

# **Handbook and Guidelines of the Cy-Ridge Dazzlers Dance / Drill Team**

## **1. Creed**

I shall conduct myself in such a manner as to be a credit to the organization and school at all times. I will know and abide by the district constitution and campus handbook of the drill team. I will uphold the traditions and I will do everything in my power to promote drill team activities and interests. I will at all times try to be enthusiastic, courageous, courteous, truthful, considerate and just, loyal and sincere in friendships. I shall be too noble to speak ill of others, willing to forgive and forget, be prompt and gracious in obedience and willing to sacrifice personal fulfillment for the better of others. I will be ready to do all possible service, quick to appreciate what is done for me, and respectful of my parents and elders, so that I may become a fine and worthy young lady.

## **2. Name**

The name of the organization shall be the Cy-Ridge Dazzler Dance / Drill Team (hereinafter called the “DAZZLERS.”)

## **3. History**

The Dazzlers were established in April 2002 with only fourteen original members. The founding director of the Dazzlers is Mrs. Stephanie Guzzetta Lyle. The colors of the team are navy blue, forest green and white. The logo for the team is a silhouette of a dancer shadowed with four stars. The mascot for the school is a ram.



The Five D's for Dazzler Success are:

- *Dedication*
- *Desire*
- *Destination*
- *Determination*
- *Discipline*

## **4. Objectives**

The objectives for the Dazzlers shall be:

- a. To promote school spirit and good sportsmanship.
- b. To develop and maintain a very high standard of technical dance.

- c. To increase and develop character, scholarship, leadership and individual responsibility.
- d. To represent Cy-Ridge High School at athletic and school functions.
- e. To be a positive role model and leader throughout the campus and community.

## 5. Membership Requirements

The qualifications for Dazzler membership shall be:

- a. Candidates must be entering grades 10-12
- b. Candidates must have an overall grade average of 77.5 calculated on six weeks grades of all reporting periods completed in the current school year prior to try-outs. (First and second six weeks)
- c. Candidates must have all S's and E's and no more than two I's total for all six weeks completed in the current school year prior to try-outs. (First and second six weeks)
- d. Any candidate receiving a U in conduct in any six weeks period completed in the current school year prior to try-outs will be ineligible to try-out.
- e. Candidates are subject to an administrative review and may be ineligible to try-out if any of the following have occurred during the current school year prior to try-outs:
  - i. A level 3 violation of the CFISD Code of Conduct
  - ii. Two or more referrals to DMC
  - iii. An infraction that results in a suspension at home
  - iv. Excessive absences as defined in the CFISD Code of Conduct
  - v. Assignment to an Alternative Education Placement
  - vi. Expulsion from campus during the try-out year are also deemed ineligible
- f. Candidates and at least one parent (or adult representing each candidate) must attend a mandatory pre-try-out meeting. If there is a conflict, the director must be notified prior to the meeting and the candidate's parent must arrange another time to meet the director for a make-up meeting in person.
- g. Candidates must complete a parent permission form that contains a parent signature as well as a medical release form granting that the candidate is physically able to try-out without physical harm. **Candidates must have a current physical on file prior to try-outs per CFISD guidelines.**

- h. **Prospective members and their parents must be fully aware of the Dazzler Annual Fee as explained in the general information meeting. They must be willing to meet all financial obligations.** If the student is not able to meet the financial obligations, the student needs to consult with the director. All team members must be paid in full for the following year prior to the first day of summer camp.

## **6. Dazzler Team Selection Process**

Auditions for the Dazzlers will be held on a date designated by the director. A panel of 3 dance-qualified judges shall evaluate and rank candidates. (The director has the option to serve as one of the judges.) Drill Team candidates will be selected based on the following categories:

Appearance & Poise, Execution, Showmanship, Memory, Rhythm & Coordination, Technique, Kick Height, Kick Technique, Right & Left Splits

A try-out clinic will be held the prior to the try-outs where material and details will be taught and reinforced. There shall be no set number of members selected. Try-outs are mandatory for all returning members and closed to all except the director, judges, administrators, and facilitators (approved by the director). Administrators will oversee tabulation of scores.

Each candidate will wear a number for judging purposes. The candidates will receive notification of selection at the discretion of the director.

## **7. Letter Jacket Procedure**

Letter Jackets will be awarded after:

- a. 1 full school year of participation in dance/drill team and completion of a solo/ensemble performance at the CFISD solo/ensemble contest with a score of a 90 or above.

OR

- b. After 2 full school years of participation in dance/drill team as a member in good standing.

