



***Extracurricular Handbook***  
2021-2022

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# Preface

## Extracurricular Mission

The mission of Silsbee Independent School District is to provide all students an opportunity to participate in a highly competitive and comprehensive extracurricular program that will enhance learning through excellence, while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. Silsbee ISD offers a well-balanced, comprehensive extracurricular program consisting of, band, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, choir, color guard, cross country, football, golf, powerlifting, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, UIL academics, and volleyball are offered. This handbook has been designed to aid the coach/sponsor, students and parents in the knowledge of policies and procedures of the extracurricular program in Silsbee ISD, which will help us maintain this level of prestige among other districts. Each coach/sponsor is responsible for following the guideline handbook.

## Extracurricular Code

Students selected to a Silsbee ISD extracurricular team must recognize this distinction as an honor and privilege, and must be held accountable to a greater standard than that of the general school population. The students involved in extracurricular activities are recognized as representatives of the individual school as well as the district, and as such, must demonstrate the highest levels of character and behavior. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director and each coach/sponsor to ensure this high level of expectation. Coaches/sponsors must monitor the character and behavior of team members in and out of season, in and out of uniform, and on and off campus. The inordinate amount of time coaches/sponsors spend in various curricular and co-curricular activities provides a unique opportunity to observe, assist, and intercede to help the students make good decisions. Silsbee ISD supports education and awareness training on adolescent chemical use issues, including chemical dependency, substance abuse and special issues affecting district student athletes in a helpful, non-punitive way.

# Silsbee ISD Extracurricular Handbook Acknowledgement

- I have read and understand the requirements of this extracurricular handbook.
- I understand that I am expected to perform according to this handbook and that there may be sanctions or penalties if I do not.
- I understand that student athletes may be assigned extra conditioning, suspended, or removed from athletics for not following rules and expectations set forth by Silsbee ISD.
- I understand that my child’s participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right, and that my child will be held to higher standards of behavior and performance in and out of school
- I understand that Silsbee ISD can remove spectators from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.
- I understand that Silsbee ISD is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. The school district can be and will be punished for actions of patrons in violation of UIL standards and rules.

Student/Athlete Name (printed)\_\_\_\_\_

Student/Athlete Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Silsbee ISD Student Consent and Parent Authorization Mandatory Random Drug Testing

*Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the Silsbee ISD Drug-Testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.*

***Parent Signature and Date***

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***Student Signature and Date***

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# Silsbee ISD Administration

**Silsbee ISD Central Office**..... 409-980-7800  
415 Highway 327 West, Silsbee, TX 77656  
Dr. Gregg Weiss, Superintendent  
Sherrie Thornhill, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Human Resources

**Special Education Services**..... 409-980-7800  
Dr. Vicki Brantley, Director

**Health Services**..... 409-980-7800  
Michelle Hardy, Director

**Child Nutrition Services** ..... 409-980-7800  
Bernardo Koremblum, Director

**Transportation Department**..... 409-385-5610  
1275 Highway 327 West, Silsbee TX 77656  
Michael Tomas, Director

**Athletic Department** ..... 409-980-7800  
1575 Highway 96 North, Silsbee, TX 77656  
Randy Smith, Athletic Director

# Silsbee ISD Board of Trustees

- Janis Holt, President**
- Tom Hardy, Vice President**
- Darrell Ferguson, Secretary**
- Dana Hancock**
- Kenneth Rulon**
- Cynthia Smith**
- Sherrie Taylor**



## Principals

<b>High School</b> .....	Scott Schwartz
<b>Middle School</b> .....	Sharri Diggles
<b>Elementary</b> .....	Dr. Gerald Chandler
<b>Primary</b> .....	Tiffany Horton

## Program Directors/Coordinators

<b>Athletic Director</b> .....	Randy Smith
<b>Head Band Director/Color Guard</b> .....	Todd Patterson
<b>Silsbee High School Cheer</b> .....	Haley Morgan
<b>High School Choir</b> .....	Kathryn McKeegan
<b>High School Drama Club</b> .....	Jennifer Welch
<b>Tigerettes Drill Team</b> .....	Maggie Hawk
<b>High School FFA Sponsor</b> .....	Elizabeth Green

# SECTION I: EXTRACURRICULAR

## Extracurricular Departmental Objectives

The Directors of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are dedicated to Silsbee ISD being recognized as a premier extracurricular program in the state of Texas. In order to obtain this extraordinary level of competence in an incredibly competitive area, each person within the extracurricular program must demand excellence of himself/herself, as well as each individual for whom he/she is responsible.

Therefore, the Directors of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are firmly committed to the following general objectives, which must be present in each activity and on every level, in order to continue in the pursuit of excellence for which our community has grown to expect.

- Increasing participation in all activities
- Including as many activities as possible to meet the needs of the students
- Providing adequate and equitable funding for all programs
- Affording all students the opportunity to try out for all activities
- Treating all students, parents, coaches/sponsors, district employees, opponents, and community supporters with dignity and respect
- Recruiting and hiring the best coaches/sponsors possible
- Encouraging continual development of coaches/sponsors
- Exhibiting outstanding sportsmanship in victory and defeat
- Developing lifelong skills needed in a competitive society
- Stressing the importance of excellence in the classroom, as well as in competition
- Fielding competitive teams in each category

## Extracurricular Eligibility (No Pass, No Play)

Students enrolled in extracurricular programs will be held to the University Interscholastic League “No Pass, No Play” standards. Grades shall be checked and monitored regularly, including the provision for students to use Grade Check reports at intervals specified by the coach or director/sponsor. At the end of each grading period the principal will publish the official Grade Report. A student failing a course will be ineligible to participate in accordance with current UIL eligibility guidelines, TEA & UIL Side by Side: Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities: [https:// www.uil-texas.org/files/tea-uil-side-by-side-15-16.pdf](https://www.uil-texas.org/files/tea-uil-side-by-side-15-16.pdf) .

## Advanced Courses Approved for the No Pass, No Play Exemption Policy

The following advanced courses have been approved for the No Pass, No Play Exemption Policy. [For further information, see policy FM(Local).] However, if a student receives below 70 in two or more of the designated courses, the student is not eligible for consideration to participate in UIL or non-UIL activities.

- Any AP Courses in any subject
- Any College/Dual Credit classes
- English 1 Pre-AP
- English 2 Pre-AP
- Algebra 1 Pre-AP
- Algebra 2 Pre-AP
- Geometry Pre-AP
- Biology 1 Pre-AP

- Chemistry 1 Pre-AP
- Physics Pre-AP Robotics 1 & 2
- Anatomy & Physiology Honors
- World Geography Pre-AP/Honors
- World History Pre-AP/Honors
- Economics Honors
- Government Honors
- Spanish 3 Honors
- Spanish 4 Honors
- Art 3 Honors
- Art 4 Honors
- Studio Art AP
- Accounting 2 Honors
- Computer Science 1 AP
- Computer Science 2 AP
- Multimedia Honors
- Pre-Calculus Pre-AP
- Scientific Research and Design
- Independent Study in Computer Science
- G/T Independent Study Mentorship I-IV

Any questions should be directed to school counselor or campus principal.

## Extracurricular Attendance Procedures

Students are not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities, including practices, while they are assigned to P.A.C.E.S. When a student completes the P.A.C.E.S. assignment, reinstatement into extracurricular activities will be determined by the coach/sponsor of the sport/activity.

A student absent from school may not play or participate on that day unless:

- He/she attends school for a half day;
- An acceptable parent or doctor's excuse is submitted;
- The student is involved in a school activity; and
- The students' time in DAEP (if applicable) is completed.

After the student meets one of the four above options, the student must also get signed approval from all of the following:

- Athletic Director (if participating in athletics)
- Team coach, sponsor or director
- Campus Principal

Students in ISS may receive the opportunity to practice and participate at the discretion of the principal.

Each coach, sponsor or director may establish attendance procedures in addition to those listed above. These procedures will be communicated in a timely manner to the parent and student.

## Extracurricular Practice Procedures

### Academic Eligibility

A student in grades 9-12 may participate in extracurricular activities on or off campus at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the cumulative number in state-approved courses:

1. Beginning the ninth grade year – must have been promoted from the eighth to the ninth.

2. Beginning the tenth grade year – must have at least 5 credits towards graduation.
3. Beginning the eleventh grade year – must have at least 10 credits towards graduation or during the preceding 12 months, he/she must have earned 5 credits.
4. Beginning the twelfth grade year – must have 15 credits towards graduation or during the preceding 12 months, he/she has earned 5 credits.

A student participating in University Interscholastic League (UIL) activities will be suspended from participation in games after a grading period in which the student received a grade lower than a 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class (other than an identified honors or advanced class). This suspension continues for three weeks. At the next grading period, the suspension will be removed after the student is passing all classes with a grade equal to or greater than 70.

### Participant requirements prior to first practice

- All academic eligibility requirements have been satisfied
- Completed physical examination form
- Completed emergency medical cards
- Completed all parent-student responsibility acknowledgement forms
- Fees paid (if any)

### Practice Procedures

- Practice sessions shall be scheduled so as to create a minimum amount of daily conflict with normal family activities and study time.
- Practice sessions should be well planned, and well structured.
- Coaches and sponsors should be the first to arrive and the last to leave the practice sessions. At no time are students to practice without supervision.
- All equipment used in practice sessions shall be returned to its proper storage location at the end of each practice. The practice area must be clean and secured.
- Practice with the team or organization while assigned to DAEP is prohibited.

### Early Dismissal of School or Emergency Closing

In the event there is a scheduled early dismissal of school, practices may be held if the principal has given permission.

