

Jersey Village Gold Dusters Addendum

The guidelines set forth below are designed to ensure equality of members. The director(s) reserve the right to make accommodations based on extenuating circumstances when necessary. These rules and guidelines are to remain in effect for an entire year; which is defined as the first day after the current teams end of the year banquet until the new teams end of year banquet is completed.

1. Expenses

- a. It should be noted that the Gold Dusters organization has a financial obligation attached to membership. If financial difficulties occur within a family making it difficult to meet this obligation, the director(s) and treasurer must be informed immediately. Steps will be taken to assist rather than dismiss the member, but the financial responsibility remains with the member and their family.
- b. All team fees, clothing and camp fees must be paid prior to date listed on the Financial Agreement unless other arrangements have been made with the director and JVGDPD Treasurer.
- c. Some costumes and clothing items are furnished by CFISD or JVGDPD. Each member will be responsible for the maintenance of these uniforms and costumes. The member to whom the uniform/costume is issued will be responsible for any missing or damaged pieces.
- d. To keep costs to a minimum, the director(s) will plan fundraising events during the year. Fundraising events will benefit the team in general. There are required events that each member is expected to participate in fully. This could be attending designated functions, providing products for events or any other assistance that is needed to successfully complete the event.
- e. Unless prior arrangements have been made with the director(s), members who have not paid for travel in full by due dates may not participate in any trips taken and may not be issued refunds for monies paid. All members will be held responsible for fees in accordance with any travel agents' contract.
- f. Seniors, Dance Officers and Social Officers may incur additional expenses above and beyond a normal team member.
- g. Gold Dusters that are not current with their financial obligations may not be permitted to participate in optional activities including (but not limited to) solos, ensembles, Show Group and other optional activities or purchases (extra clothing, yard signs, etc.), In addition, they will not be permitted to attend Gold Dusters formal and end of the year Banquet.
- h. Should you choose to pay by credit card, you acknowledge that you will be charged an additional service fee and that fee is nonrefundable.

2. Attendance

- a. Members are required to attend all activities whether performing or not unless prior arrangements are made with the director(s) 7 days in advance. **Activities that should be scheduled outside of dance team events include but are not limited to tutoring sessions, college days, SAT/ACT, appointments, work, and other extra-curricular activities.**
- b. Absences, tardiness or early dismissals may be considered unexcused and may be subject to demerits according to the demerit policy if the procedures are not followed.
 1. Illness
 - a. A parent/guardian must email or message the director. Emails and messages must be time stamped prior to the beginning of class, practice or the scheduled event, whichever comes first.
 - b. Should a member become well enough to attend school, the absence from rehearsal will be considered **unexcused**.
 - c. Members leaving school early due to an illness must check out or be dismissed from the nurse's office, not the front office, if there is afternoon rehearsal and must notify the director prior to leaving/rehearsal.
 2. A funeral or death in the immediate family
 - a. A parent/guardian must email or speak with the director in person. Phone calls, voice mails and emails must be time stamped prior to the beginning of class, practice or the scheduled event, whichever comes first.

3. All other absences

- a. Parent/guardian must request your absence to be excused 7 days in advance. Please note that just because you request an absence does not mean that it will be approved to be excused.
- b. Weddings, funerals, tryouts for a college dance team are examples of absences that would be approved. Celebrating your birthday, taking a college day, going to a concert are examples of absences that would not be approved.
- c. Members are expected to be in attendance for the entire event and are expected to travel to and from dance team scheduled events with the team. In exceptional cases, a member may be permitted to leave a scheduled event with a parent/guardian if a form is signed or if there are extenuating circumstances. In both circumstances, approval of the director and/or school administration is required.
 1. There may be some events that members must provide their own travel to and from.
- d. Members may be removed from dances for **excused or unexcused absences, tardiness or early dismissal**, and is at the discretion of the director. Each case is considered separately.
- e. As UIL rules state, on performance days members must be in school for a minimum of five hours in order to perform at and/or attend the performance activity. Should a member not meet these requirements, they may be removed from this or upcoming performances.

