

NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PAGEANTRY CONSTITUTION

2003-2004

Philosophy:

As a member of Northwood High School Pageantry you represent NHS and the Irvine Unified School District in everything you do, especially when in uniform. This commitment begins the day you make it onto pageantry and concludes June of the following school year. Throughout your commitment it is extremely important that you conduct yourself in a polite and respectful manner. You will be looked at as a leader within the school. Your actions and behavior will reflect directly upon Northwood High School and pageantry, so it is critical that you participate on pageantry with pride and honor.

Purpose:

1. To support Northwood High School
2. To promote and uphold school spirit
3. To serve the school and community through active participation.
4. To develop leadership qualities
5. To develop self-discipline and citizenship.
6. To perform at football games, competitions, and special events with pride, excellence, and a positive attitude.
7. To assist at school and community activities when requested
8. To uphold high moral and ethical standards

Qualifications for Membership:

1. Any interested 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade student who expresses a desire to tryout for pageantry must attend a mandatory parent/student meeting.
2. To be eligible to tryout, candidates must meet district eligibility requirements. A candidate must be currently enrolled in at least 25 semester units of work, maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average for the previous grading period. A candidate may use their probationary period in order to be eligible to tryout; however, no additional probationary period will be awarded for any activity including pageantry. There will be no exceptions.
3. Candidates must complete and turn in all required paperwork prior to the clinic in order to be eligible for tryouts. Required paperwork includes:
 1. Application with tryout fee
 2. Consent form
 3. Signed portion of Pageantry Constitution
 4. Copy of 1st semester report card
 5. Teacher Evaluations for current grades/citizenship
4. Although attendance is not required at the clinics, attendance will be taken to ensure the quality and consistency of the candidates. Although each candidate will decide whether or not to attend each clinic date, consistency and timely attendance is a reflection of the kind of person each candidate will be on pageantry.

5. Candidates will be judged based on the following criteria:
 - A. appearance
 - B. showmanship
 - C. flag techniques (tosses, spins, sweeps, and carves)
 - D. dance technique (timing, rhythm, coordination)
 - E. dance movements (jazz runs, chasses, etc.)
 - F. leaps (jetes, grande jetes, stag leaps)
 - G. turns (pirouettes, chaines, etc.)

6. The pageantry team size will be limited to a predetermined number. This is to ensure that pageantry is composed of only the best possible candidates. The predetermined number is a limit and may not necessarily be the actual number accepted onto pageantry. A natural break in points will be used in determining which scores will be accepted on the team.

Membership and Membership Responsibilities:

1. Members must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA with no failing grades or unsatisfactory citizenship marks for the duration of his/her commitment to pageantry. Grade checks will be made throughout the semester, specifically at each progress-reporting period. If a member receives less than a 2.0 GPA, has any failing grades, or has any unsatisfactory citizenship marks at any of the progress reporting periods prior to the 1st and 2nd semester grade reporting, such member will be placed on suspension until their grades are raised to meet these minimum marks. If a member fails to maintain a 2.0 GPA, has any failing grade, or receives an unsatisfactory citizenship mark on his/her 1st semester report card, said member will be dismissed from pageantry for the remainder of the school year. Members may use a probationary period (lasting one quarter) once during their high school career. This probationary period will hold the members position on the team but will not lift the suspension. Suspensions will only be lifted when written confirmation of satisfactory academic progress has been received.

2. Members must maintain satisfactory, if not exemplary citizenship. Disciplinary action will be taken if citizenship falters in regards to any of the articles listed below:
 - A. personal responsibility (i.e. arriving to practice and performances on time, making sure all requirements are met)
 - B. sense of service to the school and community
 - C. honesty and integrity
 - D. self-discipline (academics, interactions with others, reactions to others, etc.)
 - E. willingness to cooperate with both peers and authority figures
 - F. tolerance for others (especially differences between others and self)
 - G. respect for authority figures (including teachers, community members, and administrators)
 - H. loyalty to team, school, and community

3. Members must enroll in the appropriate pageantry physical education class during the entire term of service. If a member drops the class for any reason other than extreme distress (i.e. death in the family, major injury/illness, etc.), said member will be immediately dismissed from pageantry. Any outstanding debts will be posted to said member's school account and it will be the responsibility of said member to clear such debts. Any other monies paid will not be refunded.

