

# New Braunfels Independent School District Spirit Group Code of Conduct



**"Unicorn Pride is Justified"  
2016 - 2017**

# New Braunfels Independent School District Spirit Group Code of Conduct 2016 - 2017

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*New Braunfels ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability in providing educational services, activities, and programs, including athletic programs in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section .504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities' Act*

## **Preamble**

This New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group Code of Conduct outlines standards of eligibility and procedures for all New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group candidates and standards of conduct and behavior to which all New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group members are expected to adhere as representatives of their student body and of the New Braunfels ISD. Acceptance of any candidate from the New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group programs and continued eligibility for membership shall be in accordance with this Constitution on the basis of ability, skill, presentation, conduct and/or any other basis set forth below, but shall not be on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, pregnancy, or any other unlawful consideration.

The following standards of eligibility and procedures are those which all candidates must meet in order to be eligible for try-outs. These standards of conduct and behavior are also those which all New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group members are expected to adhere as a condition of participation in Spirit Group activities. Participation in extracurricular activities, including any Spirit Group activities, is a privilege, not a right, and student participants will be held to higher standards of conduct than students who choose not to participate in extracurricular activities. The privilege of representing the School District carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Consequently, Spirit Group members are expected to comply with this code of conduct at all times, regardless of location. This includes both on and off-campus conduct as well as evenings, weekends, holidays, and summer vacation.

Failure to comply with the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in this Spirit Group Constitution may subject the member to disciplinary action **up to and including removal from the squad**, in addition to any consequences imposed in accordance with the New Braunfels ISD Student Code of Conduct or any other applicable New Braunfels ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

## **Article I - Mission Statement**

The purpose of the New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group programs shall be to promote and encourage team spirit, to foster good fellowship and sportsmanship, to engender enthusiasm and loyalty for team and school, and to excel and represent New Braunfels ISD at any performance level. Members shall lead by example; shall exemplify qualities of character; and shall uphold the highest moral standards in their service to the school and the community as representatives of their student body and of the New Braunfels ISD.

## **Article II - Candidate Eligibility**

### **2.1 Enrollment / Residency Requirements**

A Spirit Group candidate must be currently enrolled in a New Braunfels ISD school. With the exception of students enrolled under an inter- or intra-district transfer agreement, candidates are required to reside within the attendance zone of the school for whose squad they are trying out. Membership on any single squad governed by this Constitution does not entitle a student to membership on any other NBISD Spirit Group.

### **2.2 Academic Eligibility**

“Academic eligibility” requires a candidate to have an overall average of 70 or above the six weeks prior to tryouts. Each candidate will be allowed one waiver per semester for an advanced class (Advanced Placement), as identified by the state Board of Education or by local District policy. Waivers do not accumulate. A student with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) must be meeting the standards required by his or her IEP at the time of try-outs for purposes of academic eligibility.

### **2.3 Disciplinary History**

A Spirit Group candidate who has received out-of-school suspension, been assigned to D.A.E.P., or been expelled at any time during the current school year is NOT eligible to try out for a Spirit Group.

### **2.4 Financial Standing with NBISD**

A candidate must be in good financial standing with the New Braunfels ISD. A candidate who has an outstanding balance or other extracurricular fees will not be eligible for try-outs, unless the District has determined that the candidate is financially unable to pay such expenses.

### **2.5 Health and Fitness**

All candidates will be required to provide written medical certification of the results of a physical examination performed within the two week period

immediately preceding tryouts, stating that the student is medically fit to participate in physically demanding cheerleading or dance team activities.

## **2.6 Deadline for Compliance with Candidate Requirements**

Candidates must complete all pre-tryout requirements **prior** to the date of candidate's try-out, including, but not limited to, (a) timely submission of the proper application(s), (b) timely submission of all required forms, and (c) attendance of all required meetings, practice sessions or clinics. Any candidate failing to timely complete all try-out requirements will **not** be allowed to try-out, absent extenuating circumstances as determined at the discretion of the director.

## **2.7 Mandatory Orientation**

All candidates and their parent or guardian must attend the mandatory orientation meeting(s) for their selected program. If unable to attend the orientation, a parent or guardian must set up an alternate meeting with the sponsor within a week of the initial orientation meeting, in order to receive vital information and instruction regarding the program. Failure of the parent or guardian to attend the mandatory orientation meeting or an alternate meeting will result in the candidate being ineligible for try-outs, absent extenuating circumstances as determined at the discretion of the director.

## **2.8 Attendance During Week of Tryout Clinic and on Day of Try-Outs**

All candidates are required to be present in school and at clinic **every day** the week of tryouts. They must also be in attendance the entire duration of the actual tryout. Absences excused **only** with prior approval from director and must be UIL related or due to family emergency.

## **2.9 Participation is a Privilege, Not a Right**

Candidates should understand that acceptance into the New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group programs is a privilege, not a right. Spirit Group members represent the NBISD and its student body to the community and the public and are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct.

## **2.10 Qualities of Candidate**

Candidates should exemplify qualities of good character including responsibility, honesty, reliability, dependability, cooperativeness, dedication, and loyalty.

## **2.11 Dedication**

Candidates should be enthusiastic, self-disciplined, willing to learn, and prepared to commit to the practice necessary to improve their performance and the performance of the squad. Additional tumbling classes outside of school are highly encouraged in order to acquire new tumbling skills or advance tumbling skills throughout the school year.

**2.12 Substantial Time Commitment Required**

Candidates who are accepted for membership should understand that the schedule of a Spirit Group member will require a large time commitment.

**2.13 Period of Membership**

For purposes of applicability of the requirements and standards of conduct in this Spirit Group Code of Conduct, membership in the New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group begins on the date that try outs results are released and extends to the last day of instruction of the following school year. Membership may be suspended or terminated at any time for failure to comply with the standards of conduct and procedures outlined herein. Grade classifications named below are for the year following try-outs and shall be determined by review of official school records. December graduates are ineligible to tryout for the upcoming varsity squad.

**2.14** All members must attend summer camp. No exceptions will be made.

**Article III – Structure of Spirit Group Squads**

**3.1 Varsity Cheerleading Squad**

Final selection of the Varsity cheerleading squad will be based on the natural point break at the discretion of the administrative designee and shall be comprised of junior and/or senior members. Of these members, one Head Cheerleader shall be chosen, one Co-Captain and two social officers. (See Article 10.4)

**3.2 Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad**

Final selection of the Junior Varsity cheerleading squad will be based on the natural point break at the discretion of the administrative designee and shall be comprised of sophomore members. Of these members, one Junior Varsity Captain shall be named by the consensus of the director(s) as well as one Co-Captain. (See Article 10.4)

**3.3 Freshman Cheerleading Squad**

Final selection of the Freshman cheerleading squad will be based on the natural point break at the discretion of the administrative designee and shall be comprised of freshman members. Of these members, one freshman Captain shall be named by the consensus of the director(s) as well as one Co-Captain. . (See Article 10.4)

**3.4** Call backs may occur at the discretion of the judges and the administration. Should a call back situation occur, the judges will determine what portion of the tryout process will be repeated.