### Extracurricular Conflicts with Other Activities

Students participating in more than one activity could possibly have conflicts from time to time. Please notify the coaches/sponsors as soon as the conflict arises. The following order will be used to help settle these conflicts:

- State
- Regional Events
- Area
- Bi-District
- District
- Non-District
- Scrimmages
- Practice

## Extracurricular Code of Conduct

A student involved in extracurricular activities in Silsbee ISD could be subject to disciplinary action if he/she commits violations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Misuse of technology, including use of the internet and social networks as follows:
  1. Send, post, or possess electronic messages that are obscene or sexually oriented, abusive, threatening, harassing or illegal
  2. Anything that would damage another's reputation, including cyberbullying and sexting, either on or off school property
- Falsification of a signature or information on any UIL required pre-participation form
- Theft or vandalism of any property
- Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct during the sport/activity season in which the student is involved including, but not limited to cheating, fighting, verbal abuse of officials, contestants, coaches or spectators, or foul language and obscene actions
- Acts of poor citizenship in the classroom or in the community, such as but not limited to disrespect of the teacher, the law, or other students
- Gambling in any form
- Violation of the dual participation policy
- Any act or acts deemed inappropriate in the Student Code of Conduct
- Conduct which requires placement in AEP or DAEP

## Fan/Parent Misconduct

Adults (fans, parents, etc.) who do not abide by the UIL's spirit of good sportsmanship will be subject to the following levels of discipline and/or sanction in order to protect the district from UIL discipline or sanction. The degree of the offense, past history, etc., are factors that come into the decision making process.

Any adults or non-SISD student fans that are ejected or reprimanded for unsportsmanlike behavior at any district event will be subject to the following sanctions:

- An ejection from an event, whether by a sports official or an administrator on duty, that results from unsportsmanlike behavior that is deemed not to pose a serious threat will result in a written reprimand and a two week ban from all Silsbee ISD sponsored events. If that individual is ejected again, then he/she will be sanctioned with an extended ban from all Silsbee ISD sponsored events for the remainder of the school year. If the subsequent ejection occurs 45 days after the second semester begins, the ban shall extend through the fall semester of the next school year.
- Ejections resulting from cursing, threatening, physical contact, or berating of students, coaches or sponsors, will result in the person being banned from all Silsbee ISD sponsored events for the remainder of the school year. Should the issue arise 45 days after the second semester begins the adult will also be banned for the fall semester of the next school year. (The administration has the right to enact this ban for reasons not stated above if the actions of the adult are deemed serious and pose a threat to the safety of students and patrons at events.)
- Non-SISD students will be treated as if they were our own students.
- A Criminal Trespass Warning may be issued, if deemed necessary, for short-term bans.
- A Criminal Trespass Warning shall be issued in the event of an extended ban.

- An individual's first letter of reprimand will remain in effect through the remainder of the current school year and all of the following school year.
- An individual that has received an extended ban will be placed on a zero-tolerance thereafter and subject to an immediate extended ban.
- The process of appeal shall be through the existing disciplinary appeal or complaint processes.
- Employees that are sanctioned under this policy may also face additional disciplinary action according to the Employee Code of Conduct.

## Disorderly Conduct

Chapter 42, Section 42.01 of the Texas Penal Code addresses disorderly conduct in a public place in the following manner:

- A person commits an offense if he intentionally or knowingly:
  - Uses abusive, indecent, profane or vulgar language in a public place, and the language by its very utterance tends to incite an immediate breach of the peace;
  - Makes an offensive gesture or display in a public place, and the gesture or display tends to incite an immediate breach of the peace;
  - Creates, by chemical means, a noxious and unreasonable odor in a public place;
  - Abuses or threatens a person in a public place in an obviously offensive manner;
  - Makes unreasonable noise in a public place
  - Fights with another in a public place.

An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor unless committed under Subsection (a) (9) or (a) (10), in which event it is a Class B misdemeanor

## Extracurricular Mandatory Random Drug Testing Policy

Silsbee ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7-12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a vehicle on school property. A student participating in these activities or requesting a parking permit shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. Students covered under the Mandatory Drug Testing Program include all students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities (UIL and non-UIL), clubs, and any student driving on campus or requesting a parking permit. Random tests shall be conducted on as many as six dates throughout the school year.

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.

## Refusal To Test or Tampering

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

## Confirmation of Positive Results

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the District shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity, as applicable, to review the test results and discuss consequences. The principal shall chair the meeting. The student or parent shall have three school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result. However, appropriate consequences shall begin immediately following the meeting with the parent or guardian.

## Retesting

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or have a parking permit reinstated after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result; following that, the student shall be retested on the next three random test dates so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities or park a vehicle on school property.

The student shall be required to submit to retesting after any applicable consequences on three consecutive random testing dates as determined by the District for a period of one calendar year from the date of the initial positive test. In the event the student test positive in the proceeding school year, the consequence will start over on the next offense.

***Parents and students must sign the release form granting consent for random drug testing before the student may participate.***

## Consequences

A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. First, second, and third offense consequences listed below will start over at the beginning of each school year.

NOTE: Nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct.

**FIRST OFFENSE:** Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended for 15 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also complete four hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**SECOND OFFENSE:** Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended for 30 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also

complete four hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES:** Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended for 365 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a third or subsequent offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also complete eight hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

## Appeals

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG (LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities or reinstatement of parking privileges while the appeal is pending.

[For further information, see policy FNF (LOCAL).]

In addition to the above prohibitions, no student shall inhale, ingest, apply, use, or possess an abusable glue, aerosol paint, or substance containing a volatile chemical with intent to inhale, ingest, apply, or use any of these in a manner:

- Contrary to directions for use, cautions, or warnings appearing on a label of a container of the glue, paint, and/or substance.
- Designed to affect the central nervous system, create or induce a condition of intoxication, hallucination, or elation, or change, distort, or disturb the person's eyesight, thinking process, balance, or coordination.

Any violation involving drugs and/or alcohol will be handled in accordance to the SISD Student Code of Conduct and in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. The consequences for alcohol related offenses will be consistent with the Mandatory Drug Testing Policy. Subsection 37.006 requires that a district place into a DAEP a student who commits a felony or any of the specific misdemeanors on or within 300 feet of school property or while the student is attending a school sponsored or school related activity on or off school property.

*ANY STUDENT PLACED IN A DAEP or AEP FOR DISCIPLINE REASONS UNDER THIS SECTION IS INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS OR ANY OTHER SCHOOL SPONSORED OR SCHOOL RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR OR SOCIAL ACTIVITY. THE STUDENT IS INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ASPECT OF THAT PROGRAM UNTIL THE AEP or DAEP PLACEMENT IS COMPLETED.* (Example: One day of AEP completion would be at 2:20 p.m. or upon the end of the school day for that campus.)



## Communications and Social Media

Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of any organization. Each participant in extracurricular activities should be a leader within the school and should set a good example before the public at all times. Student participants are expected to set a good example for their classmates, be honest and truthful, show good sportsmanship, and show respect for the school, other team members, students, teachers, directors, and coaches at all times. Students engaging in inappropriate communications, including communications on social media, that do not uphold the standards and expectations of the Silsbee ISD extracurricular programs, may be subject to disciplinary actions by the coach, director, or sponsor. These actions may include benching from activities, practices, and competitions, and removal from teams or activities, at the discretion of the coach, director, or sponsor.

1. Only post information concerning coaches/sponsors/directors, players, and any other member of a team in a positive fashion. Any comments that are deemed degrading or inappropriate toward any member of a team will be dealt with according to individual case.
2. Anyone posting pictures in an inappropriate fashion will be dealt with serious consequences.
3. Only videos posted will be of games, practices, or other competition settings.
4. Students may not post to social media during any game, competition, or practice setting.
5. Absolutely no photos or videos in locker or changing room settings! No mobile devices are allowed in locker or changing rooms!
6. Any posts that depicts or implies bullying, violence, sexual harassment, hazing, under-age drinking, and possession/use/sale of illegal substances will be dealt with severe consequences.

Remember that what you put on social media is out there, and can't be taken back. Use discretion when putting your thoughts, photos, and videos out there for the world to see. It can impact your future!

## Grievances

Grievances against coaches, sponsors or directors must follow the proper chain of command before the grievance will be discussed. Approaching the coach, principal, or superintendent regarding a grievance at a school event or non-related school event will not be tolerated or allowed. An appointment with the appropriate school official must be made to discuss any grievance. The proper chain of command is:

1. Coach, Sponsor or Director
2. Principal
3. Superintendent or designee

[See Board Policy DBGA Local]

## Extracurricular Transportation Policy/Procedure

### School Sponsored Trips in General

Students who participate in school-sponsored trips shall be required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Exceptions may be made in the following circumstances:

1. A student in prekindergarten–grade 6 may be allowed to ride home with a parent or other adult designated by the parent on the approved pick-up list or if prior written request is submitted to the principal or designee.

2. A student in grades 7–12 may be allowed to ride home with a parent if the parent presents a written request to the coach or sponsor. A student shall only be permitted to ride home with another adult designated by the parent if approved by the principal or designee prior to the trip.

## In-State Overnight Trips

The superintendent shall have authority to approve in-state overnight trips by student organizations and other student groups.

## Out-of-State Trips

Any out-of-state trips by student organizations or other student groups shall require approval from the Silsbee ISD Board of Trustees.

## Travel Release Procedure

With coach, director or sponsor approval, students may be excused from riding from an event on school-authorized transportation. Extension of this privilege is at coach, director or sponsor discretion.

Parents/Guardians should make arrangements for their children to be picked up from the campus following after-hours activities. Coaches/sponsors will make sure that students and parents know times of events so that proper arrangements can be made to ensure that students are not waiting for extended amounts of time to be picked up following activities.

## Bus Procedure

- The buses need to be left clean and litter free.
- Athletes are not to wear any type of spiked shoes on the bus.
- The emergency door will only be used in case of emergency unless instructed otherwise by the driver.

## Extracurricular Traveling Procedure (Dress/Behavior)

- All students are expected to dress appropriately and neatly for all events when representing Silsbee Independent School District.
- All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the district in a positive manner
- All actions should not violate the Student Code of Conduct or Board policy.

## Injuries and Concussions

Students who suffer injuries or illness in connection with extracurricular activities must consult a doctor or trainer within 24 hours. If an injury or illness hinders or limits a student's performance and/or practice capabilities, that student will be required to provide doctor's note outlining the specific limitations. Injured athletes and participants are expected to attend all events and practices in accordance with their doctor's notes. A student with a concussion must follow the SISD/UIIL concussion policy until he or she is cleared to participate under the standards set forth by the SISD/UIIL concussion policy, to the same extent as if the extracurricular activity was an interscholastic athletic activity, under Board Policy FM (Legal).

