



## **HMS Dance Team Information and Contract 2025-2026**

Thank you for your interest in the HMS Dance Team! We would like to share important information, expectations, commitments and financial obligations with you. Before you choose to try out, athletes and parents must be willing to make a total commitment to the expectations of the team.

Halls Middle School Dance Team is not a sanctioned Knox County Schools sport; it is a club sport. However, club sports do follow TSSAA guidelines, and all Knox County School Board guidelines and policies are strictly followed. Specifics of the team are established by the coach and sponsor.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Lorin Bradley or Katie Treece.

We are looking forward to a great year of dance! Go Halls!

Lorin Bradley - Sponsor

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Katie Treece - Coach

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DeLaney Townsend

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### **Clinic and Tryout Information:**

**Clinic Day 1:** Tuesday, April 8 4:00pm - 6:00pm at Halls High School Gym

**Clinic Day 2:** Wednesday, April 9 4:00pm - 6:00pm at Halls High School Gym

**Tryouts:** Friday, April 11 4:00pm at Halls High School Gym

## Eligibility Requirements

- A. Candidates must have an **overall** academic average of a **“C”** or better to be eligible for tryouts. This average is required to be maintained throughout the season.
- B. Candidates must have the **Sports Physical Form** filled out by a medical doctor that states they have passed a physical examination. This must be given to the sponsor on **Tuesday, April 8** in order to try out. Most Walk-in Clinics will perform a sports physical.
- C. Each candidate and parent/guardian must have submitted the **HMS Dance Contract agreement page, Physical form and tryout fee** by **Tuesday, April 8**.

## Tryout Schedule and Information

- A. All dance skills necessary to try out will be taught during the mandatory **after-school** clinics on **Tuesday, April 8 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm and Wednesday, April 9 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm** . Clinics will be held in the Halls High School Gym.
- B. Tryouts will be held on **Friday, April 11 in the Halls High School gym from 4:00 pm-approximately 6pm** depending on the number of candidates.
- C. Candidates should **wear all black dance wear, no midriiffs, jazz shoes or turners, hair slicked back in ponytail or bun, no jewelry**.
- D. All candidates are expected to be on time and present for all clinic days and tryouts.
- E. Clinics and tryouts are completely closed to everyone other than judges and school administration. No parents/guardians, students, or friends are allowed to watch or be present inside the building.
- F. Dancers will be judged in technique skills and the ability to perform the routine.
- G. Judges’ score sheets will be totaled and a combined score will be determined. There is no previously determined number for how many dancers will be chosen. That number is determined by scores. Where there is a dramatic drop in scores is where the line will be drawn for the cut.
- H. The candidates selected for the 2025-2026 team will be posted on our webpage no sooner than **7:00pm** on the day of tryouts.
- I. The decision of the judges is **FINAL**. Please note: Judges are selected adults from outside the Halls community. They do not know any candidate names, only numbers. Judges will not know if any candidates were on the team previously.

## Financial Responsibility

Being part of the HMS Dance Team requires an understanding that it is a financial obligation. The dance team is exclusively funded through parent support. Payment will be due at the time costumes/uniforms are ordered for the team. Dancers will not perform until all required items are in their possession and paid in full.

**Approximate Costs for the Year:** All costs are estimates and are subject to change.

### **Spring/Summer:**

Team Fee: \$100 - Includes team banner, 8th grade banners, 8th grade gifts, practice shirt, tank top and team accessories

MAC League Fee: \$75 (Football) - Required to participate at MAC League football games

Costume/Uniform Fee: \$250

Team Wear and Gear: \$200 - Includes team shoes, leggings, shorts, jacket and backpack

Coach Fee: \$250

**Fall:**

Spirit Wear: \$100 - Includes items the team will wear on game days (sweatshirt, sweatpant, tshirt, long sleeve shirt)

KCS Secondary Insurance Fee: \$60 (Basketball) – Required by KCS to participate at home basketball games

Team/Individual Pictures: \$75 per dancer

TSSAA State Dance Championship Fees: \$25 per dancer

**Year End:**

End of Season Fee: \$40 – Includes banquet, room rental, end of year gifts

**Attendance and Involvement Expectations**

Do not try out for HMS dance if you are obligated to other activities that will conflict with our practice or game schedule. You will not be excused early or entirely from practice or games to participate in other events. Efforts may be made to accommodate different activity schedules when it is not a detriment to the team.

**\*\*There will be several times throughout the year where the first priority must be the HMS Dance Team. The team cannot practice without all its members, and games and other events cannot be rescheduled around each student's schedule. \*\***

All team and parent communication will be shared through the Band App. Parents and dancers are expected to check and keep up with all important information that is shared regarding the team.

Being part of the team is a time commitment. Mandatory practices will be held twice per week during the school year, typically **Tuesday** and **Friday** from **3:45-6:00 pm beginning May 13**.

Summer practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the exception of mandatory TSSAA dead period from June 22nd - July 5th.

**Mandatory** routine camp will be held **August 2 - August 6. Please make sure that you are available this week before trying out. It is crucial that all team members attend routine camp.**

Most middle school football games are on Thursdays. The dance team will dance the entire game and may get to perform at halftime.

