



2022

HANDBOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Welcome | 3 |
| Board Members | 4 |
| 2021 Drill Team Information | 5 |
| Team Practice & Guidelines | 7 |
| Game Day Info | 10 |
| Merit System | 13 |
| Recognition | 15 |
| Special Programs | 16 |
| Officers & Leaders | 17 |
| Talk Time | 19 |
| AAYFDT Rules | 19 |
| Volunteers | 20 |
| Game Schedule | 21 |
| Competition | 22 |
| AAYFDT Code of Conduct | 23 |
| AAYFDT Drill Updates | 26 |
| Handbook Form (to sign) | 27 |

WELCOME TO THE KLEIN PONY EXPRESS!!!!

Thank you for becoming a part of the AAYFDT & KBBC organization.

Drill Team provides a variety of opportunities for our children. We are very excited about working with you and your child this season.

They will have a lot of fun, develop lasting friendships, enjoy the expression and creativity of dance, experience the excitement of competition, and learn responsibility and discipline. With the latter of these accomplishments being the least favorite with our children, it does rank among the highest to ensure an organized and successful cheer and dance season.

Team spirit, positive attitudes and attendance are also very important to our organization. Teaching these things to your child is our goal.

Seniors and Juniors will practice 3 days a week typically starting the last week of July, and then drop to 2 days a week when the game season starts the first week of September. The Lil' Fillies will start practice 2 days a week, and then drop to 1 day a week when the game season starts. Games will be held on Saturdays.

We are asking that each parent makes sure his or her child practice their routine with the music at home as much as possible. Watch your child practice their routine. Help them to remember to SMILE and continue to dance even if a mistake is made.

Please remember this is an all-**volunteer** organization. Our success depends on parent participation, sponsors and overall support.

Let's make 2022 the best year yet!

P - POSITIVE

O - ORGANIZED

N - NOTICEABLE

I - INSPIRATIONAL

E - ENTHUSIASTIC

S - SPIRITED

Respectfully yours,

Angie Motes

Klein Pony

Express, Director

2022

BOARD MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| PRESIDENT | Kara Rigsby 281-546-5405 | kleinbronzospres@gmail.com |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Eury Johnson 346-280-4778 | kleinbronzosvp@gmail.com |
| SECRETARY | Monica Green | sec.klein.broncos@gmail.com |
| TREASURER | Katy Voeks | klein.broncos.treas@gmail.com |
| ATHLETIC DIRECTOR | Bancrofts | kleinbronzosad@gmail.com |
| DRILL TEAM DIRECTOR | Angie Motes 832-468-3569 | kleinponyexpressdd@gmail.com |
| FUNDRAISER DIRECTOR | Heather Quattlebuam 903-449-0236 | kleinbronzosfund@gmail.com |
| TEAM MOM COORDINATOR - FOOTBALL | Jennifer Scroggins 713-299-1919 | kbhteammom@gmail.com |
| ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - DRILL TEAM | Marcy Robinson 713-396-9197 | kleinponyexpressdtad@gmail.com |
| VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR | | |
| TEAM MOM - DRILL TEAM | Kelli Shepherd 713-416-3421 | poniesteammom@gmail.com |
| ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATOR | | |
| SPONSORSHIP DIRECTOR | | |
| MERCHANDISING | | |
| WEBMASTER | | |

2022 DRILL TEAM INFORMATION

DRILL TEAM DIRECTOR: Angie Motes

Drill Team Director has full responsibility of the senior, junior, and lil' filly drill teams as all well as all the drill team assistants and instructors/coaches. The director, with board approval, makes all organizational decisions concerning the drill team. Includes a voting position on the KBBC board.

ASST. DRILL TEAM DIRECTOR: Marcy Robinson

Asst. Drill Team Director assists with all responsibilities of the drill team director. Includes a position on the KBBC board.

TEAM MOM: Kelli Shepherd

Team Mom assists directors in the organization of, preparation of and communication to the Pony Express Team. Works in conjunction with other parent volunteers with regards to spirit, promotions and social events and acts as a liaison between Pony Parents and the Coaches and Directors. Includes a voting position on the KBBC board.

Any questions start with the team mom and if need be, directed to the Director.

DRILL TEAM INSTRUCTORS/COACHES

SENIORS:

Princess Diggs
Kristina Reyes

JUNIORS:

Eury Johnson
Hopee Harris

LIL' FILLIES:

Mikayla Scroggins (Student Coach)

MEMBER AT LARGE OPEN

Assist in any of the board positions or associated activities, which include but not limited to homecoming, game days, competition, special events and banquet.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

OPEN

Responsible for obtaining and assigning volunteers for each event/function/need that we may have. Examples: concessions, water, setting up of tents, homecoming week spirit days, cancer awareness month, etc.