## Letter Jacket Policy

1. ATHLETES
  - A. Must complete a varsity season in a sport
  - B. Must remain in good standing with the coach of that sport and his/her peers.
  - C. Must meet the guidelines set forth by the Head Coach and coordinating sponsor.
2. CHEER

Letter Jackets may be purchased in the spring if the member has

  - A. Completed one full cheer year on the varsity squad, and
  - B. The approval of the sponsor
  - C. Sophomores and up will only be eligible.
3. TIGERETTES (Drill Team)
  - A. Members/Managers must complete two full years on the team, and be in good standing.
  - B. Escorts must complete two full years on the team, and be in good standing.
  - C. Members that resigned or that were dismissed before completing the Spring Show of their second-year will NOT receive a Letter Jacket.
4. BAND
  - A. Must be enrolled in and participate fully in band for three (3) years, and be enrolled in band the fourth year with the intention of performing fully in band for their entire senior year.
  - B. Must participate in the UIL Solo and Ensemble competition for at least two of those three years.
  - C. The ONLY way a student can letter early is by being selected to perform in the All-State Band through the ATTSB or TMEA All-Region tryout process
5. COLOR GUARD
  - A. Must complete two full years in color guard
  - B. New members must participate in two UIL competitions
6. CHOIR
  - A. Must complete three (3) years (six semesters).
  - B. Must participate in one TMEA All-Region Choir audition and two UIL Solo and Ensemble auditions.
7. DRAMA
  - A. Participants in UIL One-Act Play as cast or crew during one school year are eligible to purchase a Letter Jacket.
  - B. Available UIL patches for UIL One-Act Play contest participants/crew will be purchased by the Theatre Arts Department for every contest attended that year.
8. FFA
  - A. Must qualify at a state event, or by winning Grand Champion at a Livestock Show, or Ag Mechanic Show.

For specific questions regarding the criteria to letter in an individual sport or organization, please contact the individual head coach, sponsor, or director.

## SECTION II: ATHLETICS

### Athletics Mission Statement

Athletics are a vastly important part of any educational process. Education and athletics are not separate from one another, but co-exist and enhance each other. Both must conform to the values and ethics of the school.

The athletes at our school are in a unique position. He or she is part of a team and must learn to work and function effectively with a wide variety of personalities. They will represent our school and community in very visible roles, and we will always encourage them to conduct themselves with character, poise, honesty, integrity and humility. They will learn that dedication, sacrifice, hard work, and perseverance are necessary in performing any task that will lead to the attainment of a valued goal or life objective.

The athletic program provides these activities based on the needs of participants. These activities promote the respect for rules and authority, opportunities for physical excellence, and an understanding of the value of cooperation and competition through practice and interscholastic games.

Individual sports in the athletic program will begin and end on the dates specified in the Constitution and Contest Rules of the University Interscholastic League. Winning within the spirit of the rules is of prime importance as an objective of the athletic program and necessitates that every participant understands and complies with the rules of the University Interscholastic League.

### Athletics Philosophy

In the Silsbee Independent School District, the program of competitive athletics should be comprehensive, diversified, and flexible to meet the individual needs, interests, and abilities of our athletes. It should comprise an integral and vital part of our district's total educational program. Whenever and wherever athletics are planned or played, it is mandatory that definite rules, regulations, and procedures be developed and implemented for the proper conduct of these activities. It is also essential that these procedures be commensurate with school district policies and in accordance with the accepted and established philosophy of education that prevails in the district. It is with full consideration and recognition of the important role that competitive athletics should have in the total school curriculum that this handbook has been developed.

The athletic department believes that each student should be given a fair chance to participate in competitive athletics according to his own individual and personal choices. However, we also believe that all athletes should be encouraged and motivated by coaches to participate in a variety of activities in accordance with their interests, needs and abilities.

There is no philosophy of "win at any cost" in the Silsbee Independent School District. This is not to mean that there is no emphasis put on winning. Winning is the American way of life, it is the measure of success in any endeavor. Athletics instills the desire to win, to attain personal goals which insure team effort, character, responsibility and TIGER PRIDE!

# Requirements for Participation

## Academic Eligibility

A student in grades 9-12 may participate in extracurricular activities on or off campus at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the cumulative number in state-approved courses:

5. Beginning the ninth grade year – must have been promoted from the eighth to the ninth.
6. Beginning the tenth grade year – must have at least 5 credits towards graduation.
7. Beginning the eleventh grade year – must have at least 10 credits towards graduation or during the preceding 12 months, he/she must have earned 5 credits.
8. Beginning the twelfth grade year – must have 15 credits towards graduation or during the preceding 12 months, he/she has earned 5 credits.

A student participating in University Interscholastic League (UIL) activities will be suspended from participation in games after a grading period in which the student received a grade lower than a 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class (other than an identified honors or advanced class). This suspension continues for three weeks. At the next grading period, the suspension will be removed after the student is passing all classes with a grade equal to or greater than 70.

## Athletic Department Forms Packet

This packet includes

1. UIL Acknowledgement of Rules,
2. General Information and Eligibility Rules,
3. UIL Parent and Student Agreement/Acknowledgement,
4. SISD Athletic Handbook,
5. Emergency Form,
6. Medical History Form, and
7. Physical Examination Form
8. Complete all Silsbee ISD online forms.

The packet should be filled out completely! Do not leave any requested information blank.

## Physical Examinations

**All athletes and participants** are required to get a physical every year.

All athletes must have a completed physical exam form on file before participating in the athletic program. The physical examination forms are available from the coaches or the Athletic Trainer.

## SISD Athletic Handbook

The student athlete and the parent/guardian should sign the Handbook Acknowledgement Form which is provided in the Athletic Department Forms Packet. This confirms receipt of the Extracurricular Handbook and acknowledges that the student athlete and parent/guardian will comply with the rules and policies in the Athletic Handbook.

# General Policies and Procedures

## Academic Requirements

All UIL and school board guidelines will be followed for academic and eligibility requirements.

## Assignments

A student that misses class due to extracurricular activities is expected to pick up work missed prior to leaving for the activity. The student will be expected to join class and participate in any assignment or activity upon returning.

## Attendance

Students are not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities, including practices, while they are assigned to P.A.C.E.S. When a student completes the P.A.C.E.S. assignment, reinstatement into extracurricular activities will be determined by the coach/sponsor of the sport/activity.

A student absent from school may not play or participate on that day unless:

- He/she attends school for a half day;
- An acceptable parent or doctor's excuse is submitted;
- The student is involved in a school activity; and
- The students' time in DAEP (if applicable) is completed.

After the student meets one of the four above options, the student must also get signed approval from all of the following:

- Athletic Director (if participating in athletics)
- Team coach, sponsor or director
- Campus Principal

Students in ISS may receive the opportunity to practice at the discretion of the principal.

Each coach, sponsor or director may establish attendance procedures in addition to those listed above. These procedures will be communicated in a timely manner to the parent and student.

## Awards

Requirements for lettering in all sports are as follows:

1. Must complete season in good standing as a member of the varsity team. The exception to this rule would be the athlete who is injured before fulfilling all the requirements and who in the judgment of the head coach, would have fulfilled all the requirements.
2. In the judgment of the head coach, the athlete has significantly contributed to the success of the varsity program.

## Citizenship

1. Athletes are expected to follow all rules and policies of the Silsbee I.S.D. at all school functions.
2. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner at all times.

## Club Sports

A club sport is a sports program outside the school that is not affiliated with U.I.L. athletics. We are very fortunate to live in a community where the high school can be the main focus. We feel our athletes' obligations are to their school team first. We will not excuse our athletes to miss a school contest or practice for a club event. If an athlete pursues club participation he/she must:

1. Contact all head coaches of sports at the school in which he/she is participating.
2. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on the squad as a starter, 2nd string, or even dismissal if a conflict occurs.

## Coaches' Rules

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sports. The rules pertaining to a particular sport must be explained in writing prior to their start of the season. The coach shall administer penalties for violation of team rules. Copies of all team rules will be kept on file in the Athletic Director's office.

## DAEP Assignments

Students are not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities, including practices, while they are assigned to P.A.C.E.S. When a student completes the P.A.C.E.S. assignment, reinstatement into extracurricular activities will be determined by the coach/sponsor of the sport/activity.

## Discipline

Any athlete refusing to accept punishment for any discipline problems may be dismissed from the athletic program and forfeit all athletic awards and recognition for the school year.

The use of alcohol, drugs, and felony offenses will be handled as follows:

1. Misdemeanor offenses with alcohol and drugs. First offense: Athlete will be given a three-game suspension. (Tournament games count as one game). Second offense: Athlete will be suspended for one calendar year from all sports.
2. Felony Offenses: See Silsbee ISD Code of Conduct.

## Dismissal from an Athletic Team or Program

An athlete may be suspended by the Athletic Director or the head coach of that sport for:

1. A serious violation of existing athletic or Silsbee ISD policies and rules.
2. An accumulation of minor violations of athletic or Silsbee ISD policies and rules.
3. Any student that is assigned to an athletic period, but is not participating in athletics, will be removed from the athletic period.
4. Any athlete who quits a sport will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the regular season of the sport the athlete quit is completed. Quitting will be defined as still being part of that team the Monday of the first contest. (The athletic program does not want to discourage students from attempting to practice in a sport. This will allow a student to practice and determine if they want to be a part of that sport without penalties being assessed.)

## Dress Code

Students must, at a minimum, follow the dress code established by the campus.

Coaches/sponsors have the right to enact more stringent dress codes.

## Equipment and Lockers Rooms

1. All equipment issued by the school to the athlete must be returned by the athlete at the conclusion of each sport.
2. All equipment that is lost or not returned will be paid for by the athlete.
3. Athletes are responsible to keep locker rooms clean and organized.
4. Vandalism or theft will not be tolerated at any time!

## Ejection/ and or Fighting

Any student athlete ejected from a contest will be disciplined according to UIL rules and may be removed from the team. All incidents will be reviewed by the Head Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal.

The UIL Legislative Council strengthened penalties for player ejections. Section 1208 (i) of the UIL C&CR now includes a minimum suspension for any player ejected from a contest.

