

**TRYOUT PACKET FOR THE
HORTONVILLE VARSITY DANCE TEAM
2018-2019 SEASON**



Coach: Ashley Hibbard

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Hortonville Dance Team tryouts for the 2018-2019 season. I wish you the best of luck tryout out for the Dance Team. It is very important that students and parents read and understand the contents of this letter and the Dance Team Constitution prior to committing to this rewarding, but hardworking team.

Commitment:

Tryouts are just the first step in a very long season. We are a competition team as well as a team that supports and entertains at school and community events. Our season starts in June, with practices and camps, and goes into fall with football and soccer games. Winter brings our busiest season with basketball games, wrestling meets and, of course, competitions. The competition season is kicked off with the Hortonville Dance Invitational which is the team's biggest fundraiser. As this is such a huge event, each dancer is responsible for having a minimum of TWO ADULT helpers to support the event for the ENTIRE day (typically 6:30am-7:00pm). The Hortonville Dance Team competes in Division 2 Pom and Division 1 Kick and Jazz within the Wisconsin Association of Cheer and Pom Coaches, or WACPC. WACPC is the sole facilitator for the Wisconsin Regional and State competitions. Faced with that type of competition and the desire to excel, the team puts in long practice hours after school, evenings and at times weekend practices. Hard work, dedication and positive spirits attributes to a fun and successful season. There are many students trying for a limited number of positions on the team. If you lack the dedication or commitment, cannot accept the concept of team and school spirit or question the standards set forth by this organization, please rethink your decision to try out. If you agree to all of these things, I would love to see you at tryouts! Please read the Dance Team Constitution and understand all of the expectations, and be aware of the rules, regulations, and procedures before committing yourself and your daughter to this agreement.

I will be available during try-outs for any questions you might have. If you decide to try out, please complete the attached forms and return them to the coach by **Tuesday, May 22nd**. Good luck and thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Hortonville Dance Team!

Ashley Hibbard

AshleyHibbard@hasd.org

The following items are **REQUIRED** to the coach by **Tuesday, May 22nd** (the first clinic day of tryouts) before you can tryout:

- Hortonville Dance Team Constitution signed by the student and parent
- Dance Team Application
- Personal Questionnaire
- Teacher Evaluations (2)

TRYOUT INFO

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

Monday, May 21st at 6:00pm in the Hortonville Elementary School Cafeteria

TRYOUT CLINIC:

Tuesday, May 22nd – 4:30pm – 7:30pm Hortonville Elementary School

Wednesday, May 23rd – 4:30pm – 7:30pm Hortonville Elementary School

FINAL TRYOUT AUDITIONS:

Thursday, May 24th at 4:00pm – Hortonville Elementary School

MANDATORY NEW TEAM & PARENT MEETING:

Thursday, May 31st at 6:00pm – Hortonville Elementary School Cafeteria

ELIGIBILITY: Tryouts are open to any student who will be attending Hortonville High School during the 2018-2019 school year.

WHAT TO EXPECT: You will learn a short routine that incorporates pom and kick as well as a short pregame routine. Final try-out auditions will be done in groups of two and will be evaluated by a panel of qualified and impartial judges. You will be judged on your potential, strength of movement, skills, memory, timing and energy. If you make a mistake don't worry, keep smiling and jump back in. Potential will go a long way. You must have at least one flat split in order to make the team. All returning dancers are required to have both splits flat every day of try-out week in order to make the team.

TRYOUT PRACTICE ATTENDANCE: If you have a spring sports commitment that should be your first priority. Please do not jeopardize that team's practice schedule or game schedule to attend the try out clinic. Your first priority is the commitment you made to that team. If you must miss a day(s) of try-outs, then it will be necessary for you to find someone to teach you what was missed outside of the scheduled time. **Contact the coach by email to let me know if you will be missing. This is your responsibility; do not relay absences to a friend.**

(AshleyHibbard@hasd.org)

WHAT TO WEAR TO THE TRY-OUT CLINIC: Nonrestrictive and non-revealing clothing that allows you to learn and dance comfortably. Shorts or dance pants are acceptable, as well as tennis shoes or dance shoes. Please have hair pulled back and remove all jewelry that could be a hazard. ***Bring a water bottle and all necessary forms**

WHAT TO WEAR ON THE DAY OF FINAL TRY-OUTS: A pair of dark pants and a white shirt with minimal printing. Shirts should be tucked in (or fitted) and stomach should not be visible. Hair

should be pulled back. Tennis shoes or dance shoes are acceptable. No jewelry please! The list of the 2018-2019 dance team will be posted on the dance team website (<https://hortonvilledancete.wixsite.com/hhsdance>) and an email to all team members and parents with additional information by Friday afternoon.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Each category is scored on a 1-5 scale (1=poor; 5=excellent).

