



PARENT SURVIVAL MANUAL

August 2008

EXPECTATIONS & ROLES

ALWAYS call the Drill Team room in the morning and report ALL absences.
Phone number: (936) 856-1325. You must also call the front office and report absences.

Girls must pass EVERY CLASS, including electives to be eligible to dance. Progress reports will be sent home twice during September, and then every 3 weeks throughout the year! All teachers have been given a list of Sweethearts and have been told to contact the Director, if they have any concerns or problems with a Sweetheart!!

Remember: Good behavior in and out of all classes, hallways, parking lot, etc. No use of profanity. Passing grades in ALL CLASSES including electives. No display of public affection. DRESS modestly!!! No stomach or low cleavage showing, no short- short Dresses or shorts; and with the return of the low cut jeans and shorts - NO BACK-SIDES, REARENDS OR UNDERWEAR SHOWING when sitting down. Sometimes girls are not aware of what all they are exposing. In class, sit with legs closed or crossed, when wearing a dress. No one wants to see what color of the day underwear your daughter chose to wear to school. Remember there are male teachers at school. Girls will receive demerits & do kicks for improper or revealing school attire or display of public affection. Sweethearts represent the school and community, and should therefore set a good example at all times!

Semi-Sweets:

- Learn traditions and carry them on.
- Take criticism constructively, not personally.
- Learn discipline and responsibility.
- Teach parents about Drill Team.
- Learn honesty and loyalty.
- Become part of the team and PARTICIPATE!
- Learn to overcome fear through communication, and dance.
- Make new friends. They can become your friends for a lifetime.
- Show respect for old members and officers.
- Develop self-confidence.
- Learn to perfect performance under pressure.
- Have a positive attitude.
- Prove themselves worthy of membership, and excel in all that you do.
- Excellence is not an act, but a habit.

Old Members:

- Be a good role model for .new members..
- Serve as a support group for the officers.
- Gain the respect of .old member. friends individually, the officers and Director.
- Pass on traditions. (So important)
- Support and encourage the .new members. (especially your little sis).
- Be good teachers (dance skills)

Officers and Director:

Initiate positive leadership.

Accept criticism.

Teach and perfect dance technique.

Represent the group properly and with Style and Class . You are representing the Sweethearts!

Take care of, support and encourage your squad line and actively participate in squad activities and gifts

Be helpful and considerate in all areas of being an officer.

Choreograph routines.

Enforce rules but with compassion and understanding.

Parents & Guardians:

Attend all performances

Encourage home practice.

Keep up to date on the drill teams activities through family conversation stay involved on a daily basis!

Permit postponement of home obligations during heavy performance seasons.

Provide extra dance lessons. This improves skill and confidence.

Be on committees, volunteer, get involved and express opinions and concerns.

Get involved in the total program from fund-raising to performances.

Ask your young performer to do her routine for the family and friends, this encourages confidence!

Be ready with deserved praise and encouragement.

See that your daughter does her share and knows her part on the team.

Do not over-do for your daughter or live your life through your daughter.

When the excitement of the season is over, help her to return to normal through involvement with other family members.

Teach her to say thank you and how to accept a compliment with grace.

Fathers should give as much time to daughters on drill team as sons on football or other teams. Invite and involve fathers.

Remember that you are capable of making drill team her most educational experience in her young life. Her lab work for life. The experiences are guaranteed priceless.

Understand why we are doing all of this. It is a fantastic organization, promotes confidence, and gives the member a reason to excel academically and as a member. The team needs them 100% to be successful. It teaches responsibility and accountability.

Realize that we are all part of the TEAM and sometimes the good of the team comes before the individual.

Participate as parents; be informed and be open to communicating about problems, but follow the chain of command..

Orient new parents, both dads and moms, early.

Praise and appreciate their hard work, time, energy, loyalty and dedication.

Provide nutritious meals on game day.

Understand and let them feel what they feel, even when they are angry or depressed.

Provide positive reinforcement as to why they became a member.

Support the officers, Director, Board members.
Be happy with what your daughter is trying to accomplish
Be there when she needs you . but let her grow independently.
Help with little things when you can
Let her be responsible for getting herself up, dressed and to practice.
Maintain a positive attitude.
Affirm what she is doing and why.
Follow her school work/grades carefully and take action immediately . Do not wait!
Parents: Girls will usually come to school in their dance team clothes, so it is up to you, the parents, to take a really hard look and supervise what your daughter is bringing for school clothes.