Any participant who assaults an official will be suspended from participation for a minimum of two years. [Texas HB 2721: Assault of an Official]

**Football:** Ejected players miss the rest of the game from which they were ejected plus the first half of the next game.

In the instance of "targeting", the penalty will include disqualification, however, the disqualification will be for the remainder of the game only.

"Targeting" refers to when a player takes aim at an opponent for purposes of attacking with an apparent intent that goes beyond making a legal tackle or a legal block or playing the ball.

Instant Replay review does not apply, nor does an appeal to a national coordinator. The school district and/or UIL District Committees may apply additional disciplinary action in cases of "targeting".

**Other Sports:** Ejected player misses the rest of the game from which they were ejected plus all of the following game.

**Soccer Exception:** This section does not alter the current point penalty for soccer player ejections. Soccer will continue to use the point structure as required by NFHS soccer playing rules.

## Fans/Parents

UIL Parent Handbook can be found at

[http://www.uil texas.org/files/athletics/manuals/Parent\\_Info\\_Manual\\_15-16.pdf](http://www.uil texas.org/files/athletics/manuals/Parent_Info_Manual_15-16.pdf)

1. Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.
2. Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.



3. There is no such thing as a "right" to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a "privilege" and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct himself or herself accordingly.
4. Keep in mind that you are a guest of the school, and that while winning is certainly an admirable goal, it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and just plain common sense.
5. The school is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. The school district can be and will be punished for actions of patrons in violation of UIL standards and rules.

## Hazing

Hazing of students will not be tolerated. Students caught hazing may be removed from all extracurricular activities.

## Injuries

All injuries must be reported to the coach in charge of that sport in order to be treated and/or referred for further medical assistance. Injuries should be reported as soon as they occur.

## Insurance

Students who participate in athletic activities will be provided supplemental insurance purchased by the school district. This policy acts as a primary policy only if the athlete has no other form of insurance.

**Listed below are two (2) scenarios that parent and/or guardian may find themselves in when their child is hurt during an athletic event and must follow in order to qualify for our "excess" coverage.**

### Scenario 1

1. All injuries must be reported and documented by the coach of that sport and Athletic Trainer.
2. Injury must have resulted during a sanctioned practice or competition under the supervision of a coach.
3. Parents and/or guardian must fill out a claim form within 90 days of injury. Claim form must be mailed with supporting documentation to the insurance company.
4. A copy of the claim form must be kept on file with the Athletic Trainer.
5. This is secondary coverage. Please be aware that the "excess" coverage may not cover the entire remaining balance. Any balances due after the insurance companies have paid is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian.

### Scenario 2

1. All injuries must be reported and documented by coach of that sport and Athletic Trainer.
2. Injury must have resulted during a sanctioned practice or competition under the supervision of a coach.
3. Parents and/or guardian must fill out a claim form within 90 days of injury. Claim form must be mailed with supporting documentation to the insurance company.
4. A copy of the claim form must be kept on file with the Athletic Trainer.
5. Insurance company will become primary and pay on reasonable and customary charges (up to limits of policy) on any athletic-related injury. Please be aware that any remaining balances due after the insurance has paid is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian.

## ISS Assignments

In-School Suspension serves as a more severe consequence to inappropriate behavior. While attending ISS, a student is isolated from other students and monitored by a paraprofessional at all times. All class assignments will be completed in ISS or additional time may be assigned.

A student assigned to in-school suspension will become eligible for extracurricular activities, games, and performances when the period assigned to ISS ends, and at the conclusion of the school day (time of last bell). Students in ISS will still be permitted to practice and attend rehearsals.

An athlete assigned to in-school suspension will have his/her future participation in athletics reviewed by the coach, principal, and athletic director, and appropriate action (including extra conditioning or possible suspension from athletic contest) will be taken.

## Media Interviews

Student athletes at Silsbee ISD are expected to properly address and answer media questions with respect. It is the intent that all student athletes represent Silsbee ISD in these situations and to choose words accordingly. Student athletes are expected to be unselfish, handle criticism professionally, and portray the team in a prideful way, no matter the circumstances.

## Picking Up Students After Events

Parents/Guardians should make arrangements for their children to be picked up from the campus following after-hours activities. Coaches/sponsors will make sure that students and parents know times of events so that proper arrangements can be made to ensure that students are not waiting for extended amounts of time to be picked up following activities.

## Practice, Game and Team Guidelines

1. Athletes are expected to be at every practice and on time.
2. If practice is missed, athletes are expected to notify the coach of their sport in advance.
3. All absences from practice will be made up. (extra conditioning at the discretion of the head coach)
4. Athletes will travel to and from every athletic event with their team unless their parent/guardian has given consent for their child to ride home with them after that contest. This consent must be given to the coach in writing in charge of that team by the parent/guardian at the conclusion of that contest.

## Profanity

Profanity will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be taken.

## Quitting a Sport

1. It is expected of our student athletes that if he/she begins a sport, that sport will be completed by the student athlete.
2. If a student athlete begins a sport and then quits, participation in another sport will not be allowed until the season of the previous sport has ended (This includes practicing with the next sport.).
3. Grace Periods:

Seven (7) calendar days – for a sport that overlaps with another sport (i.e. basketball in-season in relationship to the beginning of soccer season)

Ten (10) calendar days – for a sport that is started and not “transferring” from a previous sport.

4. The athletic director and the head coaches of the sports involved will reserve the right to override this rule.

## Respect

Disrespect to coaches, teachers, or administrators will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be taken and could result in dismissal from the team.

## Showing Disrespect or Embarrassing Behavior While Representing School

Any disrespectful behavior or behavior that embarrasses the school in any fashion will not be tolerated when students are representing Silsbee ISD at any event. Students who are disrespectful or embarrass the school while representing the school will face consequences appropriate to their actions. Removal from extracurricular activities may be warranted.

## Social Media

Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of any organization. Each participant in extracurricular activities should be a leader within the school and should set a good example before the public at all times. Student participants are expected to set a good example for their classmates, be honest and truthful, show good sportsmanship, and show respect for the school, other team members, students, teachers, directors, and coaches at all times. Students engaging in inappropriate communications, including communications on social media, that do not uphold the standards and expectations of the Silsbee ISD extracurricular programs, may be subject to disciplinary actions by the coach, director, or sponsor. These actions may include benching from activities, practices, and competitions, and removal from teams or activities, at the discretion of the coach, director, or sponsor. Only post information concerning coaches/sponsors/directors, players, and any other member of a team in a positive fashion. Any comments that are deemed degrading or inappropriate toward any member of a team will be dealt with according to individual case.

1. Anyone posting pictures in an inappropriate fashion will be dealt with serious consequences.
2. Only videos posted will be of games, practices, or other competition settings.
3. Students may not post to social media during any game, competition, or practice setting.
4. Absolutely no photos or videos in locker or changing room settings! No mobile devices are allowed in locker or changing rooms!
5. Any posts that depicts or implies bullying, violence, sexual harassment, hazing, under-age drinking, and possession/use/sale of illegal substances will be dealt with severe consequences.

Remember that what you put on social media is out there, and can't be taken back. Use discretion when putting your thoughts, photos, and videos out there for the world to see. It can impact your future!

## Consequences

Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis according to severity of actions.

Potential consequences may include:

- Suspension from games or practices
- Extra conditioning
- Removal from the team
- Legal action

## Theft

Taking things that do not belong to you, especially from your teammates will not be tolerated. A player caught may be dismissed from the team. We ask that you do not bring valuables or large sums of money to the dressing room. **Lock your lockers at all times!**

## Tutorials

Students participating in extracurricular events will be required to attend tutorials if grades drop below 75 in any classes. They will attend the tutorials until the next grade reporting period (progress report or report card) and will only be released from tutorials if all grades are above 75.

## Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, Tobacco and E-Cigarettes

(Remember, these are the minimum consequences. Some extracurricular activities may have more stringent consequences than are listed here, including immediate removal from the team/club/organization/squad.)

### On Campus Possession/Use of Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, Tobacco and E-Cigarettes

Students are prohibited from possessing or using alcohol, illegal drugs, any type of tobacco product, electronic cigarette (e-cigarette), or any other electronic vaporizing device while on school property or while attending an off-campus school-related activity.

The district and its staff strictly enforce prohibitions against the use of all tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or any other electronic vaporizing device by students and all others on school property and at school-sponsored and school-related activities. [See the Student Code of Conduct and policies FNCD and GKA for more information.]

Students who possess or use alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco and vapes on campus or while at a school sponsored activity will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

### Off Campus Possession/Use of Alcohol

The use of alcohol will not be condoned. Students who are issued a citation for Minor in Possession, Driving While Intoxicated, or Under The Influence, while off campus and not at a school sponsored activity, at a minimum will receive:

1st Offense: Three-game suspension. (Tournaments count as one game).

2nd Offense: Removal from extracurricular activities for remainder of year.

3rd Offense: Removal from extracurricular activities for remainder of time on that campus.

Each case will be considered individually to determine if further consequences should be administered.

## Off Campus Possession/Use of Illegal Drugs

Students who are arrested or charged with possession or under the influence of an illegal drug, while off campus and not at a school sponsored activity, at a minimum will receive:

1st Offense: Three-game suspension. (Tournaments count as one game).

2nd Offense: Removal from extracurricular activities for remainder of year.

3rd Offense: Removal from extracurricular activities for remainder of time on that campus.

Each case will be considered individually to determine if further consequences should be administered.

## SECTION III: CHEER

### Purpose and Philosophy

The purpose of the Silsbee High School Cheerleaders is to promote school spirit and show support through cheering at and attending events, and improving athletic ability (i.e. stunting, tumbling). The purpose shall also be to develop character, leadership, self-discipline, sportsmanship and individual responsibility in each member, while maintaining high moral standard. It is the individual cheerleader's purpose to represent Silsbee High School in a manner that will reflect credit upon the school, as well as upon the members of this organization. Each member agrees to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this constitution.

The Silsbee High School Cheerleaders' goal and philosophy is to maintain an excellent level of performance while emphasizing, and setting, a higher standard for the student body at Silsbee High School. Cheerleaders represent the school and the program whether or not in uniform. Being a member of the cheer team is a privilege not a right. This privilege is subject to the rules and regulations set herein.