3. Grade Requirements

- a. Members must meet all grade requirements as outlined in the CFISD Member Handbook.
- b. Any member who becomes ineligible may be removed from any performance spots they hold. Furthermore, any member who is ineligible may be considered an alternate for any new choreography that is auditioned or performed while they are ineligible. Once the member has regained eligibility, the director will decide if they will be placed back in their spot or must audition for it.
- c. If ineligible at any time during the year, a Gold Dusters is automatically ineligible to order a letter jacket.
- d. Team members who become ineligible at report card and remain ineligible through the grading period, will be put on an academic watch. If the team member becomes ineligible on any other report card after the first ineligibility offense, they will be removed from the team for the remainder of the year.
 1. Team members who are removed based off of eligibility can audition for the team the following year.
- e. Officers who become ineligible at report card and remain ineligible through the grading period, will be demoted from their officer position for the remainder of the team year.
 1. Officers who are removed based off of eligibility can audition for officer for the following year.
 2. If they become ineligible on any other report card after the first ineligibility offense that caused them to lose their officer position, they will be removed from the team for the remainder of the year and can audition for the team the following year.

4. Behavior

- a. Team Covenant: "As a member of this team, I promise to be a role model, keep a positive attitude, stay committed and remain determined."
- b. Gold Dusters are expected to maintain a positive image inside and outside of school. Inappropriate behavior, web usage/posting, and phone messages/texts will not be tolerated, and demerits or other disciplinary actions may be issued.
- c. Hazing and initiation will not be tolerated. These acts will be taken very seriously and dealt with immediately and accordingly.

5. Team Members who are Dismissed or Quits

- a. A member will be removed from the team upon accumulation of their 10th demerit; parents will be notified of the members' dismissal from the team. Members will be placed on the fines and fees list at Jersey Village High School until all fees are paid and all costumes are returned.
- b. A member that has been dismissed from the team may audition the following year; however, they may be placed on a Discipline Management Contract.
- c. Should a Gold Duster be removed from the current team after new team auditions have occurred, the director(s) and school administration will decide as to whether this dismissal will forfeit his/her placement on the team for the upcoming year. A Discipline Management Contract or other options may be utilized.

1. If removed, members are expected to maintain the same standards and expectations as a team member to be considered for membership the following year.
- d. Refunds will not be issued to any team member who has been dismissed or quits after the date listed on the Financial Agreement Form.
6. Demerit Appeals Committee (DAC)
 - a. The duties of the DAC are:
 1. Act as an appeals committee for minor demerits.
 2. Be available for any tasks asked by the director(s).
 - b. Members of DAC will be voted on by the current team.
 - c. If a member feels a demerit was given unjustly, he/she should speak directly to the director(s) within seven days of the demerit being issued and a meeting with the DAC will be set. The committee may ask questions, discuss and then render a decision. This decision is final.
 - d. The DAC will consist of one freshman, one sophomore, one junior and two seniors. They will be voted on by the current team. There must be at least one returner (veteran member) on the committee.
 - e. The Director will schedule and run the meeting.
 - f. Only the DAC members will be present during deliberation and voting. The returner DAC member will run this process.
 - g. Dance and Social Officers may not serve on the DAC.
7. Classroom Grading Procedures
 - a. Members will receive a grade for their dance class period according to district guidelines and may include but are not limited to participation, turning in paperwork, dance items, dance routines, technique skills tests and other projects.
8. Camp and Summer Practice
 - a. Summer camp is required of **all** Gold Dusters. Plans for summer camp will be determined by the director(s) and will be communicated to parents and Gold Dusters as soon as possible.
 1. If summer camp is missed due to an unexcused absence, members not attending will not be allowed to audition for or perform in the dances learned at camp.
 - b. The director(s) will require summer dance hours that will not count for merits but are a requirement of the team. This will be communicated to parents and team members as soon as possible.
9. Attire
 - a. Members that are wearing unacceptable, incomplete performance attire may not be allowed to perform and may receive demerits.
 - b. All designated field and performance make-up must be worn.
 - c. Jewelry and nail polish are not permitted while in performance attire unless otherwise communicated by the director. All piercings (other than team earrings) and tattoos should be covered with a flesh colored Band-Aid or have clear jewelry in them when in Gold Dusters attire.
 1. During rehearsal, only stud earrings are allowed and sport watches.
 2. Acceptable nail colors will be communicated by the director(s) during summer camp.
 - d. Non-natural hair color is not permitted during performances unless specified by the director(s).
10. Performances
 - a. During contest season, if a member is unable to participate in team performances for any reason, he/she may not participate in a duet, ensemble, or a solo unless approved by the director(s). Therefore, any entry fees paid may be lost.
 - b. Performance tryouts
 1. Tryouts may be held for any and all performances and may be a formal auditioning process or general observation of the members by the director(s) and/or officers.
 2. Members are required to participate in all tryouts unless provisions are made for extenuating circumstances.
 3. If a member has a question as to why he/she did not make a dance, it is his/her responsibility to conference with the director(s). All director decisions are final.

