

## Tiger Belles Demerit/Merit Guidelines

Listed in the constitution:

The list below includes, but is not limited to, behaviors which would require demerits. The number of demerits issued will be determined by the director.

- Tardiness to practice, game, or non-school hour activity/event
  - Showing disrespect towards an officer
  - Leaving a performance, game, practice, or activity/event early
  - An unexcused absence to a game/practice/event without written parent advance notification
  - Inappropriate language or behavior
  - Display of affection in school or at a school-related activity
  - Moving or talking at attention
  - Improper body language
  - Not abiding by bus policies when traveling
  - Failure to turn in money or items on due date
  - Failure to inform director of ISS/OSS assignment
  - Socializing with individuals other than team members, directors, and chaperones at a performance or function
  - Failure to adhere to grooming and uniform expectations for a game, practice, or activity/event
  - Failure to cover tattoos for a game, practice, or activity/event
  - Accepting food, drinks, or other items without permission
  - Allowing a non-member to sit in the ranks at a performance or function
  - Leaving the stands at a performance without permission
  - Receiving a failing grade on a report card
1. Accumulation of a total of 7 permanent demerits will result in a strike. See strike guidelines per Klein ISD Drill Team Constitution.
  2. If a member accumulates 2 or more demerits in one week during football season, the member must sit out a halftime performance.
  3. Demerits affect the active status of the member and are in effect during the entire dance team year.

Attendance Infractions	Number of Demerits
Tardy to class or practice	1 every 5 minutes
<p>**Unexcused absence from practice.</p> <p>If you have an excuse you must notify the director by 2pm or it will be an unexcused absence</p>	2 per absence

Leaving early from practice or team sponsored event	3
Unexcused absence from performance  If you have an excuse you must notify the director 48 hours in advance or it will be an unexcused absence	5
Failure to participate at practice without notification	3
Not attending required number of summer dance hours as determined by Director	1 per missing hour
Not meeting minimum fundraiser participation as determined by Director	1 per missing requirement
Failure to turn in money on the assigned due date unless discussed with the Director in advance.	5

\*\*Students presenting a physician’s excuse stating the student may not return to school due to contagious illness (ex. fever over 100.5, Flu, Strep throat, doctor verified stomach virus, etc.) will not be issued a demerit for rehearsal absence, and will not be allowed to attend rehearsals until the doctor has cleared student for attendance. If sent home by Klein ISD nurse or trainer, after notifying the director this would be considered an excused absence. Emergency hospital visits, emergency doctor visits, car accidents, military homecomings, and death/funeral of immediate family are also considered uncontrollable excused absences. In addition, ALL absences, physician excused or otherwise, from rehearsal will still be accounted for during performance weeks, contest, and show season according to our current absence policy.

## Absence Policy:

1. **Football Season: You must be present at rehearsal every day in the week of a football performance. You are not allowed to miss any practices for football performance. You must be present at school on the day of the football game.**
2. **Show and Contest Season: Only two (2) absences per routine will be allowed during contest and show seasons before not being allowed to perform. You must be present at all practices 48 hours prior to the contest day or you will be pulled. You must be present at school on the day of the performance.**

<b>Responsibility Infractions</b>	<b>Number of Demerits</b>
Not returning any item with a due date	1 demerit each day late
Failure to bring all required items to practice at time of roll call	1 per item
Incorrect practice attire (Practice attire: assigned black practice top, black practice bottoms, white socks or no socks, hair pulled back)	1 per item
Leaving performance pieces at practice, performance, out in locker room, or on bus	1 per item
Leaving trash or personal belongings at practice, performance areas, or on bus	1
Failure to bring all required items to performance at time of bag check	1 per item
Not having correctly groomed hair when designated	1
Not wearing correct Belle Lipstick when designated	1
Wearing or failing to cover jewelry and/or tattoos (only Belle earrings allowed) for performance	1 per item

Wearing colored nail polish for any performance	1
Missing parts of or entire uniform by due date	1 per day
Wearing uniform in unapproved places	5
Passion Marks	5