### Membership

Membership runs from tryout date to tryout date of the following school year. This is a full 12-month calendar.

Each cheerleader will give of his/her time to participate in required activities throughout the year. Cheerleading performances and practices must have priority over EVERYTHING except academic work.

Scheduling conflicts will include any sport or activity that requires the cheerleader to miss over half of the scheduled cheerleading practice on a regular basis. Cheerleaders are encouraged to participate in other school activities as long as there are no conflicts with their cheerleading responsibilities and prior arrangements are made with the sponsors (1 week in advance) of the activities involved. Cheerleading shall be considered the primary responsibility for the student. Participation in other activities must be subject to the constraints of the cheerleading program expectations.

NOTE: We do not have extra team members who will take the place of absent cheerleaders in stunts and formations; we do not have a bench of players like other sports. For safety reasons, especially when stunting, we cannot constantly change stunt groups to accommodate cheerleaders who miss practices and games. If a cheerleader misses a practice that cheerleader may not be included in any formation, stunt, pep rally routine or half-time that is learned during practice.

The Varsity squad will be comprised of a maximum of twenty (20) cheerleaders but not 20 spots required. Eligibility shall be limited to sophomore, junior and senior girls and/or boys who received the highest scores during the most recent cheerleader tryouts.

The Junior Varsity squad will be comprised of a maximum of twelve (12) cheerleaders. Eligibility shall be limited to freshmen, sophomore, and junior girls and/or boys who received the highest scores during the most recent cheerleader tryouts.

Varsity will cheer for all Varsity football games, Varsity Boys (home and away district) basketball games, other sports, and play-offs

Junior Varsity will cheer for home JV football games, Varsity Girls (home/district) basketball games, other sports, and play-offs

The Competition squad will be comprised of a maximum of twenty (20) JV and Varsity cheerleaders and up to three (3) alternates. However, if the coach and/ or administration decide that we are not fit or ready to compete, we will not do so. We do stunts, jumping, and tumbling. Each squad member must be in good physical condition. Competition squad will consist of the top cheerleaders from the JV and Varsity squad. Top cheerleaders consist of best attitudes, most dependable, and acquire skills suitable for competition level. This could lead to a try-out process for everyone if need be. It is up to the head coach whether or not a mascot will be used for competition.

All members are required to attend summer practice and cheerleading camp. Failing to attend camp will result in dismissal from the squad.

A candidate must uphold the skill level demonstrated (i.e. tumbling, jumps, etc.) at tryouts while striving for continuous improvement. Failure to uphold skills may result in consequences to be determined by the sponsor. Documented extenuating circumstances may be considered by the sponsors and administration.

## Academic Eligibility

All members must meet the state mandated "No pass/No play" requirements, TEC chapter 33, subchapter D, 33.081 to participate. Members must have and maintain an average of 70 in every subject at the end of each eligibility grading period to participate. Ineligible members will be placed on probation for 3 weeks. While on probation a member must attend all practices but is prohibited from participation in performances. Members may regain eligibility after three weeks if they are passing all subjects.

Any cheerleader who is ineligible any 2 consecutive nine weeks, in the same or a different subject, in one cheer calendar year will be dismissed from the squad for the remainder of the calendar year. This will not prevent a student from trying out for the cheerleading squad the following year.

NOTE: The only exception to this rule is if the failure occurs in a Pre-AP or AP class that is approved by the district. A list of these classes can be found in the SHS Student Handbook.

## Tardies & Attendance

### Tardies

#### EXCUSED TARDIES

An excused tardy is any UIL event and/or other school-related event approved by the sponsor that causes a cheerleader to be late to practice or a performance. Excused tardies would include splitting the time (half a cheer practice) while attending tutorials, school sponsored meetings, or other school related activities or sports. (Ex. Cheer practice is 3:30-5:00, Cross Country is 3:30-5:00, the cheerleader is expected to attend cheer practice from 3:30-4:15 or 4:15-5:00, equally giving 45 minutes to each) A cheerleader must personally, not through another person, notify the sponsor BEFORE he/she is going to be late to practice or a scheduled performance or the tardy will not be excused.

UNEXCUSED TARDIES = 1 unexcused absence

An unexcused tardy is anything deemed avoidable by the sponsor which causes a cheerleader to be late to practice or a performance. This includes, but is not limited, to wearing an incorrect uniform,

forgetting practice clothes, giving rides to other students, running errands, etc. A cheerleader is considered tardy if practice has begun when he/she has arrived or if it is later than the required time. Three (3) unexcused tardies will result in an unexcused absence.

#### PRACTICE

Cheerleaders must arrive ready at practice at the preset time. If the cheerleader is involved in any UIL event or school related activities or sports approved by the sponsor, the cheerleader will be counted tardy after the time split. (For example: Cheer practice is 3:30-5:00, Cross Country is 3:30-5:00, the cheerleader is expected to attend cheer practice from 3:30-4:15 or 4:15-5:00, the cheerleader attends Cross Country practice from 3:30-4:15, arrives at cheer practice at 4:20, the cheerleader will receive an unexcused tardy).

#### GAMES/EVENTS

Cheerleaders must arrive ready to cheer at the preset arrival time. Sometimes this will include a short practice before the game begins. Tardiness to a game will result in being benched for a portion of the game at the discretion of the sponsor.

### Attendance/Absences

#### PRACTICE/GAMES/EVENTS

If a student is absent more than once (1) practice within a week's time, they may not be able to be in their same spot or stunt group for the pep rally or game that week.

Cheerleaders must not have a record of excessive absences as mandated by State Guidelines and adopted by SISD (10% rule).

#### UNEXCUSED ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE

An unexcused absence is one in which the cheerleader does not notify the sponsor of the absence. An absence that is NOT deemed unavoidable by the sponsor will be considered unexcused. The 3 an unexcused absence.

Non-school sponsored activities, going out of town, an appointment, or working at a job will be considered as unexcused absence for a game, practice or squad activity.

Three (3) unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the squad.

Insubordination to the sponsors or staff will not be tolerated. Absences are a result of cheerleaders being told to leave practice or a game due to insubordination or any other reason are UNEXCUSED absences.

#### EXCUSED ABSENCE

Excused absences include illness with a doctor's note, UIL event, or school sponsored activity approved by the sponsor, family emergencies, religious holidays, and death in the family. Deaths in the family will be handled individually by the sponsor.

Doctor's appointments, hair appointments, Driver's Ed., should be made at a time when it does not conflict with practice or the cheerleading schedule.

Any absences due to medical reasons must be verified with a written Doctor's note. Stunts and routines suffer when even one squad member is absent.



In the event of an absence, in order to receive an excused absence, the member or parent must inform the sponsor of the absence and the reason for the absence prior to practice. A minimum of 24 hours notice is required for an absence to be considered excused unless it is an emergency situation. A written note from the parent must be presented to the sponsor within two days of the absence or the absence will be counted as unexcused. The note must include the cheerleader's name, date, reason for absence, and parent/guardian signature and phone number.

The member is responsible for obtaining any information that was given on the day of the absence. For example: it is the squad member's responsibility to find out what hairstyle and accessories have been decided on before the next event.

## Code of Behavior

The rules/regulations of the SHS Cheer Team Code of Behavior are meant to promote dedication and excellence not as a means to punish.

Warnings are not required before enforcing any rules. The member and his/her parent/guardian signatures on the constitution acknowledge an awareness, understanding, and acceptance of all policies contained herein.

Upon resignation or dismissal the former member loses all privileges of a Cheerleader and may not be a guest at Cheerleader functions.

3 tardies = 1 unexcused absence

3 unexcused absences = dismissal

Disciplinary action for any violation of the rules/regulations stated within this Code of Behavior, the Cheer Constitution, and/or the Student Code of Conduct may result in, but may not be limited to, one or more of the following:

## Demerits

After 10 demerits have been received, a member is dismissed from the squad for the remainder of the school year. This member will not be eligible to try out the following year.

### A. Attendance and Tardies

5 Unexcused absences from a performance or activity.

3 Unexcused absences from any practice.

2 Not notifying sponsor of an absence or early dismissal 24 hours prior

2 Unexcused tardy to any practice, performance, or activity. (more than five minutes)

2 Detention for tardies in other classes.

### B. Performance Behavior

2 Failure to wear the correct uniform or attire to a practice.

3 Failure to wear the correct uniform or attire to a performance or activity.

2 Lack of attention/participation during practice, performance, or activity (talking, laughing, and not standing at attention, etc.)

3 Not learning and/or knowing cheers, chants, or dances

- 2 Failure to return to the field/court on time after halftime
- 1 Chewing gum while leading cheers, eating or primping on sidelines (this includes practice)
- 2 Not following directions
- 3 Using cell phone during practice, performance, or activity.
- 3 Missing any part of the uniform (including shoes, poms, and megaphone) or wearing prohibited items  
(hair not up, no bow/wrong bow, wearing jewelry, colored nail polish, wrong bra, etc.)
- 2 untidy uniform (dirty, wrinkly, torn, etc.)
- 4 Failure of a 6 weeks

C. Misconduct

- 10 Any conduct resulting in an arrest by law officials.
- 10 Any disciplinary action resulting in assignment to PACES
- 9/10 Breaking the law. (MIP's, drinking alcohol or use of illegal drugs on or off school property, etc.)
- 8 Any disciplinary action resulting in suspension from school.
- 6 Inappropriate media (phone pictures/videos, facebook, twitter etc.)
- 5 Any disciplinary action that results in assignment to I.S.S. (In School Suspension)
- 4 Disrespectful conduct at any time (disrespect toward the sponsor, other cheerleader, or any other adult in a supervisory role). (In uniform or not) This includes inappropriate language.
- 3 Any offense that results in a detention (other than tardies)
- 3 Wearing uniform in public when not with the squad or sponsor without permission from sponsor.
- 2 Public display of affection out of uniform (includes inappropriate cuddling, long hugs, kissing, etc.)
- 4 Public display of affection in uniform

As a cheerleader accumulates Demerits, the following will occur:

- 3 Demerits: Written Warning from Cheer Sponsor
- 5 Demerits: Parent notification, Physical conditioning that does not count towards working off demerits.
- 8 Demerits: Parent meeting and Suspension (Length to be determined by administration and Sponsor) and Physical conditioning that does not count towards working off demerits.
- 10 Demerits: Parent meeting (with Cheer Sponsor, Cheerleader and Principal) and Removal from the Cheer Squad.