COMPANY MOMS

Monitoring girls at practice to ensure they are there on time and have all equipment needed, Check's girls in/out during game days and are responsible for making sure all girls stay within their company, and escorts girls to and from bathroom. Each mom will have a list of girls that they are responsible for and will be the one to see at check in/out time.

2022 Season:

- Open – Company A
- Open – Company B
- Open – Company C
- Open - Company D
- Open – Company E

Open - Backup

PRACTICE & ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Lil' Fillies - Pre/Post-game season - Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Game season - Thursdays from 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- Juniors - Pre/Post-game season - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6:00-7:30pm
Game season - Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00-7:30pm
- Seniors - Pre/Post-game season - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm
Game season - Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm

First practice will be: July 25th

Tuesdays and Wednesdays will be used as make-up days or days for extra practices before competition.

PRACTICE

- Practices start promptly at 6:00pm. All girls should arrive 10 minutes early. This is to ensure your child is not counted tardy, and that she will have time to warm-up before practice starts.
- **DO NOT DROP YOUR DAUGHTER OFF PRIOR TO A BOARD MEMBER BEING PRESENT.** MEMBERS ARE: DIRECTOR – ANGIE MOTES, ASST. DIRECTOR - MARCY ROBINSON or KELLI SHEPHERD.
- Practice is **mandatory** not voluntary. Ponies should attend all practices. See excused absences section under Attendance heading.
- All girls should be dressed in their full Pony/Filly practice uniform. NO EXCEPTIONS. (Full uniform includes: Practice clothes, gear bag, knee pads (as needed), warm-up mat/towel, practice poms and water bottle - Water ONLY, please.)
- Hair should be pulled up in a ponytail and out of their eyes.
- Tennis shoes are to be worn. **No game day shoes.** No open-toe shoes.
- Girls must wear sunscreen and bug spray when needed and should bring a towel to sit on.
- No jewelry is allowed. Girls with newly pierced ears should cover them with band-aids.
- No gum, candy, etc.
- No **cell phones or electronic devices** during practice.
- When you arrive at practice, you should put your bag down in the designated spot and go to warm-up. When you are dismissed, it will be as a team.
- If you must leave practice early, please bring a note or you will be counted tardy. A tardy must be approved by the Drill Team Director or it will be counted against you.
- **No parents/guardians** are allowed during practice times, unless you are a company mom, or you are assisting a coach/instructor or board member. Company moms, coaches and board members have all been background checked for your child's safety.
- For your added convenience and to save a few trees, MOST of our communications related to practice dates/times will be through SportsYou app and emails. Please check your SportsYou app, emails, and texts DAILY.

ATTENDANCE

Notification of a tardy or absence is mandatory. If a member is going to be late or absent from practice, the Drill Team Director (DTD) and/or Team Mom Coordinator (TMC) MUST be notified with two forms of communication (via e-mail, phone call or text message). If via e-mail, BOTH the DTD and TMC must be notified.

Absences and tardiness significantly impact the dance performance. Coaches must spend valuable time reteaching steps, adjusting formations, etc. instead of focusing on the next steps when girls miss any portion of the scheduled practices.

Excessive absences could warrant dismissal from the team with no refund, as per the discretion of the Drill Team Director.

The following definitions will be used for tardy/absence:

- Tardy – defined as any fifteen-minute increment associated with arriving late or leaving early to/from a practice or game. Can accumulate into an absence. Example – if arrive late/leave early by thirty minutes, then receive two tardies and two tardies = 1 absences.
- Absence - defined as not attending a practice or game or missing more than thirty minutes of a scheduled practice or game (arriving late/leaving early) since accumulated tardies can become an absence.

The following policies will be used for tardies/absences:

- If only 2 practices/week: Missing one (1) practice the week of a game = ineligible for the next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer)
- If more than 2 practices/week: Missing two (2) practices the week of a game = ineligible for the next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer)
- Missing one (1) practice two (2) weeks in a row = ineligible for next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer) ▪ Missing any two practices in summer (July & August) = ineligible for next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer)
- Two (2) occurrences of tardiness and/or leaving before practice ends = one (1) absence.
- Three (3) occurrences of tardiness and/or leaving before practice ends in one week = two (2) absences = ineligible for next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer)
- Missing two games, unless excused by the Drill Team Director, will result in forfeiting position on team.
- Missing more than one (1) practice or having two (2) occurrences of tardiness during the three weeks prior to competition will result in triple demerits being issued and could result in dismissal from team without refund as per the discretion of the Drill Team Director.

