

Dance Trilogy Team Contract 2023-2024

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Dance Trilogy Dance Team is to provide young dancers with an opportunity to participate in an activity and develop sportsmanship, character, and competitiveness, as well as; encourage high standards, and develop or increase skills in dance, responsibility, leadership and self-discipline. Participation on the Dance Team, as well as other extra-curricular activities, is a privilege, not a right. As a member of the Dance Team you represent our studio; and your conduct and actions in class, on the stage, and in the community should not deviate from the regulations and code of conduct set. Team members must show determination, dedication, and desire to be a productive member of this team.

- Responsible for your dances and your commitments
- Build up and treat teammates respectfully. This is a team.
- Sportsmanship: Your conduct reflects the whole team, community, and your studio.
- Competitions can be stressful. Be early. Be prepared.

MEMBERSHIP: To be on the performing team, members will need to successfully complete tryouts, have outstanding participation in dance practices and routine tryouts, maintain a highly cooperative attitude and follow the team Contract and Covenants. The quality of an individual member's participation and skill level will determine their place, if any, on the competition team(s). The final decision as to membership rests with the teacher(s).

- A. A ballet class and/or technique class is required for all dance team members beginning in 3rd grade.
- B. All members must pass a tryout to be a member of the Dance Trilogy.
- C. Members are notified in advance with the date(s) of tryouts for the team (typically June). These tryouts are not optional.

ATTENDANCE: All members are required to attend ALL scheduled practices and performances unless they have a legitimate excuse.

- D. You can be excused for up to 5 absences throughout the year (not per class, overall). A 6th absence will disqualify you from being on the team. Absences do also count in ballet class.
- E. Legitimate excuses include:
 - a. Physical injury, school scheduled (affects grade) event, illness, death in the family, or serious family business.
 - b. If you are not feeling well, but stay to watch class that will not be considered as an absence
 - c. Please note that even an excused absence could cost you a performance depending on the date and length of the absence. A team member who is excused from a practice or event will not be permitted to perform with the team until he/she knows the routine to the coach's satisfaction.
- F. Unexcused Absences
 - a. Work - you have plenty of notice to rearrange work schedules!
 - b. Doctor's Appointment - please schedule these on off days.
 - c. Couldn't get a ride, was grounded, had homework, didn't know about it, etc.
 - d. Or anything else not listed under excused absences
- G. Make Up Classes
 - a. You may be able to complete make up classes that will help with attendance.
- H. Members must attend all performances. Members must stay for the entire event to support other team members unless told otherwise by the teacher.
- I. Absences, whether excused or unexcused, that prevent a member from attending the practice prior to a performance will result in the member missing the performance.
- J. Late arrivals over fifteen minutes become unexcused absences.
- K. You must have a desired level of commitment not just for yourself, but for your ENTIRE team. Being on this team you depend on all your other team mates to be at practice consistently and do their part in having the knowledge of their routine. If at any time you are not doing your part as a productive member of this team you will be suspended from the Dance Team.
- L. At times parents do not realize the extreme commitment that we require. Nails, hair, birthday parties, etc. are **NOT** legitimate reasons to miss practice. If we want to be considered in the same way a sport is, we must act in accordance. A football player would not tell his coach he was missing practice for a birthday party!
- M. If the dancer must miss class due to being sick, please notify us as early as possible. Videos of the dance will be sent out. It is the dancer's responsibility to learn what they missed in class before coming to their next practice.

ONLINE DANCE CLASS: In the event that in-person classes are canceled, they may be held online on the same day and time as regularly scheduled. We understand access to a good internet connection may be difficult. Please communicate with us if this is the case.

- A. All team dancers are required to attend all of their on-line dance classes.
- B. Dancers must have their video on and be in view of the camera at all times during the class.
- C. Missed on-line dance classes will count as an unexcused absence.

PAYMENT: It is your responsibility to make sure that payments are made on time.

