

## State Team Guidelines 2024-2025

1. The twirling/dancing “season” is from September 3rd, 2024 - July 12th, 2025. If you cannot commit to attending regularly through the State Competition, which is tentatively July, 12th, 2025, please contact Anna for Non-competitive class details.
  - a. All StateTeam Members are required to enroll in ballet. Dance technique is a huge part of twirling. All Athletes are encouraged to participate in jazz and/or poms in addition to ballet, as the more they dance the stronger twirler/dancer they will become. Ballet will be performed in the recital only. Please ask Anna for jazz/poms class recommendations if interested.
  - b. State Team Members will meet one time each week for a 1-hour baton class and one time each week for a 30-minute ballet class.
2. If you accept a position on the State Baton/Dance Team and then are removed for disciplinary reasons or you remove yourself from the Team for any reason other than Major Illness or Injury after November 1, 2023; you will be charged a \$100 Choreography Fee per routine vacated to compensate for the time it takes to change and make adjustments to the team routines.
3. **Competitions are Mandatory.** Failure to attend a competition will result in disciplinary measures up to and including expulsion from the team. Most competitions are in the months of Feb, March, April, May, June, and July. A listing of approximate competition dates are listed below. These dates are not set in stone, they are only to serve as a tentative guide and may change.
  - a. **Community Performances:** From time to time the State Team will be asked to perform at various community events. These events include parades, special events such as Friday Night Live, Farmers Markets, or the County Fair. I strongly believe the experience of performing helps build confidence, self-esteem, and participation is highly encouraged.
  - b. **Parades:** We perform in various fall and summer parades. Each State Team Member is required to participate in a minimum of 2 parades each season.
4. All students are expected to attend class regularly. Students who miss practice for any reason, are required to make up the missed practice time by either attending open gym or taking a private lesson to learn/practice the material missed. Please note that absences (excused or unexcused) or failure to know/execute the routine may affect your child’s eligibility to participate in competitions and/or performances at the Team Director’s discretion. Absences may impact an athlete's placement/role in a routine or particular section of a routine.
  - a. **For the success of the team, PLEASE DO NOT plan family vacations, overnight camps, etc... from June 16<sup>th</sup> – July 12th, 2025. This is our busiest competition season, and all members need to be present at practices.**
5. Fundraising opportunities will be provided. Each State team member must either pay or fundraise approximately \$100.00 for competition entry fees and prop expenses.
  - a. **\*Candy Land Classic Competition** Fundraiser is targeted to be held in April 2025. National and State Team members and parents are expected to participate in/volunteer

at least two shifts. This is the largest fundraiser we do. The funds raised at the CLC will be for the General Team Fund and used to purchase props, equipment, and/or gym time.