- Demerits will be given for tardies and absences. See Merit and Demerit System for more details.

Excused Absences

Absences from practices or games will be excused only in the event of illness (doctor note required), death in the family, or reasons previously arranged at the Drill Team Director's discretion.

Note: Commitments and engagements established before the beginning of the season (such as weekly church services) that coincide with the practice schedule must be approved by the Drill Team Director to be considered excused.

Unexcused Absences/Tardiness

Unexcused absence reasons include, but are not limited to, homework or test concerns, social opportunities, non-mandatory extracurricular activities, or minor illness or injury that does not require exclusion from physical activity.

Per AAYFDT Rules of Competition: 02.02.10.h Members must have a signed attendance agreement on file.

Per AAYFDT Rules of Competition: 02.02.11 For security and liability reasons, each member is required to be picked up at the end of the practice, game, or mandatory drill team event. No Drill Team Director is responsible for any member after the practice, game, or mandatory drill team event ends. Failure to pick up your member may result in the following consequences. 1st Time – Warning Letter. 2nd Time – Contact Constable or Sheriff's Office. 3rd Time – Removal from club roster.

Per AAYFDT Rules of Competition: 02.04.01.01 Attendance and participation in the Drill Team Competition is mandatory. Any member not participating will be immediately removed from the team and forfeits all trophies, honors, and awards, including participation in the team's banquet. Exceptions are illness, injury, school activities, or death in the family (appropriate documentation is required for any of these exceptions and must be provided to the League Drill Director accordingly).

GAME DAY INFO

CHECK-IN TIMES

Home Games – 8:30 am – Subject to change. Always refer to Weekly Game Day newsletter.

Away Games - 11:30 am– Subject to change. Always refer to Weekly Game Day newsletter.

Your daughter MUST be checked in with the Company Mom NO LATER than the check-in time, or she will be counted as tardy. Check-in includes obtaining the signature of the person (over age 18) checking the child in. If the person dropping off is not the parent/guardian or designated person picking up, then please notify the Company Mom during drop off who will be picking your child up.

Once your daughter has been checked in, the Company Mom will oversee her until check-out time. Parents and/or guests are not permitted to visit or sit with the drill team during the game or snack time. At least one responsible parent/guardian or designated person (over age 18) who has authority to make decisions for the child must be present at the game.

HOME GAMES

Home games are played at Ulrich Intermediate School, located at:
10103 Spring Cypress Rd, Houston, TX. 77070.

Please arrive no later than the scheduled check in time. They will be released after sophomore game at approximately 12:30pm*.

They will cheer for the freshman and sophomore games and will be released after the sophomore halftime performance.

*****Subject to change. Always refer to Weekly Game Day newsletter.**

AWAY GAMES

Away game locations vary by week, and you will be notified accordingly. See game day schedule.

Please arrive no later than the scheduled check in time. They will be released at approximately 3:00pm*.

They will cheer for the junior and senior games and will be released after the senior half-time performance.

*****Subject to change. Always refer to Weekly Game Day newsletter.**

Sixth graders have the privilege of leading the crowd in the cheers for the 2nd half of the senior game. If the sixth grader stays to cheer, she is under parent's responsibility.

* Release times are an estimate and may vary due to game delays or weather.

HOMECOMING GAME

The Homecoming game is played at our home field (Ulrich).

This is typically a longer day, so please plan accordingly.

There may be a photographer present if girls wish to have pictures taken. These can be taken prior to checkin time or afterwards.

Parents will be allowed to hang banners and posters on the chain link fence to proudly display the love for their daughter and the team.

The girls will only be permitted to wear the designated mum made by the booster club for this event.

Parents/Grandparents/Siblings will have the privilege of walking their special girl out onto the field to be announced.

IMPORTANT INFO FOR GAME DAY

After the first performance they will have snack time. Please keep snacks to a messy minimum so as not to mess up their uniform. Again ... NO chocolate or red foods/drinks of any kind.

If you have purchased food at the concession stand for your daughter instead of packing a snack, please give it to the Company Mom or a board member and they will give it to your daughter. The snack time is limited, so please make sure your child has their food as soon as the snack time starts.

Girls must cheer in the stands and participate on the field. The girls will be always with a Company Mom/Coach/Team Mom/Director/Board Member.

We will encourage the girls to drink while in the stands however, they need to start fluids the night before to stay hydrated. This is especially important during the extremely hot days.

CHECK-OUT:

Following the second performance, parents/guardians, or the designated adult (over 18) must sign out the girls with their Company Mom.

