is MANDATORY! The team's success depends on everyone's presence and participation at all practices. You are expected to attend every practice, for the entire practice time. Because this is a team sport, any absence makes it difficult for everyone else; therefore, it is essential that this rule be enforced.
2. Practices will be Monday - Thursday from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. Friday 3:00-4:30, OR 5:30-8:00 when school is in session depending on the coaches/choreographer's schedule. Practices may extend to 3/3 ½ hours during the competition season; however, prior notice will be given. Saturday or Sunday practices may be added as needed.
3. Practices will start immediately as the set time. Team members should be prepared and ready to go at the start of practice. This means they should be in the appropriate practice attire; hair must be pulled back in a ponytail or a bun, tennis shoes should be on and ready for warm-ups.
4. Dance shoes or Tennis shoes must always be worn; **NO** socks or bare feet are allowed for practice.
5. Team members will **NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE CELL PHONES** during practice or practice breaks, unless otherwise given permission to do so. If there is an emergency and parents need to get in touch with their dancer, please contact the coach.

6. Please come prepared with a water bottle for break times.
7. Team members should come to practice with a positive attitude and ready to work. This includes respecting the coach and your teammates. Arguing and back talking to the coach and/or other dancers will not be tolerated.
8. Absences: **ALL ABSENCES MUST BE PERSONALLY PRESENTED TO THE COACH 1 DAY PRIOR TO PRACTICE TIME BY THE DANCER AND/OR PARENT.**
 - a. Excused absences: illness, pre-approved family functions, academic/school activities, etc. The absences must be approved by the coach *one day* prior to absences to determine if they are excused or unexcused. The coach has final ruling.
 - b. If a dancer is absent the day before a performance (excused or unexcused), the dancer is ineligible to perform. Another dancer may take their place and time is required to make those changes.
 - c. If a dancer is absent from a performance the week of a competition (excused or unexcused), the dancer is ineligible to compete. Another dancer (an alternate) may take their place and time is required to make those changes.
 - d. Excused absences are split from June - Mid October (last football game) and Mid October - End of Season *due to the long length of our season.*

Excused Absences

5 Excused = Suspended from the next performance

7 Excused = Suspended from the next two performances

9 Excused = Dismissal from the team

- e. Each unexcused absence will result in the dancer's ineligibility to perform at the next performance. An unexcused absence is a no-call, no-show to practice or a reason that has been determined by the coach as unexcused. Examples may include, but not limited to work, other sports/activities. The coach has final ruling. This team is expected to be your priority. Unexcused absences will NOT be split into two seasons and will be counted from the beginning to the end of our season.

Unexcused Absences

1st Unexcused = Suspended from next performance

2nd Unexcused = Suspended from the next two performances

3rd Unexcused = Dismissal from team

Performances:

1. The coach has the ability and the right to pull dancers from the routine if they do not feel they are performing at the level desired. The coach will determine this, and the coach's decision is final. All decisions will be made by looking at what is best for the team.
2. The dancers are to wear exactly what the coach decides. This includes practice apparel, warm-ups, uniforms, accessories, makeup, etc.
3. Hair and makeup must be done prior to arriving to performances, unless otherwise told.
4. If a dancer is not performing, for whatever reason, they must still attend the performance to support their team, unless otherwise approved by the coach.

5. Fall performances will be every home Football Game, Homecoming Pep Rally and Parade, and Football Play Offs (home and/or away).
 - **Friday September 20, 2018 vs Grafton (hopefully)**
 - **Friday October 4, 2019 vs Whitefish Bay - Homecoming/Senior Parent Night**

6. Winter performances will be Boys and Girls basketball games and “Snowcoming” Pep Rally.
 - **Friday December 6, 2019 - Girls Basketball**
 - **Friday December 13, 2019 - Girls Basketball**
 - **Tuesday December 17, 2019 - Boys Basketball**
 - **Friday January 10, 2020 - Girls Basketball**
 - **Friday January 17, 2020 - Girls Basketball**
 - **Friday January 24, 2020 - Girls & Boys Basketball**
 - **Friday January 31, 2020 - Boys Basketball**
 - **Friday February 7, 2020 - Boys Basketball**
 - **Friday February 14, 2020 - Boys Basketball**
 - **Thursday February 21, 2020 - Boys Basketball**
 - **Thursday February 27, 2020 - Boys Basketball**

*These performances dates are subject to change.

Competitions:

1. Making the HUHS Dance Team does not mean you will perform in every routine. The dance team is considered a Varsity Sport and there are expectations that must be met prior to performing. If a dancer is not up to the expected level in a particular routine, they will be pulled out of the routine. If a dancer is pulled from a routine, this does not mean she will not perform the rest of the year. She will have a chance to be put back into a routine if progress is made. If a dancer is pulled out of a routine, she is still required to be at every practice. Attitude also plays a huge role in whether a dancer will be put back in.
2. Each competition routine will be choreographed with a certain number of dancers and each dancer will tryout to compete in the routine.
3. If a dancer is not meeting the expectations, is injured, or ill before a competition another dancer may take their place.
4. The coach has the ability and the right to pull dancers from the routine if they do not feel they are performing at the level desired. The coach will determine this, and the coach’s decision is final. All decisions will be made by looking at what is best for the team. All decisions will be determined by the Monday of the week of the performance.
5. **Competitions: ***These dates are subject to change*****
 - **November 2, 2019- Pewaukee OR November 9 Oak Creek**
 - **November 19, 2019 - Midwest Dance Fest**
 - **January 25, 2020 - WACPC Regionals Competition (Watertown)**
 - **February 1, 2020 - WACPC State Competition (La Crosse)**

Uniforms & Equipment: EACH MEMBER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HER OWN UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT.