<b>Conduct Infractions</b>	<b>Number of Demerits</b>
Moving or talking in performance line or while at attention	1
Excessive talking at inappropriate times	1
Improper stand behavior (Talking to non-Belles, not cheering, bad sportsmanship, etc)	2
Not following instructions given by Directors or Officers	3
Failure to respond appropriately/respectfully to directors and officers	3
Use of cell phones during practice or performance without director permission	3
Chewing gum in practice or performance	2
Eating in performance attire without permission	2
Disrespect of fellow member	2

Insubordination or disrespect toward Directors	7
Failure to obey bus rules	5
Holding hands or other bodily contact while in uniform or while wearing/carrying belle attire (Exceptions: family members, side hugs for photography purposes only)	5
Profanity (to another team member, on school property, at a team sponsored event, etc)	5
Inappropriate conduct (in or out of school, in or out of uniform, summer included) which directly or indirectly damages the reputation of the organization	1-21
Refusing to remove inappropriate online representation/conduct	5

<b>School Responsibilities</b>	<b>Number of Demerits</b>
Receiving a failing grade at any UIL check	5
N in Conduct (see constitution regarding U and P)	5
Assignment to After School Detention	5
Mishandeling School property including uniforms and costumes	5
Failure to inform director of detention, ISS assignment, or any discipline infractions the same day discipline is assigned by administration	5

<b>Officer Infractions (Military and Social Committee)</b>	<b>Number of Demerits</b>
Failure of an officer to carry out assigned duty in time allotted	5
Failure of an officer to exert a wholesome and inspiring influence on fellow members	5
Failure of a Military Officer to report an infraction	5
Failure to respect Officer confidentiality	5
Tardy to officer meeting or rehearsal	2
Leaving meeting or rehearsal early	2
Failure to attend any assigned activity	2
Failure to contact squad members when necessary	2

\*Military officers and social committee members may not accumulate more than 2 strikes.

\*\*It is important to remember that, as stated earlier in the Constitution, that is supported by the district, that membership in this organization means that members can and are held to a higher standard than non-members; therefore, it should not be expected that consequences given by the Director to a drill team member are equal to those given by an administrator to a non-member. Additionally, consequences administered by a teacher or administrator or adult on campus do not negate the right or ability of the Director to provide a team consequence.

\*\*The Director and the Military officers may assign demerits to any member according to their discretion. The Director has the authority to adjust the number of demerits according to the infraction and any reoccurrence thereafter.

## Strike Policy:

Strike One: Parent notification and probation period of two team sponsored activities

Strike Two: Parent notification, conference with parent, and probation period of three team sponsored activities

Strike Three: Parent notification, conference with a parent, student and an assistant principal, and immediate removal from team.

Strikes: The list below includes, but is NOT limited to, behaviors which would require strikes:

- Disrespect towards the Director/Teacher/Administration
- Insubordination towards the Director/Teacher/Administration
- Documented inappropriate conduct while displaying membership (in consultation with campus administration)
- Any unexcused absence
- Failure to regain eligibility at progress report time
- Refusing to work or pay attention at practice
- Unsportsmanlike conduct at a game or performance
- Assignment to ISS
- Receiving a P or U on any nine-week grading period
- Forging a document or signature
- Infractions of the Klein ISD Dance/Drill Team Electronic Communication Guidelines (see Article XII)

## **Probation**

When a member accumulates 7 demerits, the member will receive a strike. Once demerits have been converted to a strike, they cannot be erased by earning merits. The probation period will begin with the first dance/drill team sponsored event after discipline was issued. During any probation period, for demerits or strikes, the member will maintain membership. While on probation the member must attend all practices but must sit out at all performances, will not be allowed to attend activities, and will not be allowed to travel with the team.

**\*Please see the next page for Merit information**

## **Merits**

Members must receive 5 merits to erase any given demerit. The Director has the authority to assign merits for any given activity.

- 1 Merit
  - 5 volunteer hours (Limit 10 merits-50 hours)
  - 5 KC sporting events (1 merit per sport)
  - Attending the Musical
  - Attending a KC Band Contest
  - Passing ALL classes
  - 1 hour of cleaning the Belle room (Only offered at request of the Director)
  - Attending another school Drill Team Show
  - 3+ hour dance intensive
  - 1 Merit every day you participate in a KC dress up day
- 5 Merits
  - ALL A's