The following criteria will be considered during judging:

Pom Routine: memorization, sharpness/power of movements, arm and body placement, control of movements, energy and smile and overall impression

Kick Technique: kick height, supporting leg, straight kicking legs/no flicking, pointed toes, and snap of the kicks.

Skills: split leap, toe touch, side leap, turning disc, double and triple pirouette, A turns, leg hold capezio and splits (left or right for NEW members/ BOTH left and rights for RETURNING members).

Energy and Appearance: smile and energy, endurance and strength, confidence and eye contact and overall impression.

HOW DANCERS WILL BE CHOSEN: All judges will have a score sheet with the above categories with a 1-5 rating scale (as described above). The scores from all judges will be added up for a grand total. THE TOP SCORES MAKE THE TEAM.

TRYOUT FORMS: Due no later than **Tuesday, May 22nd**. Inability to get ALL of the forms in will reflect poorly on your ability to be a successful team member and will prevent you from being able to tryout.

1. Dance Team Constitution
2. Dance Team Application
3. Personal Questionnaire
4. Teacher Evaluation (2)

HORTONVILLE DANCE TEAM CONSTITUTION 2018-2019

Mission Statement: Through hard work and dedication, the Hortonville Dance Team's mission is to promote and uphold positive school spirit; provide half-time entertainment as well as to compete in local and state competitions. In addition, positively represent Hortonville High School throughout the season while developing our dance skills and further grow responsibility, teamwork and positive work-ethic.

Responsibilities:

- ALWAYS conduct yourself in a way that positively reflects upon yourself, your team and your school.
- Abide by the Dance Team Constitution, the school Code of Conduct and the WACPC rules.
- Reading and signing forms where appropriate AND turning them in on time.
- Maintain the District's academic expectations.
- Work very hard and handle feedback and critiques and understand that this is to help you grow and are not to be taken personally.

Practices:

- Attendance at ALL practices and performances is EXPECTED. The team's success is dependent on everyone's presence and participation throughout the year. Because this is a team activity, any absence makes it difficult for everyone else; therefore it is absolutely essential that this rule be enforced.
- *Summer* – The dance team will begin practicing in June. This time is crucial to work on our stretching, flexibility and technique. Over the summer, we will be learning the pre-game and football routines. If you miss these practices, you will need to learn what you missed on your own time. If you do not know the material come routine try-outs, you will not perform in that particular routine. There will be a mandatory team competition camp held the end of August. Competition camp is mandatory for all team members as we will be learning the bulk of our competition routines.
- Practices are held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00-7:30pm and Fridays from 6:00-7:30am. *Practice schedule is subject to change with notice. During competition season practice may extend in length or another day added.
- Absences: ABSENCES MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE COACH BY THE DANCER AT LEAST ONE DAY IN ADVANCE TO ABSENCE.
 - Each dancer is allowed **6 excused absences** for the entire season.
 - Excused absences are considered illness, pre-approved family functions, academic/school activities, etc. The absences must be approved by the coach at least one day prior to absence to determine if the absence is an excused or unexcused absence. The coach has final ruling.

- If a dancer is absent the day before a performance (excused or unexcused), the dancer is ineligible to perform. Another dancer will take their place and time is required to make those changes.
- Unexcused absences will result in the dancer's ineligibilities to perform at the next performance. An unexcused absence is a no-call, no-show to practice or a reason that has been determined by the coach as unexcused. Examples may include, but not limited to: work, other sports/activities. This team is expected to be your priority.