GAME DAY UNIFORM CARE

Uniform - Wash in cold water, on the gentle cycle and hang them to dry. Check hems and fix as needed. You may move the button to tighten the waist, but please ensure it is placed back into the original spot before returning it at the end of the season. Uniforms MUST be washed prior to turning in. **DO NOT REMOVE TAG!!!** If tags are missing, you will forfeit your uniform deposit.

Shoes - Clean after each game. Shoes must be bright white for each game performance. A toothbrush with warm water and mild soap does the trick. Do NOT machine wash .

The following is a list of what will be checked by Company Moms on game day:

- Clean Uniform
- Clean game day shoes
- Hair in HIGH ponytail and pinned out of eyes with game day bow in place
- No makeup
- No nail polishes
- No jewelry (earrings covered by band aids if necessary)
- Backpacks containing snack (No chocolate or red foods), towel, and water bottle.
- WATER ONLY, please.

- Washcloth to be used to dampen and cool down the girl's faces (or messes) – some will also be supplied by a volunteer

GAME DAY ETIQUETTE

Every Pony will use the P.O.N.I.E.S. acrostic as a guideline for how to act and how to always treat teammates, ESPECIALLY while wearing the pony uniform. Any time you are wearing any pony wear, you are representing the team. Always show-off how great we are as a team!

Positive - Organized - Noticeable - Inspirational - Enthusiastic - Spirited!

In addition, games are considered performance time! Girls should be prepared to turn up the notch on the work-o-meter.

They will be expected to be quiet and in tune with coaches and company mom's directions. They are to be helpful to their big or 'lil' sisters. We will have fun, but with discipline, an interesting oxymoron to learn.

Ponies will be expected to leave their space as nice as or nicer than when they got there. Merits can be earned for going above and beyond in making a good impression for their team.

MERIT SYSTEM

This is a currency that is used to reward and to develop Ponies during the season.

We reward our girls through positive reinforcement combined with an incentive program.

Merits and Demerits will be issued by Company Moms, Coaches/Instructors, Team Mom, Asst. Director and Director during both practices and games.

Merits Merits can be rewarded for the following:

- Going above and beyond in duties
- Helping other Ponies that are having difficulties with a part of the dance
- Participating/dressing for Spirit Days (Thursdays @ practice) ● Attending special events put on by Ponies, Broncos or AAYFDT
- Attending scrimmage games under parent supervision ● Attending playoff games under parent supervision

Demerits

All infractions of the game and practice rules and regulations will warrant demerits. The number of demerits is at the discretion of the coach/instructors, board members and Director. Each Director, Coach/Instructor and board member will consider the frequency of the infraction before warranting a demerit.

For every five (5) demerits accumulated, the Pony will not be eligible for the next official game/drill performance (must still attend the game in full uniform to cheer).

Demerits are issued for the following:

- Arriving late to practice or games
- Attending practice or game without proper uniform
- Attending game with dirty shoes or uniform
- Attending practice or game without proper equipment needed
- Bad attitudes or being disrespectful towards teammates, coaches or team moms
- Having gum or candy at practice and games
- Missing practice or game. Exempt: death in family, illness accompanied by a note from doctor, prior approval for a religious obligation, or a school sponsored function that your child MUST attend), or unless approval from Drill Team Director.
- Leaving the stands or Company Mom without permission or without being accompanied.
- Being picked up late from practice and games
- Not paying attention/talking during practice times when being coached

If a demerit is given for disruptive behavior and it continues, the following consequences may be given:

AT PRACTICES - Time out (sitting out for a period.), Jumping jacks, or laps.

This is a great attention getter and a way to release excess energy.

AT GAMES - Sitting out during cheers or the performance.

Ponies have the option to work off or “wipe away” a demerit that is issued due to no fault of her own (i.e., Arriving to practice/game late, being picked up late, etc.). She is not allowed to work off behavior demerits. This helps to teach the girls that they need to be responsible for their own actions but allows them the ability to “make good” the infringement.

They will work off their demerits through purposeful calisthenics that are determined by the team coaches (i.e., 10 high kicks for 1 demerit). This **MUST** take place after the practice/game that the demerit occurred.

Excessive demerits will not be given this option (more than 3 for the same occurrence).

If demerits continue for the same type of occurrence, we will request a parent conference.

Our goal is to work together to help your child understand what is expected of her.

RECOGNITION

SHINING HORSESHOE

This is a special reward given to girls who exhibit the acrostic P.O.N.I.E.S. mentioned earlier. A fellow pony, company mom, parent, coach, or board member can recognize a pony with this reward by stating to the company mom, coach, team mom or director the specific action that was an example of being what it takes to be PONIES.