### **3.5 Male Yell Leaders**

Any male yell leader candidate selected would be an additional position on the squad. Yell leaders will obtain a minimum score to be determined by the judges.

### **3.6 Alternates**

In the event that anyone elected cannot fulfill the duties of a cheerleader, the position will remain open. There will not be an alternate.

### **3.7 Monocera Varsity Dance Squad**

The Monocera Varsity Dance squad will consist of as many candidates whose try-out score meets or exceeds the written performance standards established prior to the try-out by the judges and director(s).

There are not a set number of officers accepted. The natural break in scores will determine the total number of officers (\*The Director will determine if the number of officers is appropriate compared to the number of team members. It is at the Director's discretion, with approval from the administration, that the number of officers be adjusted if necessary).

- A. The highest scoring candidate shall be Colonel.
- B. The Colonel must be a current Line Officer, unless there are only 1 or less candidates who meet this requirement. Only then will the office of Colonel be available to all candidates.
- C. The second-highest scoring candidate shall be Lieutenant Colonel.
- D. All following accepted candidates shall be Majors.
- E. If an officer is ineligible during any six week grading period, that officer will be demoted to line member status.

### **3.8 Mystic Drill Team / Sapphires Pep Squad**

The Mystic Drill Team squad and Sapphires Pep squad will consist of as many candidates whose try-out score meets or exceeds written performance standards established prior to the try-out by the judges and director(s).

### **3.9 Transfers**

- A. NBHS Cheer Program does not allow transfers under any circumstance.
- B. If a student transfers to 1<sup>st</sup> semester NBHS and has auditioned and been selected as a member a dance team at their past high school, and meet all requirements for a position on one of the NBHS Dance Team(s), the following is applied:
- C. If the student transfers in during the summer in time to attend summer camp

with the team (specific team placement will be decided upon by the Director after assessing level of dancer abilities), and meets all payment requirements by the start of the school year, the student may participate in all performances with the NBHS Dance Team(s) (again determination of team to be decided upon by the Director) as a full member of the team.

- D. If the student transfers in during the summer, and has attended camp with the prior team, but has missed camp with the NBHS Dance Team(s), the student will be enrolled into the specific team class, and may workout with the team, but will not be allowed to perform with the specific team during the fall semester. The student may audition for the competition routines (applies to Monoceras only) in the spring, and, if selected, may perform during competition and spring show as a full team member.
- E. If the student transfers in and has missed all camps with the prior team and the NBHS Dance Team(s), (s)he may enroll in a Fine Arts Dance I or II class and may audition for Monoceras or Mystics in the spring for the following year. As well, the status of the transfer is completely dependent upon their standing with their previous team and their director, which will be determined through a letter of recommendation. **Any outstanding balances, disciplinary issues**, etc. will be taken into consideration when determining the status of the dancer.
- F. If a student transfers in the middle of the year s(he) may be enrolled in a dance class.
- G. These rules apply to the Mystics JV if the student has made their previous schools JV squad.
- H. These rules apply to the Sapphires Pep Squad if the student has made their previous schools Pep Squad.

## **Article IV — Member Expectations, Responsibilities, and Duties**

### **4.1 Uniforms**

Members should be dressed in the required uniform upon arrival to all activities. This includes removing all jewelry, correct bow, and all cell phones need to be put away in either the cheer/dance room or zipped up in your bag. Failure to be dressed in the required uniform will result in sitting out the game/pep rally/etc. on the bench.

### **4.2 Grooming**

Members shall be neatly presented in appearance, with hair neatly groomed and **pulled back from face**. Members will not be allowed to have any visible body piercing or tattoos at any time. It is the members responsibility to cover/remove any piercings or tattoos, not the Coach/Sponsor. There are no exceptions and piercings must be removed.



### **4.3 Maintaining Eligibility**

All members are expected to maintain academic eligibility. Grades will be reviewed after each three week period. Receiving one or more failing grades in a six-week period will result in academic probation for three weeks, pursuant to U.I.L. rules. Receiving a failing grade in any two six-week grading periods during the school year will result in DISMISSAL from the squad for the remainder of the school year.

### **4.4 Standards of Academic Achievement**

In order to be eligible to participate, members must maintain a grade of 70 or above in all courses, other than honors or advanced courses defined by the District. Members with an IEP in place must meet the requirements of their IEP in order to be eligible to participate.

### **4.5 Exclusion from Performance(s)**

Any member who does not meet performance expectations during practice, or who has one or more unexcused absences from practice, will be excluded from participating in the next performance, but will be required to dress out and sit on the bench.

Any member who does not participate in the required events before a game, for example pep rallies, team meetings, practice, etc., will be excluded from that day's performance and/or game, but will have to dress out and sit on the bench.

## **Article V – Attendance, Travel & Finances**

### **5.1 Required Attendance / Duties**

Members shall attend and perform ALL assigned duties at all practices, games, events for their squad level (i.e., Varsity, JV, Freshmen), including any required camp or competition. This includes required participation in projects which promote school spirit, as well as assigned fund-raising activities. Members who miss a required practice or fail to perform an assigned duty may not be allowed to perform at the next game, event, or competition, absent extenuating circumstances, as determined at the discretion of the director.

### **5.2 Absence Limit**

A member who has more than three (3) unexcused absences from required meetings, practices, events or activities during one semester will be placed on probation for the remainder of the semester. A member who accumulates more than six (6) unexcused absences from required events or activities during one school year will be REMOVED from the squad for the remainder of the school

year. In the case of a prolonged absence, the director may give special consideration to extenuating circumstances of a particular student.

In addition, an absence from any required event listed above without prior permission will result in that team member being benched at an extra game/event.

A. Excused absences include:

- Those absences which may be considered “excused” pursuant to NBISD Board Policy;
- Personal illness or injury;
- Death in the family, including funeral service;
- School activities approved in advance by the director;
- Religious holidays or observances as described in NBISD policy; and
- Wedding in the student’s immediate family

\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*Out of town trips and work are **NOT** excuses for missing required activities. Students should make every attempt to schedule all appointments outside of practice time.