Parent(s) and Guardian(s) Don'ts:

Don't lose your cool.
Don't interfere in problems they have with each other, they have to learn to work together respect each other, and also respect their differences.
Let them work things out, they always do. It gets easier as they mature.
Don't take over their responsibilities.
Don't fuss or nag.
Don't live your life through your child.
Don't make mountains out of molehills.
Don't feed their dissatisfaction.
Don't criticize.
Don't put too much pressure on them.
Don't forget the life lessons your daughter is getting out of this experience.
Responsibility, loyalty, honesty, self-confidence, respect for each other, respect for differences, pride in accomplishments, team-work, moral values, and consequences.
Don't expect your child to be an exception. Team is about treating each other as equals.
Don't talk to other dance team parents about negatives. There are positives to each organization.
Don't allow them to quit - - it will be something they regret later on. It's all worth it in the end - - and something to be proud of accomplishing and much to be gained in the learning process! It is an invaluable life experience.

Other Helpful Hints for Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

Stay involved in following your daughter's grades and make sure she's keeping them up, and also getting plenty of rest. Call and/or e-mail the school, the Director, teachers or counselors **early** on if you see a problem developing. Don't wait until it's too late and ineligibility becomes a factor!

Become involved & support the booster club . volunteers are always needed. We really need Dad's too!!!

Be supportive of your daughter and understand the pressures she's under, but don't let them use it as excuses.

We are always looking for corporate or individual sponsors throughout the year. If you know of someone, or if you work where your office would be willing to donate their copier to occasionally make multiple copies (always check first), a retailer who would donate cases of water or snacks, a florist who would discount our occasional flower orders, a restaurant, nail salon, beauty salon, etc. who would donate door prize certificates or donations for our Spring Banquet, a printing company willing to discount our printing orders, seamstress, etc., please let one of the executive board members, or the Director know!!! We operate on volunteers!

Make sure you see or make a copy of your daughter's monthly calendar/schedule of activities and make an extra copy for you to keep at the office and another one for home. Plan ahead for vacation time. We usually go to out-of-town contests in February, and have weekend contests; two in February and one in March. Contest season entails a considerable amount of practice hours throughout November, December, January, February and March and will require some practices on Saturday. Remember, keep your schedule flexible. There is NEVER an off-season to being a Sweetheart!

Whether your daughter wants to admit it or not, family involvement means a lot to them, and our team has a WHOLE lot of family involvement. When parent schedules permit, many parents travel and attend the out of town contests, although it's not required ~and the parents have as much fun as the girls (or maybe more!). When we travel out of town, if you plan to attend, you can book the parent hotel rooms through the Booster Club and usually save the hotel tax & plus get the room at our group rate. Get involved and enjoy the time spent together with your daughter we promise it will be memorable!

Parents: Rules are necessary for the Sweethearts to have a quality program and reputation. Remember the Sweethearts represent the school and the community, and they should portray themselves with the utmost professionalism, and highest standards in school and out; so as to gain the respect and admiration of all. Each member is part of a tight-knit organization and inappropriate behavior or conduct by one, reflects negatively on the entire organization.

Go to the Director if you have a problem with the team, or go to an Executive Board member if it involves the Booster Club.

VENDOR NIGHT

Remember to bring SEVERAL checks and a parent must attend vendor night. Remain calm & allow for plenty of time. Vendor night is always hectic. The whole process takes about 2+ hours. Ask for help from one of the parent volunteers!

Here are a few helpful hints:

1. Have your daughter wear a form fitting T-shirt & wind shorts to make trying on sizes easier -
TRY ON EVERYTHING, shoes & boots too! . Once it's ordered, it's almost 99.999% impossible to exchange for a different size!!! And nothing can be returned/exchanged if it has been monogrammed!
2. Bring a pair of medium weight socks to try on boots and shoes. Boots should fit very snugly so they won't fly off on the football field during a performance (most girls wear their field tights with a pair of socks with their boots during football performances)
3. Ms Jackson requires that a standard make-up kit be purchased on Vendor Night.
4. It is highly recommended that you purchase at least 2 scrunchies, 2 pairs of gloves and 2 hat covers. (These are the 3 things that are lost or left at home most often, and other than the scrunchies are hardest to purchase at a later date). Rain can really destroy your hat investment and if her gloves are lost or forgotten and required for a dance or her hat severely damaged, your daughter can not perform!
5. All Payments must be made directly to appropriate vendors or the Sweetheart Booster Club .
depending on Vendor or organization who is responsible for ordering the garment, etc.
6. You will need several checks or the exact amount of cash. No credit cards will be accepted.
7. Dance Fantastic: Only Dance Fantastic (one of the vendors) has agreed to accept 50% of their payment on Vendor Night with the balance being due and payable in full by date specified by Ms Jackson. No merchandise will be given out until balance is paid in full. Again, checks are preferred, cash is ok, but no credit cards will be accepted. All Dance Fantastic items are subject to sales tax.
8. Booster Club: Many clothing items and all monogramming for members, are purchased directly through Booster Club. ALL Booster Club amounts are due on Vendor Night, unless there is an approved, specific payment plan agreed to by the Director and Treasurer. Regardless of a payment plan -everything must be paid in full prior to the first day of school. Note: Girls clothing that requires monogramming will NOT be monogrammed and NO

merchandise will not be given out to member until her account with Booster Club and all Vendor's are verified as being paid in full. . Please refer to the Constitution regarding other rules regarding payment to Booster Club and performances.

9.Note: Sweethearts with unpaid balances will NOT be allowed to try-out for performances until all of their balances are paid in full.

10. If you want to purchase a used hat from a .retiring member. . Baskin's on Hwy 75/N. Frazier in Conroe, can reshape, clean or stretch hats for about \$7.00 while you wait (They however can not remove makeup stains from inside or outside of hats) . Ms Jackson has to approve the condition of the used hat you are contemplating- before you purchase it.

11. The Hat should fit snug allowing for a pony tail, or French braid.

12. Retiring Members. (graduating members and non-returning members) will have a table set up where they are selling their old uniform pieces. You must pay each person individually. Please make sure that you are purchasing an item that will be used next year, or have the QUALITY of the item approved by the Director if you are purchasing a Hat, etc.

OVER THE SUMMER

Don't let your daughter cut her hair short-short over the summer unless it grows really fast. At the start of the school year, she may be required to have it long enough to wear in a pony tail.

Start your Sweetheart a dance-team makeup bag or large caboodle. Fill with:

Required Items

1. make-up base *
2. 5 or 6 sturdy hairnets (beauty supply store has the best ones) that match hair-color
PLEASE NOTE HAIR-NETS MAY BE REQUIRED!!!
3. Large can extra stiff hair spray
4. Hair gel or mousse
5. Elastic rubber bands (lots of these)
6. Bobby-pins (large & small sizes) . (lots of these)
7. Hair pins (lots of these)
8. Dark-Dark Brown or Black eyeliner
9. Hair brush & comb
10. Bun maker (can be purchased at Walgreens or Wal-mart)

Optional:

11. Tums or Pepto bismol chewables (for all the junk food they will eat)
12. Tiger balm, icy hot gel or gel packs (for muscle aches)
13. Good size make-up mirror
14. Face & eye cleaning pads
15. Small sewing kit w/scissors (you will need this!)
16. Band-Aids & mole skin for blisters
17. Insect Repellant . Pump Spray Only (during football season)
18. Small compact folding umbrella (that can fit in team bag)

(Dollar General sells the real small ones and they also come in purple!)

Each girl is required to have the minimum hair and makeup items above! . NO EXCEPTIONS (DURING THE YEAR, Don't let your daughter use or borrow from this makeup bag for anything other than dance team that way she's always sure she has everything in one place when she needs to grab it and go!!)

(Stress to your daughter the importance of not sharing lipstick, mascara, eye shadows or hairbrushes. Germs are spread this way- and we don't want the whole team sick! Each girl is REQUIRED to come to all games & competitions with their own make up bag or caboodle filled with everything they need.) *Girls will purchase a standard Sweetheart makeup kit on Vendor Night!

Purchase both a beige/nude & also a black CONVERTIBLE bra with clear straps (to be used during competition season in early spring) . these can be purchased at Maiden form in the Outlet center or Foleys. - Be sure to purchase at least 2-3 extra sets of clear straps and keep them in her team bag (these clear straps are not as strong as regular elastic straps & will snap/break easily) . (This bra will not be used until Contest Season in early February, but since that is also the end of the holiday season they are hard to find if you wait until then to purchase one.)

Make sure your daughter does some form of exercise over the summer to keep her muscles in shape . swimming, aerobics, kick-boxing, weights, jogging, or dance classes (The Dancin. Blue Bonnets or Boni's Dance & Performing Arts Studio both offer summer non-competitive drill team dance classes. At the Bluebonnets, their TLT classes .Turns, Leap & Toe-Touch classes are great and will really improve skills) . both studios are located in The Woodlands.

Girls attending dance studio or work-out classes will receive 1 merit for each class they attend. We have a form available for the instructor to sign after each class that can then be turned in to their Team officer so as to receive their merits. Girls will be given a form if requested, but if needed, please contact the WSBC President or Secretary- if you need another one.

Members are REQUIRED to purchase a combination lock for their Dance-Team locker, which will be assigned at the start of the school year. Girls are fully 100% responsible for making sure their lockers are secured and locked daily!!! You have a considerable amount of \$\$\$ invested in their gear. The Director, team or Booster Club is not responsible for lost/stolen/misplaced items.

COST & EXPENSES

There are many expenses incurred through the year for Sweethearts, ranging from extra tights, contest shoes, officer squad gifts, gifts to big/lil sis and fundraisers.

All items purchased on Vendor Night will be due that night, unless there has been an approved, prior arranged, time/amount specific payment plan. Everything must be paid for on or before specified date. Note: Girls clothing that requires monogramming will NOT be monogrammed and merchandise will not be given out to member until her account with the Booster Club and all Vendor's are paid in full.

