

2019-2020
Clute Intermediate School
Cougar Crew Constitution



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Clute Intermediate School

Cougar Crew Constitution and Procedures

After careful consideration and research, Clute Intermediate School administrators and coaches have instituted the following dancer constitution and procedures for use with the Cougar Crew program at all levels. For the benefit of fairness and consistency to all members who participate in the program, we will support, in word and action, the following rules, guidelines, and procedures.

Chris Loftin
Clute Intermediate
Principal

Ashley Farrar
Clute Intermediate
Cougar Crew Coach

CLUTE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 2019-2020 COUGAR CREW CONSTITUTION

This Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew Constitution outlines standards of eligibility and procedure for all Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew candidates and standards of conduct and behavior to which all Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew members are expected to adhere as representatives of their student body and of Clute Intermediate School. Acceptance of a candidate to the Clute Cougar Crew program or removal therefrom, shall be in accordance with the Constitution on the basis of ability, skill, presentation, or any other basis set forth, but shall not be on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability.

Preamble

The following articles have been developed with the advice and consent of the campus Cougar Crew coach for the purpose of communicating the standards of eligibility and procedure which all candidates must meet to be eligible for try-outs and for the purpose of articulating the standards of conduct and behavior to which all Clute Cougar Crew members are expected to adhere as a condition of participation in Cougar Crew activities. Participation in extracurricular activities, including Cougar Crew activities, is a privilege, not a right, and student participants will be held to higher standards than students who choose not to participate in extracurricular activities. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the Cougar Crew 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 Brazosport ISD Student Code of Conduct.

This document may be amended by designated administrators at any time and does not limit a coach's ability to make decisions pertaining to his or her program, consistent with the guidelines set forth herein.

Article I – Mission Statement

The purpose of the Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew dance team shall be to promote and encourage team spirit, to foster good fellowship and sportsmanship by example, and to engender enthusiasm and loyalty to team and school. Members shall lead by example; shall exhibit exemplary 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 Clute Intermediate School.

Article II – Candidate Eligibility

- 2.1** A Cougar Crew candidate must be a resident of Brazosport ISD and currently enrolled in a Brazosport ISD school. Candidates are required to reside within the attendance zone of the school for whose squad they are trying out, unless they are otherwise entitled to attend the tryout school under an approved intra-district transfer in accordance with District policy. Candidates may **not** automatically transfer from one squad to another if they transfer campuses mid-year. Candidates may be male or female.
- 2.2** A Cougar Crew candidate must not have been academically ineligible, as defined by UIL No Pass No Play rules, for the current six weeks and must be passing all courses with a 70 or above at the time of tryouts to be eligible. A student with disabilities must be meeting the standards in his or her IEP at the time of tryouts for purposes of academic eligibility for tryouts.
- 2.3** All candidates must demonstrate exemplary attendance, behavior, and citizenship habits. Candidates must have had at least a 90% attendance rate for the current school year and must not have been suspended, assigned to DAEP, or expelled during the current school year to be eligible for tryouts. The campus principal and designee will make the final determination regarding a candidate's citizenship eligibility for tryouts.
- 2.4** All candidates must be in good financial standing with Brazosport ISD. Candidates who have outstanding balances, including but not limited to fines for lost or damaged textbooks, library fees, late fees, or other extracurricular fees, will not be eligible for tryouts.
- 2.5** All candidates must be medically fit to participate in Cougar Crew activities, as certified by a medical doctor via the district physical document.
- 2.6** Candidates must complete all requirements for tryouts **PRIOR** to tryouts, including but not limited to timely submission of application, timely submission of all required forms, and attendance of all required meetings, practice sessions or clinics. Any candidate failing to complete all tryout requirements who is otherwise eligible for tryouts will **not** be allowed to tryout, absent extenuating circumstances as determined by the coach.
- 2.8** All candidates and their parent or guardian are expected to attend the

orientation meeting(s) for their program to be eligible to tryout.

Article III – Candidate Membership Expectations

- 3.1** Candidates should understand that acceptance into the Clute Cougar Crew dance team is a privilege. Cougar Crew members represent to the community and the public not only themselves, but their student body and Clute Intermediate School and should uphold the highest moral standards.
- 3.2** Candidates should demonstrate exemplary qualities of character. They should be responsible, honest, reliable, dependable, cooperative, dedicated and loyal.
- 3.3** Candidates should be enthusiastic, self-disciplined, willing to learn, and prepared to practice to improve their performance and the performance of the squad.
- 3.4** Candidates who are accepted for membership should understand that the schedule of a Cougar Crew member will require a large time commitment and that members will be expected to put Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew as a priority over other sports, organizations or other nonacademic activities, including after school or weekend events.
- 3.5** Candidates who are accepted for membership and involved in other Clute Intermediate School sports or extracurricular activities must get approval from the Cougar Crew coach prior to performance in the event of a scheduling conflict.

Candidate Membership

Membership in the Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew program is from the date of tryouts to the end of the following academic school year. Squad numbers are subject to change based upon drastic drop-off rates or gaps between the resulting high, middle, and low scores, provided that any such change in numbers shall be approved by the coach and the assigned administrators. **Membership may be terminated at any time for failure to comply with the standards of conduct and procedure outlined herein.**

The squad shall consist of 8th grade students who have successfully completed the 7th grade, 7th grade students who have successfully completed the 6th grade, and 6th grade students who have successfully completed 5th grade.

Article IV – Member Expectations

- 4.1** Members shall be on time and prepared for all Cougar Crew activities. Members should be dressed in the required uniform prior to the start of the activity of practice.
- 4.2** Members shall be neatly presented in appearance, with hair neatly groomed and pulled back from face with no jewelry worn.
- 4.3** Members shall attend and perform all required duties at all practices, games, events, or functions, including any required camp or activities. Members who miss a required practice or fail to perform a required duty may not be allowed to perform at the next game, event, or function.
- 4.4** Members shall participate in conditioning and stretching exercises necessary for the safe involvement in dancing activities.
- 4.5** Members shall maintain their eligibility status under UIL No Pass No Play rules. Members must maintain a grade of 70 or above in all classes to be eligible to participate. Members with disabilities must meet the standards in their IEP to be eligible to participate.
- 4.6** Members shall maintain at least a 90% attendance rate.
- 4.7** Members shall not accumulate any combination of more than five unexcused absences from team practices, games, pep rallies or other scheduled events. Members will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the year should a five unexcused absence occur.
- 4.9** Members shall comply with all TEA-UIL Side by Side Guidelines for Cheerleading and Drill Teams.
- 4.10** Members shall comply with all rules and regulations outlined in the Clute Intermediate School Cheer Program Handbook.

Article V – Standards for Member Removal

Due to the high level of visibility of campus Cougar Crew members, members are expected to demonstrate leadership, honor, and integrity both in and out of uniform. Because acceptance into the Clute Intermediate Cougar Crew program is a privilege, and not a right, members will be held to high standards than those imposed on the general student body. Members may incur disciplinary consequences for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and may also incur disciplinary consequences from both the appropriate administrator and his or her coach for conduct that does constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Members must comply with all standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlines in the Brazosport 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 from the squad.**

- 5.1** Members shall not engage in inappropriate behavior, including but not limited to inappropriate physical/sexual contact, fighting, public intoxication, possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, or other criminal activity.
- 5.2** Members shall not engage in behavior that warrants any kind of suspension from the regular school day, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school. Members who have been placed in in-school suspension, complete suspension from school, removed to DAEP, or expelled from school shall be removed from the squad for the remainder of the year.
- 5.3** Members may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including removal from the squad, for any behavior which the coach and designated administrators deem inappropriate, including but not limited to unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, lewd or profane language, or lewd or profane Internet behavior.