

Garrison High School

Majorette Constitution/Handbook 2020 - 2020



GHS Majorette Sponsor:
Chelsey Brewer

**Garrison Band Director: Scott
Williams**

Clark Barnett, Garrison High School Principal

Reid Spivey, Superintendent

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Read this constitution and handbook completely.

Please fill out and return the forms on pages 9 - 10 of the handbook to Mr. Cotton prior to the first day of the 2019 - 2020 school year.

These forms will be filed and secured in the band hall.

Sponsor/Director Contact Information

Chelsey Brewer
Elementary Office (936)347-7010

Scott Williams

Band Office Phone: (936)-347-7040

Forward

CONGRATULATIONS on being selected as a 2019 - 2020 **GARRISON HIGH SCHOOL MAJORETTE!** This constitution and handbook is a guide for both parents and students to refer to for specific details concerning all aspects of the GHS Majorette Line.

Purpose

The purpose of this constitution and handbook is to inform parents and students of the requirements and responsibilities of being a member on the GHS Majorette Line. Any successful organization must have the understanding and support of all parents, students, sponsors, and directors involved.

The rules and regulations stated in this handbook are to be followed by all students on the Garrison High School Majorette Line. Parents should familiarize themselves with the obligations, rules and costs of the majorette program. If there are any questions, please contact the sponsor or band directors.

Our Goals

To promote self-discipline, responsibility, cooperation and loyalty.

To develop a strong sense of fellowship.

To encourage a desire and appreciation for excellence in performance.

To provide opportunities for students to improve their baton skills through performances.

To allow students the means to express themselves creatively.

To encourage a strong work ethic.

Sponsor's Note

All of the goals mentioned above are attainable by means of a strong bond with your fellow majorettes, a desire to strive for perfection, and a genuine love for twirling. If every member of this organization strives to be the best at all times, no goal is out of reach. Success and failure alike help us grow and mature; take advantage of these moments. Treat each moment as an opportunity to make something incredible happen.

Each of us is an integral part of this organization. We must work as one to attain each of the goals above.

I. Responsibilities

- To entertain at pep rallies, varsity football games or any other performances authorized by the Band Director, Sponsor and Garrison ISD.
- To provide superior leadership and maintain superior musicianship in all activities.
- To help in organizing and/or promoting other events (fundraising, etc.).
- To act as positive leaders in the school setting and off campus.

II. Qualifications

- A majorette candidate must be actively and continuously enrolled in 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th grade band during the year of the tryout.
- The student must have at least one year marching experience.
- The student must be on grade level and must be sure of promotion to the next grade for the upcoming school year.
- The student must not have been ineligible more than twice during the current school year.
- The student must not owe any money to Garrison ISD.

III. Audition Procedures

- Two to Three judges will be selected and contracted for their expertise in adjudicating auxiliary programs. All judges will be from outside Garrison ISD.
- These judges will select twirlers according to their abilities in execution of fundamentals and a group routine.
- Candidates will draw numbers for identification purposes prior to the audition.
- Attire: dark shorts and a white/light t-shirt with no logos/advertisements.
- A candidate must receive a **minimum score of 80%** in order to be selected. Not all students who audition are guaranteed a position on the line. Total number of twirlers will be at the discretion of the judges.
- The auditions are closed to the public with the exception of the Band Directors, Twirling Sponsor, Judges and School Administrators. All windows will be covered.
- **All results are Final.**

IV. Fundamentals and Workshops

All candidates must be able to execute the following (L and R hand marked with *)

- Forward figure eights *
- Wrist twirls *
- Horizontals *
- Two hand spin pass around back
- Little Joe flips

- Right hand thumb tosses (right to right)
- Left hand back hand (left to left)
- 4 finger twirl over the back of the hand
- 8 finger twirl
- Forward split fingers *
- Horizontal split finger *
- Back catch
- Vertical and horizontal one-turns

All candidates will be required to attend the fundamental/routine workshops as set by the Sponsor and Band Directors. These sessions are closed to the public.

V. Standards of Maintaining Majorette Status

- Each student is responsible for attending the summer Twirling Camp prior to summer band rehearsals.
- The student must be continuously enrolled as a member of the Garrison Band Program for the upcoming year.
- The student must attend all rehearsals (band and twirling).
- The student must maintain superior musicianship on her instrument.
- Failure to comply with Garrison ISD rules will result in disciplinary procedures set forth by the Garrison ISD handbook and one or more of the following:
 - Sitting out during one or more Pep Rally performances
 - Sitting out during one or more football game performances
 - Expulsion from the Twirling Program
- The student must maintain passing grades. Failure to do so will result in one or more of the following:
 - Sitting out during one or more Pep Rally performances
 - Sitting out during one or more football game performances
- Each student must pass off the routine to the directors/sponsor prior to performances. Poor execution may result in dismissal from the performance.
- In the event a twirler fails a drug test, the student will not be permitted to tryout the following year.

VI. Discipline

Maintaining exemplary behavior at all times promotes success and fosters personal and professional growth within the majorette line. As outlined in the *"Standards of Maintaining Majorette Status"* section, disciplinary action will be taken for the following infractions:

- Any disrespectful behavior toward sponsors, directors, or fellow students.
- Consistent tardiness or absences from rehearsals/performances.
- Abuse of instruments or other school property.
- Other infractions stated in the school handbook.

VII. Practices

Procedures

- Should arrive five minutes before practice to ensure they are properly prepared.
- Proper attire must be worn as directed by instructor. Appropriate clothing includes form-fitting shirt, shorts, and tennis/jazz shoes. "Street" clothes are not appropriate for practice.
- Hair back and secured.
- NO JEWELRY (this includes bracelets, necklaces, rings, ankle bracelets, watches, etc.).
- Appropriate behavior and attitude (be positive).
- Follow directions and respect the rights of others.
- Attend all practices (sponsor/director should be notified in writing by parent signature **before** a student misses a practice).
- Water must be brought to all practices (sports drinks, healthy snacks may be brought in addition to water).
 - No gum or candy at any practice or performance.
 - No talking or twirling the baton when the instructor is talking.

Unexcused Practices/Performances

- All practices are mandatory
- In order for the following items on the list to be excused, a notification in writing and parent signature must be received 48 hours of receiving the date. Once 48 hours have passed all Majorettes are expected to attend the functions that have been noted, failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence.
- Any appointments (dentist, doctor, etc.).
- Family reunions, outings, vacations, etc.
- Attending another function instead of practice.(unless agreed upon ahead of time).
- Exam/class work make-ups. Majorettes are not allowed to use practice time to make up work for absences that are NOT team related.

Dismissal from Practice

- Inappropriate behavior.
- Failure to follow instructions.
- Actions or manners that undermine the progress of practice.
- Repeated offenses after being warned.
- Negative attitudes that affect the team.

VIII. Performances

Procedures

- Be on time! Five minutes before call time is considered on time.
- Dressed in full uniform when called to attention (this includes uniform, tights, shoes, hair done, makeup finished, etc.). NO colored shoe laces.
- Majorettes are required to attend all performances.
- Follow instructions.
- Maintain a professional attitude for the entire performance.
- Permission is required from the sponsor/director before leaving a performance.
- Twirlers are required to travel to and from performances with the group.

- Always wear hair and makeup as instructed for performances.
- No colored fingernail polish may be worn for ANY performance.

Eligibility

- Students must be eligible according to UIL and Garrison ISD policies.
- Grades will be checked frequently to ensure students are passing their classes.
- Students must attend school day of a performance.

Benchings: Benchings are given for infractions of the rules and result in danger of becoming ineligible to perform in the next performance. The following examples will result in a benching:

- Negative reactions or attitude toward the sponsor, directors, or a fellow majorette
- Unexcused absent from a performance – benched for following performance
- Receiving an office referral the week of a performance
- Inappropriate behavior at school or during a school/performance function
- Absent from school the day of performance.
- Twirlers are still required to attend practices and performances even if benched for that performance.

IX. Attendance

All majorettes are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. Throughout the school year the band and majorettes will have many performances. Some of the performance opportunities are mandatory while others are voluntary. Below you will find a list of mandatory performances as well as those that are voluntary.

Mandatory: Pep Rallies, Football Games, Pre-UIL Marching Contest, UIL Marching Contest, Parades/Community Functions, Christmas/Spring Concerts, Pre-UIL C/SR Contest, UIL C/SR Contest, and any other performances in which the full band is required to perform.

Voluntary: All-Region Band/Jazz Tryouts, All-Region Band Clinic/Concert, Solo & Ensemble Contest, and any other performances in which the full band is not required to perform.

Twirling Contest: At the discretion of the Sponsor the majorette line may participate in twirling contest (invitational and/or UIL) as a unit. A majorette that wishes to perform a solo routine or in an ensemble in addition to the required GHS Majorette contest performance may do so with the sponsor and directors approval.

X. Majorette Uniform and Expenses

- All uniforms will be chosen by the Twirling Sponsor and Band Directors. These uniforms will be modest and display school colors.
- For full-band contest, each majorette will be issued a full West-Point style uniforms are provided by the school. Students will be fitted for a uniform during the summer band registration process. The uniforms must be turned in after each performance. They are dry-cleaned three times during the

school year.

- Students will be financially responsible for the following:
 - Marching Boots
 - Instep (cougar) shoes
 - Two pairs of tights
 - Field and Pep Rally uniforms
 - Warm-Up suit
 - Baton/Accessory bag
 - Two batons
 - Practice/Camp outfits
 - Registration/Camp fee (\$50.00)
 - Majorettes are not required to pay the regular band fee. This amount covers both fees.

(i.e. money is turned-in to the Band Department, placed in the twirlers' student account, and ordered through the school)

Items that must be purchased through the school are the following: marching boots, field uniform, pep rally uniform, warm-up and the camp fee. The field uniform will need to be paid for in full upon order. The camp fee will need to be paid in full before the summer Twirling Camp. All remaining items may be purchased on your own or through the school. You must have all items prior to summer Twirling Camp.

XI. Equipment

Each student is responsible for her own equipment when we travel. This includes uniforms, instruments, music and accessories.

XII. Transportation and Travel Policies

We will always travel to performances as a group; however, a release form must be filled-out and returned to Mr. Cotton if a student is riding home with a parent. Students may only ride home with their parents unless prior written notice is given to a director and approved by the high school principal (in this case, students may only be released to other parents). Students are still responsible for their equipment.

Students will travel to all events in ISD vehicles.

Throughout the year, we will travel using school transportation. Normal Garrison ISD rules and bus policies apply during these trips.

- Any infractions of ISD rules will be handled as if we were on campus.
- Only bottled drinks with caps.
- Stay seated when the bus/vehicle is moving.
- Upon arrive at our destinations; stay seated until you are released by a director.
- Return the bus in better condition than when we loaded. All trash must be picked up and placed in a trash bag.

XIII. Letter Jackets

A junior or senior majorette/band student may qualify for a letter jacket through various means. A senior student enrolled in her 4th year in the High School Band will receive a letter jacket in the fall. A student may also "letter" in band by achieving the following:

- Receiving a 1st Division rating on a Class 1 Solo or Ensemble at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest.
- Earning a 1st Division at Twirling UIL contest
- Earning a chair in the Texas All-State Bands or Orchestras.
- Being drum major of the Garrison High School Band.

**2019 -2020 Garrison High School Band
Medical Authorization Form**

The purpose of this form is to make it possible for parents and/or guardians to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for students who become ill or injured while under group authority, when parents and/or guardians cannot be reached for the purpose of giving consent for such treatment. Such authority is necessary to overcome legal obstacles to the provision of such treatment when all reasonable attempts to reach parents and/or guardians have failed. We must have this authorization to make the trip.