- A. All balances from previous years must be paid in full before your student is allowed back into class. All payment arrangements must be met, or your child will not dance.
- B. Please see your statement of estimated fees emailed in the fall or via your Parent Portal. If you prefer to pay in lump sums, please adhere to the following schedule:

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- i. Costume payments – **DECEMBER 1ST, 2023**
- ii. All competition entry fees – **FEBRUARY 1ST, 2024**
- iii. You also have the option to pay equal payments of 9.5 months. This monthly payment would also include your monthly tuition. It is your responsibility to calculate and divide your yearly bill into 9.5 months. As a reminder, monthly tuition is added into your Parent Portal at the beginning of each month.
- b. For us to register for a competition, we must send in non-refundable entry fees 2 months in advance of the competition. Entry fees are charged per dancer, not per dance. Therefore, your dancer's entry fees are due when we register.
- c. Costumes are ordered in October for the season and are required to be paid in full at the time of order.
- d. The amount will vary for each child depending on the number of dances your child will perform.
- e. The fee can be drastically reduced with participation in fundraisers that we do throughout the year. We encourage this to also help with costume costs. It is completely up to you if you wish to participate in fundraising.
- f. You are responsible for the fees even if your child does not dance for any reason.

COMPETITIONS: All regional competitions are mandatory.

- A. There are 3-5 planned, mandatory competitions that involve traveling to places such as Lansing, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Detroit, occasionally to Indiana or Ohio.
- B. An adult must be present with your child (excluding teachers) at this time. If staying overnight is necessary, it is the parent's responsibility to make arrangements.
- C. The dancer is required to be at the competition venue two hours before their scheduled time, or when the doors open, to compete. Late arrivals will not compete. Teachers need to work with and warm up dancers prior to stage performance. Allowing plenty of time is a huge benefit to your dancer and their mental state going into the competition.
- D. It is your responsibility to know how to do your dancers hair, make-up and costumes. If you do not know how, ask for help before competition.
- E. Bad attitudes at competitions are unacceptable. If you are performing poorly or are unhappy with events throughout the competition it is your responsibility to work through it. There is a time and place for everything. Most everything that can and, sometimes will, go wrong at competitions can be dealt with and fixed when we return to the studio.
- F. Most competitions and venues are following strict COVID-related health guidelines. This includes requiring all visitors and dancers to wear a mask inside the building. Dancers may have to wear masks while on-stage performing. Dancers and parents are expected to respect and follow competition and venue guidelines.

UNIFORM/GENERAL APPEARANCE: As a member of the Dance Trilogy Dance Team, you are representing our dance team and our studio.

- A. Members **MUST** wear warm ups whenever designated.
- B. No jewelry may be worn of any kind during practices or performances/competitions. Including belly button, nose, eyebrow, ear, etc., no plugs are allowed during competitions but may be worn during practice.
- C. **Chewing gum is not allowed** during practices or performances.
- D. Makeup shall be worn as directed.
- E. No writing on the body **of any kind** is acceptable unless it is part of the costume.
- F. Absolutely no nail polish is acceptable for any competitions.
- G. Members assume responsibility for all damaged, lost or stolen articles.
- H. Each uniform piece should be marked with the member's name or initials. It is the dancer's responsibility to mark their clothing items.
- I. Dancewear is required at **ALL** practices. If proper attire is not worn you will be sat out of practice.
 - A. Bra top, booty shorts, leotard and tights for girls. Dance pants and t-shirts for boys.
 - B. Ballet class will be leotard and tights and hair up.
 - C. A list of shoes that you will need will come out in a few months after we have picked out costumes.
 - D. Proper attire does not stop at the neck. You must have your hair up and off your neck for your entire dance day BEFORE you come to class. A bun is preferred. If your hairstyle hangs down past your neck you will be asked to pull it up further. Please come to the studio with everything you need.
 - E. Uniforms/warm-ups must be kept clean and in good repair.

CONDUCT: Dance Team Members must remember they represent their team, the community, and the studio. Members must maintain a HIGH standard of performance, behavior, appearance and sportsmanship which will reflect favorably upon themselves, their team, and their studio. Violations will result in removal from the Dance Team for the remainder of the school year.

- A. Violations include but are not limited to:
 - a. Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs or illegal substances at any time both at dance or away.
 - b. Remaining where alcohol, drugs or illegal substances are present, **EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THEIR USE.**
 - c. Swearing is not permitted during dance activities or events.
 - d. Inappropriate sexual contact or vulgar behavior at any dance team event.