Performances:

- The coach has the ability and the right to pull dancers from the routine if they do not feel they are performing at the level desired. The coach will determine this and the coach's decision is final. All decisions are made by looking at what is best for the team as a whole.
- The dancers are to wear exactly what the coach decides. This includes practice apparel, warm-ups, uniforms, accessories, make-up, etc.
- Hair and makeup must be done prior to arriving to performances, unless otherwise told. If a dancer is not performing, for whatever reason, they must still attend the performance to support their team in full hair and makeup, unless otherwise approved by the coach.

Competitions:

- Making the Hortonville Dance Team does not mean you will perform in every routine. Some dancers may dance in all routines, others may dance in one or two routines and others may not dance at all. The dance team is considered a Varsity Sport and there are expectations that must be met prior to performing. There will be try-outs for each routine that is learned. If a dancer is not up to the expected level in that particular routine, they will not be placed in that routine. If a dancer is pulled from a routine, this does not mean she will not perform the rest of the year. She will have a chance to try-out for future routines as well as have the opportunity to be put back into a routine if progress is made. If a dancer is pulled out of a routine, she is still required to be at every practice. Attitude and effort also plays a huge role in whether or not a dancer will be put back in.
- Each competition routine will be choreographed with a certain amount of dancers and each dancer will tryout to compete in the routine.
- If another dancer is not meeting the expectation, is injured or ill before a competition, another dancer may take their place.

Tentative Competition Schedule:

- Saturday, November 3rd – Hortonville Dance Invitational
The Hortonville Dance Invitational is also a mandatory fundraiser. Two helpers per dancer is required (moms, dads, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends, etc)
- Saturday, November 10th – Bay Port Invite
- Saturday, December 1st – Ashwaubenon Dance Invite
- Saturday, December 8th – Watertown Spirit Invite or Little Chute Holiday Invite

- Saturday, January 12th – Kaukauna Dance Classic
- Saturday, January 26th – Regionals at Kimberly High School
- Friday, February 1st – 3rd – State in La Crosse (if we qualify)

Routine Alternates:

- Some competition routines may have alternates. An alternate is a dancer that is not competition ready for that particular routine. Being an alternate gives you the opportunity to prove your commitment and passion.
- There may be opportunities in the season to try-out for the routine at future competitions if adequate progress is made.
- Alternates must continue to practice each routine to take place of another dancer if injured or ill.
- If a dancer is not in a routine, she is still required to be at every practice and be prepared for all routines, in the event she is needed in the routine.

Fundraising:

- Team Fundraisers
 - NEED PARTICIPATION from all members and families
 - All money earned from team fundraisers goes to the team's account
- Reimbursement
 - If a dancer leaves the team for any reason, no money will be refunded.
 - If an item(s) for a fundraiser(s) is paid for out of pocket, you have the ability to be reimbursed as long as the purchase was approved by the coach BEFORE making the purchase and a receipt is turned in.
 - If a purchase was not approved prior to making the purchase, you will not get reimbursed.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

- You may be responsible for purchasing a number of items that are needed throughout the season – below are the anticipated expenses. **These anticipated expenses are subject to change.** There are various fundraisers throughout the year to help off-set this cost.

Anticipated Expenses:

- *Football & Competition Poms*
- *Capezio Adult Footed Tight (2pairs N14 on Dancewearsolutions.com)*
- *Bloch Split-Sole Jazz Shoe(S0401 on Dancewearsolutions.com)*
 - *Tan*
 - *Black*
- *Team Warm-Up*
- *Team T-shirt*
- *Team Tank Top*
- *Team Jacket*
- *Bloomers*

- *Warm-Up Pants (Optional)*
- *Team Backpack*
- *2lb ankle/wrist weights*
- *Team Shoes*

Uniforms & Equipment: EACH MEMBER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HER OWN UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT.

- All uniforms and equipment are property of the team. Loss, damage or abuse of the uniform/equipment will result in a fine to be paid according to the damage. The team member may be responsible for replacing the items at replacement value.
- All uniforms/equipment must be checked in by the designated date.

Parent Responsibilities:

- As a parent, you should be committed to helping your dancer be the most successful Hortonville dancer she can be.
- Support of the coach and helping your daughter to follow ALL rules and expectations is essential to the success of this team.
- Understand the importance of school attendance and encourage regular attendance throughout the year.
- Assist in enforcing the team's expectations to attend ALL practices and performances, and will help to schedule your dancer's day to day activities/appointments to meet this requirement.
- Assist with fundraising efforts whenever possible. Understanding that the Hortonville Dance Invitational fundraiser is a mandatory fundraiser and will produce two adult helpers for the entire duration of the event, including set up the night before.
- Understand that parental involvement is a huge factor in the success of the Hortonville Dance Team.