Officer Camp: Officers and Social Committee Officers attend an Officer Camp. Location and dates are given soon after the try outs are completed. Again, the girls MAY be responsible for their own transportation to and from the camp. The cost of camp is required at the time of officer tryouts.

Home Camp: Home Camp is an additional cost. This camp is MANDATORY for everyone. During this camp, they learn their stand routines, fight song and victory line routine.

Line Camp (HTE) or Outside Camp: All members will be required to attend a camp designated by the Director. The cost, location and dates will be announced as soon as the details are available. The girls MAY be responsible for their own transportation to and from the camp.

Sponsor Money: Each Sweetheart is required to raise a minimum of \$300.00-team, \$400.00-officers, \$200-managers in Sponsor money. All sponsor money is due as determined by the Director . and all money must be turned in by the specified deadline in order for the member to dance at the first football game of the season and for their sponsor names to appear in the high school football program.

Encourage your daughter to start her sponsor money raising efforts early in the Spring/Summer. Sponsor money can be mailed to the Treasurer over the summer. You do not have to wait until the designated date. Strongly encourage your daughter to earn more than her required minimum.

Everything raised OVER the minimum will stay in her own individual account with Booster Club. This is a great way for her to pay for incidental costs which WILL come up throughout the year (such as an extra pair of tights, special shoes for contest season, solo fees & costumes, solo choreography fees, etc). After Spring Banquet, any unused sponsor money goes into the Booster Club General Fund. **No sponsor money will be refunded.**

Sweethearts who have not turned in their required minimum sponsor money will not be allowed to tryout or perform once school begins until all sponsor money has been paid.

We are not responsible for sponsor names not appearing in the football program where such information was turned in after the specified deadline. Sponsor money will NOT be refunded if a member quits or loses membership with the team. For those members who

are eager to raise over the minimum sponsor amount, please refer to the Constitution for the specific details and the restrictions on Sponsor money.

If Sponsor money balances are not paid before Christmas Break, or 45 days prior the date of first contest/competition (whichever comes first), member or manager may not participate in school events, travel or attend contest events away from school (local, state, or national contests). All outstanding balances will be reported to the school and report cards, transcripts, and graduation ceremonies will be "held" until accounts are paid in full. Members and Managers will not be allowed to attend Spring Banquet until account balances are paid in full. Please also refer to the Constitution Handbook and Booster Club by-laws concerning balances .

Fundraisers: Through the year, the Sweethearts are required to participate in certain fundraisers with a minimum sales requirement (or buyout). Fundraisers are a large and very necessary source of income for our team and allow us to provide amenities to the team that are not covered by the school district's budget. We ask for active participation from both member and parent. Examples of some General fundraisers are, Cocal-Cola Sales, Future Sweetheart & Other Clinics, Car Washes, Holiday Pie & Cookie Dough Sales, Fall Raffle Ticket Sales, Spirit Table Sales and other fundraisers that are decided during our Executive Board Meetings. As allowed, should we raise monies over the "goal", we try to provide prizes to the top seller and the top squad.

All Fundraiser monies are used for, but not limited to:

- 1) Member's Annual Christmas Party & Transportation
- 2) Transportation Bus Costs for Summer dance camps & Football games (above what is covered by school allocated budget)
- 3) End-of-Year Banquet, Awards & trophies, keepsake video, facility rentals, decorations, D.J., catering
- 4) Seasonal Parties: Back to school Swim party, various holiday parties (Christmas, Halloween, etc.) -offset by volunteer parent food contributions for some events
- 4) Hotel, Commercial Bus Transportation and Meal accommodations for members to attend State wide out-of-town contest competitions -(may not incl. air transportation if contest is held out of Texas-If situation arises this issue will be addressed . and in such case fundraiser money should be accounted to individual members account raising money to attend out of State contest/competition)
- 5) Team, Ensemble & Officer Contest & Choreography Fees (above what is not covered by school budget) - does not incl. Solo & Duet fees which are independent
- 6) Costumes/uniforms, props, Team, Ensemble & Officer uniforms (above what is covered by school budget (where possible costumes & props are borrowed/exchanged between various schools)
- 7) Contest T-shirts & member gifts (for contest trips- snacks, etc -offset by volunteer parent food contributions & corporate sponsors)
- 8) Copy, reproduction, stamps, supplies (above what is not covered by school budget)
- 9) Spring Show - flowers, program printing, ticket printing, advertising, D.J. expense (offset by admission ticket sales & program advertising sales) . Spring Show monies are dedicated to the Alicia Williams Memorial Scholarship program

10) Sponsor Plaques, Certificates of Appreciation & printing costs associated with Football Program & Sponsor drive, and clinics.

All fundraiser monies go into the general Booster Club account and are accounted for monthly on the Booster Club Treasury Report.

The Booster Club is dedicated to making your Sweetheart's year on drill team a memorable one. Fundraisers are therefore a necessary part to this success.

Contest Season: There will be fees associated with contest season, some examples are entry fees, solo / duet fees, costumes, extra items for the costumes, solo costumes, recording of music, cutting of music, copying of music, additional hair items and make-up.

Spring Show: Costs associated with Spring Show will include items such as: selling a designated number of tickets. A specified amount in sales ads. The cost of buying a T-Shirt (not necessary, but usually all the girls will want one!!) the cost of a video, pictures, and donating items for the silent auction. ****The good news is that a portion of the monies earned at Spring Show go directly for scholarships that are awarded to the seniors. ***ALL seniors will have the opportunity to apply for the scholarships.***

End of the Year Banquet: Cost associated with the banquet will generally be the cost of the meal (ranging from 20.00 or 25.00 per guest) - funds raised from this allows the booster club to provide very nice end of the year gifts, awards, and an end of the year video/dvd to cherish for many years to come.

PROTECTING & CARING FOR YOUR INVESTMENT

When Vendor Night Order Arrives: Your daughter is going to be really excited, but before she tucks everything into her dresser drawers or team bag, make sure your daughter's name is on **everything**, including leotards, tights, boots, jazz shoes, tennis shoes, hat, etc. . inside the apparel (occasionally we do have a problem with things being borrowed.). NAMES should NOT be visible on any apparel or hats!!!

Purchase white or beige narrow elastic and sew a snug fitting elastic band into their field hat (next to the leather strap) . The Director will check the snugness of their field hat at the start of the school year. This should be done PRIOR to the FIRST Football game!

Care of field uniforms: The field uniforms will get real sweaty & smelly. You can purchase a home dry cleaning system such as Dryel or Clorox Dry Cleaning System from the store. It will give you about an equal number of cleanings and is cheaper than sending the uniform out for cleaning, plus it gets back in time for the next week's game. You and your daughter are ultimately responsible for the uniform and it's care while it's signed out during

the season. At the end of the football season, members will be responsible for dry-cleaning the uniform through a professional drycleaner. ***PLEASE DO NOT EAT ANY CANDY OR SNACKS SUCH AS CHOCOLATE OR SOMETHING THAT WILL STAIN OR RUIN THE UNIFORMS.***

Ultimately, each member/parent is responsible for the uniform and the cost of the field uniform if it must be replaced, and both will be required to sign a contract relating to the field uniform issued.

Care of field boots: Before each week's performance, make sure boots are clean. Purchase and use regularly white shoe polish and/or leather cleaner. Boots must be clean and white for all performances!!! After each performance, wipe your boots with a clean damp cloth. Grass & mud stains will destroy the hefty investment you made in the boots! A small pack of baby wipes in the bag are handy for this purpose.

Care of hat: Make sure the rain hat cover is always in your daughter's team bag. Suggestion: purchase 2 of the rain hat covers since they are a .specialty. item that cannot be found in most local stores. It is also a good idea to purchase a compact-small folding umbrella for your daughter to carry in her team duffel bag. Again, rain can really destroy your hat investment. (Rain ponchos are provided for the team members). Baskin's on Hwy 75 in Conroe can reshape & clean the hats. (They however can not remove makeup stains). A small zippered blanket bag (that you usually get when you purchase a blanket) makes a GREAT storage/carrying bag for the hat . and will preserve it's life, and your investment. Hats are NOT allowed on the floor of the bus at any time!

Care of Practice Clothes, Team Outfits and T-Shirts: Wash items in cold water for better color throughout the year. It is usually best to line dry items as to avoid shrinking, fading out logos and wear and tear. The practice items are so overused, that special care is recommended. Use care in selecting the soaps used - - when the team is dressed alike, it is very noticeable when items are faded and do not fit properly. Another tip is to wash items over the weekend, when you may more "time", don't wait until the night before you need the item....this is how most items are ruined. Also, don't wash these items with the regular wash.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Girls are not PERMITTED to have drugs, prescription/over the counter drugs, alcohol or tobacco at any time during school or at any school event or function (including football games). This school policy includes Tylenol and Midol for cramps. All prescription & over the counter drugs must be left at the nurse's office during school hours, or turned in to the Director or other designated person during out of town travel and they must be in their original containers. (If a parent is not attending an event, we have in years past, had several parents who are nurses who graciously volunteer to take care of the medications during out of town travel).

Girls are also not allowed to give anything to a friend. School rules dictate suspension from school if caught! This policy is also especially important when we are traveling and staying in hotels during competition season. Violation can result in removal from team, discipline/ suspension by school administrators (as it is considered a school event) and in some cases prosecution as a MIP (minor in possession) for illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Please be advised, the school has the right to search all bags and luggage prior to departure on a bus for any school sponsored event!

When traveling, the girls are not permitted to give out their hotel phone number or hotel information to persons who are not with the team. Violation can result in removal from the team and being sent home immediately (and the parent is responsible for the cost of transportation).

Although as parents, we hate to think it would happen. Shoplifting will absolutely NOT be tolerated! This violation can result in criminal charges by the local police department, jail time, prosecution, removal from the team and being sent home immediately (again the parent is responsible for the cost of transportation-not to mention all other legal costs).

Hotel rooms will be checked prior to departing! Girls who have been destructive and/or have abused their room will be punished severely, and expected to pay for damage!

VERY IMPORTANT: AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR, as a parent, do not provide over-the counter medications to another team member, (other than your daughter), unless the other girls parent is present and gives consent!!!

PERFORMANCES

Always remember to have your daughter well pinned in all her uniforms/costumes, and remind her CONSTANTLY. The worst wrath is having a hat, boot, scrunchie, hairpiece, or bra (yes bra!!), fall off (or her fall-out of her bra-BELIEVE IT, it has happened) during a dance routine.~ many of the well endowed girls wear one cup & width smaller, to help prevent this) Always, always use extra hair & safety pins . no bras straps showing, over hair spray the hair & then double check everything!!! During competition, it is possible to loose points by the judges for excessive chest jiggle or something falling out of their hair, or off their costume. (this is a time when the girls really need parents help or another set of eyes

double checking & helping them). Also the girls can receive a demerit if they lose part of their uniform (including hair pieces).

AGAIN, we can not stress enough, Do not allow your daughter to share lipstick, mascara, eyeshadows or hairbrushes . infections & germs are spread this way. Each girl is required to come to all games & competitions with their own make up bag or caboodle filled with everything they need.

Football Season: The Sweethearts perform at all varsity football games and pep rallies during the season. Each girl is required to attend all games and pep rallies during the season, **even if she is not performing.**

Parades & Clinics: Throughout the year, the Sweethearts participate in various parades and community activities. These are also a requirement as our community is very important to us.

Contest Season: Each Spring (Jan/March), the Sweethearts participate in three to four (3-4) competitions. These events entail a considerable amount of practice hours throughout November, December, January, February and March. Most likely, some practices will be on Saturdays.

Basketball Season: The Sweethearts will perform at some of the Varsity basketball games. Each member is required to attend the games, in uniform, **even if she is not performing.**

FOOTBALL SEASON

Many of the Sweetheart parents like to sit together in the section immediately to the left of the girls at our home games, and usually also do the same the away games too, as well as during contest season . please join us!!! It shows our support for the girls, and also gives the parents time to meet and visit with each other. ***(BUT parents remember-the girls are not allowed to talk with their parents at any time).***

Parents and/or friends and relatives are not allowed to sit with or visit the Sweethearts in the stands . (this also includes Homecoming game).

A weekly letter and Driving Maps will be given to your daughter at school each week during football season letting them know the check-in time and approximate time they will return in the evening to the school. The maps will have driving directions for away games for parents wishing to attend.

Girls are required to ride the bus to-and-from the school for ALL away games as well as all other events where bus transportation is provided. If you are also attending an away game or event, and wish your daughter to ride home with you, you will need to provide a written request to the WHS Principal and also the Director, at least 2-3 days prior to the

date of the event. Do not assume your request is approved until the Director has received written approval from the WHS Principal. This privilege will only be allowed **ONE** time per year and only for a VERY special circumstance which should be stated in your written request. At the school event, a parent or legal guardian will need to personally appear and sign your daughter out with the Director. Once the girl has been signed out, the school is no longer responsible!

****Special permission to ride is at the sole discretion of the director and/or school principal and this policy may be revoked at any time*****

The approximate time to pick up your daughter at the school for our away games will be in her Weekly Football Information. Be sure and check with your daughter **before** she leaves for the game so you will know the pickup time. Please, please, please be on time to pick your daughter up (the school parking lot is not well lit late at night and everyone wants to go home as soon as possible)! Cell phones on the bus will only be allowed only for talking to parents, no boyfriends!!! Cell phone privileges can be revoked if it gets out of hand. Ringing cell phones are a major distraction to the bus driver, and 40 phones ringing at the same time, can be very dangerous and jeopardizes the safety of everyone on the bus.

Please make sure your daughter eats **BEFORE** each game. They will be hungry after a full day at school. Girls should **NOT** show up at check in time with a meal or snack in hand. THEY will not be allowed to eat it!

Booster Club likes to provide the girls with a snack & water at the games. A volunteer sign up sheet will be at the Booster Club meetings for parents wishing to provide non-messy snacks such as individual bags of chips, cookies, granola bars, etc. We always need volunteers for snacks since they are not in our budget! Please do not provide any candy or snacks such as chocolate or something that will stain or ruin the uniforms. Parent volunteers will provide the bottled water which will be provided after the half-time performance. Parents are not allowed to bring the girls food from the concession stand.

The Team can lose their stadium snack rights at the discretion of the director for not cleaning up the bus after an away game, misconduct on the bus, not cleaning up their stadium sitting area after eating, etc.

The Sweethearts perform at all varsity football games and several pep rallies and some varsity basketball games during the season. Each girl is required to attend all games and pep rallies during the season **regardless of their performance status**. The Sweetheart line members will tryout for each performance, however it is possible that not everyone will make every dance.

Remember during football season it is always possible that IF playoffs are involved, the girls may have to attend a game that could fall on a holiday! Keep your family & holiday schedule flexible. At away games, girls perform their routine to the opposite stand. If you want to see or video tape the front of your daughter, many parents, as a group, venture to the opposite stand before the start of half time . If you see some of us get up to leave before half-time, you are welcome to join us.

Remember . .Rain, sleet or snow....Sweethearts have to GO!!!. - so if it's raining the girls **STILL MUST** arrive at the stadium/game/or bus at the specified time! Don't forget the rain cover for the hat.

BASKETBALL SEASON

The Sweethearts will perform at some of the Varsity basketball games. Each member is required to attend the games, in uniform, even if she is not performing. The girls will be seated together in a special section.

CONTEST SEASON

Each Spring (Jan/March), the Sweethearts participate in three to four (3-4) competitions. These events entail a considerable amount of practice hours throughout November, December, January, February and March. Most likely, some practices will be on Saturdays.

AGAIN, we can not stress enough, Do not allow your daughter to share lipstick, mascara, eye shadows or hairbrushes . Infections & germs are spread this way. Each girl is required to come to all games & competitions with their own make up bag or caboodle filled with everything they need.

Before EACH Contest your daughter will be given a list of Sweetheart Clothing they will be REQUIRED to bring. Please make sure they have packed everything, down to their socks, shoes and hair accessories. There will be consequences and demerits for not having everything they were told to bring. No flip-flops are allowed at any time, except while traveling on the bus. Girls must be in designated clothing & shoes when leaving the bus and at all other times.

At many of our contests and also at football games we are always looking for volunteers who have large vehicles (ie, trucks, vans, Suburban) to haul clothing & props for contests, or ice chests, etc. for the football games. Please volunteer! Sign up sheets will be available at Booster Club meetings.

During contest season, it will be VERY important for parents to attend Booster Club meetings and also check their e-mail regularly to get every detail possible regarding activities, schedules, travel, hotel and meal arrangements.

During contest season, or at any time, do NOT let your daughter carry large sums of money or bring expensive, heirloom or irreplaceable jewelry. Bring only enough money to purchase snacks, drinks and a sandwich, or a pizza slice or two. Do not leave watches, rings, earrings, etc. laying around in the dressing room (classroom). Store jewelry deep in their team bag, caboodle, make-up bag, etc. or don't bring it at all. Instead of a wrist-watch, consider purchasing an inexpensive clip. watch that can attach to the strap of their team bag.

During contest season, many girls carry a small pillow and blanket to use on the bus, and in our assigned dressing rooms so they can rest or sleep in- between performances. Contest days start very early and it is not unusual for them to last until midnight or later! A small radio, CD-player or i-pod is permitted, but nothing large or loud that will disturb their

team mates. Candy, food, snacks and drinks in the dressing rooms (classrooms) are NOT permitted (not even in their team bag). Our team can be assessed a sizeable fine by the school holding the event, if this rule is violated!!! And the guilty party (parties) on the team, may have to pay the fine!!! The school holding the event will have concession stands, and a defined area to eat in.

At contest, many parents that attend, carry a .first aid or emergency supply. backpack or bag of their own filled with ace bandages, band-aids, hot/cold activated packs, Advil, Alieve, Tylenol, Midol, and again extra hair & safety pins, extra hair-nets, etc. for their daughter. You may want to consider making a Mom. bag for yourself if you will be attending. Although medical techs are around, sometimes it's not always easy to find one when you need them for a minor emergency.

Sweetheart Parents Motto: Always be prepared, prepared, AND finally, prepared! Keep in mind: 1) you are dealing with a teenager and 2) they have many things to keep up with during contest season, many stresses and pressures. You can be her backup, her safety net, but first and foremost SHE is ultimately responsible for having her supplies. Don't forget one of the valuable life lessons your daughter is learning from this experience of being a Sweetheart . RESPONSIBILITY!

Also parents if you are attending contests, don't forget YOUR seat cushion. It will make the very long days a little more bearable!!

SPRING SHOW

Spring Show is generally held late in April. It is generally the last performance of the year. It is a way to show off their award winning routines from the busy contest season they have just completed. It is a time to get family, friends, teachers and others to come and celebrate with the girls. As for parents, we will need help in lots of areas (to be outlined more specifically as the time gets closer), but generally speaking, you will be needed to assist in manning many of the stations such as concession stand, flowers, silent auction, t-shirt sales, etc.

Each girl will be required to sell a specified number of tickets and also sales ads for the program. You may also want to put together a special page for your daughter. ***To say that the week before the spring show is very hectic, is an understatement.*** Please keep in this in mind when this time comes!!!

BANQUET

The end of the year banquet is a more of a "closed" event. It is a time that the family can get together to celebrate the year's accomplishments. This is the time the girls receive their awards, special recognition, an overview of the year - - This is usually a very emotional time for the girls, especially for those who will be leaving. The girls generally

have been through a lot, and this is a very special event for them. This is also a time that an end of the year video/dvd is given to the girls. So you want to make sure you have been collecting pictures all along the year.

BOOSTER CLUB

All families have paid the dues as part of the mandatory fees at vendor night. So why not attend the meetings???? Again, it cannot be stressed enough to attend the meetings to be aware of all the activities. Remember, we all want to see our daughters perform, especially at football season and contest season. Hopefully with all pitching in, we will all be able to enjoy our daughter's performances.

Who are we? The Willis Sweetheart Booster Club is a parent driven organization that provides moral, financial and positive support to the Willis Sweetheart Drill Team. We do not run the drill team, we support Ms. Jackson and our girls. Our highly efficient, well run organization is recognized as the premier Booster Club organization within Willis Independent School District. We are very proud that we have an active Booster Club and are supported by our parents and school administrators. Parent support is essential to the success of this organization and we require active parent participation.

What we do? The Sweetheart Booster Club has several fundraisers throughout the year, including our Fall Raffle, and Holiday Pie Sale. Our biggest event however is Spring Show. All proceeds raised from our Spring Show go towards the Alicia Williams Memorial Sweetheart Dance Scholarship for graduating seniors. Our Booster Club is also responsible for assisting with planning and organizing contest trips, our Spring banquet, as well as many other social events for both the team and parents during the year. Our main mission is assuring that both our girls and their parents have a memorable year on Drill Team.

Check your e-mail and check it often . E-mail has become one of our main sources of communication within the Booster Club. If you don't have email, you will receive some information via mail from Booster Club, but you will also have to rely on your daughter to bring you what the Director hands out.

E-mail has become a great tool and source of information within our organization. It has also allowed us to significantly reduce our mailing costs, thus providing the team with extra amenities not covered by the school district. As an organization, we would **not** like to see this important communication tool taken away from us because of misuse. **No Parent is allowed to use the Sweetheart email systems for any reason. All emails must go through Ms Jackson or the Executive Board.**

Our Booster Club publishes a Directory of our members 2 times per year. For the privacy and safety of our membership, the following guidelines will apply:

The email addresses published in the directory are solely for the Director and Executive Board to keep you, as members informed as to event/dates/times/functions, etc. that affect the Team and Booster Club; and our list of email recipients should not be used for any other purpose and is strictly prohibited.

The information contained in the Directory should never be copied, sold or used by a parent, team member, or any individual to contact the entire Sweetheart membership.

All information contained in the Directory is the property of the Sweetheart Booster Club and is to be used solely for Sweetheart and Booster Club business, and any other use is strictly prohibited. No information contained in the Directory may be copied or reproduced.

Please notify the WSBC Secretary of any changes to phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses, etc. so that we can keep both our Directory and email mailing list up-to-date.

Make sure you get or see a copy of your daughter's monthly calendar/schedule of activities (make an extra copy to take to your office).

Become involved & support the Booster Club . attend the monthly meetings & volunteer (you are always needed.) we want dad's too- please encourage their involvement!!! Remember this is your Booster Club and your participation and support of our Club is what makes our organization work effectively.

When issues arise - the protocol, order and place to discuss/resolve issues is:

- 1) first and foremost: always directly discuss your specific concerns/issues with the Director;
- 2) discuss your specific concerns/issues with the Executive Board - IF it pertains to Booster Club, and finally
- 3) discuss your specific concerns/issues with the school principals/counselors.

Booster Club sells many Parent Clothing items if you wish to purchase items for wearing to football games, contest events, etc. We are each VERY proud parents of our Sweetheart member and we love to show our pride! (This includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, etc.) There will be several times during the year to purchase parent clothing or special contest shirts.

Ways the Booster Club Members Can Support the Sweethearts and the

Director: Volunteering for the various duties. Some examples are Hard Haulin' Dads: We always need strong Dads to help load, unload, fix and transport many things. Trucks, trailers, and SUV.s are all appreciated! Costume Creating/Prop Creating Moms & Dads: always make our girls look spectacular at contest Snack volunteers . an absolute essential! Stadium Sales & Fundraiser volunteers, Fall and Spring Clinics, Spring Show ticket takers, Spring Banquet room decorators, Decorate dressing rooms and doors at contests. Moral and visible support at all activities where our girls perform.

Remember, we all want to see our daughter(s) perform; so when everyone volunteers, we can all share in enjoying their performances.