These and other marks will be kept by the company mom, coaches, team mom and director week by week.

As a pony earns her shining horseshoe, she is rewarded by giving her a horseshoe tattoo to publicly showcase at the game, her achievement for that week. There are NO limits to how many can earn this reward, but it can be taken away after it was given by receiving a demerit during that week.

The goal is to have all girls sporting these at all games by the end of the season, showing that they know how to be PONIES!!

SPIRIT AWARDS

COACHES only will award these spirit items. Items are different for each team, but may include Spirit Sticks, Spirit Bows, Spirit Poms, etc.

Spirit Sticks will be awarded weekly, but other spirit items may be awarded daily depending on the coach/instructor. These can be earned by:

- Showing extra spirit
- Special improvement or conquering a skill

There is usually a 3-person (per team) limit on these items but can change.

SPIRIT STICK - Each pony WILL get the opportunity to take this home at some point during the season. However, it may be late in the season. If your pony has not received the spirit stick yet, let her know to be patient and keep trying! ☺

When you get the stick, please add ONLY 1-2 items before returning it the following week. For example, she could add a piece of feather boa stapled/glued to the top, ribbon candy striped down the pole, or glitter spray over the entire thing. Let your pony get her creative juices flowing!

Spirit sticks are given at Thursday practices and are to be returned the next Monday.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

We offer the girls a few special programs to further instill the P.O.N.I.E.S acronym, to give girls something to strive for, and to show them that hard work and dedication really do pay off.

BIG SIS/LIL' SIS PROGRAM

This program is designed to allow each girl the ability to learn from each other mutually and gives the opportunity for the returning Pony to be a shining example, role model and mentor for the new girl.

Big Sisters are typically Seniors (both new and returning) and Lil' Sisters are typically Juniors and Fillies.

We encourage that partnership during the company time so that girls can get to know other girls that may not have the opportunity to otherwise.

Sisters will exchange Game Day Gifts (\$10-\$15)

Gift Schedule:

Date TBD - Wood themed - ex. Personalized bulletin board, wood jewelry box, picture frame, wood wall hanging, personalized stationery, wood pony name tag.

Date TBD - Sweet themed - ex. Homemade cookies in a cute tin, small cookie cake, plastic jar of candies, sweet-smelling bath goodies (mark so that this is not accidentally eaten), candy bar bouquet, sweet themed chap-stick. NON-MELTING candies, please!

Date TBD - Dazzle themed - ex. Dazzled picture frame with pic of sisters in it, jewelry, any/everything that is blingy. Girls LOVE this day!

Sisters are also encouraged to make or purchase matching pjs for the all-nighter. Big sis/lil' sis moms will get together prior to the all-nighter to arrange matching attire.

Every year Ponies get another Sister but it is customary that "once a sister, always a sister" to keep that special bond alive.

LETTER JACKET

This jacket is awarded to girls who have shown hard-work and have dedicated themselves to the Ponies for 4 years. They will be able to proudly wear their jacket at games showing their commitment.

After year four, they will be awarded a patch to place on their jacket to show their continued commitment and hard work.

Jackets and patches will be awarded during the first home game of the season and each girl will have the privilege of being escorted onto the field by their parents and given their award.

OFFICERS & LEADERS

Being an officer or leader is a PRIVILEGE. Having a leadership role will require extra duties throughout the year and is not a responsibility to be taken lightly. The girls who are in these roles will be looked up to by the other Ponies and she should always exhibit a positive attitude. **Girls receiving more than 3 behavioral demerits will forfeit their ranking and she will be replaced.** Team demerits do not count towards total. **In addition, attendance and participation by the officers and leaders is very important and girls can forfeit their ranking for excessive absences and/or tardies.**

Officers & Leaders are chosen by the following criteria:

- They should be a Senior or a third or second grader for Juniors (awarded by tenure) ● Girls will be chosen from each squad with the most years of service.
- An officer or leader must be a legacy member with at least 2 years of prior participation. (Emphasis is placed on consecutive years of service.) Exception: Girls showing exceptional qualities after 1 year of service may be considered for a role in the event there are not enough girls to fill the positions.
- They must always display a positive attitude.
- They must have the ability to lead in a positive way.

Parents and Ponies are welcome to recommend other Ponies for these positions. A collective decision will be made by Coaches/Instructors, Team Mom, Asst. Director and Director for each squad.