➔ If a cheerleader commits any offense while on probation, she/ he will not be allowed to work off those demerits. There will also be another week added.

➔ If a cheerleader fails any classes 2 consecutive nine weeks in a row, the cheerleader will be dismissed from the squad.

#### Merit Opportunity:

- 3 Straight 'A' report card
- 2 All A's and B's report card
- 3 Perfect Attendance for the nine weeks
- 1 Going to a school event that you are not required to be at
- 1-5 Special assignments by the coaches

#### How to work off Demerits

Upon receiving demerits, a cheerleader will have one week (7) days to work off a minimum of two demerits that she/he has received at that time. Once the 7 days are up, the demerits will become permanent.

It will be the cheerleader's responsibility to arrange for demerit removal by the way of merit opportunity.

\*\* If cheerleader receives demerits for more than one offense at one time, the demerits will be added up to determine how they will be worked off. If your total adds up to ten, you will complete the conditioning for 9 demerit offences if you do not have more than 2 permanent demerits. (This excludes offences that are automatically 10 demerits)\*\*

After dismissal from the squad, there will be no refund for uniform, camp, or any other related expenses.

NOTES: Electronic Media: Any behavior from electronic media that discredits any Silsbee team, its coaching staff, administration or school will result in disciplinary action to be proportional to the offense. The sponsors and administration reserves the right to determine the severity of punishment, which could range from reprimand to dismissal from the squad.

Dismissal: Any cheerleader dismissed from the squad may be allowed to tryout during the next school year's tryout period.

Resignation: This shall be defined as a choice made by a member who no longer desires to participate in the Cheerleader program. The resignation process involves a conference with the sponsor and a signed and dated letter of resignation from the member and his/her parent/guardian. All equipment must be returned and all financial obligations must be cleared at the time of resignation. Any cheerleader that resigns shall not be allowed to tryout until the following school year's tryout period. Financial obligations will be submitted to SHS and may be held against exemptions and/or graduation.

## SECTION IV: TIGERETTES DRILL/DANCE

### Purpose and Philosophy

The purpose of the Tigerettes Drill/Dance Team is to give qualified students an opportunity to participate in an extracurricular activity that will:

1. Promote school spirit and provide enjoyable activities for its members.
2. Develop proper dance skills, technique, and poise in multiple styles of dance.
3. Develop character, leadership, self-discipline, respect, responsibility, and sportsmanship.
4. Emphasize and set a higher standard for the student body at Silsbee High School.
5. Maintain a tradition of high standards in precision drill performance and moral character.

Tigerettes represent the school and organization at all times. It is the individual Tigerette's purpose to represent Silsbee High School in a manner that will reflect credit upon the school, as well as its members of this organization. Being a member of Tigerettes is a privilege, not a right. This privilege is subject to the rules and regulations set forth in this Constitution.

### Maintaining Membership

1. Membership runs from Spring Show date to Spring Show date of the following school year. This is a full 12-month calendar.
2. All members are required to attend summer practices and Line Camp.
3. Each Tigerette will give of his/her time to participate in required activities throughout the year. Tigerette practices and performances have priority over everything except academic work.
4. Prohibited scheduling conflicts include any sport or activity that requires the Tigerette to miss over half of the scheduled Tigerette practices on a regular basis. Tigerette line members are encouraged to participate in other school activities as long as 1) there are no conflicts with their Tigerette responsibilities and 2) prior arrangements are made with the director and sponsor of the activities involved. Tigerettes shall be considered the primary responsibility for the student. Participation in other activities must be subject to the constraints of the Tigerette organization's expectations.
5. Members will participate in all activities in which Tigerettes is involved. ***This includes all practices, performances, fundraisers, and activities.*** Schedules will be provided as early as possible. Due to inclement weather during athletic seasons, some games may be rescheduled. Attendance at the rescheduled games is mandatory.
6. All members are required to purchase dancewear, practice and game attire, and pay summer camp fees. Mandatory fundraising opportunities will be offered to help alleviate the cost of membership and provide funds used by the Tigerettes throughout the year. Members are required to make payments by the designated due dates.
7. Resignation shall be defined as a choice made by a member who no longer desires to participate in the Tigerette organization. The resignation process involves a conference with the Director and a signed and dated letter of resignation from the member and his/her parent/guardian. All equipment must be returned, and all financial obligations must be cleared at the time of resignation. Unresolved financial obligations or missing equipment will be submitted to SHS and may be held against exemptions and/or graduation.

## Standards of Conduct

1. All members must turn in a copy of their report card at the end of every grading period to verify a satisfactory or higher conduct mark in all classes. The director will sign off on them, make necessary copies, and return to members.
2. An N in conduct at any point in time will result in 5 accrued demerits. Two consecutive or nonconsecutive N's in conduct will result in 3-week probation and 10 accrued demerits will be issued.
3. If a member receives an N in conduct on their progress report, they must make improvements to bring it up by the end of the grading period. If a member receives an N in conduct on their report card, they must make improvements by the next 3 week grading period.
4. A U in conduct at any point in time will result in 3-week probation and 10 accrued demerits will be issued.
5. A member will be placed on probation for the first assignment of ISS in one year and 10 accrued demerits will be issued. A member will be immediately dismissed on the second assignment of ISS in one year.
6. A member will be immediately dismissed on the first assignment to SAC/PACES in one year.
7. Members who receive detention due to poor behavior will be issued 5 accrued demerits for each offense, up to 4 offenses.
8. Any Tigerette who obtains a total of 20 accrued demerits due to conduct will be dismissed from the Line. Behavioral dismissal *will* prevent a student from trying out for the Tigerette Drill/Dance Team the following year.
9. Any behavior from electronic media that discredits any Silsbee team, its coaching staff, administration, or school will result in disciplinary action to be proportional to the offense. The director and administration reserves the right to determine the severity of punishment, which could range from reprimand to dismissal from the squad.
10. While on behavioral probation, a member will be required to attend all practices and home games, but is prohibited from dressing out, traveling, or performing with the Tigerettes. Members may regain eligibility after three weeks if behavior has improved with verification of a progress report or report card. If not, members will remain on probation for the following three weeks.
11. In addition to the regulations listed above, if an officer is placed on probation for conduct, he/she will lose the privilege of their office – including all officer specified performance uniforms – for his/her 3-week probationary period. If conduct is cleared at 3 weeks, the officer may resume performances with the Line (in Line attire) for the following 3 weeks. It is not an option to not perform during this time. The officer may resume his/her duties with officer specified performance uniforms after conduct reaches satisfactory or higher at the end of their 6 week probationary period.
12. **Members are required to abide by all rules and regulations set forth in the Silsbee ISD handbook.** This includes regulations on issues such as social media, theft, smoking/drinking, possession and use of drugs/tobacco, truancy in any class, vandalism, profanity, insubordination, and any conduct in violation of school policy. Infractions in discipline will automatically result in demerits, probation, and/or removal from the team.

# Attendance

## Excused Tardies

1. An excused tardy is any UIL event and/or other school-related event approved by the director that causes a Tigerette to be late to practice or a performance. Excused tardies would include splitting the time (HALF a Tigerette practice) while attending **tutorials, school sponsored meetings, or other school related activities or sports**. Tigerettes attending tutorials will need a signed and dated note from the teacher to enter practice.
2. Tigerettes must personally notify their officer BEFORE he/she is going to be late to practice or a scheduled performance, or the tardy will not be excused.
3. Tigerette officers must personally notify the director BEFORE he/she is going to be late to practice or a scheduled performance, or the tardy will not be excused.

## Unexcused Tardies

1. An unexcused tardy is anything deemed **avoidable** by the director which causes a Tigerette to be late to practice or a performance. A Tigerette is considered tardy if practice has begun when he/she has arrived or if it is later than the required time. 3 unexcused tardies will result in the accumulation of **3 accrued demerits**.

## Absences

1. Attendance is required for all practices, rehearsals, performances, and meetings.
2. Tigerettes must personally notify their officer BEFORE he/she is going to miss a practice, rehearsal, or scheduled performance, or the absence will not be excused.
3. Tigerette officers must personally notify the director BEFORE he/she is going to miss a practice, rehearsal, or scheduled performance, or the absence will not be excused.
4. The absent Tigerette is responsible for obtaining any information from their assigned officer that was given while absent. For example, it is the individual member's responsibility to find out what hairstyle, attire, and accessories have been decided on before the next event. Failure to be prepared will result in demerits.
5. If a Tigerette is absent from more than one practice in a week, no matter excused or unexcused, he/she will be pulled from the performance that week.
6. If a Tigerette is absent on Band Day during football season, he/she will be pulled from the performance that week.
7. Per UIL rules, students must be in attendance through at least the state designated attendance period in order to **come to practice, travel to a game, or dress out for a performance** with the Tigerettes. *Students who are absent from school the entire day may **not** participate in any of the activities listed above.*
8. Tigerettes must not have a record of excessive absences as mandated by State Guidelines and adopted by SISD (10% rule).

## Excused Absences

1. Illness or medical reason to be verified with a doctor's note.
2. UIL event or school sponsored activity approved by the director.
3. Family emergencies to be verified with a note from the parent/guardian.
4. Religious holidays to be verified with a note from the parent/guardian.

5. Death in the family to be handled individually by the director.
6. Parent and doctors' notes must be presented to the director **within three days** of the absence, or the absence will be counted as unexcused. *The note must include the Tigerette's name, date, reason for absence, phone number, and signature.*

## Unexcused Absences

1. Avoidable absences, non-school sponsored activities, going out of town, vacation, or working at a job will be considered unexcused absences for a practice, rehearsal, performance, or game.
2. Dentist appointments, hair/nail appointments, Driver's Ed., etc. should be made at a time when it does not conflict with practice or the Tigerette schedule.
3. Absences as a result of Tigerettes being told to leave practice or a game due to insubordination or any other reason are unexcused.
4. Three unexcused absences will result in the accumulation of **6 accrued demerits**.
5. Absence from Line Camp due to any reason other than personal illness or a death in the family (with documentation) will result in immediate dismissal from the team.
6. Absence from Officer Camp due to any reason other than personal illness or a death in the family (with documentation) will result in the loss of elected office.

## Discipline and Demerits

Demerits are the means by which the director determines how members are not upholding their obligations to the Tigerettes. Demerits may be worked off or met with merits.

Demerits will be given to all Tigerette members, regardless of rank.

Records of each member's demerits are kept and maintained by the director. These records are not open records. To obtain demerit status, the Tigerette or parent/guardian of the Tigerette may ask the director at any time.

Members will be notified by the director of any demerits within 1 week of obtaining the demerit. The member will then have one week to "work off" the demerit, unless merits were previously obtained and can meet the demerit assigned.

Members must keep up with and turn in demerit slips to be handed in when worked off.

It is the responsibility of the Tigerette to work off assigned demerits in front of the director or captain. Any demerits that are not worked off within the week will become **accrued**.

If a Tigerette receives more than 5 demerits in one week, the remainder will automatically become **accrued**.

Accrued demerits **cannot** be worked off or met with merits.

The accumulation of 20 accrued demerits in one year results in dismissal from the team.

## General Demerit System

Demerits in regard to General Behavior and Responsibility

Offense	# of Demerits
Not wearing the assigned Tigerette attire to school	1
Failure to return items on time or bring items when told to do so (per day)	1
Using items that do not belong to you (per item)	1

Unladylike behavior as determined by the director	1-3
Failure to obey commands of an officer or instruction from the director	1-3
PDA: physical contact (other than hand holding or a hug) while in Tigerette attire, uniform, or on school property.	3
The use of disruptive or profane language, in person or on social media	3
Improper conduct in public after being warned	1-5
Starting or partaking in gossip	1-5
Knowingly lying to the director	3-5
*Assigned to detention (per assignment)	5
*One N in conduct on a progress report or report card	5
*Disciplinary referral from a teacher	5
*Misuse of electronic media that discredits a team member, the organization, or SHS in general.	1-10
*Disrespect (arguing, raising voice, rolling eyes, talking back) to director, officers, or teammates	1-10
*Insubordination (purposely going against something you've been asked to do)	1-10
*Two N's in conduct in the same grading period	10
*One U in a grading period	10
*ISS Assignment (per assignment)	10
*Failing a class at the end of a grading period	10
*Drinking, smoking, vaping, or use of illegal substances at any time	10-20
*Stealing and /or fighting on or off campus property	10-20
*Suspension, Expulsion, or placement in Alternative School (SAC/PACES)	20

#### Demerits in regard to Absences

<b>Offense</b>	<b># of demerits</b>
Failure to contact the officers and/or the director before tardy or absence	1
Unexcused tardy (no note) from any scheduled practice, game, or other required activity	1
Unexcused absence (no note) from any scheduled practice, game, or other required activity	2
*3 unexcused tardies	3
*3 unexcused absences	6

#### Demerits in regard to Games and Performances

<b>Offense</b>	<b># of demerits</b>
Failure to contact the officers and/or the director before tardy or absence	1
Unexcused tardy (no note) from any scheduled practice, game, or other required activity	1
Unexcused absence (no note) from any scheduled practice, game, or other required activity	2
*3 unexcused tardies	3
*3 unexcused absences	6

#### Demerits in regard to Practice

<b>Offense</b>	<b># of demerits</b>
Excessive talking or goofing off during practice	1
Chewing Gum	1
Wearing smart watches or any jewelry other than stud earrings	1
Wearing wrong practice attire on assigned day, including shoes and trim (per item)	1
Allowing a non-member in the dance room without permission (per time)	1
Not meeting weekly split requirements, beginning in August	1



Not having hair properly secured and out of face	1
Marking dance routine (per time)	1
Lack of participation with the team, including work-outs	1
Failure to fill a 1-gallon, insulated water jug before every practice	1
Having a dirty/unkept shelf, never taking items home, at each weekly shelf check	1
Having cell phone out or using a cell phone during practice without director's permission	1-3
Talking while director and/or officers are giving instruction, or talking while at attention	1-3
Failure to obey commands of an officer, or instruction from the director	1-3
Leaving or walking out of practice without permission	5

Demerits in regard to Officer Duties

<b>Offense</b>	<b># of demerits</b>
Failure to give merits or demerits (per offense)	1
Unnecessary criticism of a member	1-5
Abuse of authority	1-5
Failure to set a good example	1-5
Failure to meet responsibilities	1-5
Failure to fulfill duties	1-5

## SECTION V: BAND

### Silsbee High School Band

#### Marching Band

The Silsbee High School Marching Band is the most visual part of our band program. The Marching Band performs at all pep rallies, football games, and parades held throughout the year. Our drumline also performs at the home basketball games. Membership in the Marching Band is REQUIRED of all students enrolled in the band class, unless that particular student is also participating in another SCHOOL- SPONSORED activity that conflicts with marching band, and they have discussed this with Mr. Patterson prior to enrolling in band. In addition to the class period (8th period every day) the Marching Band rehearses on Monday and Tuesday from 3:45 to 6:00 p.m and Thursday from 3:45 to 6:30 p.m. We do not rehearse on Wednesdays in order to facilitate scheduling of **doctor's appointments, tutorials, church, and family time.** Please try to avoid scheduling any of these events during marching rehearsals - attendance at each marching rehearsal is mandatory. Marching Band students receive their P.E. credit through these rehearsals, with a maximum of ½ credit for each year of participation.

#### Symphonic Band

The SHS Symphonic Band is the main performing ensemble at Silsbee HS from the end of the Fall semester through the end of the Spring semester. The band class meets 8th period every day. This group performs at the annual Holiday and Spring Concerts, various other programs held throughout the year (Veterans' Day, etc.) and the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest. Various individual competitions are available to the students to advance their playing ability, such as the ATSSB All-Region Band Auditions, ATSSB All-Region Jazz Auditions, and the UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition. All students are encouraged to participate in these events. Band can serve as a 5 - point class for seniors, provided that the students meet certain extra criteria and complete all the requirements outlined in the *Band 4 Honors Criteria* handout, which is available upon request.

#### Jazz Ambassadors

This is the Silsbee High School Jazz Band. The Jazz Band class was created in an effort to get our students more involved in music and provide them with another way to explore their musical creativity. This class meets 5th period every day. The Jazz Band will perform at the Holiday and Spring Concerts as well as various other opportunities throughout the year. All students interested in Jazz Band must first be enrolled in the Symphonic Band Class.

#### Instrumental Applied Music

This class is open to all Silsbee Band students who are interested in advancing their musical abilities through individual study on their instrument, by learning music theory or composition, and through many other independent study projects. This class should not take the place of private lessons.

### Participation Expectations

A calendar of band events for the year has been provided at the end of this handbook in order to help you plan your family schedule for the 2019-2020 school year. The calendar includes all of the known performances, and as others become available, the calendar will be updated throughout the year. Each

band student is important to the success of our many activities. We MUST be able to count on 100% of our band members' attendance at ALL activities and performances. If a family emergency occurs, please call or email Mr. Patterson as soon as possible so that we may plan accordingly for our performances. We will try to be flexible and accommodate events that you may have planned, but these must be discussed with Mr. Patterson WELL in advance (preferably 3 weeks or more before the scheduled performance).

Students' job commitments and non-school-related sports or activities are not acceptable for an excused absence from band performances OR REHEARSALS!!! Rehearsals are similar to performances in that we must have 100% attendance so that we might have a productive rehearsal. It is difficult to rehearse things such as spacing in marching and balancing the band's sound when everyone is not there to do their part. Many students in the past have successfully balanced their work schedules so that they were at all our rehearsals and performances. If you would like, Mr. Patterson will be happy to talk to your employer to verify your band commitment and/or to work out any scheduling conflicts. Please also remember that simply telling Mr. Patterson about an absence does not make that an excused absence.

Any student that has two or more unexcused absences from after school marching rehearsals during the week will not be allowed to march at that week's football game. The student WILL, however, still be required to attend the game as fulfillment of their obligation, especially keeping in mind that each game is a graded performance.

## Rehearsal Expectations

In band rehearsals, not only do we deal with a creative process, but that process involves all the members of our band at the same time. This is why it is imperative that each band member be organized and prepared for every rehearsal. When an individual is not able to perform his/her part during rehearsal, it affects not only that individual, but THE ENTIRE GROUP. Students are expected to be present and on time (that means EARLY!) with their music, a pencil, their instrument in proper working condition, and any other accessories as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Director.

The creative process we are involved in cannot take place unless there is a quiet, attentive atmosphere in the Band Hall. Students who cannot remain quiet and attentive during rehearsals will be counseled, and if necessary, assigned disciplinary consequences or removed from band.

## Discipline/Demerits

This year we will adhere to a demerit system in order to discourage disruptive behavior. Demerits will be given by the Band Directors, the Color Guard Director, or Student Leaders. Student leaders may only issue demerits for finite infractions such as being late to rehearsal, not having materials, being out of uniform, etc. They may notify the Directors of undesired behavior that they observe and demerits may be issued from these reports as well, after the Director investigates these claims. Students will be issued ONE warning before they are issued a demerit. Demerits must be worked off each week, but a substantial amount of accrued demerits, or significant amount of repeat offenses may result in an office referral to the school. The manner in which demerits may be worked off are as follows:

1. First demerit – Run two consecutive laps around the band practice field
2. Second demerit – Run three consecutive laps around the band practice field and pick up trash left in the band section of the stands after that week's football game

3. Third demerit – Run three consecutive laps, pick up trash, and a one hour detention after school on the following Wednesday
4. Fourth demerit or more – all previous consequences, parent conference, benched for that week's performance, possible office referral

As mentioned before, students are expected to work off earned demerits the week they are assigned. If a student refuses to work off their earned demerits, an office referral will be issued for insubordination based on the student's unwillingness to comply with this policy. After football season, the demerit policy will continue, with the following changes: the number of laps run will be tripled, but will be run in the gym, and the trash pickup will be in the band hall on Friday after school.

