

Jenks High School Pom Contract

I. Purpose

- A. The primary objectives of the pom team are:
 - 1. to be a competitive team member while positively representing Jenks High School at all competitions.
 - 2. to promote school spirit and unity at school events.
 - 3. to provide entertainment at school events.
 - 4. to increase self-esteem in its members.
 - 5. to encourage leadership qualities and life-long skills.
- B. Pom members shall represent the school by acting as positive role models and demonstrating good leadership qualities.

II. Membership

- A. The membership of each squad is defined as follows:
 - 1. The varsity squad may consist of sophomores, juniors and seniors (freshmen with administrative approval) and they will dance at all varsity football games and home basketball games while supporting the teams during play.
 - 2. Junior Varsity may consist of freshman, sophomores and juniors, and they will dance at all JV football games and home sophomore basketball games while supporting the teams during play.
 - 3. The freshmen squad will consist of freshmen (8th grade with administrative approval), and they will dance at all home freshmen football games and all home freshmen basketball games while supporting the teams during play.
 - 4. The 8th grade squad will consist of 7th and 8th grade students, and they will dance at all assigned home 8th grade football games and all assigned home 8th grade basketball games while supporting the teams during play.
- B. The number of members per team will be determined by the coaches and will be verified by the coordinators and athletic director.
- C. Freshman, JV or varsity squads may enter competitions with fewer participants than the total number on the squad. Therefore, every pom member may not participate in competitions and such participation is at the sole discretion of the coaches and/or pom coordinator. However, all squad members are required to participate in all squad practices and school activities.

III. Eligibility

- A. No member will be allowed to tryout that has previously quit or has been removed from a pom squad at Jenks for disciplinary action during the past year. All outstanding fees must be paid.
- B. Girls must have a 2.0 GPA in order to tryout and must maintain a 2.0 if selected. Any grade of F during the season will result in probation and/or ineligibility.
- C. Students who tryout for pom must be currently enrolled at Jenks or must show proof of residency in the school district.
- D. If a squad member has an outstanding balance from the previous year, the member must gain permission from the athletic director before trying out for the following year's squad.
- E. All students selected for the pom teams shall have a physical examination certificate signed by a licensed physician after May 1st of the tryout year and at least one parent or legal guardian on file before the first performance or during the designated time as scheduled by the head trainer.
- F. Each pom member will be required to sign a drug contract to participate in a one time mandatory drug testing at a cost to the squad member. After mandatory testing, several athletes are randomly selected on a weekly basis for further drug testing. Refer to JHS drug policy for detailed information.
- G. If a pom member has been identified as a member of a JHS pom squad, she will not be eligible to tryout for Jenks High School cheer squads in the same year. If cheer tryouts occur before pom tryouts, the agreement will be reciprocal.

IV. Tryout Procedure

- A. The following items will be completed and turned in for girls to complete the tryout procedure: Jenks Pom permission form, copy of the most recent report card, and the nonrefundable \$35 tryout fee.
- B. Prior to the tryout clinic, a summary of anticipated expenses, summer camp participation, practices and the duties of the pom member will be presented to the parents. **Each parent will sign a waiver, acknowledging that they have been presented with this information, agree to abide by the contract, and that they will accept the financial responsibility associated with pom.**
- C. The tryout dance will be taught by graduating senior pom members and/or coaches. Senior members will also aid in a variety of positions during the clinic as well as during the tryout.
- D. Tryout uniform for all grades will consist of black dance wear, determined by coach/coordinator and tennis shoes or dance shoes.
- E. Attendance at school is mandatory for at least one half day for each day the tryout clinic is in session.
- F. Final squad selection will be made by the coach with approval of coordinators and athletic director.
- G. Tryouts will be closed.
- H.. Squads will be announced in writing the day following the squad tryout.. Written communication will be disseminated at the determined time.

V. Attendance

- A. Pom members must attend all practices, football games, basketball games, and competitions. They must attend the entire game when there as a pom squad member unless notified otherwise. Some mandatory practices may be scheduled over school holidays and weekends.
- B. If an athletic event is cancelled or postponed, the pom members are to attend the rescheduled event.
- C. Pom members must also be prepared to perform at all football and basketball playoff games.
- D. Pom members must attend school the number of days established by the Jenks Board of Education.
- E. Pom members must attend a minimum of a half day of school to practice or perform.
- F. Pom members must attend all mandatory practices during the month precluding nationals' competition. The only excused absences will be for serious illness or injury with verification from a doctor. Any other reason for an absence must have prior approval from the coordinator/coach to be excused. Unexcused absences could result in the member's exclusion from dancing at nationals competition.

VI. Responsibilities

- A. Pom members need to have transportation to fulfill responsibilities. If the member is a non-driver, the responsibility falls upon the parent.
- B. Pom members may be required to submit a doctor's note verifying illness/injury.
- C. Pom members will be responsible for maintaining uniform pieces issued by the school and will return them in the same condition they were issued. Damaged or lost items will be paid by the pom member.
- D. Each member of a squad, excluding 8th grade, will receive a grade for pom both semesters which will be determined by the sponsor and coach. A rubric including the following criteria will be used to determine each member's grade: attendance, attitude, cooperation, responsibility, commitment, dance ability, effort, leadership and respect.
- E. **Pom members will be responsible for purchasing up to two sets of poms for the school year.** One set will be used at school events, and the other set will be used at competitions.

VII. Corporate Sponsorship

- A. Each pom squad member will be responsible for securing \$100 worth of corporate sponsorships that will be deposited into the pom general fund. 50% of additional sponsorships obtained will be deposited into the individual girl's account.

