

Gulf Breeze High School Dance Team
2019-2020

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As you and your child consider becoming involved with Gulf Breeze High School's Dolphin Dancer program, you will want to become educated about every aspect of its responsibilities and benefits. Please read each page of this packet carefully as you decide if the dance team is a suitable activity for your child.

The dance team has been able to provide many students with an opportunity to be involved in extracurricular activities as well as encourage school spirit and a love of dance. The dance team has many opportunities to perform throughout the year. We will perform at numerous pep rallies, Varsity boys/girls basketball games, and also at various community events.

To maintain the standards that have been set, there are some basic requirements that must be met by those interested in being a member of the GBHS Dolphin Dancers. Academic eligibility for dance team members is based on the overall 2.0 un-weighted grade point average. I believe that GBHS dancers are leaders, and leaders should represent Gulf Breeze High School not only morally and artistically, but also academically. Attached to this letter you will find the specifics regarding these issues.

Operation of the dance program is very expensive per calendar year. We do request and appreciate a donation or contribution to the program for your child's uniform and equipment, overnight camp, banquets, awards, parade entry, competition, senior gifts, and other events/occasions throughout the year.

Required Forms/Applications:

1. All applicants need a current, physical form (available from GBHS administration) on file with the school prior to Friday, April 12th, 2019. The physical must include a copy of insurance card and must be notarized. If applicant does not have insurance, they have to buy insurance through the school.
2. Applicants must also fill out the Tryout Packet and return it to Kayla St. Romain in the Guidance office at GBHS no later than April 12th, 2019.
3. Copy of current report card
4. We would appreciate a \$20.00 Tryout donation for judges. Checks can be made out to GBHS Dance

I look forward to the commitment to excellence for the 2019-2020 school year. I welcome your child's participation in tryouts if he/she is ready to work hard, be a team player, and show his/her Dolphin pride! Please read this packet and decide if you and your child are prepared for such an undertaking.

Sincerely,

Kayla St. Romain
Dolphin Dancer Coach

Tryout Information

The Dance Team will be chosen as follows:

Tryouts will be open to all boys/girls entering grades 9-12 for the 2019-2020 school year. The school is not involved in the selection of dancers based on their ability to perform. GBHS will secure judges to select dancers.

Dance Team Tryouts Information

The clinic/tryout is closed to the public.

Mandatory Dance Tryout Clinic:

Where: Gulf Breeze High Cafeteria

Dates: April 15th-18th 5:00-6:30

Judging Criteria:

The students will be ranked on dance abilities. Only students that currently hold a 2.0 GPA or higher may tryout.

Discipline issues during the dance clinic and tryouts will not be tolerated; **disrespect of coaches, poor cooperation and unwillingness to get along with other candidates during tryout clinic sessions will result in your dismissal from the tryout.**

Tryout Day:

The day for tryouts will be Thursday, April 18th, 2018 in the Gulf Breeze High Gym. Tryouts will begin at 5:00pm and will end after the last candidate is finished. Students will tryout in groups that will be determined at clinic. Parents and spectators are not allowed in the gym lobby while the candidates wait to be called in for tryout.

Students who transfer into GBHS after the original tryout date may be granted a private tryout conducted by the coach and may be added to the team upon qualification and if space is available. The student must meet all the guidelines set in the tryout packet to be eligible.

If a candidate is unable to attend the set tryout date due to extenuating circumstances that cannot be avoided and are deemed acceptable by the coaches, they will be granted a video tryout PRIOR to the set tryout date. The video will be shown to the judges and they will be scored by the judges on the original tryout date. Results will be posted at the same time as stated in the tryout packet.

Apparel for Tryouts:

Must wear a plain white t-shirt with sleeves, navy blue or black athletic shorts and dance shoes/sneakers. Hair in a neat ponytail. No jewelry of any kind may be worn. No nail polish, acrylic or long nails.

Results:

Results will be posted on Thursday, April 18th, 2019 on the school's gym lobby doors.

All team placements will be final. Score sheets will not be shared with parents or students.

If chosen as a member of the Gulf Breeze High School Dolphin Dancers, there will be a mandatory uniform fitting on Tuesday, April 23rd at 5:00pm. Donations to cover uniform costs and overnight camp would also be appreciated at this time but can also be made at a later specified date.

2019-2020

Gulf Breeze High School Dolphin Dancer Constitution

Purpose:

It is the purpose of the Dolphin Dance Team to:

- A. Promote and uphold school spirit
- B. Represent GBHS to the highest degree
- C. Set an example of good behavior at all times, whether in uniform or not, in class, at games and at all school functions, if or if not performing.
- D. Promote friendships with schools with which we compete
- E. Promote friendship between the members of the team.

Requirements:

- A. The Dolphin Dance Team can consist of all grade levels. I cannot guarantee all grades will be represented on the new team, as the overall tryout scores are the deciding factor.
- B. Dance team must take priority over all other extracurricular activities, including jobs and other school activities/clubs.
- C. Team members MUST attend ALL required activities, such as dance camp, games, practices, performances, and competitions, unless that dancer is ill or has a family emergency. This notice must be sent via email to stromaink@santarosa.k12.fl.us or given to me in person. Failure to attend a mandatory event will result in suspension from the next performance and/or extra conditioning. Unless otherwise noted, all events are considered MANDATORY. Non-emergency absences without at least 48 hours' notice will be considered unexcused.
- D. For each semester, members must maintain appropriate grades and credits as outlined by GBHS Athletic Rules.
- E. Members must maintain good citizenship marks, attendance, and class performance during the time on the team and for tryouts. Problems in any area will be disciplined.
- F. All members must register online at Athleticclearance.com to create an account for the 2019-2020 school year. Member must have a physical prior to tryout attendance. This physical must be completed ASAP and will then be good for one year from the date of the physical. Make sure you have a GBHS physical form for the 2019-2020 school year completed prior to dance clinic/camp. Andrew's will be having free physicals on June 8 for those who need to update physicals after tryouts. Stop by the GBHS Athletic Office for more information.
- G. Being on the dance team one year IN NO WAY GUARANTEES PLACEMENT ON THE TEAM FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR. All dance team members must go through the same tryout process the next year. The team will be chosen by outside judges hired by the school and their decisions are FINAL.
- H. Dance Team members are required to be at all practices, games, and other performances. Other extracurricular meetings/events are not an excuse to miss. Do not schedule PSC classes that will interfere with dance team practices or basketball games. Speak to the coach if this isn't possible.
- I. All routines, music, and outfits must be approved by the coach before practicing for a new routine. Any changes deemed necessary by the sponsor must be made without argument.

- J. All candidates must abide by the rules and regulations as stated in both the GBHS Dance Constitution and the Santa Rosa County School District code of conduct. The parents/guardian must be willing to support the member in complying with these rules and regulations.

Academic Eligibility:

- A. To be eligible at the beginning of the school year members must have earned the accumulated number of credits to be classified at the appropriate grade level.
- B. Dancers must maintain a 2.0 un-weighted cumulative grade point average to perform. A dancer whose GPA falls below 2.0 during the season will be removed from performing due to ineligibility.
- C. In the case of a D or F that does not lower the students GPA to below a 2.0, the dancer will be subject to discipline by the coach in the form of extra conditioning, extra duties, or sitting out performances or games. A student is only allowed one D or F in a year. If the dancer receives a second D or F on the same or any subsequent report card they will be removed from the team for the remainder of the year.

Communication:

- A. My communication with parents will come via email. My phone number will be given out for when we go away to camp, but email should be used for any other communications. I will not answer my personal phone or respond to text messages outside of our time away at camp.
- B. The dancers will be able to reach me via the Remind app. The correspondences should only be dance related.

Student Leadership:

- A. There will be one captain and possibly a co-captain each year. The team captain must have a least one full year as a member of the Dolphin Dancers and be a junior or senior.
- B. Interested candidates must submit a signed captain's responsibilities contract **with their application packet** to be considered. The final decision will be made by the head coach. Dance ability, leadership skills, communication skills, punctuality, ability to lead by example, overall attitude and other necessary attributes will be used in evaluating those interested in the position.

Summer Camp:

We will have two weeks of practice in the summer to prepare for camp- June 17th-20th, 24th-27th, and July 5th. We will go to camp at the University of Southern Mississippi July 6-9. Summer camp is a fun and exciting experience for all dancers. It is an opportunity for the team to get to know each other and the coach. Camp teaches dancers the TEAM concept, courtesy, and trust. It is a great time for dancers to bond, which in turn helps in making the team stronger. The routines and skills we learn at camp are used throughout the year for performances, so attendance is **strongly encouraged**.