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- B. Your dance teacher will have the authority to place any member on probation, suspend or drop permanently, any team member for the following reasons:
 - a. Undesirable conduct, language or behavior. (This includes ALL aspects of social media – i.e. foul language, disrespectful dialog or photos).
 - b. Uncooperative attitude with the coach, other team members, or dance team volunteers.
 - c. If a dancer is truant (skips) from school.
 - d. Violation of the dance rules and regulations, contract or Team Covenants.
- C. Additional items that will not be tolerated:
 - a. Back talking, bad attitudes and fighting among team members
 - b. Talking about other teams or other team members
 - c. Excessive talking, non-participation or any behavior disruptive to the team. A dancer will be asked to leave practice in lieu of any other warning.
 - d. Cell phones during practice.
- D. As a member of the Dance Trilogy dance team you are expected to set good examples for other students at your own studio as well as others at competitions.
 - a. We understand that this is junior high and high school and these situations will come up, however, if you are gossiping, instigating turmoil, or in any way causing conflict among members on the Dance Team your participation on the Dance Team will be suspended. Attitude is a major factor in whether or not we will allow you to dance! Remember, being a member of the Dance Team is a privilege. We expect your attitude to be positive and uplifting. If you do have a problem we need to know to help resolve the situation.
 - b. If there is any indication of the above items a meeting will be called between the child, parent and teachers. At that meeting it will be decided whether the child will remain on the team or not.

FRIENDS/BOYFRIENDS: Friends and boyfriends have absolutely no place at practice, before performances, behind the scenes at competition, etc.

- A. Make it clear to them ahead of time. Also, there is to be no public displays of affection while you are representing the team. This rule applies to any time or place, in or out of school, and at practices and performances.

GRADE POLICY: Members must be grade eligible.

- A. School class work is the most important facet of your education. To be eligible to participate on the Dance Team, you must maintain passing grades in subjects that earn a minimum of five credits during the quarter before and all quarters during the dance season. School comes first. If a dancer is having trouble maintaining academic quality, the Dance Team will be dropped for the dancer or they may take an academic leave of absence. Dancers will not be permitted to join their team until grades are brought back up to the minimum requirements!

SOCIAL MEDIA: At no point should you be on social media talking bad about a teacher, the studio or the team.

- A. You do not have to mention a name for most of us to know you are talking about us or another team member, parent or teacher.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: You will only compete for one studio.

- A. If you are part of Dance Trilogy you will only compete for this team. Belonging to two dance teams is a conflict of interest.
- B. All choreography is the property of Dance Trilogy.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION: Failure to follow the Dance Trilogy Team Code of Conduct may result in **but is not limited to** the following actions:

- A. Extra practice time / conditioning
- B. Sitting out a practice, performance or competition
- C. Parent Meetings
- D. Suspension/Probation from team
- E. Removal from team

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PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE COMPLETED TO THE STUDIO BY WEDNESDAY JUNE 21ST, 2023

_____ All members are required to attend ALL scheduled practices and performances unless they have a legitimate excuse.

_____ I understand that all fees and payment arrangements must be satisfied for my dancer to participate.

_____ I understand that all regional competitions are mandatory

_____ I understand that all dancers and parents of the Dance Trilogy Dance Team are representing our dance team and our studio and will uphold the team contract.

Team Member's Name _____

I, the parent/guardian of the above named, have read the Dance Trilogy Team Code of Conduct and understand all of the requirements in order for my dancer to continue team participation as well as the ramifications if this contract is broken. I fully comply with all rules and regulations within this Dance Team Code of Conduct. I also realize this is a team effort and I will be called upon to help in some way throughout the year with things that are within my capacity to help. I will make every effort to do my share of assisting on behalf of my dancer. I understand I am required to be present for parent meetings or have someone present on my behalf.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

As a member of the Dance Trilogy Dance Team, I have fully read the Code of Conduct and understand what is expected of me to remain a member in good standing. I will keep myself knowledgeable and informed of all rules, and realize the consequences of poor behavior or inappropriate actions may be severe. I will do all I can to uphold the honor and tradition of the Dance Trilogy Dance Team and respect my team members, school, and coaches at all times. I understand that my Character matters.

Dance Team Member Signature Date