11. Football Season

- a. Eating and drinking during a game is not permitted, unless otherwise approved by the director(s). Members are required to carry a water jug to football games with water or a clear sports drink.
- b. Visitors may be permitted to talk to individual members with approval from the director(s).
- c. Gold Dusters wishing to participate in GSL pregame activities with another club or organization must get prior approval from the director(s).

12. Dance/Social Officers

a. Criteria

1. Dance Officer and Social Officer candidates may be any member who is currently serving on the team and has auditioned for and named a member to the team for the upcoming year.
2. Freshman may only tryout for Lieutenant or Coordinator positions for their sophomore year.
3. Members wishing to audition for officer may not have 7 or more demerits.
4. The merit/demerit system may be used during officer tryouts should the director(s) desire.
5. The selection process will change from year to year and will be determined by the director(s) and communicated to all parents and potential candidates.
6. Anyone wishing to audition for officer must partake in all assignments throughout the year to be considered.
7. A new officer's placement on the officer line may be conditional. Should a new officer (one that has made the officer line for the upcoming year) be dismissed or resign from the current year's team, they may forfeit their officer position for the new school year.
8. Any new or current officer will be removed from his/her office upon the accumulation of their 7th demerit.
9. Any member that has been removed or resigned from the team may not audition for any office the following year.

b. Duties

1. It is the duty of all officers to carry out the directives of the director(s), assist in upholding the guidelines set forth in the Addendum and be an exemplary team member and school leader.
2. Dance officers will assist the director(s) in routine procedures of the team, assisting in auditions, teaching and instructing the team, as well as make decisions that are relevant to the team.
3. Social Officers will help organize team events, promote the visibility of the team, coordinate spirit-related activities and assist the dance officers and director(s) when instructed to do so.
4. Dance and Social Officers may issue demerits with approval by the director(s).

13. Special Events/Information

- a. Trips are determined by the director(s) and approved by the JVHS administration and CFISD.
- b. Information concerning dates, times, place, rules, regulations and fees will be communicated prior to the trip. Each member is responsible for payment for these trips and will not be able to participate if he/she is unable to meet the financial responsibilities.

14. Goldettes

- a. After auditions, Goldettes will be held to the same standards of a Gold Duster although they are not officially Gold Dusters.
- b. Goldettes will earn the Gold Dusters title before the upcoming school year starts.
- c. A Goldettes' placement on the team has a conditional term. This term extends from the day after auditions until the first day after End of the Year Banquet. Upon accumulation of 10 demerits, they will forfeit their placement on the team for the upcoming year.

15. Letter Jackets

- a. All Team Members will follow the CFISD Letter Jacket Policy when earning Letter Jackets.
- b. If a student is no longer a member of the team at the time letter jackets are ordered, they may not order one.

School Song/Alma Mater:

The road of life is often scarred
 And yet is full of dreams untold,
 We'll remember always
 The purple and the gold.

Through all laughter, tears or frowns,
 When everything seems right at night,
 We will all be grateful
 To Jersey Village High.

Gold Dusters Covenant:

As a member of this team, I
 promise to be a role model,
 keep a positive attitude, stay
 committed and remain
 determined.

Gold Dusters Song:

Gold Dusters in my heart forever,
 I never want to leave,
 The friends I've met
 I'll never forget,
 The love we all have shared.