4. Any member who resigns or is dismissed from pageantry will relinquish all participation privileges as well as forego any further refund of expense. This does not relieve any member from previously incurred financial obligations.
5. Members must not engage in any other extracurricular activity that will interfere with practices, activities, or events required by pageantry. Written advisor approval is needed prior to participation in any extracurricular activity. This written approval will remain in the individual member's file.
6. Members must not accept any employment position that will interfere with the fulfillment of required pageantry duties. If the advisor determines that employment of a member is interfering with the fulfillment of required pageantry duties, the advisor will call the parent/guardian of said member to discuss how the situation can be remedied. If no solution can be reached between such parent/guardian and advisor, said member will be automatically suspended from pageantry until written notice of work schedule change is given to the advisor and the advisor approves the new work schedule.
7. Members must participate in all required pageantry activities, including practice, competitions, and games as designated by the pageantry calendar. Such calendar will be issued one month in advance by the advisor to avoid any conflicts. Participation is defined as performance and/or physical activity, not solely as attendance. Failure to participate will result in disciplinary action.
8. All members of pageantry are required to compete in competitions unless injured (see Competitions section for more details). If injured, a doctor's written request for inactive participation must be given to the advisor as soon as possible. Failure to provide a doctor's written request within one week of the injury will result in disciplinary action. This written request will remain in said member's pageantry file. Inactive status means that the injured member wears the appropriate uniform, attends activities as usual, but does not engage in physical activity.
9. All members of pageantry are required to attend summer camp. The dates of the camp will be determined by the advisor. The cost of camp, including overnight lodging, food, and camp wear is approximately defined in the Financial Responsibilities section of the contract.
10. All members of pageantry are required to attend summer band camp at Northwood High School. The schedule for band camp will be issued to all new members at the mandatory parent/student meeting following tryouts.
11. All members are required to participate in mandatory fundraising activities. Participation in mandatory fundraising activities is not optional. Profit from individual fundraising (i.e. candy sales) will be credited directly into the member's account.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Each member must strive to cooperate with all members on the team, the advisor and any coaches (camp, clinic, choreography, etc.). A good attitude is just as important, if not more important, than any experience or expertise. A continuous negative attitude will result in disciplinary action.

2. Inappropriate and/or vulgar or profane language will not be tolerated at any time. Use of such language will result in disciplinary action.
3. Warnings are not required before enforcing rules. Each member's signature on the contract acknowledges an awareness and understanding of all policies contained herein. Failure to comply with these policies will result in the appropriate disciplinary action as determined by the coaches and advisor.
4. Members will not chew gum, wear unauthorized colors of nail polish, or wear any jewelry at any performance or activity. Members will not wear jewelry at practice to ensure safety. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.
5. Members must be in full uniform and be ready to begin by the predetermined time. Disciplinary action will result if any member fails to comply.
6. All members must refrain from talking to friends, attendants, and amongst themselves at all games and performances. Such behavior may result in disciplinary action.
7. In accordance with school and district policies, the consumption of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or any other narcotic will result in the immediate dismissal from pageantry. In addition, possession of weapons, whether actual or otherwise, will result in the immediate dismissal from pageantry.
8. Each member is expected to follow the rules and regulations set herein this section and all other sections of the constitution. Failure to follow the rules will result in disciplinary action.

Uniforms, Accessories, and Appearance:

1. Each member of pageantry is required to purchase all necessary uniforms, coordinating clothing, and accessories. Any member failing to be fitted for uniforms or order uniforms will be dismissed from the team.
2. The advisor and pageantry members in conjunction with the Northwood High School Dress Code will determine uniform standards and designs.
3. Uniforms are to be cleaned and neatly pressed before any activity, performance, game, or competition. There will be no substitution of any part of the uniform with unauthorized apparel without permission from the advisor. Uniforms are to be worn **only** for designated school activities and/or representation.
4. Hair must be pulled off of face, in a ponytail or variation thereof, on performance days, during games, competitions, and other designated activities. The advisor will determine compliance. Hair accessories for each game and/or activity will be determined by the advisor and team prior to said game and/or activity.
5. Under no circumstances will a member in uniform act in an embarrassing and/or easily misconstrued manner. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, excessive public displays of affection. Such actions are determined inappropriate by the advisor will result in disciplinary action. While in uniform, members of Northwood High School Pageantry must display pride for not only the school but also for him/herself.

