

Mirabeau B. Lamar High School
Rangerette Drill Team
Constitution

ARTICLE I: Organization

The name of this organization shall be the Lamar High School Rangerette Drill Team. The colors shall be royal blue, red, and white. Students of Lamar High School wishing to become members of this dance team must meet all standards set forth by this constitution, Lamar High School, and the Houston Independent School District.

ARTICLE II. Objectives

A Rangerette shall be loyal, have high morals and standards, set good examples in and out of school, and develop self-discipline and confidence. He/She shall also have poise, good posture, and a presentable appearance. Being a Rangerette is an honor. Hard work and discipline are basic components of this program. A Rangerette's commitment is to both academics and the Rangerette organization. If you are not ready to accept this challenge, then Rangerettes may not be for you.

The objectives of the Rangerette Drill Team shall be:

1. To develop and perfect dance skills as they relate to standard TEA requirements.
2. To increase and develop character, scholarship, and responsibility.
3. To develop and promote school spirit.
4. To promote leadership, sportsmanship, self-confidence, and self-discipline
5. To promote dance as a fine art.
6. To develop poise, charm and grace in the team members.
7. To create and maintain positive relationships between our drill team and other drill teams that we may come in contact with.

ARTICLE III. Team membership

Prospective members of the Rangerette Drill Team shall be selected through an audition process, to be conducted within one week's time, during the Spring semester. Fall try outs may be held, if desired by the Director and Administration. The term of membership is one calendar year, beginning when the name is posted as a team member and continuing until the try outs for the following year's team, or until officially terminated.

Section I: Basic Try-Out Requirements

- A. Rangerette membership shall be open to any student enrolled in Lamar High School.
 1. Parent/guardian **MUST** attend the mandatory parent information meeting prior to try outs.
 2. Parent/guardian **MUST** sign a permission form for their child to try-out.

3. **ALL** prospective members must turn in **ALL** forms at the designated time completely filled out and bearing the appropriate signatures. Failure to do so will disqualify the candidate. These signatures indicate that the candidate and parent/guardians have read and understand completely the contents of the constitution and by-laws.

B. To gain membership, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Applicants must be in grades 9-11 during the year of try-outs.
2. Applicants must not have more than 1 failing grade in all subjects during the year of try-outs at the end of the fall semester. The most recent report card has to be given to the director before try-outs.
3. Applicants may not have more than 1 “P” or “U” in conduct. More than 1 “P” or “U” in conduct will disqualify the candidate.
4. Students must not have been suspended or expelled from school during the year of try-outs.
5. Applicants must have parental permission to try-out.
6. Each prospective student must try-out and all returning members must try-out. **Being a member of the team does not guarantee reinstatement for the following year.**
7. Student must be eligible the entire process of the try-out, including the clinic and day of try-outs.
8. He/She must be in good standings with their grade level administrator’s office. There must be no recurring behavioral problems (i.e. assignment to SAC, detention, etc. for repeated offenses.)
9. A Rangerette who has lost membership or been removed from the team may not try out for the following year’s team.
10. A Rangerette who quits or relinquishes her membership without completing the year may not try out for the following year’s team.
11. Each candidate must be in good physical condition in order to dance for an extended period of time.
12. Prior to try-outs, each candidate must have turned in to the Director: a completed application with his/her signature and parent’s signature, a copy of the current/most recent report card, the Constitution contract signed by both the parent and the applicant, and faculty evaluation.

C. Try-Out Procedures

1. Students that are interested in the Lamar Rangerette Drill Team will receive applications during the time announced by the Director. Applications consist of:
 - i. An application and permission slip to be filled out and signed by the applicant and applicant’s parent/guardian
 - ii. Copy of most recent report card
 - iii. Constitution contract signed by the applicant and the parent/guardian
 - iv. Faculty evaluations

2. Prospective members and their parents must be aware of the expense and time commitment required by the Rangerettes. They must agree to meet those requirements.
3. Try-outs will be held on a date assigned by the Director and Lamar High School. Prospective members will be selected by a panel of judges and Director based on the following elements:
 - i. Technique, Memory, Kicks, Poise, Appearance, Projection/Showmanship, and Precision.
4. Judges will select line members based on the following:
 - i. Applicant will have the try-out dance, kick sequence, and right/left splits ready to present to the panel of judges the day of try-outs.
 - ii. Candidates will wear a black leotard, black jazz pants, and black dance shoes. Hair will be neatly pulled back and out of the candidate's face completely. Make up should be worn. No jewelry.
 - iii. The judges' decision is final and will be announced as soon as possible after the last group of candidates has danced, and any callbacks are completed.
5. Try-outs will be closed to the public. Judges, score keepers, music attendants, and administration are permitted.
6. All returning members must try out for placement on the team each year.
7. A candidate must be a student in good standing at their respective school. Candidate must not have been removed or dismissed from any other school related club or organization.