B. In order to receive an excused absence in any required activity, a member must present to the sponsor a written note from a parent/guardian. The note must include the member's name, the date and reason for the absence, a parent/guardian signature, and phone number.

- a. In case of illness, a parent/guardian must notify the sponsor by telephone or email prior to the practice or performance, and upon returning, the member must present a written note with information stated above.
- b. An unexcused absence will automatically be given if a note is not presented to the sponsor the day the student returns.

C. When a member is absent, it is his/her responsibility to contact the director and/or his/her line officer or Captain to find out what was missed and what is required upon his/her return (proper uniforms, meeting, and deadlines).

D. Any member who misses the re-formation practice will not perform at the next scheduled performance.

E. Any member who is absent for 2 or more days of the week will not be allowed to perform in the upcoming performance.

### **5.3 Tardies**

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Members shall be on time and prepared for all Spirit Group activities. A class tardy will be handled according to NBISD Board or campus policy, and may result in assignment of other duties or responsibilities at the discretion of the director.

#### **5.4 Travel Requirements**

Varsity-level squad members, as well as Monoceras, Mystics and Sapphires, will ride the designated school bus to all out-of-town football games. Only in cases of extenuating circumstances will a member be allowed to leave a game or function with his/her parents/guardians. If the member wishes to do so, the following procedure must be followed:

- A. A team member may leave an away game **only with a parent or guardian** from **one** game per year.
- B. A request must be submitted in writing to the director **at least 48 hours** prior to the game with a parent name, contact information, detailed reason why she cannot travel home with the team, and the date and location of the game.
- C. The parent/guardian must check in with the director before leaving with the team member.
- D. Parents/guardians must take personal responsibility for the member by meeting the sponsor on the track/court at the end of the game. If the parent/guardian who is to take the member does not follow this procedure, the member must return on the bus with the group.
- E. Members not returning on the bus are still responsible for spirit items (signs, stereo, etc.) they carried to the game. Members may request that another member care for any such items. A member will be financially liable for any items that are lost as a result of irresponsibility.
- F. There are no exceptions to this procedure, except as approved by the sponsor and an administrator.

### **Article VI - Financial Obligations/Responsibilities & Fundraising**

#### **6.1 Financial Responsibility**

Since participation in Monocera, Mystic or Sapphire, and Cheer, is voluntary, uniform rental fees, dance wear, camp fees, materials, workshops, physical exams, etc. shall be the responsibility of the student and their parents.

#### **6.2 Financial Deadlines**

- A. 50% payment of the overall balance is required the night of fittings (to be scheduled by director) and the team member's status on the team is dependent on this payment. Failure to pay the minimum 50% will result in loss of position on the team.

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- B. Money for camps (non refundable), dance wear (custom items non-refundable), and uniforms must be turned in at the required deadline dates.
- C. If an individual cannot meet the deadlines specified, the individual must work out a payment plan with the Director/Sponsor **prior to** the due date.
- D. All balances not paid **in full** by the set date at the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester **will not** perform until that balance is paid. Payment plans must be documented and agreed upon via email in order to not be penalized.
- E. All balances incurred during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester must be paid **in full** by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Any unpaid balances at that time will remove the dancer or cheerleader from *all* performances during the spring semester until the balances are paid. If the dancer or cheerleader has a balance paid off in enough time to participate in a competition routine try-out, they may do so. Otherwise, they will be placed on the alternates list.
- F. Any dancer or cheerleader may **not** try-out for the upcoming year's team if their balance is not paid in full by the first day of the week of try-outs.

### **6.3 Fundraising**

- A. Fundraising opportunities are provided to raise money for dance wear or uniforms, trips, and competition.
- B. In most cases, the money raised from fundraising is deposited in to the individual team member's account. (The money earned stays in the account for expenses mentioned above.)
- C. In some cases, the money raised will be divided amongst all dance team(s) or cheerleader squad(s).
- D. In some cases the money raised from fundraising will be deposited into the general dance team(s) or cheerleader squad(s) activity account.
- E. The Booster Club provides fundraisers throughout the year in which the funds will be raised for Booster Club events, such as banquets, etc. Some Booster Club fundraisers will be designated for individual Monocera, Mystic, Sapphire, or Freshman/JV/Varsity Cheer account fundraisers.

## **Article VII - Conduct Standards**

### **7.1 Categories of Improper Conduct**

The category of improper conduct shall determine the appropriate disciplinary consequences as set out below:

#### **Category A Violations:**

- Being tardy to games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- Being absent from games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;

- Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, using profane language, or taunting other participants;
- Being insubordinate to a coach or sponsor;
- Being disruptive during a game, meeting, practice, performance, camp, and/or other event;
- Failure to dress out during class or practice (this includes all necessary clothing to perform)
- Failure to participate during class or practice without documentation from a doctor or parent
- Physical display of affection in and out of uniform at school, a performance, game or any spirit team sanctioned event
- Failing to return school district property as directed where the property is valued at \$99.99 or less;
- Violating the established rules or guidelines of a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- Violating the District's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity; and
- Engaging in general misconduct prohibited by NBISD Student Code of Conduct.

**NOTE:** The standards of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.

**Category B Violations:**

- Engaging in theft, destruction, or misuse of school district property;
- Failing to return school property as directed where the property is valued at more than \$100;
- Engaging in hazing, harassment, or bullying of others as defined by the New Braunfels ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or a dangerous drug at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity;
- Engaging in any unreasonably dangerous athletic technique that unnecessarily endangers the health or safety of a student;
- Maintaining or being identified on a website or blog that depicts behavior that is illegal or is sexual in nature; and
- Engaging in conduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct that is punishable by placement in DAEP or expulsion.

**NOTE:** Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code §37.006(g).

## **7.2 Consequences**

### **Category A Violations:**

#### **First Offense:**

The student will receive a verbal warning and reprimand and will be directed to refrain from future violations.

#### **Second and Third Offenses:**

The student will be placed on Spirit Probation and suspended from participation for 15 school days.

#### **Fourth Offense:**

The student's participation in any Spirit Group activities will be suspended for the remainder of the school year and he/she will be removed from the squad.

**Definition:** "Suspension" means that the student will not be permitted to participate in any competition, contest, scrimmage, performance, or election associated with any Spirit Group activity. The student will continue to participate in practices.

### **Category B Violations:**

The student's participation in any Spirit Group activities will be suspended for the remainder of the school year and he/she will be removed from the squad.

## **7.3 Procedures/Determining a Violation has Occurred**

The activity sponsor or coach will determine whether a violation of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence. Additional class activities may be assigned.