Health Insurance Information

STUDENT'S NAME

Sex_

Last

First

Middle

M or F

DATE OF BIRTH / /

HOME PHONE ()

ADDRESS

Street

City

State

Zip

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME(S)

ADDRESS

Street

City

State

Zip

HOME PHONE ()

ALTERNATE PHONE ()

NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANY

INSURANCE COMPANY PHONE #

NAME OF INSURED_

POLICY/GROUP NUMBER

PERSON TO CONTACT IF UNABLE TO REACH PARENT/GUARDIAN:

NAME

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT

ADDRESS

Street

City

State

Zip

HOME PHONE ()

ALTERNATE PHONE ()

Medical Release

I, _____, give my consent; in the event that all reasonable attempts have been made to contact me at my home or my place of employment have been unsuccessful, for medical care or treatment to be administered in the event that the above student becomes ill or injured while participating in any band activity.

DATE _/ /

Parent/guardian signature

Student & Parent Contact Information

Student Name: M/F: DOB:

Student E-mail: Phone Number:

List of other co-curricular activities:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Parent E-mail: Home Phone:

Cell Phone: Work Phone:

Permission to Travel Form

I give permission for (print student name) to travel with the Garrison High School Band to band events through-out the 2019-2020 school year.

Bus transportation will be provided by the *Garrison ISD*.

DATE _/ _/

Parent/Guardian Signature

Handbook Acknowledgement

I have received a copy of the Garrison High School Majorette Constitution & Handbook. I have read and reviewed the content. I understand the expectations that are to be upheld by my child and will encourage her to abide by the policies set forth in the handbook.

DATE /_ /_

Parent/Guardian Signature

I have received a copy of the Garrison High School Majorette Constitution & Handbook. I have read and reviewed the content. I understand that membership is a privilege. I know that by signing this form I have agreed to uphold the expectations set forth in the handbook. I assume the necessary responsibilities as an integral member and will give my best.

Student Signature

DATE /_ /_

Demerit System

This is a detailed description of the Garrison High School Twirler demerit system. This system will be used to keep twirlers accountable for their actions. Twirlers need to maintain a positive and disciplined attitude. Students should behave at all times in a manner that reflects positively on the line, the band, and the school.

The demerit system will be effective upon selection of the new line and will remain in effect for the duration of the school year until new selection takes place. Twirlers are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times.

DEMERITS

Twirlers will be allowed twenty (20) demerits before dismissal from the line.

Not attending summer choreography camp (unexcused)	10
Not wearing proper practice attire	2
Late to band or twirling practice (unexcused)	3
Not having proper equipment	2
Inappropriate use of cell phone	2
Missing a practice (unexcused)	5
Missing a performance (unexcused)	5
Missing an event (unexcused) includes fundraisers, clinics, etc.	4
Incomplete uniform	BENCHED
Not returning from 3 rd quarter break on time	2
Below 70 average	2
ISS	4 per day
Detention	2 per day
Bad attitude (sponsor discretion)	1-5
Behavior that reflects poorly on the line, the band, and GISD	1-10
Disrespectful to band director, sponsor, instructor (sponsor/instructor discretion)	1-10
Disrespectful to other members of the line	1-10

The Band Director and Sponsor reserve the right to make changes.

DEMERIT SCALE:

- 5 demerits Probation for 1 week (will not perform at pep rally)
- 10 demerits Suspension for 1 week from ALL performances
- 15 demerits Suspension for 2 weeks from ALL performances
- 20 demerits Removal from the line

Definitions:

Benched: Attending all practices, events and performances, but not participating in any of the performances that week.

Probation: Attending all practices, events, and performances, but not participating in the upcoming pep rally. The twirler will wear full twirling uniform and play her instrument in the stands with the band during the pep rally.

Suspension: Attending all practices, events, and performances, but not participating in any of the performances that week. (i.e. pep rally, game, clinics, parades, special activities, etc.). The twirler will wear full twirling uniform and play her instrument in the stands with the band during the pep rally and the game.

Removal: If a twirler is removed from the line, she may not tryout for twirler the following year.

By signing below, we agree to abide by the Garrison High School Twirler Demerit System.

Twirler Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____