Section II: Maintaining Membership

Each member must adhere to and abide by all rules and regulations stated in the constitution and by the Director.

A. Grade Requirements

- a. A student must maintain an overall average of 70 or above in all subjects to be eligible to participate. Ineligible team members will be placed on probation and will be unable to participate in all activities until the next grade report.
- b. Ineligible team members will not participate in games, pep rallies, and all other scheduled team functions during a period of 3 weeks. However, the member must still participate fully during class time and fulfill all other requirements of the team, except outside rehearsals.
- c. Any member who is ineligible for 2 six weeks grading periods in a semester is subject to dismissal.
- d. Any member who is ineligible for 2 consecutive six week grading periods will be dismissed from the team.

B. Conduct Restrictions

- a. As representatives of the school, team members are expected to maintain and exhibit exemplary conduct.

- b. A “P” in conduct may result in suspension of team activities and status for a period of 3 weeks.
- c. A “U” in conduct will result in dismissal from the team.

C. Miscellaneous Conduct Requirements

- a. Dance Team members are required to abide by the rules and regulations as stated in the HISD Student Code of Conduct. Infraction of these rules will require disciplinary actions from the dean of students, and result in demerits or removal from the team.
- b. The following will cause dismissal from the dance team.
 - i. 3 times in SAC in 1 school year
 - ii. Any action that results in suspension from Lamar
 - iii. Found guilty of the following:
 - 1. smoking
 - 2. drinking alcohol
 - 3. vandalism or defacing property
 - 4. fighting
 - 5. participating in hazing activities
 - 6. use of illegal drugs
 - 7. truancy
 - 8. suspension/expulsion
 - 9. participating in demeaning or immoral behavior
 - 10. recurring behavior problems
 - 11. excessive demerits
 - 12. **poor attendance to scheduled practices and team activities**
 - iv. Any team member who accumulates 15 and more demerits during one semester
- c. Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of the team. Members of the dance team must set good examples at all times. A Rangerette will be held accountable for his/her behavior at all times. Members are expected to have and maintain good character that is above reproach. Personal appearance and habits of which there can be no criticism are required
 - i. Profanity will not be tolerated
 - ii. Rangerettes will conduct themselves in a proper and mature manner.
 - iii. There will be no public displays of affection while at school or in uniform.
 - iv. Rangerettes will be respectful to all peers and adults, including school officials. “Bad mouthing” teachers, school officials, teammates, or the Director will not be tolerated.
 - v. Any member who quits or is dismissed from the team will remain out for an entire year and will be required to get a schedule change at the beginning or end of the semester.

While still enrolled in the class, she is expected to complete all given assignments in order to earn her grade for the class.

D. Expectations of all Rangerette members:

- a. All members are required to attend any and all rehearsals in full, as well as any and all other required activities. All members must provide their own transportation to and from all scheduled practices and meet all requirements.
- b. **NOT HAVING TRANSPORTATION IS NOT AN EXCUSE FOR MISSING PRACTICES, PERFORMANCES, OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES.**
- c. **HAVING TO WORK IS NOT AN EXCUSE FOR MISSING ANY EVENT, LEAVING EARLY, OR ARRIVING LATE TO ANY EVENT.** Schedules are given out far enough in advance, and the majority of managers are understanding.
 - i. All team members are expected to attend summer dance camp and work weeks prior to the start of school.
 - ii. All team members are expected to attend all football games, and rehearsals to prepare for the football games, unless ineligible.
 - iii. All team members are expected to participate in all activities, such as fundraiser clinics, banquet, competitions, concerts.
 - iv. All team members are expected to maintain UIL eligibility throughout the entire year.
 - v. All team members are expected to consistently represent the Lamar Rangerette Drill Team in the most positive way.
 - vi. All team members are expected to participate in designated fundraisers and community service projects.
- d. Other expectations for trips and games
 - i. Talking on cell phones while at a game or other appearance/performance is not permitted.
 - ii. Talking to non-Rangerettes while in the stands at a game is not permitted.
 - iii. Talking in the stands at football games and other designated events is not allowed.
 - iv. Members are expected to be alert for any orders from the Director or Officers prior to any performance
 - v. Members are expected to sit and stay together during all performances until the Director dismisses the Rangerettes.
 - vi. Hair and make-up will be done correctly before exiting the bus and entering the stands. This will be checked by the Director or Officers
 - vii. Rangerettes may not leave the stands without permission. Members of the drill team may go to the restroom only by first asking the Director or an Officer. You may leave the stands only immediately after the halftime performance. A manager