6. No jewelry or unauthorized colors of nail polish are to be worn while in uniform.
7. All lost/stolen pageantry items must be purchased immediately.

Financial Responsibilities:

1. The following is an approximate estimate of financial responsibility for the commitment of one year. Please note that these costs are approximate. If estimated costs prove to be erroneous more than \$50.00 a letter will be sent out to the parents/legal guardians immediately.

Competition/Performance Uniform	Field Show	\$110.00
	gloves/hair piece	\$15.00
	Jazz Shoes	\$40.00
Competition/ Performance Uniform	Winter Guard	110.00*
Misc. Accessories	Practice pole and silk	\$30.00
	Warm-ups	\$120.00
	Sneaker Shoes	\$45.00*
	Camp Clothes (Day Uniform)	\$110.00*
	Bag	\$25.00
Other Fees/Costs	Summer Practices/Band Camp	\$100.00*
	Summer Camp	\$175.00*
	Transportation Fee	\$75.00*
	Monthly Assessment	\$25.00*
	<i>Approximate Total for 2003-2004</i>	\$1,155.00
	<i>(for new members)</i>	
	<i>* Returning members</i>	\$815.00*

2. In an effort to keep costs low, and the continued investment reasonable, the uniform designs chosen for 2002-2003 school year will continued to be used for the next several years.
3. Each member to pageantry is responsible for a mandatory \$25.00 monthly fee. This fee will cover coaching costs, choreography, entry into most competitions, and miscellaneous costs to necessary to run a quality program. This fee will be due in two semi-annual payments of \$100.00 each. The first installment will be due September 16, 2001. The last installment will be due January 6, 2002. Payments will cover the months of September through April.
4. Members will be responsible for the payment of all required items in a timely manner. The parent/legal guardian prior to ordering any items must sign a financial obligation contract. If the agreed upon time frames for payment are not kept current, the member will be suspended from all pageantry activities until payments are brought up to date.
5. If any member owns any identical items, which are to be purchased, said member will not be required to repurchase the item unless he/she desires to do so.
6. Any member who resigns or is dismissed from pageantry will forego any further refund of expenses. Resignation or dismissal also does not relieve any member from any previously incurred financial obligations.

7. A financial report will be issued to the parent/legal guardians of each pageantry member at the conclusion of each school year. This will itemize total expenditures. Also, an individual account standing will be provided prior to tryouts the following year. This report will show current balance and notify the parents/guardians of any debt or credit that may be applied to the costs of the following year.

Performances and Activities:

1. Members must be in their assigned places, both in the stands and on the field, at the designated time.
2. Any member that arrives late to any scheduled game will face disciplinary action.
3. Any member that forgets a piece or part of their uniform will face disciplinary action.
4. Break-time is time for members to take care of personal necessities. Members must be back in their assigned positions at the designated time. If late, said member will face disciplinary action.
5. Members must not engage in conversation with themselves or spectators during a game, performance, or activity. Excessive conversation will result in disciplinary action which can include but is not limited to sitting out or suspension.
6. Members required to attend activities off campus must ride the bus or other designated transportation both to and from the activity. Should an alternate arrangement be necessary, written notification is required two days prior to the activity so that the advisor may obtain clearance from a school administrator.
7. Members who miss a scheduled activity must notify the advisor prior to non-attendance and follow up with a parent/legal guardian note regarding the absence. If a member is absent from school on the day of any activity, for any reason, said member will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity. If an absence is due to an illness, the illness must be reported to the advisor prior to the activity for the absence to be excused. Medical appointments, including doctor and dentist visits are not an excuse to miss any activity or performance.
8. Members must not eat, drink, or chew gum while performing or participating in any activity unless given specific permission from the advisor to do so.
9. Pageantry will be required to perform at all home football games. Schedules of games will be given to team members at the beginning of the season.