## **8. Uniform/Membership Requirements**

- a. **The uniform/costume will be worn as directed by the director and officers. The director has the final decision on all costumes/uniforms.**
- b. **Uniforms/Costumes are never to be worn in public unless authorized by the director. Dazzlers are NEVER allowed in incomplete uniform.**
- c. **Dazzlers must never eat or drink in uniform or costume with no cover up. CLEAR water is the exception to this rule.**
- d. **Dazzlers must have natural hair color; bright colors are prohibited during any and all performances. Any facial piercings and excessive/extra ear piercings (under director discretion) must be removed for performances. All tattoos must be thoroughly covered for performances.**
- e. **Any drastic hair changes must be done by the time of the dress rehearsal prior to a performance.**

## **9. Dazzler Dance Officer Selection Process**

- a. All officer candidates are required to attend any mandatory meetings and rehearsals offered prior to the try-outs as designated by the directors.
- b. Auditions will be held on a date designated by the director and building administrator.
- c. A prospective officer shall
  - be on dance / drill team at least one year
  - maintain a 77.5 grade average for all previous grading periods in the current school year prior to the try-outs
  - Receive no more than one I in conduct each and semester and no U's in the current school year prior to try-outs.
  - **Perform a solo at the CFISD solo/ensemble contest.**
  - Obtain 8 hours of outside dance prior to officer auditions, or 4 hours of outside dance if they are a returning dance officer.
- d. Prospective officer candidates will attend an informational meeting to become aware of duties, responsibilities and obligations.
- e. Officer numbers may vary due to the number of qualified candidates and team size.

- f. A panel of 3 dance-qualified judges that may be comprised of the Director and Assistant director shall rank and score the candidates.
- g. The candidates' scores will be based on the following categories:
  - 60% Judges
  - 30% Director
  - 10% Team
- h. The dance officer candidates will prepare for the audition by a combination of the following:
  - Teach original choreography to the team based on the genre chosen to be evaluated by the directors
  - Perform a solo for the judges in person or in video
  - Create a folder with their application, music selections, and theme ideas
  - Answer a set of scenario/simulation questions with a 30 minute time limit to complete these
  - Learn a group routine or group technique in advance, and perform it in front of the judges on the day of try-outs.
  - Learn our football strut entitled "Get Ready for This," to be performed on the day of try-outs in front of the judges.
  - Interview with the panel of judges
- i. The dance officer candidates will wear a number for judging purposes and will be scored based on the following criteria:
  - Routine: Technique, Memory, Execution, Showmanship, Flexibility, Kicks / Kick Technique, Overall Ability
  - Interview: Poise, Clarity, Expression, Sincerity, Overall Impression
  - Notebook: Neatness, Creativity, Overall Impression
  - Solo / Technique Combo: Technique, Memory, Execution, Showmanship

## 9. Dance Officer Duties & Expectations

Dance Officer Duties include, but are not limited to the following:

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| • Inspect Company w/ Social Officer         |
| • Maintain Attendance / Performance Records |
| • Choreograph one stand routine             |
| • Warm-up Team                              |
| • Locker Room Check                         |

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| • Closet Asst.                                |
| • Music (Set-up and Store)                    |
| • Choreograph Pep Rally Routines              |
| • Routine Formations                          |
| • Correspondence (Letter's, Thank You's)      |
| • Technique (Across the Floor)                |
| • Remember and teach choreography from camp   |
| • Choreograph Company Dance for RDSS          |
| • Perform Officer Routines for Contest Season |
| • Assist in Cleaning Routines                 |
| • Responsible for all Choreography            |
| • Attend mandatory officer camp               |

Dance Officer Expectations include, but are not limited to:

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| • Must maintain excellence in both Performance and Academics  |
| • Must be a good role model and leader for Cy-Ridge High School   |
| • Must fulfill and complete all financial responsibilities and obligations  |
| • Must keep the team's needs in perspective and overlook own selfishness  |
| • Must contribute to the additional fees that come with being an officer: Officer camp, Additional Workshops, Team and Company Necessities, optional/additional costume accessories |
| • Must be able to give time for all meetings / rehearsals / functions   |
| • Must always remember being an officer is a privilege  |
| • Must follow all rules and guidelines of the CRHS campus and CFISD   |
| • Must accept strengths and weaknesses and grow as a dancer and a leader  |

## 10. Dazzler Social Officer Selection Process

- a. Social Officer Candidates must meet the same requirements as Dance Officer Candidates (see #7, a-g); however, the preparation and purpose are different.
- b. The purpose of a Social Officer is to motivate the team throughout the year, organize social functions, decorate the Dazzler room and locker room monthly, maintain public relations, hold and model the standards, and foster relationships between their fellow teammates.
- c. The social officer candidates will prepare for the audition by a combination of the following, but the process is subject to change by the directors if deemed necessary at the officer tryout meeting:

- Binder/Notebook of ideas
- Tri Fold Board
- Present Tri Fold Board in front of judges as well as interview with the judges
- PowerPoint to be presented to the team and directors of themes and decor for the following events:
  - Summer Camp
  - Senior breakfast
  - Football season
  - Dazzlers Formal
  - End of year Banquet
- Team Building Activities
- Big/Little gift exchanges and reveal

d. The candidates' scores will be based on the following categories:

- 60% Judges (Speeches, Notebooks)
- 30% Director (Notebook Grade, Candy Gram, Speeches, Overall)
- 10% Team (Vote and Evaluation)

## 11. Social Officer Duties & Expectations

Social Officers may be given titles in order to divide their duties and maintain accountability. These titles may be any of the following but are subject to changes, additions, or deletions if the Director deems necessary.

- Company Leader
- Spirit Leader
- Sisterhood Officer
- Public Relations Officer
- Operations Officer
- Service Officer
- Motivational Officer
- Academic Officer

Based on the above titles, the following will be delegated accordingly, including but not limited to:

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| • Birthday charts/monthly birthday treats                 |
| • Big/little reveal and exchanges                         |
| • Invitations and décor for formal                        |
| • Homecoming door décor, and football awards              |
| • Posters for all events related to Dazzlers specifically |
| • Designing team tshirts                                  |
| • Collecting pictures for banquet slideshow               |
| • Design and décor of the dance room and bathroom         |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merit/demerit, company points, and honor roll charts</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team service opportunities and projects</li> </ul>              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivational activities, games, Dazzler date nights</li> </ul>  |

Social Officer Expectations include, but are not limited to:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must maintain excellence in both Performance and Academics</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a good role model and leader for Cy-Ridge High School</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must fulfill and complete all financial responsibilities and obligations</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must keep the team’s needs in perspective and overlook own selfishness</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must contribute to the additional fees that come with being an officer: Officer camp, Additional Workshops, Officer Practice Attire, as well as Optional Costumes, Team, &amp; Company Necessities</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be able to give time for all meetings / rehearsals / functions</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must always remember being an officer is a privilege</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must follow all rules and guidelines of the CRHS campus and CFISD</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must accept strengths and weaknesses and grow as a dancer and a leader</li> </ul>   |

## 12. Merit / Demerit Possibilities

The Director shall determine the amount of merits per opportunity.

Merit Possibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selling extra items above standard requirements for fundraising</li> </ul>    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending sporting games / specific events named by the Director</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending extra dance classes or practice observations (signature)</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making posters / banners</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bringing supplies or needed items</li> </ul>                                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anything exceeding standards deemed appropriate by Director</li> </ul>        |

The Director shall determine the amount of demerits per infraction.

Demerit Possibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wearing incorrect practice item</li> </ul>                                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair not correct for a practice or performance</li> </ul>                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chewing gum in 7<sup>th</sup> period or practice</li> </ul>               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaving early or showing up late for a practice or performance</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not following directions, instructions, or commands</li> </ul>            |



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper condition of uniform or practice clothes</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaving a messy practice area or locker room</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loaning part of uniform or practice item without permission</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talking while Director or Officer(s) are speaking</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor Attitude</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eating or drinking at practice or performance w/o Director's permission</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late on due dates (fundraising, payments, assignments)</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talking during announcements or roll call</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor or dangerous conduct on buses</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unexcused absence from practice or performance</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non participation in any event or activity</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tardy to roll call (at practice or performance)</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to meet drill team responsibilities, obligations, or duties including but not limited to mandatory Dazzler Booster Club meetings</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not wearing correct make-up</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disrespect to Director, Officer, or team member</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of Ram PRIDE throughout Cy Ridge and our community</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social media infractions that poorly reflect on the entire team and/or the individual dancer</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaping or carrying a vape pen on school campus or at any Dazzler event (regardless of the substance), or while wearing Dazzler attire in or out of Cy Ridge. Examples include but are not limited to the locker room, contest, football game, off campus but in Dazzler gear, etc.</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any use or possession of illegal drugs or firearms</li> </ul>   |

### 13. Social Media Policy

Dazzlers are expected to maintain high standards in academic performance and conduct at all times. They will serve as positive role models for the student body and in the community as representatives of Cy Ridge and CFISD.

Cyberbullying, slander, threats, and harassing behavior targeting other Dazzlers, school staff, or any member of the student body or CFISD school district **will not be tolerated** and may result in automatic dismissal from the team.

