

Alta Ballroom Team Constitution

Section 1: DESCRIPTION OF TEAM INTENT/PURPOSE

1. To increase the understanding and enjoyment of the body as a dance instrument, and deepen the appreciation of ballroom dance as an entertainment/art form. Emphasis is placed on learning various ballroom techniques and perfecting performance abilities and quality.

Section 2: OBJECTIVES

1. Members will increase ballroom technical skills.
2. Members will learn stage and production terminology.
3. Members will learn to perfect performance ability and quality.
4. Members will support the student body by performing at various school functions.
5. Members will develop good character, professionalism, leadership, integrity, and sportsmanship.

Section 3: REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. A candidate for membership shall become a member only after the following requirements have been met:
 - a. A candidate must be a member of the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, or Senior class for the next year.
 - b. A candidate must have a 2.7 GPA CUM in order to try out for the Alta Ballroom Team.
 - i. Personal plans for GPA accountability will be determined on an individual/as needed basis, in good faith and as a remnant of COVID policies. Any dancer without a 2.7 GPA CUM at tryouts will begin the following year on probation, and if the personalized plan is not strictly followed, the dancer may 1) remain on probation indefinitely, and/or 2) lose their position on team.
 1. These personal plans will all expire by Quarter 3 of the 2022-2023 school year. It has been long enough since COVID that personal responsibility is expected.
 - c. A candidate must maintain a 2.7 GPA each term/quarter. Grades will be checked after each quarter.
 - d. A candidate must turn in an application and a signed copy of the constitution. (Digital).
 - e. A candidate must pass general appearance, coordination, rhythm, ability, flexibility and performance tests.
2. Clothing requirements for auditions:
 - a. Ladies: black skirt, nice fitted black shirt/leotard, make up.
 - b. Men: black slacks/dress pants, white dress shirt, solid color tie (preferably black)
 - c. Both:
 - i. Latin/Standard shoes, ballroom practice shoes, or leather bottom shoes (ladies should have an appropriate heel)
 1. DO NOT buy new ballroom shoes for auditions!
 - ii. Hair pulled off the face and neck
 - iii. No jewelry or gum (small earrings for ladies okay)
3. A candidate for membership must agree to the following:
 - a. The advisor(s) shall have the authority to select the judges for auditions.
 - b. Auditions will be held in the spring of each year.
 - c. A candidate must meet the proper grade point average. Grades **WILL BE CHECKED** by the registrar.
 - d. Former members must audition again. All candidates are on equal standing during the course of auditions.
4. Members may lose membership for:

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- a. Disregarding class policy.
- b. Non participation.
- c. Two (2) unexcused absences from practice; incl. any practices outside of class time. (Quarterly)
- d. Six (6) tardies. (Quarterly)
 - i. ****Please note: I have been climbing a learning curve on how to best keep track of tardies and absences, and this year there will be consequences greater than merely losing points for the day. Do not be tardy, and do not have unexcused absences.****
- e. Failure to maintain a B or better in Ballroom Team Class (NO PROBATION PERIOD)
- f. Failure to maintain a 2.7 GPA for 2 consecutive quarters.
- g. Acquiring an "F" or "NG" in a quarter. For athletic eligibility purposes, student government, and other programs that have a minimum GPA requirement, NG is counted as a failing grade and will be figured into the GPA for eligibility purposes. See Alta Student Handbook attendance policy.
- h. Endangering the reputation of the Alta Ballroom Team by unbecoming and inappropriate conduct such as:
 - i. Illegal use of drugs & alcohol
 - ii. Any conduct inconsistent with Canyons School District and Alta High School Student Handbooks and Policies
 - iii. Disruptive influence, aggressive behavior, harassment, slander, and/or bullying in any form
 - iv. Being disrespectful to advisor(s) and/or other team members and/or other students, faculty & staff
- i. Upon termination of membership, whether by the dancer or the advisor for any reason, there will be no refund of membership fees, or money obtained by participation in fundraising events - no exceptions. Dancers will be held accountable for all outstanding balances.

Section 4: ABSENCES, TARDIES AND GRADES

- A. Alta Ballroom Team will follow the Alta High School attendance policy.
- B. Any one absence (Ex or Unex) one week prior to any performance will result in removal from that performance.
 - a. The advisor(s) will make the final decision of whether a member will be pulled from the current dance or the next dance. Understudies may have the opportunity to challenge/audition for that position.
- C. The following constitutes an excused absence: death in the family, wedding, illness with a doctor's excuse and a call to the advisor(s) only (not other team members), extreme emergencies. Absences for other reasons must be approved by the advisor(s).
- D. Any member absent from a rehearsal **MUST** make a personal phone call/text directly to the advisor(s) **prior** to the rehearsal. Messages sent with other members of the team will not be recognized and will be unexcused.
- E. On the 4th warning/tardy, dancers may be pulled from a routine depending on the situation. Dancers are encouraged to make up warnings/tardies as soon as possible to avoid being pulled from a routine.
 - a. Warnings and tardies can be made up through additional after/before school practice, or through conditioning at the school, with the advisor(s). 30 minutes of practice/conditioning for one tardy/warning.
- F. All absences and tardies for rehearsals will affect the dancers academic grade and may result in an NG or F if they are not made up. This applies to all absences except school excused (N code). Make up work will consist of researching a given topic and writing a one page per hour of rehearsal missed on that topic, or additional practice/conditioning during advisor(s)'s office hours. Points towards grades will be given back as make up assignments are completed. Papers must be double spaced, typed 12 pt

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font and turned in at least one week before the end of the quarter.

