



AMCHS Bengal Belles Dance/Drill Team
2023 - 2024
Team Tryout Packet

For Questions, Please Contact...

Katelyn Garza – Head Coach
kgarza@csisd.org

Dear Dance Team Tryout Candidate,

We are so excited for your decision to try out for the A&M Consolidated Bengal Belles. These tryouts are open to incoming freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors for the 2023 - 2024 school year. Are you hard working and a team player? Would you like to be a part of a legacy? If you've always wanted to be part of the dance team, now is your chance!

The Belles participate in summer camps, performs at football games, pep rallies, district events, competitions, host clinics, and spring show. This is a yearlong commitment and expense. Practices, performances, competitions, etc. are required to be part of this organization. This packet lists out the process, schedule, and important dates to tryout.

The Tryout Forms Agreement are online! The link is on the last page and must be completed by **February 27th BEFORE 6:30 pm**. You can also find the link on the Schoology website. The online tryout forms must be completed to be able to participate in the prep class and to be eligible to try out for the team.

I'm looking forward to tryouts and I wish you all the best! Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Coach & Ms. Jenna

Bengal Belles Head Coach & Assistant Coach



Table of Contents

<i>Tryout Information</i>	3
Expectations	3
Tryout Eligibility	4
Tryout Requirements	4
Tryout Details	5
Tryout Clinic Attire	6
Optional Practice Day Attire – Free Dress	6
Practice & Official Tryout Day Attire	6
Minimum Dance Skill Requirement for Tryouts	7
<i>Team Information</i>	8
New Team Meeting	8
School Year Practice Details	8
<i>Tryout Forms</i>	8
Tryout Forms Agreement Link	8

Tryout Information

Expectations

The following are expectations of being a Bengal Belle.

- Spring practice listed below are **mandatory** for new team members.
- All practices listed are from 4:30 – 6:00 pm
- If you have previous conflicts that you cannot get out of then please contact Coach Garza
 - March 21st
 - March 28th
 - April 4th
 - April 25th
 - May 2nd
 - May 9th
 - May 16th Uniform pick up THEN Little Belle Camp Practice from 6 – 8 pm
- Spring Show practices & performances are **mandatory** for all team members
 - April 12th Tech rehearsal 6 – 6:30 pm
 - April 14th Show day 7:00 – 9:00 pm
 - April 15th Show day 3:00 – 5:00 pm
- Summer camp and summer practices are **mandatory** for all team members.
 - July 18th – 21st Little Belle Camp (*Tentative*)
 - July 23rd – 26th Mandatory Line Camp Dates
 - August 7th – 11th Summer Practices 4:00 – 6:00 pm
 - Belles will likely perform at ROAR Camp when that date is announced.
- Belles dance class period and practices within the school year are **mandatory** unless stated otherwise and can be changed at the discretion of the director at any time.
- All performances are **mandatory** unless stated otherwise and at the discretion of the director at any time. Performances include, but are not limited to:
 - Football games, basketball games, community & school spirit events, spring competitions, team tryouts, end of year Spring Show, etc.
- Any meeting called by the director is **mandatory** for all team members.
- For everything, you must arrive on time, prepared, and ready to work efficiently.
- Assist in team fundraisers and pay all fees associated with Bengal Belles.
- Continuously maintain and improve dance technique, fitness levels, and choreography retention.
- Maintain academic eligibility & behavior expectations of A&M Consolidated High School, CSISD, and UIL.
- Follow all CSISD Dance/Drill Team Constitution guidelines and expectations, as well as merit & demerit procedures.
- Uphold respect for your coaches, team, and yourself as a Bengal Belle.
- **Always strive to be a well-rounded, committed, encouraging, supportive, coachable, and hard-working teammate.**

Tryout Eligibility

- Must be a current 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grader *by credits*
- Must join the Schoology tryout group – Access Code: TBX5 – 64D9 – FNCZ8
- A total grade average of 80 or higher for the 1st -4th six weeks.
 - Turned into Schoology
- Physical completed by a primary physician
 - Turned into Schoology
- No previous dismissal from or unfulfilled full-time commitment due to voluntarily quitting (without approval of Principal and/or Coach) any other school club, organization, or sport for the current year.
- A candidate will not be eligible to tryout if he/she has been placed in ISS or Venture Center for more than 3 days during the current year.
 - Any sort of disciplinary action that resulted in a total of more than 3 days placement will make the candidate ineligible for tryouts.
- A candidate will be ineligible to tryout if he/she has been suspended from school in the current year.

Tryout Requirements

Failure to turn in everything on time will forfeit your chance on the team.

- Attend the mandatory candidate and parent/guardian interest meeting
- Must join the Schoology tryout group – Access Code: TBX5 – 64D9 – FNCZ8
- Items required to be turned in by **February 27th BEFORE 6:30 pm.**
 - Completed Tryout Forms Agreement online
 - 1st - 4th six weeks report card (scanned, picture, or screenshot)
 - Completed physical (scanned, picture, or screenshot)
- You will **NOT** be able to participate without all of the above turned in on time.