- B. Paperwork for securing sponsorships will be distributed once squads are announced.
- VIII. Camp**
- A. All members must attend summer camp with their team. The purpose of camp is to create unity and to learn material for the upcoming year.
 - B. Summer camp will be scheduled during the month of June and possibly into the first week of July, leaving the remainder of July open for family vacations. Families are expected to work around camp when planning summer activities.
 - C. If a pom member has too many unexcused absences from summer practices before camp or is absent during the teaching of the camp dance, the coach may choose to bench the girl from home routine during camp as well as successive performances of that routine. The number of absences deemed unacceptable is defined on the Demerit chart.
- IX. Practices**
- A. Attendance is required at all scheduled practices.
 - B. The coach will determine the regular practice schedule along with required extra practices. Varsity, Jr. Varsity and Freshmen may have mandatory practices over Christmas break. The consequences for unexcused absences from these practices will be a benching at the Nationals competition. Vacations will be unexcused absences.
 - C. Members must be dressed in dance wear for all practices and must have all appropriate gear necessary for practice.
 - D. Spring and Summer practices will be held in April, May, June, and August. Optional technique may be offered in July and it may be necessary to schedule national's choreography at the end of July. When school is not in session, practices may be held as determined by the coach and coordinator. These are mandatory practices. Excessive absences are grounds for dismissal or benching for the camp dance.
 - E. Practices will not be planned around individual work schedules or other activities.
 - F. The sponsor will determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.
- X. Competitions**
- A. All competitive squad members will attend regional and state competitions. Varsity, Jr. Varsity and Freshmen will attend Nationals Competition.
- XI. Uniforms**
- A. The purchase of new uniforms will be left up to the discretion of the coordinator and athletic director.
 - B. All uniforms and school equipment must be returned at the end of the season or a hold will be placed on semester grades, and the uniform deposit will not be returned. Rules for student holds in the student handbook will apply.
 - C. Uniforms will be the responsibility of the squad member but will be the property of the school. Each member will pay a **\$125.00** non-refundable rental fee, and a **\$75.00** refundable deposit. The deposit will be returned at the end of the year for graduating seniors and other girls not continuing in the program when all uniform pieces are returned to the school undamaged.
 - D. Reimbursement of alteration fees are subject to approval of Uniform Coordinator.
- XII. Safety**
- A. Sponsor, coach, designated Jenks Public School employee, or designated parent will have in his or her possession a signed medical release for each pom member.
 - B. Practice will not be allowed without the presence of the sponsor, coach, designated Jenks Public School employee, or designated parent.
 - C. No jewelry is to be worn during practice or performances according to rules of the Trojan Athletic Handbook.
 - D. Hair will be kept pulled back in a ponytail or an accepted hairstyle while in uniform.
 - E. Medical release, travel permission, physical and drug contract must be on file with the coordinator, sponsor, or athletic department.
 - F. Pom members must be adequately covered by accident and hospitalization insurance. This information must be on file with the sponsor.

XIII. Transportation

- A. The athletic department will provide transportation for the JV and Varsity pom members to and from all sporting events outside Jenks Public School District. Transportation will be provided by either Jenks Public Schools, a charter service, or an airline, when attending competitions.
- B. Pom members will be accompanied by the sponsor, coach, designated Jenks Public School employee, or designated parent whose sole responsibility is the supervision of the pom members.
- C. When the school provides transportation, pom members will ride to and from the event on the bus.
- D. "Consent to Transport" forms must be signed and on file. Coaches, Sponsors, Coordinators and driving members of the pom squads may transport pom members if needed.

XIV. Game Conduct

- A. How the squad is perceived by students, parents, and patrons is largely decided at games. Therefore, while dancing at games, pom members are to stay in formation at all times and pay attention to the direction of the squad captains and the sponsor.
- B. Gum chewing, slouchy appearance, jewelry, incorrect uniform pieces or inappropriate dancing /gestures / language will not be allowed and may result in an immediate benching in addition to subsequent benching.
- C. If a pom member is out of uniform or in a wrong uniform, they will not be allowed to dance. They will then sit with the sponsor.
- D. An injured pom member will be required to attend her pom schedule in uniform and must sit with the sponsor.

XV. Suspension

While under suspension, pom members will attend practices and performances in uniform but not participate. Suspension may result from the following actions:

- 1. Each member must maintain a 2.0 GPA. Eligibility will also be determined weekly using OSSAA guidelines. If the student receives a grade of "F" for one week, she will be on probation the following week, which is just a warning. The second week of "F" will result in a week of ineligibility and exclusion from all performances. Students are notified by mail and/or phone call of their status. Eligibility runs Monday – Sunday of the ineligible week. If a pom member is repeatedly on probation or ineligible, it may result in dismissal from the team, consequently allowing the student to focus more time on their grades.
- 2. The following actions may result in immediate dismissal from the team:
 - a) Drug or alcohol use. The use of drugs, drinking alcohol, or smoking at any time is prohibited, regardless of being in or out of uniform. If found guilty of this offense, the students will be subject to immediate action as stated in the drug contract in the Jenks High School Student Handbook.
 - b) Violation of school rules (major offense).
 - c) Excessive grade ineligibility
 - d) School suspension for any other reason
 - e) Maximum number of demerits
 - f) Insubordination

XVI. Pom Member Offices

- A. An officer must have been a pom member for at least one year at Jenks to be considered for an officer position, with the exception of the 8th grade squad.
- B. The sponsor, coach and coordinator will determine the selection process.
- C. The coordinator and sponsor will decide responsibilities.

XVII. Coaches

- A. All coaches selected by the coordinator and approved by the athletic director will adhere to the Jenks High School athletic policy and will submit a resume for review. They will also submit a classified application unless already employed by Jenks Public Schools.
- B. The coordinator will provide all coaches with a copy of the Jenks High School athletic policy.