or officer must accompany the Rangerette when going to the restroom. You may not leave the stands alone.

- viii. **TALKING IS NOT ALLOWED IN LINE ANY TIME.**
- ix. Field bags are to be placed on the ground on your right side.
- x. Eating is not allowed at any time during a game, unless approved by the Director.
- xi. Do not touch or talk to a member of the opposite sex while in uniform.
- xii. All Rangerettes must ride the bus to events. If a Rangerette will not be riding the bus home, the Director must be given a note from the parent/guardian 24 hours in advance stating who the Rangerette is leaving with and a contact phone number. The Director must see the Rangerette leave with the person stated in the letter. In the event of an emergency, the Rangerette must have her parent/guardian notify the Director on the Rangerette's cell phone, and turn in a note immediately upon return to school.

ARTICLE IV: Officers

- A. The number of officers for the upcoming year will be determined by the Director. There is no set number of officers.
- B. A prospective officer must not have failed more than 1 class throughout the year.
- C. A prospective officer must complete line try-outs before auditioning for an officer position.
- D. Prospective officers will sign an application of intent and will be aware of all duties and requirements. Officer try-outs will be held on a date designated by the Director.
- E. Colonel Duties
 - a. Lead stretches and practices as requested by the Director.
 - b. Keep a notebook containing the constitution, calendars, choreography notes, phone numbers, attendance for each person in squad, demerit records for each person in squad, and any other hand outs.
 - c. Will lead team into stands and into any performance lines
 - d. Will be in charge of leading stand routines
 - e. Will report to the Director.
 - f. Assist in appearance checks, routine audition evaluations, teaching and instructing the team, and making decisions in accordance to the constitution and Director's policies.
 - g. Must be knowledgeable of all choreography, parts, levels, etc.
 - h. Must be knowledgeable of proper dance technique.
 - i. Assist the Director in cleaning routines and technique
 - j. Will serve as demonstrator as necessary
 - k. Will help team members with choreography and technique as necessary

- l. Must have music with her for warm up, and also a copy of any performance music.
 - m. Oversee all officers, all Rangerettes, and etc.
- F. Lt. Colonel Duties
- a. Will serve in second command
 - b. Will run practices in the absence of the Colonel, as requested by the Director.
 - c. Keep a notebook containing the constitution, calendars, choreography notes, phone numbers, attendance for each person in squad, demerit records for each person in squad, and any other hand outs
 - d. Will lead the team in absence of the Colonel.
 - e. Will report directly to the Colonel and the Director.
 - f. Assist in appearance checks, routine audition evaluations, teaching and instructing the team, and making decisions in accordance to the Constitution and the Director.
 - g. Must be knowledgeable of all choreography, parts, levels, etc.
 - h. Must be knowledgeable of proper dance technique
 - i. Assist the Director in cleaning routines and technique
 - j. Will serve as demonstrator as necessary
 - k. Will help team members with choreography and technique
 - l. Collect merit sheets on Fridays at the beginning of practice and turn into the Director's basket
 - m. Collect any other papers from the team and turn into the director's basket, as requested.
 - n. Must have music with her for warm up, and also a copy of any performance music.
- G. Lieutenant, Major, and other Officers
- a. Will report directly to the Colonel and Director.
 - b. Will lead in the absence of the Colonel or Lt. Colonel.
 - c. Keep a notebook containing the constitution, calendars, choreography notes, phone numbers, attendance for each person in squad, demerit records for each person in squad, and any other hand outs.
 - d. Assist in appearance checks, routine audition evaluations, teaching and instructing the team, and making decisions in accordance to the Constitution and the Director.
 - e. Must be knowledgeable of all choreography, parts, levels, etc.
 - f. Must be knowledgeable of proper dance technique
 - g. Assist the Director in cleaning routines and technique
 - h. Will serve as demonstrator as necessary
 - i. Will help team members with choreography and technique
 - j. Must have music with her for warm up, and also a copy of any performance music.