RANKINGS & RESPONSIBILITIES SENIOR SQUAD OFFICERS –

Major - 6th grader position. Leader of the drill team directly below Director and Coaches. She ensures that needs and expectations are communicated between coaches, director and officers and ranks. Through example, she should keep girls motivated as a “team”. Successful drill teams are led by strong consistent leaders who encourage their team to always do their best whether at practice, game, or competition.

Captain - Captain: 5th or 6th grader position. Next in succession to Major. Captains along with lieutenants will be responsible for a squad of 8-10 dancers. They help conduct practices, teach cheers, routines, and dances, and help with polish of dance. They may need to take some dancers to the side to catch up from absences.

Lieutenant - 5th or 6th grader position. Directly below captains, act as support to other officers while having responsibility of a squad of 8-10 dancers as well. They also help conduct practice, teach cheers, routines, and dances, and help with polish of dance.

Social Officer - 5th or 6th grader position. Main purpose is to keep spirits high! Responsible for aiding Spirit Leaders. Works with Director and other Volunteers to use programs that increase the performance of the team. Horseshoes, Big Sis/Lil Sis Program, Parties, community events, Awards. Spirit Leaders should

have good dance skills, excellent leadership skills and a positive attitude. She should enjoy cheering, teaching dances, and want to keep our team motivated to achieve their goals!

SENIOR SQUAD LEADERS -

Spirit Leader - 5th or 6th grader position. This is a position in charge of the heartbeat of the team. They help with the Social Officers with social events, community events and parties. Spirit Leaders should have good dance skills, excellent leadership skills and a positive attitude. She should enjoy cheering, teaching dances, and want to keep our team motivated to achieve their goals!

Warm-up Leader (optional) - 5th or 6th grader position. Girls oversee the beginning of practice. They round up ponies into their lines and begin warm-up on time. Warm-up Leaders should control the tempo and length of the warm-up to keep efficient for the coaches. They can be creative by coming up with new ways to increase the flexibility and attention of the team. They also perform this role at competition.

Flag Corps - 4th or 5th graders - Girls work cooperatively to care for and handle the US and Texas Flags for game day anthem.

JUNIOR SQUAD

Jr. Captain - Act as support to coaches. They help to conduct practice, teach cheers, dances, and help with polish of dance.

Jr. Lieutenant (depending on tenure/size of squad) – Act as support to the Jr. Captain and the coaches, helping where needed.

Jr. Social Officer (depending on tenure/size of squad) - Main purpose is to keep spirits high! Will work with Senior Social Officers helping on programs such as Horseshoes, Big Sis/Lil Sis, Parties, Community events and Awards.

TALK TIME

If you have a suggestion/complaint, please email, or speak with the Team Mom.

If you are not satisfied with the decision, the Director will be available but please contact the Team Mom to set up a time. This is your opportunity to provide input. We only ask that the following guidelines be adhered to:

- Be constructive.
- Compliments are as important as criticism. If we are doing a good job, tell us.
- Remember we are **volunteers**.
- This is not a place for a personal confrontation. If you would like to discuss issues in private, you are encouraged to arrange a one-on-one meeting.

In the unlikely event the matter cannot be resolved at the team level, please contact the board President, Kara Rigsby, at 281-546-5405.

If the matter cannot be resolved at the Board level, then a written letter may be sent to the AAYFDT Board at P.O. Box 681957, Houston, TX. 77268-1957.

All letters must be signed and have an address or phone number to be considered.

AAYFDT RULES

Please see your AAYFDT Rules of Competition and Policies & Procedures for full rules and regulations.

VOLUNTEERS

We are an ALL-VOLUNTEER YOUTH ORGANIZATION that is robust in teaching girls Cheer, Dance, Teamwork, Hard work, Commitment and Friendship.

The season requires a LOT to give our girls the best experience they can get from their time with the Ponies. Hence, it requires every single family to get involved to make it successful. Must volunteer as needed or volunteer deposit of \$250 will be cashed at end of season.

There will be a signup genius set out for all drill families to provide bottled beverages for our home game concessions. Details on beverage options, drop off dates/times/locations will be provided when you sign up.

In the past, we have found ways to have SO MUCH FUN whether bringing food items for events, organizing trunk-or-treat, or preparing for competition.

Please join us in the quest to make this PONY RIDE one they will never forget.

You can help us by being eager and able when your volunteer coordinator comes calling --- your pony is watching!

We frequently use a volunteer tool that is used by many of the school's PTO boards; signupgenius.com. This tool allows us, as parents, to view volunteer opportunities that are available for the season and sign up from home for any of the upcoming events where volunteers are needed. You are then able to receive email reminders about the dates you have scheduled.

