



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL VISUALS CONSTITUTION

Purpose of the Group

To promote school spirit and provide visual appeal as part of the band by participating in half-time shows, pep rallies, and other performances.

- A. The “visuals,” Dance line, Color Guard, and Majorette lines, will consist of a number decided on by the band director(s) and sponsor(s).
- B. The visuals are subject to all band rules, regulations, and policies, in addition to those mentioned herein.
- C. Cooperation among members is expected. Behavior inconsistent with that expectation will not be tolerated and can result in dismissal from the band. “Cooperating” is defined as having open communication with the band director(s) and sponsor(s), as well as respecting and following the leadership and decisions of the band director(s) and sponsor(s).

I. Audition Information

Students in the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh grades are eligible to audition. Each auditioning individual must meet the following criteria:

- A. Be eligible according to TCSS and Hillcrest High School Guidelines.
- B. Be free of *no more* than two conduct violations and school suspensions for the current academic year in any class.
- C. Have **all** required permission forms and other paperwork signed and turned in to the appropriate person by the appropriate deadline.
- D. Have any and all outstanding visual and Band related debt paid in full from previous years.
- E. Have not been previously dismissed from the band for any disciplinary reason, unless the student has been approved to audition by both the band director(s) and the sponsor(s).
- F. Have not voluntarily quit the band at Hillcrest High School without prior consent of the band director(s) and sponsor(s) within the previous year. This includes but is not limited to being selected to the Visual Ensemble and “quitting” at any point after the audition process.
- G. Have a doctor’s physical examination on file. Any condition/limitation not on the physical can result in permanent suspension from the band.

Other Audition Information

- A. A panel, consisting of the band director(s) and sponsor(s), will select and assemble judges for the selection of visual members.
- B. Upon the recommendation of the band director(s) and sponsor(s), a student may be allowed membership as a visual if said student is unable to participate in the audition process because of serious illness, injury, other medical issue, or by other just cause.

II. Visual Membership Requirements and Policies

Each visual member must meet the following requirements to remain a member of the band:

- A. Have school or family insurance.
- B. Have transportation to and from all activities and practices scheduled by the band director(s) and sponsor(s). *Transportation to and from out of town football games will be provided by school bus or commercial transportation.*
- C. Be in attendance and on time (preferably early) to all practices and activities.
- D. Attend scheduled workouts, visual, **and** band camps as scheduled by the band director(s) and sponsor(s). Any student that does not attend all camps can be dismissed from the band for the year.
- E. Maintain academic eligibility.
- F. Keep an emergency bag handy, to include the following items: tampons/pads, tights, lipstick, blush, and any other items necessary for emergencies. The sponsor(s) must approve additional items.
- G. The band director(s) and/or sponsor(s) have full rights to remove, cancel, or change any and all routines as necessary. This includes music selections.
- H. Alter or hem any uniform as requested by the band director(s) or sponsor(s) for any reason. Any expenses incurred are the responsibility of the individual.
- I. Adhere to the "Attendance Policies," and "Appearance Guidelines" as stated below.
- J. Abide by this Constitution, and all the terms stated within.

Other Visual Membership Requirements and Policies

- A. Payment notifications will be given to the student member during the Fall semester, but at least seven (7) days prior to the due date.
- B. Members may not invite or bring friends to practice unless approved by the band director(s) and the sponsor(s) in advance.
- C. Visual and full band activities such as eating out, cookouts, parties, etc. will be for members only unless otherwise notified by the band director(s) and/or sponsor(s).
- D. Fundraisers will be held throughout the year. Some fundraisers may be optional, however "Home Game Parking" is mandatory. Members are expected to participate in all mandatory fundraisers, whether visual specific or for full band.

III. Attendance Policies

- A. Members are required to be present at all practices and activities scheduled by the band director(s) and/or sponsor(s).
- B. If a member misses one practice for any unexcused reason in any week, they will not be allowed to perform that week without band director(s) and sponsor(s) approval. The band director(s) and sponsor(s) have full and exclusive rights to determine what reasons constitute excused or unexcused on a case by case basis.
- C. Routine doctor's appointments should be made for non-practice days. To be excused from any practice, the band director(s) and/or sponsor(s) must be informed in advance, and may require a doctor's excuse as proof.

IV. Appearance Guidelines

- A. During scheduled performances and other events and activities, members must be aware of their appearance at all times by following these guidelines:
 - 1. Clean uniform/equipment
 - 2. No visible, unapproved, unnatural colors added to hair
 - 3. No jewelry (unless part of uniform as determined by the band director(s) and sponsor(s))
 - 4. No colored nail polish
 - 5. No runs in stockings (an extra pair needs to be carried to each event)
 - 6. Wearing performance make-up
- B. The band director(s) and sponsor(s) must approve all attire. This includes t-shirts, pants, skirts, shoes, pull-overs, etc. (Anything worn in the name of the band)
- C. Uniforms will only be worn for school functions.
- D. While in uniform (and even when they are not), members should be aware that they are representing their families, community, school, band, band director(s), and sponsor(s). Behavior should be consistent with that of the Tuscaloosa County Board code of conduct.
- E. Underarms and legs must be shaved.

V. Suspension from the band

- A. Repeated violation of school rules will result in permanent suspension from the band.
- B. Any student receiving more than three discipline referrals to the office in the preceding year will not be allowed to audition for any line.
- C. Permanent suspension prevents the member from auditioning for the band in the future.

VI. Rights of the Band Director(s) and Sponsor(s)

- A. The band director(s) and sponsor(s) may make exceptions to the provisions of this constitution if at any time he/she/they feel(s) it is in the best interest of the student or band.