

Welcome to the Tustin High School Dance & All-Male Team Auditions

Audition Preparation: **Monday, April 8 – Parent info meeting #1 @7pm (Little Theater)**
Saturday, April 20- Pre-Audition Clinic 9am-1pm (Dance Room) \$25-\$35
Friday, April 26 - Spring Dance Showcase @7pm (Gym)
*Wednesday, May 1 - Parent Info Meeting #2 @ 7pm (Little Theater)

Audition Schedule: Tuesday, April 30th: 3:00-5:30 pm (Clinic Day 1- Dance Room)
Wednesday, May 1st: 3:00-5:30 pm (Clinic Day 2- Dance Room)
***Make-up Parent info meeting: 7:00 pm (Little Theater)**
Thursday, May 2nd: 3:00-7:00 pm (Audition Day)
All Student Evaluations from Teachers Due 3:00 pm
Friday, May 3rd: The 2019 Summer Team Roster posted on social media
Monday, May 13th: 7:00 pm New Team Dancer/Parent Mandatory Meeting
Wednesday, May 22nd: Hello-Goodbye Potluck for current and new team members

Students interested in auditioning for the team must bring a parent to ONE parent meeting. This is where required paperwork is handed out

Auditions are broken up into 3 days. During the first two days of dance clinics, students are taught dance technique and learn the audition piece. Auditions will take place on the third day.

We are very pleased you have decided to audition for a spot in our prestigious 19 time **National Championship Dance Team**. The audition process will be a great experience for all students and we hope that you will make our team. Dancers are chosen based on their ability, experience, potential, work ethic and attitude; there is no limit on the number of dancers we take. We encourage students to take studio classes, and/or our Pre-Audition Clinic before auditioning.

Our team is nationally ranked and consists of very dedicated athletes that work year-round, an average of fifteen hours per week or more. **Our team is for mature, committed and hard-working individuals only.** If you think you can be a dedicated, committed and enthusiastic asset to our dance team, we would like to invite you to audition.

It is very important that the parents of our dancers are informed as to what our program entails. Parents and dancers: please read through the attached forms carefully and consider the time and commitment our team requires before allowing your child to audition. Please read the Contract, Fundraising Guidelines and Parent Commitment carefully, as certain pages must be signed in order for the student to audition. Note – information in this packet is subject to change.

IMPORTANT PARENT AND DANCER MEETING: Auditioning students and a parent **MUST** attend **one** of the 2 meeting options listed above. Come meet the Coaching Staff and Booster Club Executive Board and get required paperwork. We cannot stress the importance of attending the meeting to learn about the commitment required for our team and answer any questions. If a parent cannot attend the meeting please e-mail Coach Kierstie at TustinDanceCoach@gmail.com **as soon as possible**. If another guardian is able to attend it would be greatly appreciated because important information will be distributed.

Required Paperwork

Review this entire packet thoroughly as your signature on the student/parent consent form ensures you agree to abide by the rules, policies and regulations of the Tustin High School Dance Team.

The following items must be completed and turned in as soon as possible, but MUST be turned in by Thursday, May 2nd **BEFORE auditions begin.**

1. Application (*available online*)
2. Photo of yourself (*Please make sure the judges can clearly see who you are in this photo. Avoid selfies and extreme filters. You will not get this photo back. It can be printed on computer paper*)
3. Audition Medical Release (*available online*)
4. **Student/Parent Signature Page (ONLY AVAILABLE AT MEETING)**
5. Student Evaluation from 1 Teacher (*available online*)
6. A copy or printout of **Fall** semester report card for the 2018-2019 school year

*****Students who do NOT have all required paperwork completed by deadlines will **not** be allowed to participate and audition.*****

Tustin High Dance Team Contract 2019-2020

I. Team Member Requirements

Dance Team Members are required to attend a variety of activities, performances and fundraising events in the mornings, afternoons, evenings and several weekends throughout the year. The Dance and All-Male Team is **extremely** time-consuming. Students and parents need to be aware of this fact BEFORE the student auditions.

Estimated hours for Performance Team: average 10-14 hours per week.

Estimated hours for Competition Team: average 14-20 hours per week.

This may require students to alter study habits, work schedules, give up other extra-curricular activities and outside family or social obligations. Please consider how much time and dedication being a part of the THS Dance Team requires and if you are willing to commit the time.

It is our goal for members of the Tustin High School Dance Team to uphold a positive representation academically and socially. We require dancers to represent THS to the highest degree and set an example of good behavior at all times. It is the purpose of the team to promote friendships between members of the squad as well as with other schools with whom we compete and perform.