- G. If a member lets his/her GPA fall below a 2.7 or has more than one "F" or "NG" at the end of any quarter, he/she will be put on an academic accountability plan. If this plan is not followed, they will automatically be taken out of all dances and be put on **probation** until the end of the following term. If he/she again falls below a 2.7 and/or fails to follow the academic accountability plan, he/she will be removed from the team. (see student handbook policy)
- H. Probation will consist of the member being taken out of all dances. He/she will still be required to attend all rehearsals, functions, and meetings. He/she will still be held accountable for all assignments given to team members. He/she may have the chance to regain his/her position(s) at the beginning of the next term, but this is not a guarantee.

Section 5: SELECTION OF PERFORMERS

- A. All members may be required to audition for each performing dance.
- B. The advisor(s) and choreographers will judge auditions for each dance. Performers will be selected based on knowledge of dance, performance, showmanship, overall attitude, and abiding by the constitution.
- C. After an audition, the members who were selected for the dance will always perform in this routine, unless a performer becomes injured, ill, or breaks the rules of the constitution. At that time, the routine will be re-spaced, or the position will be filled by another member.

Section 6: CONCERT REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

- A. All members are required to help out in advertising and organizing the winter DWTH and Spring Ballroom Concerts.
- B. MEMBERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE AT ALL PRACTICES FOR THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO CONCERT. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Practice time may go from 3:00-10:00 pm on any given night. Any absences that are not Alta HS related will be considered unexcused and make up work will be required.

Section 7: PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Members will only be allowed to miss ONE performance per quarter. If extenuating circumstances occur the member will have to discuss it with the advisor(s) NO LATER than two weeks prior to the performance. If this notice is not given, the advisor(s) is not obligated to comply with the request and the member may be taken out of that dance permanently.
- B. It is required that each member arrive to all performances with appropriate hair and make-up, wearing the specified costume, AT LEAST 45 MINUTES IN ADVANCE or at the given call time.

C. Mandatory Performances:

Jr. High/Elementary Performances	School assemblies	Dance Company Concert
Girls Basketball Half-times (2 performances)	Homecoming Half-time	Spring Concert
Boys Basketball Half-times (2 performances)	Dancing With The Hawks	Musical (if applicable)

Please be aware that there may be other possible performances that come up during the year. The advisor(s) will try to give at least a two weeks' notice before each performance.

Section 8: SUMMER WORKSHOP

- A. Members will be required to attend a **MANDATORY** 2 week summer workshop. This workshop will be held two weeks prior to the

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first week of school. Dancers who do not participate daily may be removed from the team, or pulled from routines learned during this crucial week.

- B. The workshop will tentatively run from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 1st week, and 9:00 a.m. – Noon, Monday – Friday 2nd week. ****PLEASE NOTE** This is subject to change, depending on teacher orientation commitments in August. More specifics on these dates will be provided hopefully by June 1, 2022 – unfortunately we have to wait for information from the district before we can make these dates solid. For now, plan on the workshop being the two weeks before the first day of school.**
- C. Cost of workshop will be \$125 per dancer. Workshop registration and payment is required before participation can be permitted (district policy).

Section 9: BALLROOM TEAM EXPENSES:

- A. Expenses will be approximately \$525.00. This will pay for the following items:
- a. Team Warm Ups
 - b. Practice Wear
 - c. Costume Fees
 - d. Guest Choreographers/Music cut
 - e. Competition Fees
 - f. Bus Fees
 - g. Team Meals

***The above expenses do not include travel fees. Each team member will also be responsible to buy his/her own performance shoes. Ladies will need earrings as well.

Possible ADDITIONAL, PERSONAL expenses that may be required are as follows:

1. Performance Make-Up
2. Extra Tights/Fishnets or earrings for ladies
3. Workshops

- B. The following items are completely OPTIONAL and are not required.
- a. Overnight travel (approx. \$400-500) – depends on the year
 - b. Team Pictures (approx. \$85)
- C. Members will have the option to pay team expenses in a payment plan, or all at one time. All fees must be paid before receiving goods.
- D. All members are encouraged to participate in all fundraisers that help to finance the ballroom team. Team members will be held responsible for paying, on time, all money due on fundraisers.

Section 10: WARNING AND GRADING POLICY

- A. Warnings will be given for the following reasons and will be a 5 point deduction under the appropriate category.
- B. **Participation/Attitude**50%
- a. Tardy to rehearsal/performance or ballroom team functions

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- D. The advisor(s) will have the final decision on team members selected for all dances.
- E. The advisor(s) will assist the officers and make the final decision concerning all music used.
- F. The advisor(s) will have the right to request extra dance or technique classes to be taken by team members.

Section 13: MEMBERSHIP

- A. Being selected as a ballroom team member does not guarantee a performance position. Members must earn the right to perform by demonstrating the following:
 - a. Display integrity, good character, responsibility, dependability and positive attitude at all times.
 - b. Get along well with other team members.
 - c. Good attendance and punctuality.
 - d. Prepared - meet all deadlines.
 - e. Participate and contribute in all publicity activities for DWTH & Spring Concert.
 - f. Demonstrate all dance and performance skills required of a dance.
 - g. Follow all rules outlined in the constitution.
- B. A team member must always wear appropriate dancewear to practice. No oversized T-shirts, crop top/sports bras, too short booty shorts, and baggy sweats allowed during rehearsals. Black fitted clothing covering the torso/midriff and all undergarments is ideal. No big jewelry or gum allowed (safety hazard). Hair must be pulled back and up off the neck. Nails need to be kept appropriately short (another safety hazard) and need to be natural colors (clear/nude) for performances. There will be a warning each time an infraction occurs.
- C. Activities not associated with Alta High School and/or jobs MUST NOT INTERFERE or take priority over mandatory practices and performances. Missing a practice for work and activities not associated with Alta High School will be considered an unexcused absence and will require make up work as stated in SECTION 4F

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