Responsibilities:

- A. For summer, please plan activities around practices and Camp. Dancers are strongly encouraged to attend summer camp and are required to attend summer practices.
- B. Dancers will be involved in the following: pep rallies, parades, spirit days, play-off games, tournaments, and other events as assigned by the coach.

Code of Conduct:

- A. All dancers must adhere to all state regulations, GBHS Code of Conduct and GBHS Dolphin Dancer constitution.
- B. Violation of these rules and all others may result in penalties including: Extra conditioning, probation, suspension, and possible expulsion from the team.
- C. Campus: Behavior and appearance on the campus and at events is of great importance as you represent GBHS. There are certain expectations required of GBHS Dolphin Dancer. The Dolphin Dancers will be:
 - i. Neat and well-groomed at all times.
 - ii. Never profane in his/her gestures or speech.
 - iii. Respectful to all teachers, coaches, and administrators.
 - iv. Prompt! Tardiness will not be tolerated.
 - v. Dancers are students first, if they get into trouble at school, they will also be in trouble in dance. Membership is a privilege not a right.
 - vi. School Suspension: If a dancer is suspended from school, they will be ineligible to practice or dance during the period of suspension.
 - vii. Penalties for the following will be ruled by the district/school policies.
 - 1. Tobacco
 - 2. Alcohol
 - 3. Drugs
 - 4. Stealing

These four infractions (above) apply to all dancers and/or prospective dancers at all times during his/her high school career. If one of these infractions occurs, the dancer will be dismissed from the program for the remainder of the current dance season.

Games, Performances and Practices:

- A. Uniforms need to be in their entirety, example, no 'street' jackets allowed with uniform. No flip flops or hair down...all or nothing.
- B. Uniforms may only be worn at designated times set by the coach. This includes camp wear and accessories for the current season.
- C. Uniforms are not to be loaned out to others, including siblings. This includes camp wear and accessories for the current season.
- D. Holding conversations with the crowd is prohibited while at performances.
- E. Dancers must use their breaks at games to get water and go to the restroom. It is not the time to be on the court or socializing in the stands.
- F. Dancers must be prepared and have the routines memorized before a performance. The coach has the right to sit a dancer who is not adequately prepared for a performance.

- G. Dancers will ride the bus to and from all away games/events unless prior approval has been made with the coach ahead of time.
- H. Dancers will NOT be excused from games, practices, events, or competitions unless it is an emergency or prior arrangements have been made.

Team Resignation and Lettering:

- A. If a candidate or elected dancer wishes to either decline their appointment or resign their position as a GBHS Dolphin Dancer, they must submit a written letter of resignation to the head coach. Said letter must be signed and dated by a parent or guardian.
- B. Gulf Breeze HS Athletics prides itself on the aspect of team relationships. We do have a “no quit” policy in place to discourage student-athletes from quitting a team after having been selected to a roster spot. The spirit of the policy is to develop in our young athletes a determination to finish every commitment made not only for themselves but for their teammates. If an athlete chooses to disregard this policy, the athlete will forfeit the ability to compete in the next season (Spring).
- C. Dancers are not able to tryout any other sport that is in a direct conflict with the two dance seasons since these may cause schedule conflicts for games and practice.
- D. To gain a Varsity letter in Dance, a dancer must:
 - a. Be selected as a Dolphin Dancer
 - b. Fulfill the duties of a Dolphin Dancer for an entire year in good standing with the team
 - c. Attend all activities unless excused by the coach in advance
 - d. Maintain at or above a 2.0 GPA

Attendance and Participation:

- A. Dancers must be present at least ½ of a school day (complete 3 classes), on game days in order to perform.
- B. When a dancer is absent from school, **it is the dancer’s responsibility**, not the parents of the dancer to e-mail or contact their head coach via Remind before 1:00pm on the day of the absence. If the student is unable to email, then the parent may do so.
- C. Dancers must be in attendance at the last practice held before a game/event in order to participate in the game or pep rally unless excused by the coach.

Discipline:

- A. Punishments for infractions of rules may include, but are not limited to, extra conditioning, extra duties, sitting out at games/pep rallies, and in repetitive or serious cases, probation or dismissal.
- B. Probation: If a dancer is put on probation, the dancer’s performance during games or pep rallies is suspended, but his/her other responsibilities must still be maintained to remain on the squad. She/he is still required to attend all games, practices, and events. Dancers on probation must wear their uniform and sit with the coach unless otherwise instructed by the coach.