I HAVE READ THE INFORMATION REGARDING TRYOUTS FOR THE HORTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM, AND AM WILLING TO PUT FORTH THE TIME AND EFFORT THAT WILL BE REQUIRED IF I AM SELECTED FOR THE SQUAD.

Student's Signature

I HAVE READ THE TRYOUT INFORMATION AND AM AWARE OF WHAT IS INVOLVED, BOTH IN TIME AND COST, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE HORTONVILLE DANCE TEAM. MY DAUGHTER HAS MY PERMISSION TO TRY OUT FOR THE SQUAD.

Parent's Signature

**APPLICATION FORM FOR TRYOUTS
HORTONVILLE DANCE TEAM**

Please complete, print legibly and neatly, and return coach on the first day of try-outs.

All Forms must be received by the first day of try-outs on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Name _____ School _____

Grade Entering _____ (2018-2019 school year)

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____

Student Cell Phone _____

PARENT CELL PHONE: _____

Parent Name (first and last) _____

Parent Name (first and last) _____

E-Mail Address (student) _____

E-Mail Address (Parent) _____

Student Birthday _____

Previous Experience In:

Dance _____ (where?) _____ How many years? _____

Gymnastics _____ (where?) _____ How many years? _____

Cheer _____ (where?) _____ How many years? _____

PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE
(FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS)

(There are no right or wrong answers to these questions.
Please answer them as honestly as possible.)

NAME: _____

Please respond to the following questions as carefully and thoroughly as possible. Write legibly and neatly. (Attach an extra sheet if necessary.)

1. What do you have to offer the Hortonville Dance Team should you be selected as a member? Please be specific.

2. Why do you desire to become a member of the Hortonville Dance Team? What do you hope to gain from the experience?

3. Describe your personality...what are your strengths and weaknesses? How will this impact the dance team?

4. Please circle any of the below dance skills that you feel might set you apart from other applicants. You may be asked to demonstrate these skills at try-outs. These skills are not mandatory and are not necessary to make the team!

Triple Pirouette

Firebird Leap

Leg Extensions

A la second Turns

Turning Leap

Front Walkover

C-Jump/

Side Leap

Back Walkover

Turning Disc

Turning C-jump

Additional Tumbling

Calypso

Switch Leap

Other:

PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE
(FOR RETURNING MEMBERS)

(There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. Please answer them as honestly as possible.)

NAME: _____

Please respond to the following questions as carefully and thoroughly as possible. Write legibly and neatly. (Attach an extra sheet if necessary.)

1. What did you do to positively contribute to the 2017-2018 Hortonville Dance Team?

2. What improvements do you want to make to better contribute to the 2018-2019 Hortonville Dance Team?

3. Describe your personality...what are your strengths and weaknesses? How will this impact the dance team?

4. Where do you feel you are at with your dancing? What are your dance goals for the coming year?

Teacher Evaluation

Dance Team Candidate: _____

Teacher: _____

*This is a confidential evaluation, please return in sealed envelope

Please rate the student on a scale from 0-5 (5 being the highest) on the following elements:

1. Attendance/Punctuality	0	1	2	3	4	5
2. Respect of Authority	0	1	2	3	4	5
3. Respect of Peers	0	1	2	3	4	5
4. Effort/Quality of Work	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Honesty and Integrity	0	1	2	3	4	5

Total Points = _____

Current Letter Grade in your class = _____

Comments:

Teacher Evaluation

Dance Team Candidate: _____

Teacher: _____

*This is a confidential evaluation, please return in sealed envelope

Please rate the student on a scale from 0-5 (5 being the highest) on the following elements:

1. Attendance/Punctuality	0	1	2	3	4	5
2. Respect of Authority	0	1	2	3	4	5
3. Respect of Peers	0	1	2	3	4	5
4. Effort/Quality of Work	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Honesty and Integrity	0	1	2	3	4	5

Total Points = _____

Current Letter Grade in your class = _____

Comments: