

Guidelines for the Pershing Pep Squad

1) Prerequisites for Joining Any Athletic Team

- A. Must pass a physical examination
- B. Must have a parent's approval
- C. Must attend and be on time for all team meeting, practices, and games unless excused by the coaches.
- D. Should be able to accept coaching and follow coaches' directions
- E. Must furnish all equipment not furnished by school district (i.e. poms, uniform, etc.)
- F. Must be responsible for all equipment issued by Pershing Middle School; lost items must be paid for by student or parent
- G. May be required by the coach to participate in spring training, off season training, or other programs unless this conflicts with participation in another sport at Pershing or unless excused for medical reasons.

2) Attendance

- A. All members are required to attend all practices and performances whether performing or not. Tutoring sessions, work, and other extra-curricular activities must be scheduled outside of Pep Squad practice unless other wise approved. (usually Mon-Thurs 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.).
- B. Excused absences follow the students' guidelines for excused school absences.
- C. Excessive absences, even though excused may result in the loss of a position in a performance. Also absence from a practice may result in a lost position in the formation.
- D. Absence from a club function due to **detention** is considered **unexcused**.
- E. Members are expected to travel to and from Pep Squad functions with the team on the bus provided.
- F. Members are expected to be in attendance for the entire event except in the case of an emergency.

3) Expenses/Uniforms

- A. Each member is responsible for paying for uniforms, shoes, warm-ups, and any other apparel the group may need.
- B. Travel expenses are also the responsibility of the member. (The cost of travel to all football games has been included in the Pep Squad fees.)

4) Grade Requirements

- A. A member must meet all grade requirements as outlined by the State Board of Education, Texas Education Agency, and the University Interscholastic League and state law.
- B. Any student who receives a grade lower than a 70 during a six weeks period will be ineligible and will be placed on probation. The member must participate in practice, but she may not perform with the Pep Squad or attend its performance functions. Uniforms may not be worn while on probation.

5) Performances

- A. Arrive at performance in uniform (ready to perform). If you arrive late to football games, you will sit in the back.
- B. Members who are wearing unacceptable, incomplete performance attire **will not** be allowed to perform. **DO NOT FORGET POMS.**
- C. During football games, talking is allowed in the stands, but turning around in the stands is not permitted, **while talking to people who are not a member of the Pep Squad during the game is not permitted.**
- D. Members must use the restroom before we are seated in the stands at the beginning of the game or during the third quarter.
- E. During a football game, members must keep lines straight with bags and poms lined up as well.
- F. Students may not talk on cell phones during the game until directed to notify their transportation of pick-up times.
- G. Only water may be consumed in the stands. Snacks will be passed out during third quarter girls may **not** go to concession stands. Family members may **not** bring items from the concession stand to Pep Squad members.
- H. Members should make all arrangements with parents before the game.
- I. Students may not have visitors in the stands during the game.

6) **Practice Procedures**

- A. Members should arrive at 4:00 p.m. in correct attire and shoes.
- B. Members are expected to sit in designated area for roll call.
- C. Any member who is not dressed correctly (including shoes) will be penalized one demerit each day.
- D. Participation is required each day. Do not ask to sit out. If you are sick, you should be at home.
- E. Members who are repeatedly tardy not dressed, or displaying a lack of effort, **may be removed from the team.**
- F. Finally, members do not make excuses, but strive to improve and grow as a person. Ask for help if you need it.

7) **Suspension or Dismissal of an Athlete From a Team**

- A. Commit a Level III, IV, or V offense as defined by the Houston ISD code of conduct.
- B. Violate rules specific to an individual team.
- C. Terms of suspension will be at the discretion of the Athletic Coordinator and the Head Coach of the sport
- D. Insubordination

8) **Duration of Penalties**

Assessed according to the discretion of the Head Coach

9) **Timely Pick Ups**

- A. Pep Squad members are to be picked up within fifteen (15) minutes after practice, after returning from games and other events.
- B. Repeated untimely pickups will be grounds for dismissal.

10) **Merits**

- A. Merits are given to a member for going beyond what is required.
- B. Merits will be used to ward prizes and trophies at the end of the year banquet.
- C. Achievement awards will go Pep Squad base on merits during the award banquet.

Panda Pep Squad Member

Signature _____ Date _____ Principal _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____ Athletic Coordinator _____