

Southwestern University Dancers

Article I – Southwestern University Dancers

The name of this organization shall be the Southwestern University Dancers.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be to unite talented young women in order to learn more about the art of dance through intense rehearsals and performances for both Southwestern University and our surrounding communities.

Article III – Membership

Section 1 – Any female student in good academic and disciplinary standing at Southwestern University may tryout to become a member of the Southwestern University Dancers organization with voting and office holding privileges. The members of this organization will be selected through a one-day try-out process in which candidates will be asked to perform a routine that will be taught by active officers. Candidates will also be required to perform other forms of dance technique. Judging will be conducted by adults with dance experience if available, and/or officers of the team. Returning members will be required to tryout each year. Membership is year round, and dancers should plan for a commitment to both semesters and the week of Pirate Training the following August (graduated seniors exempt from Pirate Training).

Section 2 – Dues, having been decided on by the club as \$50 per semester, shall be paid by each member. Dues will be collected at the beginning of each semester or according to the member's selected payment plan. Other small expenses will be necessary (i.e., t-shirts, team bonding events, shoes/tights, etc.); however, if any of these expenses cannot be made, the member may work something out with the team.

Section 3 – It is the responsibility of the members of the Southwestern University Dancers to wear the costumes and uniforms of this organization with pride. It is also the responsibility of the members of this organization to return all of the costumes and uniforms at the end of the year in the same condition as they were before use. Costumes and uniforms will be reissued to each member at the beginning of the next season. If for any reason, a costume or uniform is unable to be returned or is returned in a worse condition, the member to whom it was loaned shall be responsible for the replacement costs of that costume or uniform.

Section 4 – As a member of this organization, each student is a reflection of the Southwestern University Dancers; therefore, all dress, speech, behavior and demeanor should be conducted in a respectful, considerate and tasteful manner. Dancers are expected to refrain from distracting hairstyles, facial piercings and overly obvious body art. Game-day hair and make-up requirements for each performance will be previously determined by the officers and relayed in a timely manner to all members.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1 – The officers of the Southwestern University Dancers shall be as follows:
One captain and two lieutenants.

Section 2 - The captain will also serve as secretary for the team. The secretary will keep all records for the team, including roll, demerits and merits. One lieutenant will coordinate team building activities, and the other will handle the treasury. The unity officer will plan and organize team bonding events (e.g. dinners). The treasurer will supervise the financial administration of all team revenue. Both lieutenants will collaborate on organizing fundraisers for the team.

Section 3 - Elections of officers shall take place yearly during the team's post-season. . Any member of the organization is eligible for a position as an officer who (a) is in good academic and disciplinary standing; and (b) has been a member of the organization for at least one year.

Section 4 – Should a vacancy occur, an emergency meeting will be called and the position will be open to a vote by the team. A new officer will be elected by majority.

Article V – Absences

Excused absences shall include:

- funerals of loved ones, or any other family emergency
- participation in weddings of loved ones
- surgery or hospitalization of any kind
- any contagious illness, with a note from a medical professional
- mandatory class/school events (i.e., tests, fieldtrips, etc.)

One (1) unexcused academic absence (i.e., review session, etc.) will be allowed with prior approval from an officer or coach and will result in one (1) demerit.

One (1) unexcused absence will be allowed for any team member participating in a dress rehearsal (SING, theater, etc.) with prior approval from an officer or coach and will result in one (1) demerit.

One (1) unexcused absence will be allowed for a mandatory sorority/club related event with prior approval from an officer or coach and will result in one (1) demerit.

Any other absences will be considered unexcused. Unexcused absences will incur a penalty of three (3) demerits each.

All unexcused game day absences will incur a penalty of six (6) demerits each.

After three (3) total absences, membership will be reviewed by the officers and coach.

Article VI – Tardies

All members of the squad should arrive to practices, events, games and appearances on time. Should a member be tardy to practice or event, it will result in one (1) demerit. Should a member be tardy to a game or appearance, it will result in two (2) demerits.

Article VII – Law Violations

Any member of the Southwestern University Dancers organization must not be in any trouble with the law, excluding minor violations such as traffic tickets, moving violations and campus tickets. Any other offense will require a meeting with the coach, and be subject to disciplinary action (demerits) and/or removal from the team.

Article VIII – Removal from Team

Section 1 – Should a member of the team be removed (or remove themselves) from the team, they have 72 hours to return all of the items belonging to Southwestern University to an officer or the coach. Appropriate fees will be charged for any items not returned.

Section 2 – Should a member refuse to pay any outstanding balances, the team will take up the issue with SIRA officials and then the Southwestern business office. No organization dues that have been paid will be returned to the member.

Section 3 – Any member having ten (10) demerits will be removed from the Southwestern University Dancers organization. Opportunities to earn merits will be provided each semester in order to help members avoid removal from the team.

Article IX – Game Days

Section 1 – Should a member of the squad need to be absent from a game, she should give the officers one month advance notice, when applicable. If a member of the team becomes sick and is unable to perform, a note from a medical professional is required to excuse the absence.

Section 2 - Dancers are expected to arrive with their hair and make-up done, unless arrangements have been made to arrive early and collaborate with another member. Please do not expect to borrow or share materials. Bring your own or make plans accordingly prior to game day. Failure to comply with hair/makeup/costume specifications on game day will result in demerits.

Section 3 – All practices during the week of a game are considered mandatory. Missing a game week practice may be grounds for removal from the game day performance.

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I have read the Southwestern University Dancers constitution and promise to abide by all of the rules and regulations that are hereby specified.

Member's Name (printed)

Member's Signature

Date