ARTICLE V: Uniforms

- A. members must wear all designated parts of the uniform for the duration of the specified time

- B. The entire uniform must be kept clean, including footwear, socks, etc.
- C. Each member is required to know the care instructions for their uniform items. Any damage that occurs due to poor care will mean replacing the items at the member's expense
- D. Rips or tears in the uniform or tights are not acceptable and may receive demerits. The first time there is an unacceptable uniform piece, the Rangerette will receive a notice. The second time, she will receive a warning, and the third time it is not fixed the Rangerette will receive a demerit.
- E. Any Rangerette uniform item may not be loaned out. This includes the team t-shirt, any part of the field uniform, practice clothes, shoes, make up, and so on. Doing so will result in demerits.
- F. There will be a dress schedule for practices so that the Rangerettes will all be dressed alike for all practices. Each time a girl is in the incorrect top, a 5 point deduction will be taken from her daily grade.

ARTICLE VI: Attendance

- A. Absence from any Rangerette activity is unexcused except for the following reasons:
 - 1. Personal illness (including fever and/or vomiting) or accident (must call the Director and Squad officer immediately, and bring a signed note from a parent upon return)
 - 2. Funeral or death in the family
 - 3. Special school activities and/or prearranged absences with special permission from the director
 - 4. Religious holidays
 - 5. Inclement weather
- B. All team members are expected to attend and fully participate in all activities, classes, practices, performances, and drill team functions scheduled by the Director unless ineligible.
- C. To obtain award winning levels in performance and standards, the following conditions are set.
 - 1. If a Rangerette is absent because of detention, an officer and/or the Director must be notified at least 24 hours in advance. The dancer will still be removed from that week's performance. If the dancer fails to give the 24 hours notice, demerits may be assigned.
 - 2. Try outs may be held for performances. ***Try outs for membership do not guarantee a spot for performance pieces after becoming a member of the Rangerette drill team***
 - 3. If a member is absent from any practice during the week of a performance, she will be removed from that performance and replaced.
 - 4. If a team member is absent from any class or practice, it is their responsibility to get any materials learned or announcements. Being absent is not an excuse for not being aware of what is going on. It is the member's responsibility to contact her squad officer to catch up on everything missed.

5. If a member is absent from practice due to making up assignments for other teachers, it must first be cleared by the Director. Proper documentation must be provided upon return to practice.
 - i. Attendance at tutorials may be excused according to the Director's discretion. The following criteria must be met, if approved by the Director:
 1. must notify the Director at least 24 hours in advance
 2. must bring documentation
 - ii. Having too much school work is NOT an excuse for missing practice.
6. Additional/emergency rehearsals may be held as called by the Director as deemed necessary for the quality of the performance.

D. Penalty

1. Any member that is benched from a performance from demerits is still expected to attend functions active and in uniform
2. Any member that is benched due to injury is still expected to attend functions active and in uniform. (director's discretion may be applied)

E. Practices

1. All members are responsible for their own transportation to and from practice. Not having transportation is not an excuse for being late, leaving early, or missing practice.
2. All practices are mandatory. Being absent from any practice the week of a performance will result in that dancer being pulled from that performance.
3. A Rangerette should speak to the Director, and/or her squad officer at least ten minutes in advance of an absence or tardy.
4. Having to work is not an excuse for missing practice, leaving practice early, or arriving late to practice. Schedules are given out far enough in advance for arrangements to be made, and the majority of managers are understanding and willing to work with you.

ARTICLE VII. Summer Requirements

A. Officer Requirements

- a. Must attend designated officer leadership camps
- b. Must attend scheduled summer practices to prepare for home routines for summer camps
- c. Must attend scheduled meetings scheduled by the Director
- d. Responsible for their own transportation to and from summer practices.
- e. Officers are expected to arrive early and stay late to all activities and practices. Officers cannot leave until dismissed by the Director.