## **7.4 Parent Notification**

Parents will be notified of all violations *that result in suspension from participation in extracurricular activities*. The activity sponsor or coach will contact the student and the student's parent via telephone or face-to-face conference within five (5) school days from the time the activity sponsor or coach learns of such a violation.

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At this time, the activity sponsor or coach will inform the parent and student that a violation of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations. In the event the parent does not agree with the sponsor or coach's decision, all appeals may be addressed through the NBISD's complaint process. A decision of the NBISD Board of Trustees regarding an extracurricular activity complaint is final and is not appealable.

## **7.5 Concerns**

- A. First any member or parent must submit their concern **in writing** to the Director. The director will address the situation and return a formal reply in writing.
- B. If any member or parent is still not satisfied with the resolution of the situation, the member or parent must contact the Assistant Principal of NBHS whom has been assigned the dance program with their concerns. The administrator will try to rectify the situation by consulting with all parties.
- C. If any member or parent still is not satisfied, the member or parent may then contact the principal of NBHS.
- D. Any member or parent who has a concern must follow a chain of command to resolve any concerns with the Director/Sponsor of the organization.

## **Article VIII - Probation**

### **8.1 Academic Probation: When Imposed**

Receiving one or more failing grades in any six-week grading period will result in academic probation.

### **8.2 Academic Probation: Duration**

This probationary period will last for 15 school days. During this academic probation, the member will be required to participate in practices, but will not be allowed to perform.

### **8.3 Academic Probation: Effect on Membership**

Placement on academic probation twice during one school year will result in dismissal of the student from the organization for the remainder of the school year.

### **8.4 Spirit Probation: When Imposed**

Members who are assigned to in-school suspension (ISS) or who commit a Category B offense for the second and/or third time according to Article 6.1 above will be put on spirit probation. Students with chronic late payments may be subject to probation. Advance payment arrangement may be made between the director and parent; however, if the parent fails to make the arrangements it

may result in Spirit Probation. When a member is placed on spirit probation, the member and her parents will be notified. Spirit Probation due to ISS or Category B offenses will result in sitting out the day's performance. The member will dress out and remain on the bench.

#### **8.5 Spirit Probation: Duration**

The length of the spirit probation is 15 school days. While on spirit probation, the member is not allowed to perform with the squad, but is required to attend all group functions in the required uniform. A member on probation must sit/stand next to the director at any required activity or event.

#### **8.6 Spirit Probation: Affect on Membership**

Being placed on spirit probation twice or more during the school year will result in dismissal from the organization for the rest of the school year.

#### **8.7 Spirit Probation: Member Responsibilities**

A member must complete, within the 15-day probation period, an assignment as specified by the director.

### **Article IX - Standards for Member Removal**

#### **9.1 General**

Due to the high visibility of campus Spirit Group members, members are expected to demonstrate leadership, honor, and integrity both in and out of uniform. Acceptance into the New Braunfels ISD Spirit Group programs is a privilege, not a right; as a result, members will be held to higher standards than those imposed on the general student body. Members may be disciplined under this Code of Conduct for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and may be disciplined under the Student Code of Conduct and this Code of Conduct for behavior that violates both. Members must comply with all standards of conduct outlined within this Code of Conduct, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the New Braunfels ISD Student Code of Conduct. Members will be subject to the standards of conduct outlined herein **at all times** regardless of when or where the conduct occurs, whether on or off school property and whether or not school is in session. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct may result in disciplinary action against the member, up to and including removal (i.e., dismissal) from the squad. **(Also see Article VI – Conduct Standards)**

#### **9.2 Inappropriate Behavior**

Members shall not engage in inappropriate or unlawful behavior, including but not limited to: consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, fighting, harassment, sexual misconduct, criminal activity (excluding minor traffic offenses), or threats



to others. Such behavior includes that which takes place off-campus as well as on-campus, and includes technology-related behavior.

### **9.3 Behavior Warranting Suspension under Student Code of Conduct**

Members shall not engage in behavior that warrants suspension from school, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school, pursuant to the NBISD Student Code of Conduct. A member who engages in behavior which warrants suspension from school will be subject to removal from the squad. However, pursuant to Board Policy FNCF (Local), if a student performs the required amount of community service for his/her first offense, he or she may be allowed to regain membership. In such a situation, the student will not be allowed to regain membership until the student's proper completion of the required community service is affirmed by the appropriate administrator.

### **9.4 Other Prohibited Behavior**

Members may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including removal from the squad for any other behavior which the director deems improper, including but not limited to unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, promotion of alcohol or drug use, or lewd or profane language, including language online or by other technology device such as cellular phones, excessive unexcused absences from school or cheerleading practices/activities, refusal to participate in cheerleading activities, failure to perform duties and evident loss of interest.

### **9.5 Probation Resulting in Removal**

Receipt of two probations of any kind (academic probation or spirit probation) during one school year will result in removal from the team.

## **Article X. Cheerleaders/Mascots**

### **10.1 Freshmen Cheerleaders**

- a. Uniform expenses and fundraising obligations will be determined by the sponsor and will be provided in writing to students and parents at the beginning of each school year.
- b. Freshmen cheerleaders MUST demonstrate some level of tumbling gymnastics skills – running or standing – to be considered for membership. In order to receive full points for the tumbling section, freshmen candidates need to demonstrate the mastery of a standing or running back handspring (Further requirements available in tryout packet.)

- c. Freshmen cheerleaders MUST complete 10 service hours throughout the academic school year (2016-2017). These service hours are in addition to any mandatory service/volunteer hours or events completed as a team per the Sponsor's instructions.

## **10.2 Junior Varsity Cheerleaders**

- a. Uniform expenses and fundraising obligations will be determined by the sponsor and will be provided in writing to students and parents at the beginning of each school year.
- b. JV cheerleaders MUST demonstrate MASTERY of 3 standing back-handsprings on the gym floor in order to receive full points for the tumbling section of tryouts. (Further requirements available in tryout packet.)
- c. JV cheerleaders MUST complete 10 service hours throughout the academic school year (2016-2017). These service hours are in addition to any mandatory service/volunteer hours or events completed as a team per the Sponsor's instructions.

## **10.3 Varsity Cheerleaders**

- a. Uniform expenses and fundraising obligations will be determined by the sponsor and will be provided in writing to students and parents at the beginning of each school year.
- b. Varsity cheerleaders MUST demonstrate MASTERY of a standing back tuck on the cheer mat in order to receive full points for the tumbling section of tryouts. (Further requirements available in tryout packet.)
- c. Varsity cheerleaders will lead the spirit organization/audience at all Varsity games (football, volleyball, basketball) and other designated events. In the event of playoffs, the Sponsor will determine how to have NBHS Cheer represented at each event. All playoff games will take priority over any other events.
- d. A member on the varsity squad will be eligible for a letter jacket after the last scheduled football game and must be in good standing.
- e. Varsity cheerleaders MUST complete 15 service hours throughout the academic school year (2016-2017). These service hours are in addition to any mandatory service/volunteer hours or events completed as a team per the Sponsor's instructions.

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#### **10.4 Varsity Head Cheerleader (Senior)**

- a. The Head Cheerleader will be selected by the following:
  - ¼ cheerleader portfolio
  - ¼ tryout scores
  - ¼ administrator interview
  - ¼ sponsor interview

#### **Varsity Co-Captain (Senior or Junior may apply)**

- ¼ cheerleader portfolio
- ¼ tryout scores
- ¼ administrator interview
- ¼ sponsor interview

#### **Varsity Social Officers (2- one junior member and one senior member)**

- ¼ cheerleader portfolio
- ¼ tryout scores
- ¼ administrator interview
- ¼ sponsor interview

#### **JV Captain and Freshman Captain** will be selected based on the following:

- 1/4 interview with administration
- 1/4 interview with sponsor
- 1/2 tryout scores

#### **JV Co-Captain and Freshman Co-Captain** will also be selected based on the following:

- 1/4 interview with administration
- 1/4 interview with sponsor
- 1/2 tryout scores

- b. In order to be eligible for the position of head cheerleader, a squad member must be classified as a senior who has been on the Varsity squad for at least one year. If no current member of the Varsity squad is a Senior, a Junior member who has been on the Junior Varsity squad for at least one year will be eligible for the position. The final decision regarding the position of head cheerleader will be made by the sponsor.

- c. The duties of the Head cheerleader shall be to lead the NBHS cheerleaders and to serve as a representative of the squad. He/She will also assist the sponsor in choreography, teaching, and polishing routines, as well as assisting in all organizational duties (calendars, group reminders, banquet theme, etc).
- d. The sponsor may remove any member elected to Head cheerleader or JV and Freshmen Captain who does not fulfill his/her duties. In addition, In the event of Spirit Probation, Academic Probation, and/or the elected member being benched, the member will be relieved of the position of head cheerleader by the sponsor.

**10.5 Camp/Summer Practice**

- a. All cheerleaders must attend summer camp and summer practices in preparation for that camp.
- b. Failure to attend summer camp may result in removal of the member by the sponsor.
- c. Failure to attend one or more summer practices will result in non-performance at the first sub-varsity and/or varsity football games.

**10.6 Tryouts**

The following point system will be utilized in all tryouts:

Judges	75 points
Academics	15 points
Teacher Evaluations	7 points
Discipline	3 points
Total	100 points

a) Judges scores: There will be three judges. Points will be awarded according to the tryout score sheet.

b) Academics: Candidates will be required to submit a copy of their transcript on the scheduled due date. Points will be awarded for cumulative academic average for the previous semester for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and freshmen, and will include all previous high school semesters for sophomores and juniors. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 3.5 – 4.0 = 15 points
- 3.0 – 3.49 = 10 points
- 2.5 – 2.9 = 5 points
- 2.0 – 2.49 = 1 point

c) Teacher Evaluations: Each candidate will be judged based upon the teacher evaluation forms completed by all of the candidate's current teachers. Candidates will be given forms and a due date for submission of completed recommendations. Late and/or incomplete evaluations will not be considered.

d) Discipline: Disciplinary records will be obtained by sponsor and/or administration for each candidate. A candidate who has not been placed in ISS or has not received any write ups/referrals during the current school year will receive three (3) points. If a candidate has been placed in ISS or received one or more referrals/write ups during the current school year, he/she will receive zero (0) points.

### **10.7 Mascot**

- a. The Unicorn mascot must participate in a tryout process by performing a 2-minute routine choreographed by the participant. The routine must demonstrate his/her skills in crowd participation, spirit, and overall energy.
- b. The mascot is required to attend summer camp and any other athletic functions as determined by the sponsor.
- c. The mascot will be required to participate in community events throughout the course of the school year.

## **Article XI. Monoceras / Mystics /Sapphires**

### **11.1 General**

Students will specialize in all forms of dance. Members must purchase a uniform and any other required equipment. (Rental options may apply to some equipment).

### **11.2 Tryout Eligibility**

- a) Mystics/Sapphires
  - i. Candidate must meet Spirit academic and disciplinary standards
- b) Monoceras
  - i. The Spirit academic and disciplinary standards apply
  - ii. Monoceras candidates must be a current member of Mystics or Sapphires or a full year student in Ms. Reid's dance class, cheerleaders, or color guard in good standing
  - iii. or entering their senior year of high school
  - iv. Transfer students who meet all comparable eligibility requirements may also tryout

### **11.3 General Tryout Information**

Updated March 2016

- a) Each candidate trying out for a position on Monoceras, Mystics and/or Sapphires will be scored by a panel of impartial judges.
- b) All candidates will be required to attend a mandatory Tryout Meeting scheduled by the director. At that time the candidate will receive a tryout packet outlining projected costs, tentative schedules, and a copy of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct.
- c) A candidate must attend the scheduled Tryout Workshop. If a candidate misses any day of the workshop, s/he is automatically withdrawn from tryouts, unless candidate has prior approval for absence from the director.
- d) Paid instruction for candidates, by current members, is prohibited during the workshop period.
- e) Monocera membership is for the current year only. All members of the team must re-establish their membership through another tryout.
- f) Tryouts will be closed to the general public.

**11.4 Tryout Scoring**

The following point system will be utilized in all tryouts:

Judges	75 points
Academics	15 points
Coaches Interview	5 points
Teacher Recommendations	3 points
<u>Discipline</u>	<u>2 points</u>
Total	100 points

a) Judges scores: There will be three judges. Points will be awarded according to the tryout score sheet.

b) Academics: Candidates will be required to submit a copy of their transcript on scheduled due date. Points will be awarded for cumulative academic average for the previous semester for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and freshmen, and will include all previous high school semesters for sophomores and juniors. Points will be awarded as followed:

- 3.5 – 4.0 = 15 points
- 3.0 – 3.49 = 10 points
- 2.5 – 2.9 = 5 points
- 2.0 – 2.49 = 1 point

c) Coaches Interview: Each candidate will be interviewed individually by the head and/or assistant dance directors during the week of tryout clinic. Candidates will be asked questions that focus on such topics such as

leadership, spirit philosophy and the expectations of the NBHS Dance Program.

d) Teacher recommendations: Each candidate will be responsible for obtaining three (3) teacher recommendations. Candidates will be given forms and a due date for submission of completed recommendations. Late and/or incomplete recommendations will not be considered.

e) Discipline: Disciplinary records will be obtained by coaches and/or administration for each candidate. A candidate who has not been placed in ISS or has not received any write ups/referrals during the current school year will receive two (2) points. If a candidate has been placed in ISS or received one or more referrals/write ups during the current school year, he/she will receive zero (0) points.

### **11.5 Monoceras Dance Team**

- a. All Monoceras must attend summer camp and any summer practices in preparation for the camp.
- b. Failure to attend camp will result in dismissal from the organization.
- c. Failure to attend 1-2 summer practices will result in non-performance in the first football game. Failure to attend 3 summer practices will result in non-performance in the first two football games. 4 or more absences will result in loss of performances privileges the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the year.
- d. Monoceras will attend all designated games and participate in fundraising events and competitions designated by the director.
- e. If a member misses a weekly practice, it is within the discretion of the director if the member will be allowed to perform.
- f. If, for any reason, a member misses morning and/or after-school practice the day before a performance, they will not be allowed to perform in that performance.
- g. Members must be present at practices with the band in order to perform during football season.
- h. In order to continue and improve dance skills, all members will be required to attend three (3) morning technique sessions with the director and/or Monoceras Line Officers to complete a list of required skills.

- i. Monoceras may earn a letter during his or her first year on the team. Any member dismissed from the team during the year will be required to return the letterman jacket they are given, and their expenses put toward the jacket will not be reimbursed.
- a. Tryouts will be held to determine which members will perform for every routine.

#### **11.6 Monocera Competition Team**

- a. All members of Monoceras in good standing will be eligible to try out for competition dances, which take place in the Spring semester of each school year.
- b. Members of the competition team must maintain eligibility and follow all rules and regulations set forth in this Code of Conduct and NBHS.
- c. Eligibility for contest squads will be determined based where contest will fall and the most current grade check. The eligibility check closest to the most recent 6 weeks progress report/report card will be used to determine eligibility to perform with the team at contest.

#### **11.7 Monocera Officer Eligibility Requirements**

- a. **Experience.** Candidates must have at least one year of experience as a Monocera Dance Team member.
- b. **Grades.** Candidates must have an average of 70 in all courses the six weeks prior to tryouts. Members with an IEP in place must meet the requirements of their IEP in order to be eligible to participate.
- c. **Try-Out Workshop.** Candidates must participate in and attend the entire tryout workshop. Absences may be excused only at the discretion of the Director in an emergency situation.
- d. **Interview.** Each candidate must complete an interview with the Judges at tryouts. Candidates will be asked questions that focus on leadership style and the expectations of the Monocera Dance Team.
- e. **Teaching ability.** Each officer candidate will teach a group of Monoceras and/or Mystic candidates chosen at random, a portion of a football routine they choreograph. The routine must not exceed two minutes in length. The judges will randomly choose four 8-counts from the notes that they would like the officer candidate to teach. Teaching ability includes organization, volume, pitch, tone, presence, memorization, preparedness, and ability to keep the group focused. This portion must also address/include:



- The routine must be appropriate for an all-ages audience and must stay within the team's range of technical ability.
  - Because Monoceras and Mystics will be performing together, the candidate must prepare choreography fitting for both teams.
  - The dance must include four formations for 50 members.
  - The candidate must submit a copy of all working notes and layout of formations.
  - The candidate must submit a copy of the music to the director.
- f. **Notebook.** Candidate notebooks will be judged by the judges at tryouts. Notebooks are due **the morning of the first day of tryout workshop**. Any notebooks received after this time will receive an automatic point deduction. Notebooks must include:
- **Two Dance Ideas.** Notebook must include two dance ideas for competition. Officer candidates must include each of the following for each dance:
    - A brief description of the dance including name, music title, and source (band) of music
    - Three different formations using 20 girls. (Must show graph with complete layout)
    - Costume description with drawings/sketches and details.
    - Copy of the music on CD
  - **Essay.** A one-page, typed, double spaced, essay on why you should be an officer.
  - **Football routine notes and formations.** From teaching ability portion .
  - **Gift ideas.** At officer camp, posters and gifts are made and given away to other teams to show our school spirit and motivation. A candidate's notebook must contain written information showing five (5) examples of a unique gift, including one idea that does not include candy. Each gift must cost under \$10. (Candidates are not required to purchase the materials for 5 gifts, but sketch the details and provide approximate cost).
- g. **Solo Performance.** Each candidate is required to perform a solo for the judges that lasts 1 1/2 to 2 minutes. Candidates are required to choreograph the solo without help from others. This choreographed routine must be entered in competition (see Competition Requirements). Solo performances will be judged based on:
- Technique

- Confidence & Presence
- Precision
- Originality

h. **Officer Strut.** Each candidate will perform the officer strut for the judges. Candidates must kick alone. Candidates will be judged on memory, technique, and presence.

i. **Skills.** Each candidate must have the following skills checked off their skills chart no later than the end of the school day on the Friday before the tryout workshop begins. This includes but is not limited to:

- Triple turns
- Fouettes (at least 3)
- Switch leaps
- Russians
- Turning Russian
- Turning C jump
- Turning switch leap
- Leg hold/extension

j) **Officer Score Breakdown**

- \_\_\_ One year Monoceras Membership
- \_\_\_ Passing Grades at end of six weeks prior to tryouts
- \_\_\_ Attending workshop
- \_\_\_ Competition Solo
- \_\_\_ Required Skills Completed

**Judged Section:**

- \_\_\_ 5 Points-Officer Strut
- \_\_\_ 20 Points-Teaching Ability
- \_\_\_ 15 Points-Interview **Judges and Director**
- \_\_\_ 25 Points-Solo Performance
- \_\_\_ 20 Points-Officer Notebook
- \_\_\_ 15 Teacher Recommendations
- \_\_\_ **Total score out of 100**

k) **Officer Competition Requirements.** Each Officer must perform a solo performance at competition. This performance will follow the same time limit as the tryout solo, and may be the same dance.

l) **Social Officers.** Social officers are elected according to the Social Officer Tryout evaluation packet. The position of Head Social Officer will go to the candidate with the highest score. It is recommended, but not required, that he/she be a current social officer. Social Officer responsibilities will be to

plan any social events that come about during the year, and to perform any related task assigned by the director. Any officer failing to fulfill his/her duties may be removed from office at the discretion of the director.

### **11.8 Mystics**

Mystic membership is open to tenth to twelfth grade students who specialize in various areas of dance. To become a member, the student must participate in a tryout procedure and follow all rules set forth by NBHS. All Mystic members must purchase a uniform and any other required equipment. (Rental options may apply to some items.)

- b. All Mystics are required to attend summer camp and summer practices in preparation for the camp.
- c. Failure to attend camp will result in dismissal from the organization.
- d. Summer practices are mandatory. A member who fails to attend 1-2 summer practices will not be allowed to participate in the first performance. Failure to attend 3 summer practices will result in non-performance in the first two football games. 4 or more absences will result in loss of performances privileges the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the year.
- e. Mystics will attend all designated games and participate in fundraising events designated by the director.
- f. Weekly tryouts will be held to determine which members will perform at weekly Varsity athletic events.
- g. If a member misses a weekly practice, it is at the discretion of the director if the member will be allowed to perform.
- h. If, for any reason, a member misses morning and/or after-school practice the day before a performance, they will not be allowed to perform in the performance.
- i. In order to continue and improve dance skills, all members will be required to attend three (3) morning technique sessions with the director and/or Monoceras Line Officers to complete a list of required skills.
- j. Only a senior Mystic will be eligible for a letterman.
- k. Tryouts will be held to determine which members will perform for every routine

### **11.9 Mystic Officers**

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- a. Officers will be elected according to the Officer Evaluation Tryout Packet which will be made available by the Director. The Captain of Mystics will be the candidate who receives the highest try out score and has at least one year of experience as a member of the Mystics. S/he must be in good standing in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). The duties of the Captain shall be to lead the Mystics during appearances, serve as a representative of the organization, and assist the director in any areas needed.
- b. The Co-Captain of the Mystics, will be the candidate who receives the second-highest try out score and has at least one year of experience as a member of the Mystics, and must be in good standing in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). The Co-Captain's duties shall be to assist the Captain in leading the Mystics during public performances and serve as a representative of the organization, and assist the director in any areas needed.
- c. The Mystics' lieutenant(s) will be the candidate(s) who receives the third-highest and up try out score and has at least one year of experience as a member of the Mystics, and must be in good standing currently in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). The Lieutenant's duties shall be to assist the Captain & Co-Captain in leading the Mystics during public performances and serve as representatives of the organization. **Under special circumstances, if there are not enough returning Mystics for officer positions, the director will make a decision on allowing new Mystics to serve as lieutenants.**
- d. Any officer who does not fulfill her duties maybe removed from office by her director.
- e. All Officers will be required to attend all home and away Varsity games with the Monoceras.

### **11.10 Sapphires**

Sapphires membership is open to ninth grade students who will specialize in stand routines and required dance skills set forth by the director. To become a member the student must participate in a tryout procedure and follow all rules set forth by NBHS. All Sapphire members must purchase a uniform and any other required equipment. (Rental options may apply to some items.)

- a. All Sapphires are required to attend summer camp and summer practices in preparation for the camp.
- b. Failure to attend summer camp may result in removal from the organization.

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- c. Attendance at summer practices is mandatory. A member who fails to attend 1-2 summer practices will not be allowed to participate in the first performance.
- d. Failure to attend 3 summer practices will result in non-performance in the first two
  - e. football games. 4 or more absences will result in loss of performance privileges the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the year.
  - f. Sapphires will attend all designated games and events and participate in fundraising events designated by the director.
  - g. If a member misses a weekly in-class practice, it is at the discretion of the director if the member will be allowed to perform.
  - h. Tryouts will be held to determine which members will perform for every routine

### **11.11 Sapphire Officers**

- a. Officers will be elected according to the Officer Evaluation Tryout Packet. The Captain of Sapphires will be the member with the highest try out score and who is in good standing in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). The duties of the Captain shall be to lead the Sapphires during appearances, to serve as a representative of the organization, and to assist the director in any areas needed.
- b. The Co-Captain of the Sapphires, will be the candidate who receives the second-highest try out score and must be in good standing in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). The Co-Captains duties shall be to assist the Captain in leading the Sapphires during public performances and serve as a representative of the organization.
- c. Line-leaders will be the candidates who receive the next consecutively highest try out scores and must be in good standing in the organization (i.e., not on suspension or probation). A Line-leader's duties shall be to assist the Captain & Co-Captain in leading the Sapphires during public performances and serve as representatives of the organization.
- d. Any officer who does not fulfill his/her duties may be removed from office by the director.

## **Article XII. Dance Team(s) Competition(s) & Spring Show**

### **12.1 Qualification for Competition Routines**

- A. All balances are paid in full.
- B. All team members will have adequate time to learn, practice, and perfect the routines before tryouts occur.
- C. Only one tryout will occur for each routine.

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- D. The Director will determine which team members will make each routine based on ability, confidence, and overall performance.

**12.2 Competition Squad Tryout Criteria:**

- A. Each member will demonstrate her skills of the of the routine individually (i.e. leap/turn sequences)
- B. Each team member will be given a group to perform the tryout.
- C. Any member(s) that does not make the routine will be placed as alternates, in the event a routine member cannot perform for a competition, and will be required to attend all rehearsals.
- D. In most cases, the number of spots will be set for each routine. Often the choreography calls for certain multiples. Otherwise, students will be told a maximum number of performers the Director will accept.

**12.3 Spring Show Routines:**

- A. The team will be taught routines in selected groups as well as entire team groups. There will be tryouts in the instance that they are necessary as deemed appropriate by the director.
- B. Some extra costs may occur which is the responsibility of the dancer. Costs will be kept to a minimum through the efforts of the director through borrowing, renting, etc.
- C. Dress rehearsal is ***mandatory***. Any dancer missing dress rehearsal for any reason will be removed from the show. This rehearsal is likely the only one on the actual stage with all lighting and staging effects available. It is for the safety and staging purposes that this is a required event.

**ARTICLE XIII- Miscellaneous**

**13.1**

**Since the director/sponsor is directly responsible to the principal for the welfare of this organization, (s)he shall have the authority to make any decisions necessary for the welfare of the organization. Any action that needs to be taken concerning a situation not covered by this constitution or, in extreme cases, in opposition to stated policies will be the responsibility of the director/sponsor with consultation of the administration when available.**

- 13.2** Should discipline become an issue with any of the mentioned spirit groups, the Cheer sponsor or Dance Director may choose to enforce a merit/demerit system.
- 13.3** New Braunfels High School does not discriminate against any student on the basis of sex, race, creed, or financial status in the educational programs of extra-curricular activities, which it operates.
- 13.4** As head of this organization, the Dance Director or Cheer sponsor may uphold or adjust any traditions which have been a part of previous programs, and are used to honor and uphold the spirit of New Braunfels.