Practice:

1. Members are required to attend all scheduled practices. Practice is referred to as class time and after school practice. At times, emergency practice may be needed to remedy any adversities. All members are expected to attend so as to meet the needs of the team.
2. Any member that arrives late to any scheduled practice will face disciplinary actions. It is expected that when practice begins, you have already begun stretching. Arriving early to practice will ensure quality and consistency amongst all members.

3. Medical appointments, including doctor and dentist visits, are not an excuse to miss any practice. If ill, a member or a relative must notify the advisor prior to practice so as not to incur any disciplinary action.
4. Unexcused absences will result in non-participation in any activity for the week of the absence.
5. It is the responsibility of pageantry members to remain focused and attentive during practice. Members are expected to use their time wisely and to be cooperative and productive.
6. All jewelry must be removed before practice begins to ensure the safety of all members.
7. All scheduled practices will be on the pageantry calendar, which will be issued one month prior to all events.
8. The advisor will determine summer practices. The schedule for summer will be issued to all new members at the mandatory parent/student meeting following tryouts.

Competitions:

1. Participation in competition is required of all members of pageantry. Once a competition has been scheduled and the fees have been paid, said competition will not be canceled unless deemed necessary by the advisor. Cancellation of participation in a competition may be due to a number of reasons to include: injuries, illness, preparedness, etc.
2. Any member canceling out of a prepaid competition will be automatically dismissed from pageantry with the exception of members that are experiencing hardship (i.e. death in the family, major injury, etc.). The hardship will be examined by the advisor and the administrator representing pageantry as to whether or not this hardship qualifies as a legitimate excuse.
3. If a member cancels out of a prepaid competition unexcused, said member will be responsible for any nonrefundable fees previously paid by pageantry.
4. The advisor and members prior to the competition will determine appearance and hairstyle at all competitions.
5. When not in uniform at competitions, all members will dress in a uniform manner so as to look professional and neat.
6. Failure to bring any required piece of uniform to a competition or performance will result in suspension for one week following the performance.

Disciplinary Action:

1. Disciplinary action for violation of the rules and regulations stated within this constitution may result in any of the following:
 - A. extra duties (publicity, clean up, etc.)
 - B. detention
 - C. sitting out a performance/competition
 - D. suspension (member will not be able to practice with the team or participate in any events)
 - E. removal from the squad

2. All coaches, the advisor, and any administrator have the authority to enforce disciplinary action.
3. A “Three Strikes” Rule will be in effect for missed practices, performances, and competitions.
 - A. First unexcused absence-member will not participate in that week’s activities (performance, competition, etc.) If the unexcused absence is on a Friday, the member will not be eligible to participate until the next Friday.
 - B. Second unexcused absence-member will be suspended for two weeks. During that time the member will not be allowed to practice with or perform with the team. If the two-week suspension carries over into competition preparation, the member (at the discretion of the advisor) may not be allowed to compete.
 - C. Third unexcused absence-dismissal from Pageantry.
4. Unexcused absences are defined as non-attendance for reasons that are not considered acceptable. The following is a list of *unacceptable* excuses:
 - A. Doctor’s appointments **
 - B. School-run ski trips (or similar vacations)
 - C. Job obligations
 - D. Babysitting
 - E. Personal errands

** The practice schedule will be provided at least one month in advance and will be fairly consistent throughout the entire year. Doctor’s appointments are to be scheduled on days for which there is not practice. Exceptions will be made to this rule for specialist appointments at the discretion of the advisor.

5. All absences due to illness, family vacation, family crisis/emergency must be reported to the advisor as soon as reasonably possible.
6. Any member that is suspended from school for any reason will also be suspended from the team. The duration of the suspension from pageantry will be in accordance with the Athletic Code (duration of school suspension *plus* one contest activity).
7. Any member that receives two suspensions within the same academic year will immediately be dismissed from pageantry.