B. Line member requirements

- a. Must attend summer line camp. Any member who does not attend camp may be benched for the first two performances of the year, with the exception of a once-in-a-lifetime event (weddings, graduations, or emergencies).

- b. Summer practices are mandatory, and all members must attend unless given advanced permission by the Director.
- c. Missing one day of work week and/or camp will result in being benched from one performance. Missing two days will result in being benched from 2 performances. Missing three days will result in being benched from 3 performances, and so on.

ARTICLE VIII. CONTEST SEASON

A. Participation

- a. Must meet designated fair share to be eligible for contest squad
- b. Must be passing all classes and be eligible according to UIL guidelines
- c. No P's or U's in conduct according to the most recent grade report
- d. Must be under 8 demerits
- e. Each girl will be expected to audition for placement in each dance. She must be able to execute all choreography and technique. She must know the choreography and perform it with precision.
- f. A dancer's inability to execute movements/choreography may result in that dancer being pulled and replaced. This includes a dancer not fixing corrections repeatedly.

B. Attendance at rehearsals

- a. Each dancer is allowed no more than 3 absences per routine. Exceeding this may result in the dancer being pulled from that routine.
- b. Must attend all Saturday rehearsals in full
- c. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with as they occur by the Director

ARTICLE VIV. Termination of Membership

A. In officially terminating membership, the following actions must occur:

- a. a written statement specifying the reason for quitting the drill team. The team member must sign the statement, and a copy will be sent to the parent to be signed. This must be returned to the Director for it to be kept on file.
- b. It is the student's responsibility to get a schedule change to be removed out of the Rangerette class and into a class that will benefit the student.

B. A member may be disqualified and removed from the team as a result of the following:

- a. failure to maintain 70's or above in all classes
- b. receiving two F's in the same semester at the end of a 6 weeks grading period
- c. suspension from school
- d. an unexcused absence from a required performance due to natural causes
- e. using or being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs at any time.
- f. failure to comply with school rules and regulations
- g. earning 15 demerits in one semester

- h. receiving two probationary terms in one semester for grades and/or discipline
- i. any Rangerette who quits or is dismissed from the team in the middle of the semester must complete all given assignments to receive credit while still enrolled in the Rangerette class.
- j. disrespect to the director or team.

ARTICLE IX. Probation

Probation is defined as that period of time during which a member is denied the privilege of participating in performances.

- A. Members on probation for any reason will be required to participate fully during class time.
- B. Length of probation will be determined by the Director.
- C. Members are subject to probation for the following violations:
 - a. Disrespect or insubordination to the Director, officers, teachers, or other members
 - b. Lending part or all of the field uniform to a non member
 - c. Skipping class
 - d. receiving an F in a course for a 6 weeks grading period (This precludes participation in all team activities outside of the class time, not just performances)
 - e. 8 demerits= sit out 2 performances
9-11 demerits=sit out a performance for each demerit as it is earned
 - f. earning 12 or more demerits in one semester will place a member on probation for the remainder of that semester. If this occurs during or after spring show, she/he will be placed on probation for the first 6 weeks of the following football season.
 - g. three unexcused absences will require a probationary period as determined by the Director.
 - h. caught stealing from anyone.
- D. A officer or social officer placed on probation for 9 or more demerits or discipline problems will forfeit her position for the entire semester. An officer or social officer placed on probation for grades will forfeit her position during the term of probation, and resume her position at the discretion of the Director.

ARTICLE X. EXPENSES

All Rangerette expenses are non-refundable.

- A. Personal Account
 - 1. This refers to the items that must be purchased by each member, according to the order form that is in the application packet and is distributed at the first team meeting.
 - 2. Items purchased by a member remain the property of that member and must provide payment for it.
 - 3. Payment for personal items is required in order for the member to receive items.

B. Fair Share Account

1. This refers to a specified amount to be either fundraised or turned in per semester per girl which helps cover the expenses the team incurs throughout the year.
 2. The dancer does not have to fundraise, but in order to participate in some activities (contest and spring show), she must turn in the designated amount by the given deadline. *If the money is turned in out of the dancer's pocket, it is considered to be a tax-deductible donation because the items remain property of the team and school.*
 3. ***Items purchased with fair share money are the property of the Rangerettes and Lamar High School.***
 4. The fall semester fair share must be met by the designated date in order for the member to be eligible to dance contest.
 5. The spring semester fair share must be met by the designated date in order for the member to dance Spring Show.
 6. Whatever the member raises/earns above the specified fair share amount will carry over into her fair share for the next semester.
- C. Items that belong to the school will be checked out. Each girl is responsible for the items checked out to her. Any damage to the item while it is in possession of the girl may result in the girl replacing that item or paying to fix the item.