- b. **\*Calendar Fundraiser** for the month of October 2024. This fundraiser will be used specifically to pay for gym time and props. Our estimated gym fee for this season is around \$11,000. For families with more than one child participating on a competition team, only one calendar per family is needed. A great way to thank your sponsor is to take a picture with a Thank you note each day for the month of October and post it on your social media or be sure your athlete writes a handwritten thank you note to their supporters. Calendars will be emailed to everyone on the team before the start of the season. All funds will be due by Thursday, September 26th.
  - c. \*We will do a **Marcus Movie Pass Fundraiser, Racine Kringle**, and possibly **Seroogy's Candy Sales** for students to earn toward their individual twirler account.
  - d. Additional fundraisers may be added. I am always open to ideas, so if you have an idea and are willing to "chair" it, let me know.
6. Competition Fees are subject to change if additional competitions are added/or subtracted. **Final Competition Fee balances are due on Thursday, June 5th, 2025**
7. PRACTICE ATTIRE: **All team members are expected to come to class prepared to participate at the start time of class. This does not mean walk in the door and then do your hair!** Hair is to be in a secure bun prior to arriving at class. Hair should be up in a secured bun that students do not need to "re-do" during class time. It's wise to arrive a few minutes early to begin stretching prior to entering the classroom.
  - a. **Each time we need to stop class to wait for a teammate to "fix" their hair, additional minutes will be added to the end of class.**
  - b. If a State Team member comes to class dressed inappropriately, they will be asked to call home and have appropriate clothing and/or footwear delivered. Everyone should arrive with enough time to change shoes, use the restroom, and enter the classroom at the designated start time.
  - c. Sweatshirts and baggy sweatpants are only to be worn during the first 10 minutes of class during warmups. Make sure your athlete is wearing a tank top and shorts or fitted leggings/tank top under their warm-ups. It is imperative to see leg lines and bodylines while in class. **Tank tops or leotards must be worn during all baton and dance classes. NO T-SHIRTS!**
8. **Code of Conduct Team Members:** State Team Members are expected to conduct themselves in a "professional" work-like manner when at practice, competitions, and performances. **All members are expected to treat their fellow teammates, parents, and instructors with respect. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.**
  - a. We will work together as teammates to build each other up and support one another. Students who behave in a disrespectful manner will be asked to leave class or take a time out to re-group. Their return to the team will be at the director's discretion.
  - b. If any State Team Member is found to be engaging in inappropriate behavior, being disrespectful to parents, teammates, or instructors will face consequences up to expulsion from the team. Return to the team will be at the director's discretion. Anytime

an athlete is in RTC attire, or at a competition, the utmost professionalism, sportsmanship, and friendliness are expected.

- c. If your athlete is 10 years old and above, and they have a question or concern regarding a particular routine or incident, I expect to hear it from the athlete first.
9. **Code of Conduct Parents:** All Team Parents are expected to conduct themselves in a supportive manner. We are one team working together to create the best possible experience for all athletes. Please ensure your athlete arrives at practice on time with proper attire and necessary supplies (shoes, batons, water). Don't participate in "the rumor mill". If you have a question about a competition, a routine, or an event, ask. Do not assume. If you are asked a question by a fellow parent and you are not 100% sure of the answer, ask Anna or Aryn.
  - a. **Social Media** - no more than a 15-30 second clip of a National Team performance may be posted to a social media account. We work hard to create unique choreography for our students, and we have noticed parts of our twirl sections, dance routines, and soloists' routines showing up in other groups' and individuals' routine content. Posting full routines on social media makes it easy for competitors to watch and learn the material that you have paid us to create.
  - b. **Above all, teach your children to support one another! Cheer on each other's successes!** Jealousy is ugly and does not look good on anyone. As hard as it may be at times, we learn more from our failures than our successes. Be there to support your athlete when they've had a rough day, and to celebrate with them when they achieve success.
10. **Tentative Competitions are as follows:**
  - a. Hollywood Knights - Bolingbrook, IL (Winter)
  - b. Candy Land Classic - Waukesha North High School (Early April)
  - c. Twirling Twisters Spring Competition - Hoffman Estates, IL (Spring TBD)
  - d. All North Regional Championships - Oshkosh, WI (tentative 6/21/2025)
  - e. Wisconsin State - Wauwatosa, WI Saturday, ( either 6/28/25 or 7/12/2025)
  - f. \*Competitions may be added or deleted. \*Additional Solo Competition opportunities will be emailed out as they are announced.
11. **Team Communications:** State Team members will be utilizing the **TeamSnap app, Facebook, Instagram, and email.** It is each State Team Member's responsibility to make sure you have downloaded these apps to stay up to date on all team activities.
12. **Competition Attire:** New this year, all State Team Members will receive information in the Fall to order a State Team "Twirler Pack" which will include a Team Tote Bag, Tank, Shorts, and Jacket (if you don't already have one).

## State Team Guidelines Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge I have received the State Team Guidelines. I have read and understand the expectations as a member of the State Competition Team. I understand competitions are mandatory and I understand the importance of regularly attending practice. I commit to working my hardest to be a good teammate.

Athlete's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_