**Being a Dazzler is a privilege, not a right.** Any Dazzler who represents themselves or our team poorly through electronic media (i.e. websites, personal home pages, blogs, text messages, chat rooms, or any social media application) or uses electronic communication devices (i.e. camera phones, digital phones, electronic descriptions) **in a way that causes school officials to reasonably anticipate substantial disruption of, or material inference with, the activities of the organization or school**

**will be subject to disciplinary actions determined by school officials and the Dazzler Director. Disciplinary action may include probation or dismissal from the team.** Furthermore, Dazzlers may not engage in posting, retweeting, subtweeting, favoriting, liking, reposting, etc, of materials involving lewd materials, obscene materials, violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, hazing, harassment targeting other students or staff members.

**Incriminating photos or videos or statements depicting or promoting any of the following will result in disciplinary action, up to and possibly including immediate dismissal from the team: 1) violence 2) hazing 3) harassment (based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender) 4) lewdness including full or partial nudity 5) inappropriate or profane gestures 6) vandalism 7) stalking 8) underage drinking 9) selling, possessing, or using a controlled substance 10) or any other criminal act or act punishable by law**

#### **14. Demerit Implementation and Consequences from CFISD Constitution**

The purpose of the Demerit / Merit philosophy is to ensure team members and officers are working to their full potential concerning the areas of discipline, conduct, behavior, and performance.

***Probation** is defined as not being able to perform in any performance of the dance / drill team, but must attend all of the practices.*

***Dismissal** as no participation in any activity of the dance / drill team for the remainder of the year. A dismissed member must have an official schedule change, and must turn in performing uniforms and any other issued items.*

#### **15. Demerit Implementation and Consequences for Cy-Ridge Dazzlers**

The following scale will be used to determine and assess **Cy-Ridge Dazzler Team Members** that have accumulated a large number of demerits.

##### **a. 5 Demerits = Dance Probation**

This results in a Dazzler potentially losing performance privileges under the Director's discretion.

##### **b. 10 Demerits = Dance Probation**

This results in a Dazzler potentially losing additional performance opportunities under the Director's discretion.

**c. 15 Demerits = Automatic Dismissal**

This results in the Dazzler being removed and dismissed from the dance / drill team.

Merits may be used to erase demerits at the end of the month when the Social Officers and Directors have merit/demerit check-off. **100 Merits can erase 1 demerit.** Merits can be earned through Dazzler opportunities designated by the Directors, or through community service approved by the Directors. Proof must be shown for any outside activity deemed merit-worthy.

Only **5 demerits annually may be erased by bringing items** into the dance room. After 5 have been erased, you must earn merits through other activities like community service, helping in the back closet, taking dance classes, or attending dance events/shows.

50 merits/hour given for dance classes or shows attended

100 merits/hour given for community service, max 500 merits per event/day

25 merits/item given

**16. Absences**

Members are REQUIRED to attend summer camp, all practices, games, pep rallies, competitions, class period rehearsals, fundraisers, and additional activities arranged by the Director unless ineligible or excused by the director. **ALL absences must be approved by the director. An absence is recorded if more than 30 minutes late.**

Daily attendance at practice is essential for any precision performance by a dance / drill team. An absence by a performer inhibits the progress of routines, thereby, penalizing other members of the team / group. Under the directors' discretion, any absence, excused or unexcused, may render the member ineligible for that performance.

- a. All members will attend practice sessions as scheduled. Work, other activities, dancing, pageants, birthdays, family activities etc. are not excuses for missing a practice or performance and is unexcused. Absence from any dance / drill team activity is unexcused except for the circumstances listed below:

- Personal illness or accident
- Funeral of family member

- Special school activities with permission from the director in advance
- b. **Note: An excused absence may render a member ineligible for an upcoming performance, but will not result in additional penalties of demerits. In the event of sudden illness / injury the Director will make a performance decision based on the need of the group.**
- c. Dental or Doctor appointments should be made on days designated by the Director as non-rehearsal days. Any other appointment, taking place during class or practice time may render a member ineligible for performance.
- d. The director must be notified in advance of your absence. If you are missing a performance, 2 weeks notice is requested if possible. Members must bring a note from the doctor upon returning to practice. Without a note, the absence is unexcused and demerits will be given.
- e. The member is encouraged to observe rehearsal if illness is not contagious as diagnosed by Doctor.
- f. Physical Therapy and injury treatments, when notification of Director is given in advance, are excused.
- g. Members are expected to be at school a full day on the day of a scheduled activity or performance.
- h. When a member is absent, she is responsible for all the material that was taught and rehearsed by seeking out another team member or officer for assistance.
- i. Any member with an unexcused absence will be cut from a performance.
- j. Members who are cut due to unexcused absence(s) are still expected to attend rehearsals and performances with the team and must wear the appropriate uniform.
- k. Members will arrive for all scheduled activities ten minutes early and remain until released by the director.