ARTICLE XI. DEMERITS AND TARDIES

- A. Demerits are cumulative. However, 1 demerit may be erased per every 100 merits earned. Demerits may be assigned by the Director through the Officers.
- B. Demerits earned in the summer count on the fall semester's performance status.
- 8 demerits=benched for the next two performances
 - 9-11 demerits=benched one more performance per demerit
 - 12 demerits=benched for the rest of the semester
 - 15 demerits=dismissed from the dance team for the remainder of the school year. Should 15 demerits be earned after or during Spring Show, the dismissal will take effect for the following year.
- C. Tardies
1. receive 3 emergency freebies per semester (does not apply during contest season).
 - a. Less than 15 minutes only.
 2. less than 15 minutes late with call=frogs, toe touches, or push ups per minute late
Less than 15 minutes late with no call=1 demerit plus frogs/push ups per minute late
More than 15 minutes late with call=1 demerit for every 15 minutes late plus frogs/push ups for every minute late.

More than 15 minutes late without call=2 demerits for every 15 minutes late (15 minute blocks), plus frogs/push ups per minute late.

3. Extenuating circumstances will be handled at the Director's discretion.

D. Absences

1. excused in advance=0 demerits (not including major events)
2. Excused after absence= 1 demerit (must have signed parent note turned in upon return)
3. unexcused from rehearsal=3 demerits (under Director's discretion)
4. unexcused from performance or major event=15 demerits (emergencies will be handled at the Director's discretion)
5. Extenuating circumstances will be handled at the Director's discretion.

E. Absences from summer camps and practices

1. notification before last day of school=director's discretion of penalty
2. unexcused from camps and practices=3 demerits for every day missed

F. Miscellaneous Demerits

1. unprepared for rehearsal or event = 1
2. leaving rehearsal early unexcused (director must be notified 24 hours in advance for it to be excused, except for extenuating circumstances)=1
3. unprepared for inspection=1
4. lost item with name on it=0
5. lost item without name on it=10 frogs/push ups
6. late turn in= -5 points per day late
7. Saturday school=1
8. excessive talking=1
9. talking at attention=first time 10 frogs, second time 1 demerit
10. gum at rehearsal or in uniform=10 frogs
11. public display of affection=1
12. use of profanity=2
13. unsportsmanlike conduct=1
14. eating and drinking in performance uniform=1
15. failure to make and bring required items= -5 points per day late
16. talking to parents, friends, boyfriends at games=1
17. disrespect to officers or Director=1-10
18. unladylike conduct=1-10
- 19 officer not assigning earned demerits=1
20. body piercings=1
21. dying hair an unnatural color=1 per day until it is fixed
22. disrespect to any Lamar staff member=1-10
23. disrespect to another Rangerette=1-10

G. Miscellaneous Behavioral Items

1. If any member of the team is caught gossiping about another member, she must write that person an apology letter. The letter must be shown to the Director and her officer. Then, she must compliment every single member of the team during a designated time in rehearsal.

2. Any team member that leaves trash in the dance room, or any other area being used by the team, must clean up the dance room after practice every day for 1 entire week.
 3. other situations will be dealt with as they occur.
 4. For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.
- **DEMERITS WILL BE GIVEN OUT BY THE DIRECTOR/OFFICERS FOR UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS THAT ARE NOT LISTED ABOVE**

F. Grading

1. not dressed out correctly= -5 points per incorrect item
2. failure to bring required items= -5 points per item
3. For some events, such as spring show, there will be a 1 point deduction per minute late.

ARTICLE XII. MERITS

In order for a Rangerette to audition for the team for the following year, she/he must earn 450 merits by the mandatory candidate try out clinic.

Merits do not cycle from year to year. Each girl starts over again with the first rehearsal/event of the new team.

In order to receive a letter, the Rangerette must earn 750 merits within that year. To be named "Rangerette Award of Excellence" the Rangerette must earn 1,000 merits within that year.