Gold Dusters in my heart forever,
 A love that is so true (so true)!
 A long, lifetime friend
 We'll stick to the end
 Oh, Gold Dusters, I love you!!!

Fight Song:

Come on! You Falcons! Get 'em and go!
 We love the colors, purple and gold!
 When we fight for victory, we lift our heads
 In pride for thee,
 So, forge on you Falcons! Reach for that goal!
 Get out and win, our spirits to grow
 Go and win the game tonight!
 Falcons are in flight!
 F-I-G-H-T for our victory!
 V-I-C-T-O-R-Y
 Come on you Falcons, Fight!

JERSEY VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL GOLD DUSTERS DANCE TEAM MERIT/DEMERIT SYSTEM

In order to be a productive and successful team, it is necessary that each team member adhere to a discipline system and code of conduct. The purpose of this system is intended to enhance our organization and its members. The director shall have the authority to use discretion when extenuating circumstances exist.

MERIT SYSTEM GUIDELINES:

Members will be required to earn a minimum amount of merits each semester to be a member in good standing. This amount will be announced by the director on the first day of summer practice. Members who earn a significant amount a merits will receive awards and privileges throughout the school year. The merit system is designed to reward members for positive behavior and actions. Guidelines for the merit system are as follows:

- Merits begin at zero on the first day after End of the Year Banquet and end the day of the next End of Year Banquet.
- It is the member's responsibility to keep up with a list of their own merits for their records. Should you have questions, you should discuss them with the director(s).
- The merit documentation form must be fully completed and turned in within seven days of the event.
 - Summer merits are the only exception to the 7 day rule and a specific date will be given to turn these in.
- Merits earned during the summer will be capped at 20 merits.

DEMERIT SYSTEM GUIDELINES:

- Demerits begin at zero on the first day after End of the Year Banquet and end on the day of the next End of Year Banquet.
- Upon accumulation of the 10th demerit, a member will be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the year; at which point he/she will be required to turn in all uniforms and have his/her schedule changed.
- Some demerits will be considered major while others are considered minor according to the guidelines established in the merit/demerit system guidelines. Major demerits may not be appealed to the Demerit Appeals Committee.
- Demerits may be issued by the director(s), dance officers, social officers or any other director designated person. If someone other than the director is issuing the demerits, the assigning of these demerits should receive approval from the director in advance.
- When a member receives a minor demerit, he/she will receive notification of the demerit within seven days of the offense or within seven days of returning to school.
- Major demerits may be issued at any time.
- Members will be given a carbon copy of each demerit and merit he/she receives. It is his/her responsibility to keep track of these forms.
- The director(s) may check discipline records periodically throughout the year. Should a member be assigned school related discipline he/she will receive demerits accordingly. Demerits for these may be given at any time after the discipline has been assigned.

KICKABLE OFFENSES:

- Some offenses can be kicked off to avoid receiving a demerit and are labeled on the next page.
- These must be kicked off within 1 school day of the offense to not receive the demerit.
- It is the team members responsibility to ask an officer or director to watch them kick.
- If a team member is unable to kick due to an injury, the director will assign them a different set of 100.
- On the fourth time the same offense is repeated, the team member will automatically receive the demerit for the offense.

**JERSEY VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL
GOLD DUSTERS DANCE TEAM
MERIT/DEMERIT/PROBATION/SUSPENSION**

The following is a list of activities for which merits may be received and the number of merits available for each activity. With the exception of grades, all other merit forms must be turned in within 7 days of the event.

<u>MERITS</u>	<u># of Merits</u>
1. Earning an A on a report card	3 per A
2. Earning a B on a report card	2 per B
3. Participating in studio/non-required technique classes	2 per hour
4. Service to community/school/church (must be done outside of 7:30-2:30pm)	2 per hour of service
5. Spirit Girl/Star/GD of the Week	5
6. Service in another school organization	5 per organization per year
7. Attending or Participating in a <u>non-required</u> school event	5 per event

*A signature from a school employee is required, along with date of activity and description of activity.