GAME SCHEDULE

SCRIMMAGES

Attendance is not required at scrimmages but encouraged under parent supervision as a social event to cheer on our Broncos! Merits will be awarded for those who attend. Please let us know if you are attending.

REGULAR GAME SEASON

See Game Day Schedule provided for details. Attendance is required.

PLAYOFFS

Attendance is not required at playoff games but is encouraged under parent supervision as a social event to cheer on our Broncos!! No half-time performances will be done, but you can cheer on the sidelines with your Pony uniform. Merits will be awarded for those who attend. Please let us know if you are attending.

October 29th ***Subject to change.

November 5th ***Subject to change.

SUPERBOWL

Please keep this date open on your calendar. If ANY of our Bronco teams make it to the Superbowl, attendance will be optional, but strongly encouraged . LET'S GO BRONCOS!!!!

November 13th – Klein High School

COMPETITION

COMPETITION YEARBOOK

Each girl will receive a free AAYFDT yearbook on competition day. Family members have the option to purchase black/white ads in the form of $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ or full pages as well as Pony EXPRESSIONS to include in it. The girls love to see their photos and “good luck” wishes or messages of encouragement in print.

SHOWOFF EVENT

Showoff day is an opportunity to showcase the competition dances in a dress rehearsal type performance for friends and family members. Attendance is required.

COMPETITION

Competition is the culmination of the season where the girls get the opportunity to wear unique costumes and perform their dance/s for the judges. Attendance is required. Trophies are awarded for the top team performances.

November 12th – Klein Oak High School – ticket prices for attendance by friends & family:



Conduct

The mission of the All American Youth Football and Drill Team (AAYFDT) is to provide a safe, fun learning environment for the youth of our community. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for authority figures (Directors, Coaches, and Game Officials). Our focus is on developing good life skills through the sports of football and cheerleading. The AAYFDT will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, or participants from any Parent, Participant, or Spectator. Spectators, as well as the participants and coaches, are expected to abide by the code of conduct described here at all AAYFDT events. While most of the adults and children in the program will abide by this code without being instructed, it is being published to protect the children, the integrity of our program, and emphasize the values of the AAYFDT.

Coaches Code of Conduct

As a Team Coach, you (through your actions and words) set the example for your participants, parents/guardians, and spectators. You set the tone and lead by example. Read the participants, spectators, and parents Code. Understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport. Actively

promote these Codes. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each participant above all other considerations, including the development of performance.

Ensure that each participant is correctly dressed with the necessary safety equipment (helmet, mouthpiece, pads, etc.) before being allowed to

play. Get treatment for an injured participant immediately. Co-operate fully with medical personnel in the best interest of the participant.

Never, either physically or mentally, push children beyond their abilities.

The game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well-being. Encourage

and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance. Never condone unacceptable behavior. Accept the

decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The

officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final. Always be prompt, courteous, and direct when

dealing with the League Officials, opposition Coaches, and Referees. Read the AAYFDT Official Rules of

Competition and assist your participants and parents in understanding them. All coaches

must be certified through USA Football.

Agree to a background screening of your application with regards to your suitability to work with children.

Athlete's Code of Conduct, I will

- Have fun!
- Arrive at all practices and games on time or provide an appropriate excuse beforehand.
- Be a good sport (win or lose), be honest and fair.
- Learn the value of commitment to the team; sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
- Show courtesy and respect to my teammates, opponents, coaches and officials.
- Know that athletic contests

are educational experiences.

- Give complete attention to the instructions of my coaches and league officials.
- Accept the fact that a violation of this code may result in my suspension or dismissal as a participant.

I Will Not:

- Use profanity, talk "trash", or taunt others before, during, or after any practice or game.
- Display any unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Criticize my teammates or participants from other teams.
- Act in any way that may incite spectators.

UIL/ NCAA Competition Penalties for unsportsmanlike behavior on the field are assessed by field referees; or coaches/Athletic Director if during a scrimmage or practice: If a participant is ejected during the

first half of a game, he will be eligible to play in the next game. If a participant is ejected during the second half of the game, he is not eligible to play in the first half of the next game, but will be eligible for the second half of the next game.

Parents Code of Conduct

As a parent or spectator, I will:

Support the coaches, participants, and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.

Support my child's team and help my child and the AAYFDT make athletic contests positive educational experiences.

Direct constructive criticism of my child's team program to a coach and/or club board member at an appropriate time, 24 hours after the incident. I will

work toward a positive result for all concerned.

Accept decisions of the game officials (including coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final.

Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times.

