

OHS Ballroom Team 2011-2012

Team Agreement

Directors:

Brad & Michelle Haymond

Home: 801-373-7213

Cell: Brad - 801-380-2170 Michelle - 801-380-2171

Email Addresses: michelle@haymond.org, brad@haymond.org

Team Website: www.oremhighballroom.com

The OHS Varsity Ballroom Team is made up of 16-18 couples. Each team member will dance in several routines. Students will be taught specific dances and then put into formations. Each routine changes formations and partners several times throughout one routine. The Varsity Team competes at several local competitions throughout the year. The Team also performs at various assemblies and other activities throughout the year.

The OHS Junior Varsity Ballroom Team supports the Varsity Team. This Team concentrates on performing and preparing dancers to dance on the Varsity Team. The JV Team does not travel or compete at local competitions.

Due to the detailed and intricate nature of the routines and demanding Ballroom Team schedule, it is very important that all Team members and their parents understand and commit to the policies in this Team Agreement.

Rehearsals

- Varsity Team will be held
 - During **A1**
 - Each Thursday night from 7:30-9:30pm.
 - Some Saturdays and extra rehearsals as needed.
- Junior Varsity Team will be held
 - During **A1**
 - Some Saturdays and some extra rehearsals as needed.

Team Fee

- The Varsity Team Fee is \$185/year.
- The JV Team Fee is \$160/year.
- This fee covers expenses such as: costumes, cleaning, repairs, and Team jackets or shirts.
- Costumes are owned and kept by the Team.
- **Fees must be paid or arranged by Sept 9, 2011.**
- If you have circumstances that will cause problems with paying the fee, please speak with Brad or Michelle.

Communication

- We will communicate with the Team and Parents often about rehearsals, activities, and other information.
- We communicate through email! Every Team member **must** have access to an Email account.
- We also communicate through text messaging where possible. Please let us know if you cannot receive text messages.
- Team members should check their email or the Team website (www.oremhighballroom.com) **frequently**.
- We also have official Facebook pages where we will post information.

Team Member Essentials

Footwear

- Footwear must be worn at all times in Team; no bare feet, socks (without shoes), or flipflops.
- You need to obtain a Ballroom dance shoe **by July 21, 2011**:
 - Ladies – Dark tan satin Latin sandal – 2 ½ inch heel.
 - Men – A black calf standard shoe (low heel).
- Recommended: Supadance, International, Freed. Problematic brands (they don't last long): Capezio and Dancesport.
- Shoes should fit snugly, but not hurt. Ladies shoes will not stretch. Men's shoes will stretch a little bit.
- If you feel you cannot afford the footwear please speak with us. We know of used shoe options.

Shoes available locally from:

Red Tango Dancesport Supply

Contact Mary Lyn for an appointment

Phone: 801-225-0106 or 801-471-8716

Fall Address: 2774 N 370 E Provo (in a home)

Email: marykeck@iveracity.com

Dance Works

Phone: 801-375-4622

3228 N University Ave Provo, UT 84604

Makeup & Hair

- Make-up (ladies) & Hair (men & ladies) will be required for each show or competition.
- Team members should bring these supplies with you to each show/comp.
- A list of lady's supplies will be distributed later. You may currently own some of the supplies.
- Michelle will host a **Ladies Make-Up/Hair Night** to show how to properly apply Ballroom make-up and hair techniques.
 - All ladies will be required to attend with their make-up and hair supplies.
- Men are required to style & gel their hair for competition and performances if needed to have a professional look.
- If your hair is long for a man then you will be asked to slick it back with gel or pull in into a ponytail. Depending on individual hair characteristics, **you may be expected to cut your hair or get a trim.**
- Your hair is also part of the essential costume of a Ballroom Dancer. For both men and ladies we ask that if you are going to change your hair color throughout the year to please keep it in a nice and tasteful manner. **Please avoid multiple colors or outrageous/unconventional colors.** If you choose to color your hair an extreme color, you **will** be asked to use temporary hair coloring for shows and competitions.

Costume Essentials

- All Team members will be **required to have these items by August 26, 2011** (you may already have some).
- Students will check off these items with the directors as an assignment (50 pts).
- We expect Team members to **wear these essentials at all shows and competitions:**
 - **Ladies:**
 - Caramel color fishnets
 - Nude color form-fitting leotard with built-in support (to go under your costume)
 - Because of the costumes, you will not be able to wear a bra. The leotards will take the place of a bra. All ladies will sew in bra cups into their leotards (available at Joanne's). We will provide more details later.
 - **Men:**
 - Black biker shorts (w/o padding)
 - White T-shirt
 - black socks

Competition Gear

- All Team members will be **required to have and check off these items by August 26, 2011** (you may already have some).
- We expect Team members to bring and **wear this gear when competing:**
 - **Ladies :**
 - **Syllabus Competitors:**
 - Simple black skirt - one layer, straight horizontal hem, no sequins, sparkles, rhinestones, etc.
 - Simple white shirt - also no sequins, major decoration, flowers, sparkles, rhinestones, etc.
 - Black trunks/"spankies"
 - **Men:**
 - **Syllabus Competitors:**
 - White long sleeve dress shirt, black pants, and black tie.
 - **Open Categories:**
 - You can check out a costume from the team if needed.
 - Speak with us if you want to make, rent, or buy your own costume.

Tanning

- Looking tan is part of the essential costume of a Ballroom dancer.
- Members of the Team will be required to tan for certain competitions and performances.
- **UV tanning of any sort is NOT recommended.**
- We recommend Sunless Tanning lotion. Brands such as St. Tropez or Neutrogena work very well. See Make-up list for more details. Team members should use the "Dark" level of these lotions.
- "Misting" is another method of tanning available at most tanning salons. You may need to do this method twice to reach the desired tan level.

Jackets & Shirts

- Each Varsity Team member will receive:
 - 1st year - Team jacket
 - 2nd year - Team gym bag
 - 3rd year - Team blanket
- JV Team members will receive a Team shirt. Varsity Team members may purchase one (we encourage it if you can afford it!)
- Team members may purchase matching pants (optional). (Approx \$25. Payment must be received before ordering.)
- Team members will not receive their jacket/shirt/etc until their fee is completely paid or arranged with us.

Competition

Individual Competition

- Each Team member will be required to compete individually (with a partner) in at least one competition per semester. We prefer partners be members of our Team, but you may compete with people from outside the Team. You can have different partners in different categories, but can only dance with one partner per category. (One gentleman cannot dance the same event with more than one lady at a competition or vice versa.)
- The Team funds will pay for Team members' entry and admission to one competition per semester. The required competitions will be BYU competitions in November and March. Other competitions need to be approved beforehand to fulfill this requirement.
- Extra credit will be given for team members who compete in more than one competition per semester.
- Team members represent Orem High and are required to dress nicely when attending competitions. No jeans and t-shirts allowed. Inappropriate attire will affect your grade.

Medleys/Team Match (Varsity)

- **Formation Team Medleys** – A medley consists of 4 or 5 of the Latin or Standard dances combined into one routine that is 5 minutes long. Eight couples (and alternates) will be selected to dance these routines at competitions.
- **Utah High School Team Match** – This is a fun event consisting of dancers, mascots, cheerleaders, and a cheering crowd! Team Match is a competition between several high school Ballroom teams in Utah.
- Medley and Team Match dancers will be expected to attend extra rehearsals (afternoon/evenings/Saturdays).

OHS Competition

In September we hold our own competition in the OHS Fieldhouse. Not only do Team members get a chance to compete but the competition is a team fundraiser as well. All Team members and the parents on the competition committee are needed to help prepare, and then throughout the entire day of the competition.

Major Concerts

- The Holiday Dance Concert will be held with the Dance Company in the beginning of **December**.
- The Year-End Concert will be held in the beginning of May.
- Team members will be **required** to attend Finale, Tech and Dress rehearsals during the week of the show. These rehearsals will be held in the afternoon and evening that week.
- Team members will also be asked to pre-sell tickets to these shows. We will award prizes for the highest seller.
- Team members should always dress nicely before and after performing in concerts.

Grading Procedures

Rehearsal Attendance and Participation

- 5 points per school rehearsal
- 10 points per 2 hr rehearsal
- 15 points per 3 hr rehearsal
- **Absences**
 - **Unexcused absences** will result in 0 points for Participation and Attendance for that day.
 - **Excused** absences will excuse the student from the points for that day (won't count for or against you).
 - Any Event or Rehearsal **outside of school hours** must be excused by the parent or guardian with the director through notes, a phone call, or email. Communication to excuse your student must be done within 5 schools days after the absence.
 - Students who miss a rehearsal will be expected to learn the material they have missed from another student, video, etc as soon as possible. (before the next rehearsal if possible)
- **Students will lose points for anything that detracts from practice or team unity, such as:**
 - Talking, goofing off, arguing/back talking with the Directors, or not listening
 - Not wearing dance shoes (3 points)
 - Not dancing, including Alternates
 - Not actively participating
 - Using cell phones, iPods, headphones, etc. during practice.

Punctuality Points (100 Points)

- Each student starts with a pool of 100 Punctuality Points per term. One point is taken from this pool for every 5 minutes the student is tardy.
- If a student abuses the excusal of absences and tardies, as determined by the directors, this can result in loss of points even for excused absences and tardies.

Shoe Points (100 Points)

- Practicing in the correct dance shoes is vital to good dancing.
- Correct Ballroom shoes are required for all practices, competitions, and performances.
- Each student starts with a pool of 100 Shoe Points per term for bringing their shoes when required.
- Students will lose 5 Shoe Points each time they do not bring their shoes.

Performance Participation (25-100 pts/performance)

- Concerts, Shows, Assemblies, Team Competitions, Tech and Dress Rehearsals, etc.
- Examples of things that will affect your score :
 - Arriving on time to the specified place
 - Tanning and other appearance if required
 - Make-up/hair done *before* you arrive at the show (men also)
 - Important accessories (shoes, etc)

Competition Participation (100 pts)

- Team members will be required to compete individually (as couples) in local competitions. See **Individual Competition**.

Events, Other (10-50 pts each)

Examples of things that will have a grade:

- Attending Ladies Make-up Night and acquiring correct make-up.
- Participation in Team fundraisers.
- Paying your fees by deadline or being on time with payment plan.
- Acquiring shoes by **July 21, 2011**.
- Obtaining the costume essentials and competition gear (including make-up and tanning lotion) by **August 26, 2011**.
- Quizzes and Routine Tests.

Unity and Attitude Grade (25 pts/term)

- This grade represents the contribution the student has made to the team as a Team Member.
- Items that are considered for this score include (this is not a complete list):
 - Attitude towards the directors and other Team members, attitude towards participation, motivation, respect, actively contributing to the Team, negative attitude toward the things they have agreed to do according to this disclosure statement, etc.
 - Does the student unify the Team, or disrupt and divide the Team?
 - Does this student respect and follow rules; is he/she a student in good standing? Do they lift the Ballroom Team in the eyes of other students and staff? Do we find this student skipping other classes in the halls? Team members who skip their classes tarnish the Ballroom Team's reputation.

GPA Requirements

The primary purpose of being in school is to learn. Ballroom is an extra-curricular activity. In order to remain on this Team in good standing, you must **maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average**. Team members cannot have more than 1 of the following grades in any given term: F, I, or NC. We will check your grades for each term when grades have been posted. If your grade changes, you must notify us and we will verify the new grade.

Probation Policy

Warnings and probations become effective when grades are posted. If there is an error or extenuating circumstances with your grade, it is your responsibility to alert us when the grade has been corrected.

- **Warning**
 - The **First** term you have less than a 2.5 GPA, or have more than 1 F, I, or NC you will receive a **Warning**.
 - This Policy does not restart each year. Team members who have been with us multiple years will only receive one warning.
- **Probation**
 - The **Second** term without meeting the grade requirements you will be put on **Probation**.
 - The student will not be allowed to perform with the Team or to compete with the Team during probation. The student may of course still compete individually.
 - The student should use the probationary term to improve his/her grades and return to normal status by the next term.
 - When on probation, the student is still a Team member and must continue to **attend all rehearsals**.
- **Removal**
 - The **Third** term without meeting the grade requirements, you may be removed from the Team to focus on your grades.

General Information

Rehearsal Attire

Students should wear clothing that allows full range of movement to team rehearsals. You should not wear any clothing that will impede your dancing. Examples of this would include very tight pants/jeans/some skirts. Skirts or dresses are fine but only with trunks underneath. No Hats or sleeveless shirts. No baggy pants – you should not have to constantly adjust your clothes!

Team Unity

Being a unified Team is vital to the success of this year. All Team members should be kind to each other. Name calling, insults, degrading others, back-biting, etc. will not be tolerated. If necessary, Team members will apologize in front of the entire Team. If there are problems and behavior does not improve we may dismiss you from the Team to maintain Team unity. Please be wise and responsible. Think before you do it, or say it...

Priority

Ballroom will require much time and attention from each Team member. Our program is very involved, especially for the competitive team. Each student placed on the Team will be expected to treat Team as a priority in their attention and schedules. If you will not make the Team a priority, we may replace you with someone else who will. Team members who do make the Team a priority will have more opportunities than those who are not as committed. The Team will function and progress most effectively when everyone makes Team a priority. By having it as a priority we will have a much more satisfying and successful year for all involved. Being placed on our Team is a privilege. Having a spot on the Team often means that we granted you the spot instead of another person who tried out. Therefore we expect that you treat this Team as a top priority.

One Ballroom Team

Ballroom is a very involved and time demanding activity. Other Ballroom Teams in the area run similar schedules that will conflict if a student is on more than one team. Being on two teams has caused issues with Team loyalty and unity. There is too much material to learn and practice when trying to be on two teams. If a team member attempts to learn the repertoire of two teams, they often end up not learning the routines of either team very well. Team members only have time to be on one Ballroom Team. If they are on the OHS Team they should not be on any other Ballroom Team. Being on another team may be cause for removal from the OHS Team.

Alternates

Each routine will have alternates. An alternate is someone who doesn't have a set position in the routine, but will learn the dance in case something happens to someone in the routine. Being an alternate is one of the ***most important*** and vital roles on the Team. Alternates who learn their routines ensure that a routine can dance in a performance should someone get hurt or otherwise be incapacitated. If someone cannot attend a performance and the alternate doesn't know the routine, we cannot dance that routine in that performance, assembly, etc. Alternates will be expected to attend all rehearsals for the routine. They will be expected to dance on the side. **ALTERNATES SHOULD NOT JUST SIT ON THE FLOOR AND WATCH.** There is a very good chance the alternates will be used at some point during the year. Last year every routine used at least one or more of the alternates.

Cell Phones/iPods

School rules for cell phones, iPods and other electronic devices apply. **THESE DEVICES SHOULD BE STORED IN BACK PACKS AND NOT PERSONAL POCKETS. We expect that you put them in your back packs before beginning the rehearsal.** Students will **lose points for breaking this rule.** If any of these devices are seen by one of us they **will be confiscated** and turned into the office. Students will have to pick up these devices after school. Repeat offenders will have to have their parents pick up the device. School policy states: "Failure to surrender a phone to a teacher will constitute insubordination and will be grounds for suspension or other disciplinary action."

Fundraisers

The Team will be doing several fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for new costumes, competitions fees, and other things that we will need. Team members should participate in the fundraisers. Examples of fundraisers are: OHS Tiger Classic competition, Tiger 5K race, Car Washes, Adult Dance Class, and sponsoring the OHS Sweethearts dance. Ideas for fundraisers are welcome!

Auditions

We may hold auditions again during the year depending on need and circumstances.

Injury

Due to the nature of this Team we encourage students to be careful and not participate in dangerous activities that may cause injury. If a member is injured during the year they may be removed from a routine, performance, or competition. The spot may be given to the alternate and the injured member may become the alternate for the routine. If injured, students will still be expected to attend rehearsals to watch and learn. Failure to attend multiple rehearsals, performances, competitions, etc. can result in dismissal from Team.

Public Display of Affection (PDA)

PDA makes everyone around you feel awkward. PDA is also a distraction and often wastes time. PDA can also create a certain image or perception that we do not want to promote. When the team is together anywhere please refrain from the following: kissing, laying over each other, wrapping your bodies around each other, snuggling, or anything that makes others uncomfortable. Be careful with boyfriend/girlfriend relationships among team members. We will not change your partner in routines to facilitate your boyfriend/girlfriend, or if your romantic relationship doesn't last. Leave your relationship struggles (both good and bad) outside the classroom door.

Dismissal Policies

As the directors of the OHS Ballroom Team we retain the right to dismiss problematic students from our Team. Some example reasons for dismissal may include (but are not limited to): not participating in/attending Team rehearsals, chronically tardy, skipping Team or other classes, negative/disruptive attitude, on multiple ballroom teams, sexual harassment or any sort of harassment, lack of respect for directors or others, Grade Point Average, or anything in violation of Alpine School District and Orem High School policies, such as drug/alcohol/tobacco rules. A problematic situation is determined by the directors. As directors we will and must do what we feel is best for the Team.

Hygiene

- Students will be dancing with a member of the opposite gender and because of that we ask all students to maintain good hygiene. Please shower, shave, etc, before you come to class each day. For example:
 - Bathe and wash hair daily.
 - Brush teeth each morning.
 - Use deodorant every day.
 - Cologne/perfume – use it, but not too much
 - Bring sweat rags to wipe away extra if you tend to sweat a lot.
 - Mints and/or water bottles are acceptable to bring to practice. Gum is acceptable if it stays in your mouth and stays quiet.
- If complaints are received concerning a student's hygiene we will discuss a solution with the student and parents if necessary.

Non-Discrimination Statement

This class is open to all students. Orem High School offers education to all students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. Students who have a grievance with another student or any school employee should talk to the school administration or a counselor about their concerns.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is illegal and has no place in our team. Proper interaction with the opposite sex is a vital part of good Ballroom dancing. If actions of your teammates or anyone else make you feel uncomfortable, speak with the teachers or another faculty member. Don't use partnerships, friendships, or Team membership as a manipulative tool. When someone says "NO" or "STOP" that is exactly what it means. No one should have to say those words twice!

We ask for the patience of parents and students as we work and learn together in order to make this and future years successful.

Thank you,
Brad and Michelle Haymond