DEMERITS-- Major Demerits --- May not be appealed by DAC:

<u>Offense:</u>	<u># of Demerits</u>
1. D-Hall	1
a. If it conflicts w/ a GD function, then it will be considered an unexcused absence	
2. Saturday School	2
a. If it conflicts w/ a GD function, then it will be considered an unexcused absence	
3. DMC	2-10*
4. Suspension	7-10
4. Leaving a GD event without prior approval	1-5*
5. Unexcused absence from a GD practice, class or non-performing event	
with Director contact before the event	2
without Director contact before the event	3
6. Unexcused absence from a performing event	
with Director contact before the event	5
without Director contact before the event	7
7. Disrespect to a director, school employee, officer, team member or GD volunteer	1-10*
8. Poor conduct	1-10*

*Behavior unbecoming of any person striving to exemplify the standards and ideals of a Gold Duster.

Minor Demerits—May be appealed by DAC. Offenses labeled K may be kicked off within 1 school day of the offense or the demerit will be issued.

<u>Offense:</u>	<u># of Demerits</u>
1. K- Improper practice attire	100 kicks per piece
2. K- Improper clothing, spirit wear or uniform	100 kicks per piece/1 per piece

- 3. **K**- Improper hair, jewelry, nails 100 kicks per piece/1 per piece
- 4. **K**- Not returning items to designated locations 100 kicks per item/1 per item
 - a. Trash, uniforms, earrings, props, costumes, personal belongings, etc.
- 5. **K**- Improper contact about tardiness 100 kicks
 - a. You must contact your officer or the directors if you are going to be late
- 6. Late to class, practice, event/required function: anything after 30 minutes will be considered unexcused.
 - K**- 1-5 minutes= 100 kicks 6-10 minutes= 100 K/1 11-19 minutes= 1 20-29 = 2
- 7. Disrespect of a reasonable request 1
- 8. Use of profanity 1 per word
- 9. Non-compliance with the Addendum/CFISD Handbook 1-10*

- *Number of demerits issued is at the discretion of the director(s).
- The director(s) have the authority to give merits and/or demerits for activities or offenses which have not been included. .
- The director(s) shall have the authority to use discretion regarding extenuating circumstances.
- Family members may NOT sign merit forms.

PROBATION:**Reasons a Gold Duster will be placed on probation**

- Gold Dusters will be placed on Probation upon accumulation of their 7th demerit.
- Gold Dusters will be placed on Probation for any use of tobacco, vapes/mods/e-cigarette, alcohol, drugs or any other products associated with these categories. This rule includes any team member of age to use these products. The Gold Dusters demerit record will be increased to reflect 7 demerits. If a second violation in this category occurs, the Gold Dusters membership will be terminated immediately.
- Gold Dusters will be placed on Probation for any involvement in a physical altercation. The Gold Dusters demerit record will be increased to reflect 7 demerits. If a second violation in this category occurs, the Gold Dusters membership will be terminated immediately.
 - Probation is a period of three school weeks. During this time, members will practice and participate in Gold Dusters scheduled events but are not allowed to perform for any reason.
 - Gold Dusters on probation are expected to attend all scheduled practices, class time and events.
 - While on probation, the Gold Duster will be removed from all dances. They must audition for these positions as they become available after their probationary period is over.
 - While on probation, members should continue to wear Gold Dusters spirit, uniforms and/or practice clothing as all other team members.
 - If a member is ineligible due to grades during this time, their probationary period will extend to include three total weeks of probation separate from their ineligibility period.

SUSPENSION:**Reasons a Gold Duster will be placed on suspension**

- Gold Dusters will be placed on Suspension upon accumulation of their 8th and/or 9th demerit.
 - Suspension is a period of three school weeks. During this time, members are not allowed to participate in any Gold Dusters scheduled events; EXCEPT for class.
 - Members are REQUIRED to be at school during their dance team class period.
 - While on suspension, Gold Dusters will be removed from all dances. They must audition for these positions as they become available after their suspension period is over.
 - While on suspension, members are not allowed to wear any Gold Dusters clothing, aside from practice attire.
 - If a member is ineligible due to grades during this time, their suspension period will extend to include three total weeks of suspension separate from their ineligibility period.