

PALESTINE ISD
PALESTINE HIGH SCHOOL
KIK-KAT DRILL TEAM CONSTITUTION
2019-2020

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Palestine High School Kik-Kat Drill Team.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Kik-Kat Drill Team shall be to help promote school spirit at P.H.S. and help promote good will in competition with other schools.

Kik-Kat year: The rules and procedures outlined in this constitution are in effect from the time the student is selected to the Drill Team until the next tryout date. The Drill Team season includes football season and basketball season, as well as other spring events, decided by the Drill Team Director(s). This does not include the academic guidelines. Because of TEA rules, the academic policies are in effect for a school year.

ARTICLE III

I. ELIGIBILITY for Try Out:

All students shall be eligible for membership upon completion of the established requirements for entrance. To be eligible to try out for membership on the team:

A. The student's parent or guardian must attend an orientation meeting scheduled by the directors or meet with the directors prior to the candidate's name being placed on the ballot.

B. The candidate must attend the after-school clinic scheduled for learning the routine for tryouts. Full-time attendance at the clinic is mandatory. Missing a day or part of a day of the clinic without prior approval from the director will automatically disqualify the student from the current tryouts.

C. A candidate must not have been assigned to DAEP during the current school year. Students who are members of the team will not be eligible to try out if he/she has been assigned to DAEP during the current year, but may tryout the following year pending a review of the student's disciplinary record.

D. A candidate must not have been assigned to the Special Assignment Center (SAC) more than one time during the current school year in order to be eligible to tryout.

E. A candidate must be a current member of the Palestine Drill Team line in order to tryout for an officer position for the following year. If a line member was removed from the team for any reason, she must complete one full season as a line member before she can tryout for dance officer.

F. Students who are currently classified as eighth grade, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors may try out for Drill Team.

G Every student, regardless of the prior years of participation, must tryout for the Drill Team for the following school year.

II. QUALIFICATIONS

A. Physical Fitness

1. Each Kik-Kat must be physically able to participate in long periods of vigorous activity without undue fatigue. Documentation from a physician should be presented to the directors should any condition develop after being selected as a member of the team.

2. Each Kik-Kat will be required to jog 1 mile without walking at the beginning of the school year. The member will not be allowed to perform until this requirement has been met.

3. Any illness or injury occurring during practice or performance events must be reported to the directors at once.

B. Attitudes and Leadership

1. Each Kik-Kat must maintain desirable attitudes and a spirit of cooperation in all classes with all teachers.

2. Each Kik-Kat must realize the commitment she/he makes to the school and student body to be a school representative and leader with she/he is selected.

3. Each Kik-Kat must be willing to cooperate fully with the director, members of the officer line, as well as fellow line members. Problems are to be reported to the directors immediately.

4. Each Kik-Kat will abide by all the policies set forth in the student handbook and the Student Code of Conduct.

5. Each Kik-Kat must represent PHS in a positive manner, especially demonstrating good citizenship and appropriate conduct at all times.

C. Grades

1. A Kik-Kat's grade is based on attendance and participation in class.

2. Participation in class is based on practice, routine polishing, appropriate practice attire, and completing assignments on time.
3. Each Kik-Kat must pass each subject in which she/he is enrolled each 6 weeks period and must meet the district's attendance requirements in order to remain eligible.

D. Performing Guidelines

1. At home games the Kik-Kat will need to arrive at the time designated by the director. Officers are to arrive 10 minutes prior. Officers are to check their squad members and report to the Captain when all are in attendance. The Captain will then report to the directors. Departure time will be posted in the dance room for out-of-town travel. The Kik-Kat is expected to report on time for departure for such trips.
2. A Kik-Kat must maintain the dignity and decorum expected of a Kik-Kat member, especially while in uniform and as a representative of PHS.
3. The Kik-Kats shall enter and exit as a group at any and all performances. The Kik-Kat shall sit in squads in one section reserved for them during the entire length of the event. During football season, a break will be given to the team and all members are to be back in their appropriate squads before the game clock shows one minute left in the third quarter.
4. A Kik-Kit will not alter the performance attire in any way. She is expected to meet the expectation set by directors. This includes but is not limited to the uniform, make-up, hair style, etc.
5. Tryouts for upcoming performances will be held during prior day's practice, if needed.

III. ELECTION AND SELECTION PROCESS AND DUTIES

A. Member Selection

1. The selection of members shall be judged by 3 qualified impartial judges who are selected by the director and approved by the principal. Judges will score each candidate on: dance ability, memory, technical execution, rhythm/musicality, showmanship, and audience appeal.
2. The largest break in score shall decide the cut-off point for selection of the team members.

B. Officer Selection

1. The officer squad will consist of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 6.

2. Officer candidates are to submit their name to the director as a candidate for an officer position. Officers cannot participate in any other full-time activities (i.e. sports, plays, etc.).

3. The selection process includes:

a. Solo performance for judges, with scoring on officer audition routine, strut/kick series, jump splits, execution, and showmanship. This performance is 60% of the final score.

b. Officer proposal written using the prompt and format provided by directors. The proposal is 10% of the final score.

c. Personal interview with the judges and one director with focus on pre-approved questions addressing issues relevant to situations with line members. The interview responses are 30% of the final score.

4. A tie score will result in an additional try-out for the judges to score.

5. Awarding officer positions as a result of scores and duties of positions:

a. Highest score candidate is awarded the Captain position with duties.

- Be in charge of the organization with director approval
- Take part in choreographing with director approval
- Teach dances with director approval
- Represent the director in officer and group discussions
- Lead by example

b. Second highest candidate is awarded the 1st Lieutenant position, with duties:

- Aid Captain in all respects
- Supervise a squad

c. Remaining candidates with a score of at least 80% of the total possible points will be awarded Lieutenant positions with duties:

- Assist captain and 1st lieutenant
- Supervise a squad

d. Squad's duties:

- Attend all functions
- Perfection in performances
- Maintain appropriate discipline and behavior
- Encourage one another

IV. DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

A. A Kik-Kat's first assignment to SAC will result in suspension from all drill team activities for one week. The campus principal and drill team director will review the reason for the SAC assignment, prior to the member's time to return to the drill team activities, in order to give permission for the member to rejoin the team. A member will not be allowed to try out for the team if a second assignment to SAC is made within the same school year. The second assignment will result in the member's dismissal from the team.

B. A Kik-Kat's assignment to DAEP will result in dismissal from the team. The student will not be allowed to participate in the following tryouts for the drill team. Upon review of the disciplinary report, the student may be allowed by the campus administrator to tryout at the second tryout time.

C. A member's violation of the rules of the student handbook or student code of conduct will result in the student's suspension from one or more performances. The third documented report of violation will result in dismissal from the team.

D. Dismissal will also result if a member fails to maintain the conduct and character required of a member, such as obscene or vulgar language directed toward the director. The director and campus administration will determine the length of dismissal.

E. Dismissal will occur if the member is academically ineligible for two 6 weeks periods.

F. If a member quits, the director and principal will determine if the member will be allowed to try out again for the following year.

G. No refund will be made if the member is dismissed for disciplinary reasons.

H. The use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping, and illegal drugs are expressly forbidden and will not be tolerated. Any infraction, on or off campus, will result in principal/director/parent/student review. A second infraction will result in the immediate dismissal from the drill team.

I. No visible tattoos or body piercing, excluding the ears, will be allowed during any drill team function/activity. Failure to abide by this policy will result in demerits for insubordination.

J. Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that cheerleaders' websites are appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication such as MySpace, Facebook, or photo sharing, etc. appearing on the internet is public domain even if it is marked private. Kik Kat members are responsible for their personal websites and postings as well as for postings on other

students' websites. The area of appropriateness will include, but are not limited to language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, reference to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. Any question of appropriateness will be decided by the administration and coach(es).

V. AWARDS

A. Drill team member will receive, a school jacket, if the member has not received one previously, and has successfully fulfilled the duties of a Kik-Kat for two consecutive years.

B. Awards will be ordered after basketball season for those who remain in good standing.

C. Any Kik-Kat who is ineligible for a 6 week grading period due to grades, leaves the drill team through disciplinary action, or quits will not receive an award.

VI. ATTENDANCE

A. Absence from any Kik-Kat activity is unexcused except for the circumstances listed:

- personal illness or accident
- funeral or death in the immediate family
- special school activities with permission from the director in advance

B. Each member is required to attend every athletic event and any other activity scheduled by the director unless member is ineligible.

C. Any dental or doctor appointment which takes the member out of Kik-Kat class or any after-school practice is considered unexcused unless prior approval by the director has been granted.

D. For each day of missed summer practice deemed unexcused by the director, the Kik-Kat will not be allowed to participate in one pep rally performance and one game performance, for each additional missed practice an additional pep rally and game will be forfeited. If one practice is missed, the pep rally is forfeited. If two practices are missed in the same week, the pep rally and game are forfeited. Consistently missed practices will result in other disciplinary action.

E. Any 2 absences from school during a week, excused or unexcused will result in non-participation in the football game and pep rally that week. The same applies to basketball games. If a member has been absent from school for 2 days out of a week due to illness, then she/he is considered unprepared and will not be allowed to perform during the current week.

F. A Kik-Kat must be in attendance for the amount of the school day required by the district in order to participate in any Kik-Kat activity.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS

I. SECTION I – GAMES

A. Football

1. Kik-Kats will attend all games including all playoff games.
2. Kik-Kats will travel to a performance by school transportation – NO EXCEPTIONS! Members may, however, ride home with their parents, but only their parents. The director must receive written notification 24 hours in advance of the scheduled game and the proper paperwork must be submitted. The principal must make any exceptions to this rule.

B. Basketball

1. Kik-Kats will attend assigned basketball games during the season.
2. Kik-Kats will attend playoff games as assigned.

II. PRACTICES AND PREPARATION

A. Kik-Kats are expected to participate in the Kik-Kat as well as scheduled practices during the entire year.

B. Summer camp is mandatory.

ARTICLE V – BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVES

I. PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

A. Reasons

1. Participation in inappropriate conduct or immoral conduct.
2. Disrespect to director, teacher, or administrator.
3. Excessive absences from class.
4. Conduct in violation of any school policy or the student code of conduct.
5. Missing 3 games in a school year.
6. Attending a required game out of uniform.

7. Poor attitude.

8. Accumulation of 10 demerits will result in a written warning; accumulation of 15 demerits in an 18-week period will result in probation; accumulation of 20 demerits per semester will result in dismissal. **Demerits may only be worked off with the approval of the director.**

B. Conditions of Probation

1. A member may be placed on probation for reasons listed under Section A.
2. When a member is placed on probation, the directors will contact the student and her/his parents.
3. If her/his behavior does not improve within the time specified by the director, the member will be dismissed from the organization.
4. A member who is placed on probation will be penalized by not performing at the next performance as set by the director.

C. Conditions of Dismissal

1. When a member is dismissed, a letter will be sent to her/his parents explaining the situation, and a copy of the letter will be sent to the principal requesting her/his dismissal.
2. A member will not be on probation during one semester for 2 separate offenses. If this occurs, the member will be dismissed.

II. DEMERITS

A. Demerits are the means by which the director determines which members are not upholding their obligations to the organization. Summer demerits will be erased at the end of the summer.

B. Attendance and Tardies

1. Truancy10
2. Missing games/activities (unexcused)10
3. Failing to call director ahead of time for absence5
4. Missing practice (unexcused)5
5. Tardy (practice, class, game, break, trip, etc.) (1-15 min)2
(16+ min)5
6. Leaving practice early with permission from director (1-15 min).....1

	(16+ min)	2
7. Leaving game early with permission from director		2
8. Failing to sign in when tardy		2
9. Missing an activity with permission		3
10. Being unprepared to a game/or practice (poms, shoes, etc.).....		2
C. Conduct		
1. Disrespect to the directors		10
2. Using profanity		5

ARTICLE VI - UNIFORMS

I. UNIFORM SELECTION AND WEAR

A. Game uniform

1. Members are required to provide upkeep on their uniforms as needed.
2. No jewelry is to be worn while in uniform.
3. Additional uniforms may be purchased by members as deemed necessary.

B. Practice uniform

1. Members are required to wear dance attire and shoes at all practices. No baggy clothing, layers, or "school" attire.

Please read the Kik-Kat Constitution. Please take note of major changes made in the constitution. Please notice that this document has been approved by the Palestine I.S.D. School Board.

Student signature

Parent or guardian signature

This document must be returned by _____.