Tryout Details

- March 9th will be closed tryouts, so only authorized personnel are allowed in the room during the entire process.
- See *Tryout Week Schedule* for Tryout Clinic & Official Tryout Day Times.
- Candidates will learn jazz and kick style combinations during the tryout clinic as well as perform across the floor technique combinations.
- On March 9th candidates will tryout on all requirements in front of a panel of 3 qualified judges, and an administrator will be present.
- Candidates will perform combinations learned during the clinic and will also show their technique including right and left splits during tryouts on March 9^h.
- All candidates must exit the building at the conclusion of tryouts on March 9th.
- Results will be posted on Schoology website on March 11th at 10 am.
- Candidates must be present for the entire school day on the day of tryouts (March 9th)
 - You must communicate all tryout day potential absences by **March 2nd before 3:50 pm**, so that alternate agreements may be made.
- If you are experiencing COVID related symptoms, have tested positive for COVID, or a health professional provides documentation that requires you to quarantine for any reason then communicate that to Coach Garza as soon as possible so that alternate agreements may be made.

Not everyone that is trying out will make it, but that is okay! I encourage you to take a dance class here at AMCHS, join the AMCHS Color Guard, or take the drill team prep class at Expressions Dance to further your dance education and to get more practice with dance technique!

Tryout Clinic Attire

March 2nd and March 7th 4:30 – 6:00 pm

- Plain Black Exercise Tank Top, or Leotard (*Top must be form fitting*)
- Plain Black Leggings or Fitted Dance Pants (*Any length is okay*)
- Hair must be pulled out of candidate's face (*ponytail, bun, etc.*)
- Jazz Shoes (*Tan*)
- NO JEWELRY
- Bring Your Own Water

Optional Practice Day Attire – Free Dress

March 3rd 4:15 – 5:15 pm

- Top that you can dance in
- Bottoms that you can dance in
- Jazz Shoes
- NO JEWELRY
- Bring your own water

Mock & Official Tryout Day Attire

March 8th from 4:30 – 6:00 pm & March 9th 4:30 pm - TBD

- Plain Black Exercise Tank Top or Leotard (*Top must be form fitting and sleeveless*)
- Plain Black Leggings or Fitted Dance Pants (*Must be full length*)
- Jazz Shoes (*Tan shoes only*)
- Hair in a NEAT low bun (*Hair must be hair sprayed back with no wispies*)
- Performance Makeup with Red Lipstick
- No nail polish
- NO JEWELRY
- Bring Your Own Water
- Assigned Number (*this will be given to you on the tryout day*)

Minimum Dance Skill Requirement for Tryouts

- Splits (right required, left preferred)
- Double pirouette turn
- Double coupé turn
- Press leap/split jump
- Chainés
- Right & left grand jetés
- Right Calypso
- Jump kicks
- Walk kicks
- Fan kicks
- Performance ability/entertaining facial expressions and energy

Tryout Week Schedule

ALL days are required unless you are absent according to AMCHS' attendance policy. If you miss for any other reason, you forfeit your chance of making the team.

- March 2nd and March 7th 4:30 – 6:00 pm ***Mandatory Clinic Days***
 - Tryout Clinic Attire required
 - Begin learning tryout dance and skills in the dance studio
- March 3rd and 4:15 – 5:15 pm ***Optional Practice Day***
 - Free Dress
 - Chance to practice the material learned from the 1st day of clinic.
- March 8th from 4:30 – 6:00 pm ***Mandatory Mock Tryouts***
 - Official Tryout Day Attire required
 - Mock Tryouts
- March 9th from 4:30 pm – TBD ***Mandatory Tryouts***
 - Official Tryout Day Attire required
 - Candidates will be able to notify parents of the conclusion time estimate the day of.

Results will be posted on the Schoology website at 10 am on March 11th

Team Information

New Team Meeting

March 20th @ 6 - 8 pm in the AMCHS Lecture Hall

- This is your FIRST mandatory event as a Bengal Belle!
- All mandatory dates will be given to new Belles at the New Team Meeting
- Constitution and demerit/merit agreement will be reviewed and signed at the New Team Meeting
- An estimated price list will also be discussed. New Belle fees average between \$1000 to \$1500 for the first year.

School Year Practice Details

- All year,
 - Tuesday – Thursday practices before school at 6:45 am. Doors open at 6:30 am.
 - Monday and Friday practices before school at 7:25 am. Doors open at 7:10 am.
- After School Practice varies from football season and contest season.
 - Mandatory After school practice from 4:15 – 5:15 pm every Tuesday.
 - For learning contest routines, there's a chance that this could happen ANY DAY of the week depending on the choreographer's schedule.
 - *Choreographer sessions are required if you wish to try out for that routine for contest.*

Tryout Forms

Tryout Forms Agreement Link

This year the tryout forms are online! You will follow the link below to complete the Tryout Forms Agreement online. You will also be able to find the link on Schoology. The Online Tryout Forms Agreement must be submitted by **FEBRUARY 27th BEFORE 6:30 PM.**

ONLINE TRYOUT FORM IS TO BE FILLED OUT AND SUBMITTED BY FEBRUARY 27th BEFORE 6:30 PM.



<https://forms.gle/bTT4oXSKNaTQGix08>