It is the Rangerette's job to keep track of merits. She must record them as she earns them, turn the merit sheet into the assigned officer on the assigned day, and turn in all merit sheets in order to receive her letter/be eligible for the following year's team.

Failure to turn in merits on the assigned day will result in forfeiture of that week's merits.

Merits are received as follows:

- A. perfect attendance in all classes for the week=5
- B. attending a non-required campus activity in Rangerette attire=5
- C. honor roll=5
- D. 100 on any major test (must show test)=5
- E. Straight A's=5
- F. Rangerette of the week=5
- G. Ribbons earned at camp/workshop=1 per ribbon
- H. Extra signs (neat, decorated, etc)=2
- I. Extra decorating=2
- J. Top fundraiser in a project=5
- K. Attending a dance performance (must show ticket stub or program)=5
- L. Taking dance class at outside studio=2 per class
- M. Attending a non-required dance workshop/convention=1-20 (director's discretion)
- N. Making a performance (including alternates)=2
- O. Each team award at contest=5
- P. Attendance of performance as non-performer=4

- Q. Polite/courteous (example: “yes ma’am”)=2
 - R. Helping teammate with choreography/technique outside of rehearsal=5
 - S. Attending tutorials (must turn in completed form)=2
 - T. Parents attending booster meeting (per parent/attendant)=4
 - U. Parents helping with Rangerette events=5
 - V. Attending and completing Rangerette camp=25
 - W. Helping clean up = 1-5
- **Additional merits may be awarded as determined by the Director/Officers

ARTICLE XIII. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- A. Rangerette of The Week is chosen by the officers at every football game. The girl selected will wear the tiara for the week and be announced at halftime. Rangerette of the Week recipients are those who go above and beyond. These girls know choreography, have showmanship, outstanding technique, and an amazing attitude.
- B. Spirit Girl of the Week is chosen by the officers for every football game. The girl selected will be announced at halftime. The girl chosen for this honor has a lot of energy, is motivated and motivating, and displays a wonderful attitude at all times.
- C. Rangerette Power Squad will be chosen throughout the year at announced times. These girls display wonderful physical fitness, endurance, strength, and flexibility.
- D. Rangerette Award of Excellence is an award given once a girl earns 1,000 merits within one year
- E. Rangerette Elite Dancer is an award given to the girl(s) who display outstanding dance technique and ability. To get this award, the Rangerette must have every box in the skills chart checked off. She must consistently display wonderful technique, control, coordination, precision, and flexibility.

ARTICLE XIV. SEASONS OF THE YEAR

- A. Summer
 - a. Officer camp-this occurs usually in early June. It is an intense training session in dance and leadership and is required of all officers.
 - b. Line camp-This may occur at any point in the summer depending upon when we can schedule it. This usually takes place in mid-late July or early August. Some years we will travel to a camp, and other years we might have a private instructor come to Lamar. This is mandatory of all Rangerettes, as this is when routines for football season and possibly contest season are learned. Non-attendance may result in demerits, ineligibility to perform, and so on.
 - c. Rangerette work weeks-The week before camp, and the week(s) before school starts the team will work on dance technique, dances learned at camp, Rangerette field entrance, and other traditions. Non attendance may result in demerits, benched from performances, and so on. Work week(s) are mandatory.
 - d. Extra practices may be held as necessary during the summer

B. Football Season

- a. Football games: all parents are encouraged to attend games. The dance team performs at half time at every game. The Rangerettes take a bus there, and a bus back. Attendance at games and riding the bus is not optional for Rangerettes, Rangerette managers, and Rangerette beaus.
- b. Pep Rallies: Pep rallies usually occur at the start of the day, and the Rangerettes will perform at each of them. Parents are more than welcome to attend!

C. Contest Season

- a. Basketball games: Rangerettes may attend and perform at some home games.
- b. Contests: Dance teams and drill teams from across the state attend competitions in the winter and spring. Competition for Rangerettes includes 3 team routines, 3 officer routines, and may include solos and ensembles. We do not necessarily attend the same contests every year. Parents are highly encouraged to attend and cheer on the girls!