1. All uniforms and equipment are property of the team, with the exception of the jazz/hip hop competition uniforms and the solid colored practice tanks. Loss, damage or abuse of the uniforms/equipment will result in a fine to be paid according to the damages. The team member may responsible for replacing the items at replacement value.
2. All uniforms/equipment must be checked in by the designated date.
3. Any damage to uniforms or equipment must be paid BEFORE awards banquet
4. The coach will order the required merchandise the members need to or chose to order. Each member must pay their amount due prior to receiving merchandise.

Fees:

1. Co-Curricular Fee \$ (paid to the Co-Curricular office)
2. Individual Expenses: dance shoes, unitard, practice tanks, jazz/kick/hip hop competition uniforms, etc.
 - Black Dansneakers \$55.00
 - Tan Jazz Shoes \$32.00
 - Black Jazz Shoes \$32.00
 - Unitard Bodytight \$22.00
 - Black Leggings \$27.00
 - Practice Apparel TBD
 - Hip Hop Shoes \$50.00
 - Dream Center ??TBD??
3. Additional expenses purchase on own: bun maker, eyeshadow, lipstick

Fundraising:

NEED PARTICIPATION FROM ALL MEMBERS AND FAMILIES

- Brat Fry's -
- 59 Minute Fundraiser
- Snap Raise
- Kids Clinic
- Possible additional Fundraisers throughout the season

Parent Responsibilities:

1. Be supportive of the whole team, the coach, and the decisions the coach makes for the team.
2. Let the coach be a coach. Respectfully give suggestions and concerns; the coach will be more than willing to work with you, however, once a decision is made, parents need to be supportive and trust that the right decision was made for the entire team.
3. Discussions with the coach or other parents should only consist of your dance or issues your dancer may be having.
4. Fundraisers - WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION!!

2019-2020 HUHS DANCE TEAM INFRACTION SYSTEM

“If you want to BE a champion, you need to ACT like a champion ON and OFF the dance floor!”

15 Infractions - Routine Suspension

25 Infractions - Removal from Team

Forgetting uniforms, payments, and forms, leaving items behind for someone else to pick up, not wearing or bringing appropriate items - **1 Infraction**

Eating, phone out at practice/texting, not following along or talking during stretching - **1 Infraction**

Complaining/Whining - **1 Infraction**

Talking during learning and critiquing - **1 Infraction**

Wearing the wrong color practice clothes - **1 Infraction**

Back-talking coach or teammates - **2 Infractions**

Disrespectful to coach or teammates - **2 Infractions**

Being Late/ Leaving Early if not cleared by coach - **2 Infractions**

Scheduling appointments during practice if not cleared by coach - **2 Infractions**

Inappropriate Twitter/Facebook/SnapChat/Instagram/Text Messages or any other social media platform not listed - **3 Infractions**

Inappropriate pictures on Twitter/Facebook/SnapChat/Instagram/Text Messages or any other social media platform not listed - **3 Infractions**

Swearing, bullying, being mean or disrespectful to others outside of the team, not representing the team in a classy way - **3 Infractions**

Any other major offenses breaking the Co-Curricular code will follow discipline procedures listed in the Code. Any violations will also result in infractions/game suspensions as Coach sees fit.

*******Keep this information packet for your reference*******

HUHS Dance Team Application

Name: _____ Grade in 2019-2020: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Birthday: _____

Parent's Names: _____

* Parent information is only used for team roster/contact info if the applicant makes the team

Mother's Cell: _____ Mother's Email: _____

Father's Cell: _____ Father's Email: _____

Performance Experience (studio dance, gymnastics, cheer, please specify studio/gym)

Do you have any tumbling experience? Yes / No If yes, please list skills

Extracurricular Activities:

Why do you want to be a member of the HUHS Dance Team?

2019-2020 Dancer/Parent Agreement Form

I have read the dancer/parent agreement information in this packet and will adhere to the strict rules set forth by this constitution. I understand that I need to abide by these rules, or I will be dismissed from the team. I will show respect for myself and my team by refraining from doing anything that will jeopardize my relationship with this team or reflect negatively upon by the team and my school. I understand that there is an outside financial commitment in addition to the initial co-curricular fee for equipment/costumes that I am responsible for providing.

Dancer Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

(Please sign and return this sheet)

2019-2020 HUHS DANCE TEAM INFRACTION SYSTEM AGREEMENT FORM

I have read and understand that every item listed in the Infraction System is a negative representation of me and this team. I understand the high expectations of the Hartford Union High School Dance Team and I realize that there will be consequences to my actions. I will do everything I can live up to the high standards that have been set by me and my teammates.

Dancer Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

(Please sign and return this sheet)