

McKinney North High School Drill Team Merit/Demerit System
(UPDATED SPRING 2024)

The following are considered rule infractions. Point deductions for each are indicated. Points are strictly used only to determine disciplinary probation periods and are not used for grading purposes. Points are deducted for one service year, and at the beginning of the next service year, each member's record is cleared. The only exception is if a disciplinary action (benching, probation) has been determined in the previous year but not yet activated. In this case, the disciplinary action becomes active on the first day of service of the next year, and then the student's record will be cleared.

Benching

Member attends functions in uniform but will not take part in the team performance. With regard to football or basketball games, the member may perform in the stands with the team, but may not perform in pre-game, halftime, or post-game performances or festivities.

Probation

Member is not allowed to participate in auditions or performances of the team or of specialty groups. The member is not allowed to travel with the team for any reason. Member may not wear the drill team uniform. Member must continue to attend classes, work periods, and practices as scheduled during and before/after school hours. If a student is academically ineligible at the time of benching or disciplinary probation, the penalty will be served at the time that the student regains eligibility.

-10 Demerits	Benched for one performance or until recovered.
-15 Demerits	Benched for two performances or until recovered.
-18 Demerits	3-week probation
-21 Demerits	6-week probation

A student will receive a benching after the initial 10 demerits accrued and every 5 demerits thereafter. The accumulation of 22 demerits will result in possible dismissal from the team even if no benching or probationary periods have occurred. Accumulation of three or more benchings will result in a principal/director review and possible dismissal from the team.

Merit/Demerit System

Action/Infraction	Merit (+) Demerit (-)
<u>Merits</u> The director may choose to offer merits for services deemed appropriate. The rewards for such earned merits are also at the director's discretion. Example of merits include, but are not limited to are;	Merits (+) are the only things that remove demerits.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attending outside functions approved by the director ● Donating items that benefit the team ● Cleaning the dance studio ● Participating in a spirit activity approved by the director ● Etc. 	Merits remove demerits on a one-to-one basis.
Incorrect practice attire	-1
Chewing gum during practice or performance	-1
Not returning items with a due date	-1 for each day late
Leaving a mess in practice, performance, or dressing area	-1
Talking at inappropriate times	-1
Not following instructions for stands behavior	-1
Failure to dress out for practice	-3
Inappropriate behavior in uniform	-5
Wearing unapproved nail polish to a performance	-2
Unexcused tardy to practice, performance, or event	-1
Not emailing director when going to be absent	-2
Not providing a parent note via email/handwritten upon return from an absence	-2
Dress code violation at school	-1
Hair is in the incorrect style as determined by the director for any drill team event/performance	-1
Incorrect makeup as determined by the director for any drill team event/performance	-1
Wearing unapproved jewelry to a performance	-3
Incorrect performance uniform/attire	-3
Lending uniform, costumes, t-shirts, jackets, etc. to non-drill team members	-3
Dance officer not issuing merits/demerits when necessary	-3
Eating/drinking in uniform without director permission	-3
Wearing uniform to non-drill team function or event without	-5

director approval	
Disrespecting an officer or fellow team member	-5
Not following directions of a chaperone or director on a field trip or overnight trip	-5 or more based on director's discretion and severity
Missing uniform piece or equipment piece at squad check prior to an event or performance	-1 per item
Not returning uniforms clean and performance-ready	-1 per item
Leaving any drill team event without permission from the director	-10
Insubordination	-10
Violating school rules/policies	-10 & refer to MNHS policies
Allowing non-drill team member into the locker room without director permission	-2
Non-compliance with drill team standard of conduct	-5
Lying to the director, public displays of inappropriate conduct, cursing, etc.	-10
Unexcused absence from drill team class, rehearsal, or event/performance	-10
Excessive absences; excused or unexcused	-10
Failure to respect all teachers and staff	-10
Office referral	-10 and director/principal review
Social Media/Cell Phone Policy infraction	-10 or more based on director's discretion and severity
Any infraction not listed above, but within a similar spirit of those listed	Director's discretion
In-School Suspension (ISS)	-18 per day, automatic disciplinary probation, possible dismissal from the team depending on the number of days assigned to ISS.

<p><u>Unacceptable Infractions</u> Behaviors that warrant immediate review by the director and administration and may result in immediate dismissal from the team;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Possessing or using illegal drugs either in or outside of school. This includes cigarettes, e-cigs, vapes, marijuana, alcohol, and ANY other illicit drugs not listed here. ● Failure to meet necessary requirements to be removed from disciplinary probation ● Receiving a 3rd disciplinary probation ● Receiving a 3rd academic probation ● Placement in OSS or Alternative School ● Excessive absences from drill team class, practices, performances, and events -- review for dismissal to be determined by the director and principal ● Violating the Student Code of Conduct or MISD Acceptable Use Policy ● Any infraction not listed above, but within a similar spirit of those listed 	<p>Automatic disciplinary probation and review by director and administration for possible dismissal from the team.</p>
<p><u>Academic Ineligibility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Failure to meet academic requirements; if a student fails to meet the eligibility requirements of a 70% or better for each class in compliance with the TEA UIL Eligibility requirements at the designated UIL Grade Checks, then they will be placed on academic probation. ● At the designated district time, if the substandard grade is brought up to a 70% or better, the drill team member will no longer be on probation. MISD will follow the TEA UIL Eligibility Calendar. ● Repeated failure to meet academic requirements; academics are the school's top priority. Therefore, if a drill team member is placed on academic probation twice because of substandard grades in the same course or in a different course throughout the school year, the third offense will remove the student from drill team for the remainder of the school year. This will not include the courses designated in board policy as exempt from the eligibility rule. 	<p>Once on academic probation, the student will lose performance privileges. The probation is aligned with the MISD eligibility calendar. The student will not be allowed to perform at games, pep rallies, competitions, shows, etc. They may not travel with the team. They may not dress out in uniform with the team. During this time, the student must still attend and participate in rehearsals.</p>

Parent and Student Merit/Demerit System Acknowledgement Form

In alignment with “Article IX. The Disciplinary System” in the *McKinney ISD Dance/Drill Team Handbook*, all drill team organization members of McKinney North High School must follow the merit/demerit system outlined on each campus. Here is Article IX from the district handbook;

Article IX. The Disciplinary System

- A. Demerits may be given to Drill team members at any practice, performance, event, or for school disciplinary reasons.*
- B. The calculating period for demerits will be from the time the new team is announced until the last day of school the following school year.*
- C. Demerits can be worked off at the request of the director, before or after practice, within one week of receiving the demerit.*
- D. Drill team members may be required to re-audition the following year after receiving a set number of demerits as outlined in each campus dance/drill team handbook.*
- E. Merits are the means by which the Drill team member may work off demerits and be rewarded for extra service to the organization.*
- F. Each campus will outline demerits/merits.*

By signing below, both student and parent are acknowledging that they understand the merit/demerit system outlined for the drill team organization member of McKinney North High School in MISD.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date