Emphasize that good athletes strive to be good students that are physically and mentally alert.

Strive to make every football/cheerleading activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health by being present to support the children.

Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance (including tobacco) on both the game and practice fields.

- Stay behind the designated spectator line during practices and games.

As a parent or spectator, I will not:

- Interfere/interrupt the coaching staff during games or practices.
- Criticize officials or coaches, direct abuse or use profane language toward them, or otherwise subvert their authority.
- Criticize an opposing team, its participants, coaches, or spectators by word of mouth, by gesture, or by deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Undermine, in work or deed, the authority of the coach or the AAYFDT.

Consequences of Behavior for

Parents/Spectators

At any AAYFDT event, practice, or competition, any adult or child who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude to, or does not control their language or actions with a participant, official,

coach, spectator, AAYFDT or booster club board member will be asked to leave the event. He or she will receive written warning, within 72 hours, regarding their behavior. If the spectator fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove the spectator.

*Any adult or child that commits a second similar offense will be banned from AAYFDT events for the remainder of that season. *Any adult or child that commits a third similar offense will be permanently banned from the AAYFDT.

****The offense count does not reset each year.**

*Any adult or child who physically assaults anyone will be subject to removal from the AAYFDT for one year. The AAYFDT will review and decide appropriate punishment based on evidence and testimony of witnesses. After one year, the parent may apply for reinstatement.

If the adult or child commits a second offense, he or she will be permanently banned from the AAYFDT. The term physical assault includes, but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking, or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.

The AAYFDT is committed to creating a positive and fun experience for our athletes and their families. We provide a safe and supportive community that fosters a lifelong love for football and dance and prepares our athletes to meet the challenges and

demands of participating in middle and high school teams. To ensure that each of our athletes has a positive experience, we have implemented an anti bullying policy applicable to athletes, volunteer staff, board members, officials and families/parents. We define bullying as any behavior-physical, emotional, verbal and written (by hand or electronically, including on social media apps)-that detrimentally targets another. In the rare cases of an athlete or parent showing

disrespect or defamation to any athlete, staff or parent during or outside of practice, games, performances or other AAYFDT event, a meeting will be called immediately to discuss the issue, and dismissal may be considered at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Physical, mental, emotional, or cyber bullying by athletes, staff, or parents will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the Booster Club.

By signing below, we (the participant's family) admit to have read, understand, accept, and

AAYFDT DRILL

agree to comply with the AAYFDT's Codes of Conduct and Expectations.

Participant's Name or Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

02.04.02.04 – DEFINITION OF TUMBLING & STUNTS Effective with the 2017 season, tumbling is allowed in the A.A.Y.F.D.T. Drill Team organization. Acceptable tumbling includes cartwheels, round-offs, and front/back walkovers. At least one limb should be always on the ground during tumbling with the exception of leaps & toe touch jumps. Limited exceptions may be given for front & back handsprings and accompanied with parental waivers. No aerials and back tucks will be permitted.

Stunts which require no base, and no spotter will be allowed. Examples include the scorpion, heel stretch, torch, etc. Stunts should be done on the ground, never on or using another dancer's body or prop. Additionally, stunts in routines should not involve lifts in any form and pyramids should only be thigh-high and include a spotter. Permission in writing must be obtained from the League Drill Director before applying any tumbling, stunts, and/or pyramids into competition choreography.

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In the rare case of an athlete or parent showing disrespect or defamation to any athlete, staff, or parent during practices, games, performances, or other AAYFDT event, a meeting will be called immediately to discuss the issue, and dismissal may be considered at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

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2022 Handbook Form

RULES AND REGULATIONS

It is the goal of the Drill Team Director, Coaches/Instructors and Team Mom to give the girls a very positive and fun environment.

We are dedicated to teaching the meaning of the word "team" and the importance of good sportsmanship. We enjoy our volunteer work, and our reward is realized as we watch the girls grow and build character so they can become a positive influence in our community.

We have positive incentives built in our program to reward the team accordingly.

We want to encourage lady-like behavior and full cooperation of each participant. We will use the guidelines outlined in this handbook to teach the girls responsibility and the advantage of being courteous and using good manners.

Cooperation and respect for the Director, Coaches/Instructors and Team Mom volunteers is a must. If disciplinary action is necessary, it will be discussed with the Director and/or Coach and handled fairly and consistently on a case-by-case basis. If inappropriate behavior continues, or worsens, the AAYFDT Board will be notified and the ultimate action will be in their discretion, including dismissal from the team.

I have read the handbook and understand the rules to follow.

Parent Signature

Drill Team Member Signature (Pony)

Date