A. Maintain a 2.0 GPA or Higher

Dancers must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA during the school year; failure to do so will result in academic probation and dancers will spend practice time with our advisor in study hall until GPA improves. Dancers who receive an "F" in any class will be "benched" from all performances until the F improves. Students who do not raise their GPA or failing grades after 6 weeks of being on academic probation will be removed from the team. Grade checks will be required at the discretion of the coaches and advisor.

B. Positive Representation of THS

Dancers shall act responsibly AT ALL TIMES, whether in uniform or not.

- i. Evidence of smoking, drinking, theft, or substance abuse will result in immediate removal from the team and be subject to consequences of THS administration.
- ii. Profanity, derogatory statements, and inappropriate or embarrassing language or behavior will not be used while at team events or while in uniform.
- iii. Truancy, cheating, fighting, or forging notes will result in immediate suspension from the team and be subject to the consequences of the THS administration.
- iv. Dancers shall be respectful towards the coaches, teachers, parents, officers, THS administration and staff, other team members and the student body of Tustin High School.
- v. Dancers shall exhibit good sportsmanship in representing their team and school.

II. Class and Practice

All dancers are required to enroll and participate in **6th and 7th** periods for the entire school year. The current practice schedule is listed below and may change slightly going into the 2019-2020 year.

Girls:	Boys:
Mon. 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Mon. 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Tue. 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Tues. 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Wed. 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Wed. 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Thurs. 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Thurs. 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Fri. 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Fri. 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

This schedule is subject to change. Additional after-school, weekend and/or holiday practices may be scheduled as needed.

A. Attendance

Attendance at practices, certain events, meetings and mandatory fundraisers is required. Monthly calendars will be issued as early as possible. If dancers are unable to attend any event or practice they are expected to send an email to the coach immediately. Dancers with five or more unexcused absences during the school year may be removed from the team.

B. Grading

- i. Attendance - Dancers must attend all practices and mandatory fundraisers. If they cannot attend an event or practice, the dancer and/or parent must email the coach immediately. With each unexcused absence, tardy or early dismissal, the dance grade lowers. If unexcused absences continue to be a problem the dancer may be dropped from the team.
- ii. Personal Points – Dancers earn personal points by going above and beyond what is expected (ex: cleaning up the dance room, helping teammates with choreography, helping coaches, etc.). Dancers lose personal points by not doing what is expected (ex: inappropriate dress, ill conduct/negative attitude, not knowing choreography and anything else within the coaches' discretion). Extra credit is available for attending outside dance performances/shows, etc.

Attendance, "Personal Points" and participation are combined to produce the dancer's grade.

III. Team Finances

In order to have a quality dance team, a fair number of expenditures are required and team members must raise these funds. **These amounts must be raised through donations and fundraising.** We aggressively seek donations from the community and pursue as many lucrative fundraising ideas as possible. However, even with aggressive community based fundraising, at least half of the team's expenses are expected to be funded through voluntary parent donations.

A. Team Fundraising

Dancers are required to attend all mandatory team fundraisers. Dancers unable to attend must email the coach or parent in charge. Failure to attend mandatory fundraising events will be treated the same as failure to attend practice which could impact their grade in the class and eligibility to perform. If the team does not meet its fundraising goals, the team will have to cancel previously planned activities or, worst case, cancel the entire program.

Examples of all-team fundraisers that have been held in the past include Tustin Chili Cook-Off, 4th of July Parking Lot, Youth Summer Dance Camp, Tustin Tiller Days, Gram sales, Holiday Show, Friends & Family Night, etc.

Parents are an integral part of this process and are expected to be involved in the Team's fundraising efforts – the team needs you!

B. Required Related Expenses and Transportation Fees

Dancers are required to provide their own practice attire for use in class. Dancers also need certain items for performances and fundraising events. The expected cost for these items is an estimated \$100-\$400 for the girl's team and \$100-\$300 for the boy's team. (The price ranges depending on what items are purchased- basic items or all items) We do our best to provide items at different price levels. The purchase of these items will occur during the summer. A 50% deposit is due before the order is placed (July TBD); the balance is due before items are distributed. For sanitary reasons, we strongly encourage dancers to purchase their own items. Some items will be available on loan and will need to be returned clean and in good condition after each use. We will charge students for any "loaned" lost or damaged items.

The Dance Team takes school buses provided by the Tustin Unified School District to competitions and other events. All competitive athletes are therefore required to pay an annual district transportation fee of \$150. Please note that if a dancer is in another sport or Activity that requires payment of the district transportation fee, the dancer is not required to pay the fee twice. This fee must be paid (or a payment plan must be in place) by August 2019. Payment plans or hardship requests can be arranged through THS administration.

C. Voluntary Family Donations/Fundraisers

The suggested donation per family is \$600 per dancer for the year. Donations are voluntary and are fully tax deductible. Although no member of the team is required to make a donation, if we do not meet our financial goals, performances will be limited and if sufficient income is not obtained to pay coaching fees, the entire program will be cancelled.

D. Optional Expenditures

Dance team members may choose to purchase certain additional items including, but not limited to, team jacket, pants, dance bag, or other spirit apparel, and tickets to spring banquet. None of these expenditures are required.

E. Optional Summer Practice

The Dance and All-Male Team offers an optional (**but STRONGLY recommended**) summer practice for approximately \$185 for Dance Team and All-Male. Although participation in the summer practice is not required, it will help the student tremendously with dance technique, conditioning, choreography and team bonding and prepare them for the year. We will do our best to work with vacations and summer school schedules if needed but please try to plan around our dates. Team re-auditions will take place the second week of school.

Probable Summer Rec Dates/Times:

DATES	DANCE TIMES	ALL-MALE TIMES
July 8th - Aug 9th Monday - Friday	<i>Solidified Days/Times TBA</i> Alternating between 9-1pm, 1-5pm	<i>Solidified Days/Times TBA</i> Alternating between 9-1pm, 1-5pm

IV. Class Attire and Appearance

A. Class Attire

Girls: Leotards, tights, jazz pants, dance shorts, and tank tops should be worn to practice every day. Black, Red, White, and Grey are the ideal colors to wear.

Hair should be up in a ponytail or bun with bangs pinned back. No Jewelry may be worn during practice

Boys: Comfortable basketball shorts/PE shorts, compression tights, sweat pants, t-shirt, tank tops, etc. No jewelry may be worn during practices.

B. Appearance

Students must follow Dance Team appearance guidelines in class as well as out; students are representing the team. Hair cannot be an unnatural color nor have extreme unnatural streaks. Piercings may only be worn outside of class and performances! Tattoos may not be visible at anytime. Fingernails must be of natural length and nail-polish may not be worn during performances. Acrylics must look natural and be a natural length to be worn at team events. Make-up should be appropriate. Specific make-up will be worn for performances (this will be discussed in detail close to our first performance).

V. Team Levels

- The Dance Team is comprised of three groups for the 2019-2020 season: Varsity, Intermediate and Junior Varsity (JV). Dancers can be moved between the groups at anytime during the year at the coach's discretion. Freshmen are only eligible for the Intermediate and JV levels and can be moved up after a "probationary" period.
- All-Male Dance Team is comprised of Varsity and Junior Varsity (JV). Freshmen are only eligible for the JV level and can be moved up after a "probationary" period.

Generally, new dancers will be placed on JV regardless of grade level and move their way up throughout the year(s).

Team members can be moved up or down a level at any time during the year.

VI. Miscellaneous Dance Team Rules

All Dance Team members work together closely as a group. It is important for all Dance Team and All-Male members to maintain a mature, cooperative and positive attitude towards each other at all times. Any problems should first be brought to the attention of the coach, Booster Club Board Member, or Advisor. If the issues are not resolved, then the student or parent should communicate with THS Administration. If the issues are still unresolved, the student should consider whether or not Dance Team is a good fit. If a student refuses to use the above steps to resolve issues and discusses dance team in a negative way *while on the team*, the coach reserves the right to remove the student from the team.

Team Officers

Team Officers serve their teammates and assist the coaches. Team members are required to recognize and respect Team Officers as representatives of the coach. Officer responsibilities include: leading the team, helping coaches with the well-being of the team, coming up with team bonding ideas, and being the link and communicator between the team and coaches.

Health Issues

If a student has Asthma, Heart Problems, Allergies or anything else that may affect the student while running, conditioning, and dancing, the student must tell the coach before joining the team. If there are any medications (inhalers, etc) the student must bring the items TO PRACTICE EVERYDAY!

Dance Team/All-Male Parent Commitment

1. Parents will help ensure that their son/daughter meets all of his/her commitments.
2. Parents are encouraged to support the team, team guidelines, and coaching staff.
3. Parents will maintain open communication with the coaching staff by email. Please bring up any issues with coach and/or advisor before contacting administration.
4. Parents will demonstrate good sportsmanship and maintain a positive attitude when attending any Dance Team event.
5. Parents who act as chaperones on a team event must follow all guidelines and timelines set forth by the coaching staff.
6. Parents will not use Dance Team events as personal punishment because it hurts the entire team.
7. Parents are encouraged to attend performances and take an active role in the Dance Team Booster Club.

**Parent & Student Agreement
Signature Page**

**This important signature page will only be handed out at the Audition Meeting.
This page is required in order to audition.**

**Students planning on auditioning MUST attend ONE of the Audition Meetings
listed below with a parent or guardian.**

It is recommended to attend the April meeting to get information EARLY.

**#1 Monday, April 8th at 7pm in the Little Theater
OR
#2 Wednesday, May 1st at 7pm in the Little Theater**