D. Spring

- a. Spring Show: the spring show dances are choreographed, organized, and performed by the Rangerettes, as well as possibly other dance classes. It is one of the major events of the year and takes countless hours of preparation, practice, publicity, and hard work. It is the culmination of the entire year and needs everyone's help to be a huge success.
- b. Try outs: It is usually in April and May that officer try outs and line try outs are held. Returning Rangerettes must meet certain criteria as listed previously in this document in order to try out for the next year's team. Officer candidates must also meet specific criteria.

Revised for the 2007-2008 year.

Revised for the 2008-2009 year.

Rangerettes In Training

ARTICLE I. *All Rangerettes-In-Training will abide by the same rules and guidelines set forth in the Rangerette Constitution.* The RITS will meet the same expectations, and have the same consequences as the Rangerettes, as set forth in the Constitution.

ARTICLE II. RIT SERGEANTS

- A. The Rangerettes-In-Training will be led by the Rangerette dance officers, and also the RIT Sergeants
- B. Qualifications to be a RIT sergeant
 - a. RIT Sergeants must have served at least 1 school year as a Rangerette
 - b. Any Rangerette who wishes to be a Sergeant must be passing all classes in the final Fall semester average. She must also be passing all classes at the time of application and selection.
 - c. Must possess and display a basic knowledge of technique
 - d. Must be able to choreograph a beginner routine
- C. Selection process
 - a. Application, teacher evaluations, speech, lead a team practice, and audition before a panel of judges.
- D. Purpose/Duties of Sergeants
 - a. The Sergeants are there to help the RITS with choreography, technique, procedures, and so on.
 - b. Serve as officers for the RITS
 - c. Help oversee the discipline, organization, and morale of the RITS
 - d. Will sit in the in front of the RITS at all events to help guide them through procedures and ensure discipline
 - e. RITS will report directly to the Sergeants. Sergeants will report directly to the Rangerette dance officers and the Director.
 - f. A Sergeant's failure to follow proper procedures and guidelines will result in a probationary period, and possibly removal as Sergeant.
 - g. Sergeants may receive monthly or bi-monthly evaluations by the RITS. An abundance of negative evaluations will result in a probationary term, or removal from the Sergeant position.

ARTICLE III. OPERATION OF THE RANGERETTES-IN-TRAINING

- A. Any interested in-coming Lamar Freshmen may apply to be a Rangerette-In-Training.
- B. Auditions will not be held.
- C. The candidate must apply by the designated deadline and meet all criteria.
 - a. Criteria
 - i. Must meet application deadline with all necessary documents
 - ii. Must have a parent/guardian attend the mandatory information meeting
 - iii. Must have passed all classes during the year of application
 - iv. Must not have more than 1 "p" for conduct on report card

v. May not have any “u”s for conduct on report card

D. Football season

- a. The RITS are required to attend all football games and uphold the same high standards as the Rangerettes. They will sit behind the Rangerettes, and perform all stand routines.
- b. The RITS will perform at 1-2 halftime performances with the Rangerettes.
- c. The RITS will not be expected to attend morning practices, unless it is the week of their performance. Failure to attend these practices will make the RIT ineligible to perform at that week’s halftime.
- d. The RITS will perform at 1 pep rally, to be set by the Sergeants.
- e. The RITS will not be expected to attend afterschool practices, unless it is the week of their performance. Failure to attend these practices will result in the RIT being pulled from that performance.

E. Basketball/Competition Season

- a. The RITS may perform at 1 basketball game
- b. The RITS will not participate in competition, but are required to attend competitions with the Rangerettes. The RITS are highly encouraged to do solos and ensembles at competition, even though they will not be doing team routines.

F. Spring Show

- a. The RITS will perform 1-2 dances in the annual Rangerette Spring Show

G. Summer

- a. The RITS are not required to attend any summer practices or camps, until Rangerette Work Weeks
- b. Work Weeks are mandatory. Failure to attend without prior approval from the Director and notice to the Sergeants will result in the RIT being benched from performances accordingly and/or receiving demerits.

H. The RITS will be in class with the Rangerettes, as allowed with class size and space.

ARTICLE IV. CONTINUING ON AS A RANGERETTE

- A. Any RIT who wishes to join the Rangerettes must audition in the Spring. In order to audition, the RIT must have earned 450 merits by the first day of the try-out clinic.
- B. Membership to the RITS does not guarantee placement into the Rangerette team
- C. RITS may only be in the RIT program for one year.
- D. RITS do not have to continue on as a Rangerette.