Basketball games are on Mondays and Thursdays. Dance team performs at halftime of the girls and boys HOME games. The dance team performs dances with the cheer team during some quarters.

**Attendance**

- A. Dancers must be present AT LEAST half a day of school on the day of a game in order to perform.
- B. The coach **must** approve absences from games. A written note must be given to the sponsor.
- C. Dancers **must** attend **all** practices and games. Only the coach/sponsor has the authority to excuse the dancer from practice or game. A written note must be provided for missed practices.
- D. If a dancer is injured or cannot dance for any reason, she will continue to attend practices, games and participate in all other activities. She will sit with team members during games and assist in any way possible.

- E. If a dancer leaves school early on the day of practice or game, the coach and sponsor must be notified of the absence via the Band App. Do not relay messages through another dancer.
- F. Excessive absences, including leaving practice early or missing games, may be cause for dismissal from the team.
- G. In addition to MAC League football games, home basketball games during regular season, the team will participate in any home basketball playoff games, Buddy Walk, Fantasy of Trees, Christmas Parade, Red vs White day game, HMS Fall Festival and other community events with prior notice to families, as well as the TSSAA State Dance Championship.

## **Behavior and Sportsmanship**

A dancer is a school representative and must uphold the standards set by **Halls Middle School**. It should never become necessary for a dancer to be suspended or to have disciplinary action brought against them. Should this happen, appropriate action will be taken at the discretion of the coach, sponsor, and administration.

Dancers must exhibit and promote good sportsmanship at all times, especially during games. Poor sportsmanship includes booing, gestures, negative chanting, or any other bad behavior seen by sponsor, game officials, or school personnel. Negative remarks towards other dance teams or cheer teams are NOT acceptable.

As a member of this dance team you not only represent yourself, but the rest of your team, your school, your sponsor, the coach, and your family. While on this team, dancers must present themselves in an appropriate manner. All costumes, jewelry, accessories, makeup and hair will be worn as instructed by the coach/sponsor.

## **Discipline**

In order to ensure that the dancers' responsibilities are equally shared, a Demerit System will be used. Demerits may be given for absences from scheduled and called practices; failure to fulfill assigned duties; behavior at school, on the bus, school functions, practices, and games; and failure to participate in events. A dancer's behavior should be an example for others to follow and must therefore be above reproach. Each dancer is expected to adhere to the rules of the school as well as, the Dance Team's rules and responsibilities.

\*If a Dancer is dismissed from the team for any reason, there will be no refund of any fees paid.\*

- A. Any dancer receiving OSS (Out of School Suspension) **will be dismissed** from the team for the remainder of the season, no questions asked. If dismissed from the team, you may not try-out again.
- B. Any dancer receiving ISS (In School Suspension) will receive the following penalties: First Offense: **1 game suspension**, Second Offense: **Dismissal from the team** for the remainder of the season AND may not try-out again.
- C. Any Dance Team member who fails to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner will be immediately dismissed from the team at the coach's/sponsor's discretion.
- D. A total of **(15)** accrued demerits will result in automatic dismissal from the team.
- E. Demerits may be given for offenses not mentioned if the coach/sponsor sees fit.

The demerit system is as follows:

#### 5 Demerits

- Unexcused absence from a ballgame (this will additionally result in the dancer sitting out the next ballgame. The dancer will be required to attend, in uniform, but not be allowed to perform)
- Rudeness or inappropriate behavior at school, on the bus, or at school events that does not result in OSS/ISS
- Talking badly about another member of the team, the team in general, or the coach
- Inappropriate social media behavior whether wearing HMS Dance gear or not

#### 4 Demerits

- Unexcused absence from practice
- Going to the dance locker room without permission
- Bringing non-team members into the dance team locker room without permission

#### 3 Demerits

- Failure to wear assigned uniform or team attire to events when instructed
- Leaving class early for dance activities (unless dismissed by coach or school personnel over the intercom)

#### 2 Demerits

- Failure to dress appropriately for practice
- Excessive talking, laughing, horseplay, use of phone without permission, and general goofing-off during practice or game
- Chewing gum, drinks, or food during football and basketball games

#### 1 Demerit

- Failure to turn in documents by required dates (permission forms, report cards, etc.)
- Late pick up from practice or event
- Leaving sidelines during the game except with coach's permission. Bathroom visits must be conducted before the game or during half time



## HMS Dance Team Contract 2025-2026 Season

Please sign and return by **Tuesday, April 8** along with the following:



1. \$30 registration Fee paid online here:
2. Completed Sports Physical signed by physician within the past year. [KCS Sports Physical Form](#)
3. Copy of report card

We have read and understand the information included in this packet. We agree to all of the rules, expectations, and guidelines listed. We understand that the above forms and fee must be turned in by **Tuesday, April 8** in order to participate in Clinics and Tryouts.

### **I have read and understand: (please check)**

- Eligibility Requirements \_\_\_\_
- Tryout Schedule and Information \_\_\_\_
- Financial Responsibility \_\_\_\_
- Attendance and Involvement Expectations \_\_\_\_
- Behavior and Sportsmanship \_\_\_\_
- Discipline \_\_\_\_

Dance Candidate Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dance Candidate Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_