# Article XIV. UNICORN HANDLERS

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### ***Section I. Unicorn Handlers***

Unicorn Handlers are a group of strong academically successful and spirited young women who participate in an old Unicorn tradition. Girls are required to help with Buford at all football games.

### ***A. Duties and Responsibilities***

#### **1. All Unicorn Handlers are expected to attend every football game – no exceptions.**

Unicorn Handlers will ride the bus to and from all away games. Exceptions will be handled individually and only with a conference and a note from parents. If an exception is approved, the Unicorn Handler must ride the bus to the game and return from the game only with parents. A note from the parents must be given to the sponsor two days prior to the game. See section under Travel Requirements.

- During football games, the Unicorn Handlers will run Buford and the NBHS flag in front of the fans after each score.
- Unicorn Handlers are expected to pay attention to the game – following the offensive and defensive plays and support the team. Handlers are not allowed to sit down during the game, unless medically required.
- Before each half of the play, the Unicorn Handlers will move Buford to a convenient location (40 yd-line) and support Buford as players “tap” or “hit” Buford’s rump when the run onto the field.
- All Unicorn Handlers are responsible for the loading and unloading of Buford before and after every game, home or away. Unicorn Handlers who are “leaders” of the week will be required to return Buford at the end of the game.
- All Unicorn Handlers will participate in the singing of the “The Star Spangled Banner” and the NBHS “Alma Mater” at the beginning of the game and the NBHS “Alma Mater” at the end of the game.
- Unicorn Handlers are expected to attend the Candlelight Pep Rally the week of Homecoming.
- Dependent on the number of qualifying Handlers, only 10 Unicorn Handlers will be allowed on the sidelines at one time dependent from year to year. Handlers may rotate between quarters or attend a set number of games and sit with the Monoceras at away games.



- 2. Unicorn Handlers are expected to attend all meetings before or after school. More than 2 absences from meetings or any planned activities within the Fall Semester will result in consequences stated in V and VII.**
- 3. Unicorn Handlers (two or three) are expected to attend home volleyball games.** Unicorn handlers will sign up.
- 4. Unicorn Handlers (two or three) are expected to attend home basketball games.** Unicorn handlers will sign up.
- 5. All Unicorn Handlers are expected to participate in the Comal County Fair Parade.**
- 6. All Unicorn Handlers will help with the booth sponsored by the Unicorn Handlers during the Student Council's Safe Halloween Carnival at New Braunfels High School.**
- 7. The Unicorn Handlers will decide as a group on the tops, t-shirts, sweatshirts, shorts, pants, etc.. to be acquired for the group. Money for these items will either be earned as a group or paid individually by the members.**
  - a. Dress attire should reflect school dress code. Pants or jeans with holes, too tiny to see mini-skirts, and tiny shorts are not allowed at games.
  - b. Handlers may want to consider purchasing some of the following items during the summer. Items include white, khaki, jean, and camouflage, Bermuda shorts or skirts, as well as pants.
  - c. For each designated school and game day, the attire that is selected by the "leaders of the week" **MUST** be worn. This helps illustrate comradery amongst the group.
- 8. All Unicorn Handlers are required to participate in a fundraiser designated for the school year.**
- 9. The Unicorn Handlers often participate in other extracurricular activities. Unless previously approved, all Unicorn Handlers are expected to create a team effort.**

(Ex: the dinner before-the-game ritual, participation in homecoming events)  
Participation in such events creates harmony, friendship, and fun.
- 10. Unicorn Handlers must uphold a code of integrity, respect, honor, pride, and sincerity. I expect all Unicorn Handlers to commit to displaying these qualities. This position is held high in our community; Handlers must represent New Braunfels High School, as well as the community.**

## **Section II. SELECTION PROCESS**

Each candidate must see the Unicorn Handler sponsor for an application. The application cannot be picked up by another student. Each candidate must attend the Introductory Meeting held. The deadline for the application must be adhered to-- no exceptions.

Prospective senior Unicorn Handlers should not be participating as a cheerleader, twirler, band, colorguard, Monoceras, Mystics, volleyball, or any other type of activity that may interfere with the attendance and/or full attention being given to responsibilities of a Unicorn Handler.

The following point system will be utilized in the selection of all prospective Unicorn Handlers.

<b>Academics *</b>	<b>50 points</b>
Well-written essay	20 points
Quiz	20 points
Discipline	10 points
<hr/>	
TOTAL	100 points

- **Academics success is based on academic ranking. Note that the majority of points are accrued from academics. The Unicorn Handlers represent the top academic students in the senior class.**
- **Each essay written will be based on a different question each year. The essay must be typed-written and a minimum of one full page.**
- **Each candidate will be required to come in before or after school to take a short 20-question quiz over the Constitution, Alma Mater, Fight Song, and any other materials given in the application packet.**
- **Each candidate should not have an excess of discipline referrals or poor attendance.**

Failure to abide by these rules will result in Unicorn Handlers being benched or removed from the group. Unicorn Handlers must also abide by the NBISD Extracurricular Student Activities policy.

**NBISD SPIRIT GROUP CODE OF CONDUCT**  
**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I have read and understand the NBISD’s Spirit Group Code of Conduct for the 2016-2017 school year. I understand that I will be held accountable for the behavior expectations and consequences outlined in the Spirit Group Code of Conduct. I understand that by participating in extracurricular activities, I am a representative of New Braunfels Independent School District and a role model to my peers and throughout the community; therefore, the Spirit Group Code of Conduct governs my behavior at all times, and applies both on and off school property. I understand that the behavior expectations of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct are in addition to those included in the NBISD Student Code of Conduct. I understand that violations of the behavior standards of the Spirit Group Code of Conduct that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in my being disciplined under both the Spirit Group Code of Conduct and the Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENT NAME:

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:

DATE:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions to Downloading**  
***Spirit Group Code of Conduct 2016-2017***

1. [www.nbisd.org](http://www.nbisd.org)
2. **Select the “Campuses” tab**
3. **Click on “New Braunfels High School”**
4. **Go to the left hand side of the screen and select “Campus Directory”**
5. **Find “Jennifer Reid” (Dance) or “Rebecca Cannon-Thompson” (Cheer) or “Denise Ortiz” (Unicorn Handlers) under Staff Directory**
6. **Click on “Website”**
7. **Under Quicklinks, click on “Tryout Information” or “Spirit Code of Conduct”**
8. **There you will see “Spirit Group Code of Conduct 2016-2017”**

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9. **Click on the “Download” icon**