C. Any instance of defiance/disrespect to a coach or coach's representative may result in dismissal.

Miscellaneous:

Students that post something on the internet, on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook or other comparable web sites, have posted it "in a public domain," meaning that millions of people have direct access to what the student/athlete posted. If the Dolphin Dancer program becomes aware that a student/athlete has posted something that is derogatory to themselves, other students, teachers, coaches, the school, the dance program, or indicates that they are engaging in illegal or immoral activities or harassment of others, they will be subject to discipline. This could include suspension and/or expulsion from the program. Dolphin Dancers are the face of the school and should always keep this in mind during and outside of dance.

Interpretation and Changes:

- A. Rules and Guidelines are subject to change at any time with approval from the Principal/Athletic Director.
- B. In situations that are not covered by this document, the coach and/or principal/athletic director will make the decisions.

Dolphin Dancer Rules Summary

As the following guidelines cannot cover all situations, the coach reserves the right to handle special cases.

Practice and Events:

1. Must get to practices and events on time.
2. May not leave early unless prior approval has been obtained ahead of time.
3. Must wear proper shoes and practice clothes
4. Must have hair up and out of face
5. May not chew gum
6. Natural nails must be trimmed. Acrylic nails are not allowed.
7. Jewelry may not be worn – This includes all types of jewelry including belly button and other rings. Band-Aids may not be worn over new piercings that are visible such as ears. Any piercing needs to be done after basketball season is over and before the next tryout.
8. May not argue with other squad members
9. May not have any unexcused absences
10. May not use cell phones at practice or events. Cell Phones are to be put away and on silent.
11. May not talk excessively or cut up during games and events
12. May not exhibit unsportsmanlike-like conduct
13. Must be prepared with proper items for a performance
14. Must clean up own trash at games, practices and events
15. May NOT argue or be disrespectful towards the coach at any time.

General Conduct:

1. Must stay informed about dancing responsibilities
2. Must turn forms in on time
3. Must dress appropriately for school on game days
4. Public display of affection must not take place at school/events or in uniform.
5. Receiving detention - On the third detention the dancer will be dismissed from the team
6. Must show respect for coach
7. Must display conduct becoming of a Dolphin Dancer in or out of school

GBHS Dolphin Dancers 2019-2020 Tryout Application

General Information:

Name:

Address:

Cell Phone:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Parent/Guardian Phone Number(s):

Current School and Grade level:

GPA:

Medical Information:

1. Are you allergic to any medications? If so, please list:

2. Are you currently taking any medications? If so, please list:

3. Are you currently being treated for any injuries? If so please list:

4. In what clubs, teams, or organizations are you currently a member?

5. Have you taken dance lessons before? If so, where and for how long were these lessons taken? Also, specify what types of dance classes you have taken. (For example, I have taken 2 years of ballet and 1 year of jazz at _____). If you are currently on another dance team or taking classes elsewhere, please be aware that you will **not** be excused for practices, games, or community events that are missed due to other team commitments, unless pre-arranged with the coaches.

Checklist: ___ Completed tryout Packet ___ Parent and Dancer Signature Page

___ Physical

___ Report Card

___ \$20 Judges Donation

Parent and Legal Guardian Permission Slip
Gulf Breeze High School Dolphin Dancer
2018-2019

Our child, _____, has permission to try out for the Dolphin Dance Team at Gulf Breeze High School for the 2018-2019 school year. If selected, he/she has our permission to participate in dance functions. We also understand that dance practice will continue throughout the summer, and if selected as a GBHS Dolphin Dancer, will be encouraged to attend summer camp. It is also understood all football games/practices/banquets/competitions must be attended. We also understand that our child will be encouraged to participate in all fundraising activities.

We realize that dancers will be expected to follow certain squad guidelines (See Dance Constitution) and that the coaches reserve the right to add or modify said guidelines as need arises. We agree to trust the coach to enforce those in a way that she deems appropriate.

We have read the Dance Constitution in its entirety and agree to follow the rules as they are written. We further realize that if these rules are not followed that the dancer will be subject to disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the squad.

We have thoroughly read and understand all of the responsibilities outlined in this application packet. We understand the amount of dedication that is required of our child if he/she is selected as a member of the Gulf Breeze High School dance program. We also agree to trust the coaches as they enforce the rules and regulations.

Mother/ Guardian Signature

Father/Guardian Signature

Date

Date

