

## **DANCE TEAM AUDITIONS**

*“The Director’s Guide to Successful Try Outs.”*

### **THE AUDITION PACKET**

#### **DANCER APPLICATION**

The candidate’s photo and personal data along with any previous dance training and performance experience is required for the audition application. The dancer is also asked to write a short essay and explain why she is the best candidate for a position on the team.

#### **MANAGER APPLICATION**

The candidate’s personal data is requested for the manager application. Also provided is a check list pertaining to areas of interest and/or experience. The manager is asked to write a short essay and explain why she is the best candidate for this position.

#### **CONSTITUTION**

It is advisable to give a copy of the team constitution to all candidates and parents at auditions, and to review it with the entire team again at the beginning of the school year. It should be kept as a reference for standard policies and procedures. Point out the most often violated rules in the parent meeting in order to prevent future infractions. Do consider the constitution as a living document and address changes as needed.

One of the most often questioned rules is the violation of tardies and absences because it may lead to not performing. Do emphasize the policy and note the consequences for infractions. For example, when a team member is not present for a total of five rehearsals, regardless if the absence is excused or unexcused, this will result in not performing. Keep the lines of communication open and practice proactive measures when at all possible. Proactive communication is the key to greater understanding and support from parents.

#### **DEMERITS**

When issuing a demerit always let the student know she has earned it, explain the infraction, and share any points subtracted from the grade. Document this information in a grade book if the demerit is used to determine a student’s grade for the course.