Demerits may be issued for many infractions which include, but are not limited to, the following list:

1. Being late to practice
2. Not in position when called to attention
3. Not having instrument and/or charts and/or music
4. Disrespect
5. Not passing inspection on Fridays
6. Not hanging uniform up properly
7. Talking during practice
8. Unexcused absence from practice
9. Using cell phone or other non-related electronics in class or during outside practice
10. Horseplay

## Eligibility

The Silsbee High School Band must adhere to the rules and regulations for eligibility established by TEA, UIL, and Silsbee ISD. To be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities at the beginning of the school year, each student must have accumulated the appropriate number of credits toward graduation as outlined below:

- Beginning of 9-grade year: Promoted to 9-grade
- Beginning of 10-grade year: 5 or more credits toward graduation
- Beginning of 11-grade year: 10 or more credits toward graduation
- Beginning of 12-grade year: 15 or more credits toward graduation

The Silsbee High School Band and its staff will enforce all eligibility rules and regulations. Ineligible students will not travel with the band or participate in any extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular events are typically those that charge admission (football games, etc.) or those events that are adjudicated and the competing ensembles given ratings or awards for their participation (UIL Marching Contest, Pre-UIL Contest). Please note that the changes in 19 TAC, §76.1001, Extracurricular Activities, students are not held to the no-pass no-play rule by TEA and UIL any more, however, our district is still enforcing this policy. Students MUST remain academically eligible to perform in UIL events, including band contests and football games. Co-curricular events are those that are in compliance with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) that are set forth by the TEA, and are included in our band curriculum as graded assignments or graded performances (not adjudicated - graded as in each student receives a grade for participating). These events consist of, but are not limited to, the Holiday Concert, Spring Concert, and any other performance held here at our school for our parents or other students and that is free to the public. Ineligible students may participate in co-curricular events at the discretion of the director.

Our goal is for all students to be successful in ALL of their classes. If you ever need assistance with any class, please let the Director know. We can help arrange for peer tutoring, tutoring from a teacher, or in some cases we might be able to help. The Silsbee High School Band cannot be truly successful unless all of our students are passing all of their classes.

Students who become ineligible for three (3) consecutive grading checkpoints (report cards) may be placed on probation. If they do not become eligible by the subsequent (4th) grading check point, then they may be removed from band. Students wishing to re-enroll in band following dismissal from the program due to eligibility issues must bring documentation to the Director proving academic success (passing ALL subjects) during each grading period of the preceding semester for all classes. Students must also maintain a clean discipline record with the school. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the band program. This process is set up to help the academic progress of the individual student, as well as to maintain the integrity of the band program.

## Grading Policy

Grades in the Silsbee High School Band are assigned in two parts - participation and performance. All students must have all materials for each rehearsal and performance. If the student forgets their instrument, music, or pencil, then they cannot fully participate in the rehearsal. For each time the student forgets an item needed for rehearsal, points will be deducted from their participation grade, because they will either have to borrow equipment to participate, or they will receive an alternate assignment to earn their participation grade. If an alternate assignment is used, or if they are able to borrow equipment, whether it be music, an instrument, or anything else, their participation grade will be lowered accordingly and will not be full credit.

Students will receive a grade for each performance they attend and fully participate in. This includes all football games, pep rallies, contests, parades, and any other performance that the Silsbee High School Band participates in. Another part of the performance grade will be playing tests. There will be playing tests throughout the year, and the students will be graded on their performance based upon criteria such as, but not limited to, tone quality, intonation, rhythmic accuracy, note accuracy, and musicality.

## Band Uniforms

It is a privilege to wear the Silsbee High School Band Uniform. Make sure you have ALL parts of your uniform at each performance, and make sure they are clean. This uniform is a symbol of pride, and should be worn accordingly. You must wear all of the uniform, or none of the uniform! There are times, such as football games, when you will be allowed to take your jacket off, provided you have the CURRENT Silsbee HS Band shirt on underneath. No substitutions will be allowed. Black calf-length or longer socks are required. Ankle socks or "no-show" socks are NOT permitted. Black band shoes are required as well. We order these shoes at the beginning of each school year in a bulk order from one company to ensure uniformity of shoes. Black tennis shoes or regular dress shoes are not permitted.

Do not remove any material from the uniform if alterations are necessary. Transport your uniform to games, etc. in the garment bag which is provided to you. Plastic garbage bags or bags from the cleaners are not acceptable. Do not store your uniform in the garment bag, especially after games! This will promote mildew and will give your uniform a musty smell, which no amount of cleaning will remove. DO NOT attempt to wash or "Dryel" your uniform at home - they are taken to the cleaners at least twice each year. If you wish to take your uniform to the cleaners personally, you may do so, but please refer to the Uniform Cleaning Form at the end of the handbook. Always hang your uniform

properly - PANTS MUST BE FOLDED ON THE CREASE!!! Always store your hat in your hat box. Our pep rally uniform will be the current year's band shirt (tucked in, with a belt!) and jeans.

## Standards of Behavior and Off-Campus Travel Policies

Membership in the Silsbee HS Band is an honor and a privilege. Participation comes with a higher standard of behavior than the Silsbee ISD Student Code of Conduct and may condition membership or participation on adherence to those standards. Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property. Extracurricular behavioral standards shall not have the effect of discriminating on the basis of gender, race, color, disability, religion, ethnicity or national origin. Student's and parent's signature acknowledge they have read these behavioral standards and consent to them as a condition of participation in Silsbee HS Band programs.

Students who represent Silsbee ISD are expected to maintain very high standards in every respect at all times. They are expected to attend and be on time for all sessions and activities scheduled. In the event of overnight trips, they are expected to be in their rooms at the times designated by their sponsors. Each student will be responsible to one or more faculty sponsors who will supervise the activities of the student for the trip. Negligence in attending sessions, in meeting curfew requirements, or in failing to maintain our standards of conduct may make it necessary for the sponsor to send the student home at his/her own expense. Video/audio equipment is used for safety purposes to monitor student behavior on buses and campuses. Recordings shall be reviewed as needed by district personnel, and evidence of student misconduct shall be documented.

Self-discipline is the key element when representing Silsbee ISD off campus or when on a school-related trip. Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense, such as the use, possession of, or being under the influence of illicit drugs, tobacco, or alcohol, stealing, violence, going into the room of a member of the opposite sex, or other serious offenses will face disciplinary action which may include one or more of the following:

- The student will be sent home from the trip at the parents' expense.
- The student will be held liable for damages to property.
- The student may be removed from this school activity as well as other school co-curricular activities.
- The student may be placed in In-School-Suspension (ISS) or Alternative Education Placement.

Students' attire during school activities outside the school day should be in school dress code. While it is inevitable there will be differences of opinion regarding the appropriateness of a student's attire, the final decision lies with the directors. All adults on trips will serve as sponsors when traveling with a group. Students will be expected to treat them with respect at all times.

REMEMBER – Even though you will not always be wearing a shirt with a Silsbee logo, people will find out where you are from and what group you represent. You have the opportunity to make a tremendous name for Silsbee and for yourself. Be courteous and polite at all times. There is no way we can anticipate every possible scenario, so we ask for good judgment. Please use common sense. RULE OF THUMB: If there is any question in your mind as to whether you should do something or not...DON'T DO IT! It is better to be safe than sorry.

WE ARE CONFIDENT OF ALL SILSBEE BAND STUDENTS' CONDUCT AND THEIR ABILITY TO BE GOOD AMBASSADORS FOR SILSBEE ISD. IF WE ANTICIPATED A PROBLEM, WE WOULD NOT TRAVEL.



## SECTION VI: COLOR GUARD

The purpose of the Silsbee High School Color Guard is to promote school spirit and loyalty, to improve the quality of the band's performance, to encourage good sportsmanship, fellowship and unity between members of the guard, to develop leadership skills, to encourage high moral standards among color guard members, and perform to the best of their ability. All Silsbee High School Color Guard members are expected to accept these ideals and to conduct him/herself accordingly in this leadership role.

The director expects every color guard member to be present at every practice for every last minute (unless excused). This is how we ensure that we are in the best condition we can be for ourselves, school, band and for our community.

### General requirements

- Willingness to practice to be the best
- Attendance and participation at all pep rallies, games, practices, performances, community service, meetings, fundraisers, and competitions. These include ones that may be in other towns/counties.
- Maintain a 70% or above in all classes

### Academically

- Each color guard member must stay in good standing with all teachers. If a member receives a write up or a complaint from a teacher then the member will receive a demerit. The demerits can lead to suspension and/or dismissal from team.
- If a color guard member is staying after school for tutoring then that member must produce a note from that teacher stating that he/she was there and the time he/she arrived & left for the absence to be excused or a demerit can be issued.
- Color guard members work hard and practice many hours per week. It is the members' responsibility to stay organized and stay on task with their homework and/or school assignments. It is highly recommended to stay ahead with schoolwork!

### Socially

- Color guard members are expected to carry themselves in an appropriate manner at all times, in and out of uniform
- If a color guard member receives In-School Suspension (ISS) two times, the result will be removal from the guard. After the first ISS punishment, the member will be suspended for two performances (and demerits equal to) but must attend all performances/practices or there will be further consequences. Lunch detention will result in three demerits for offense; second equals three demerits and one performance suspension; third equals grounds for suspension
- If a member receives an assignment to PACES (district alternative education center) one time, the result will be removal from team.
- A Silsbee Color Guard member will not be permitted to use tobacco, alcohol, or any kind of unlawful intoxicants on or off campus while a member of this organization.
- Attitudes/arguments/bickering/complaining/blaming of any kind will not be tolerated at any band/color guard or school function. We are a team and failure to compose one's emotions and to lash out will result in demerits that could lead to suspension and/or dismissal



- If a color guard member quits the team or is dismissed, he/she will be ineligible to try-out the following year and be responsible for reimbursement of all funds he/she accepted through fundraising.
- A color guard member is not allowed to have inappropriate contact with a significant other while in uniform or wearing anything that represents the organization. A member also is not allowed to have inappropriate contact with significant other while at any color guard function (practice included). This includes, but not limited to anything other than brief one-armed side hugs. If a member is reported to having inappropriate behavior (which will be covered at initial meeting) by another member, supervising adult and/or teacher, then that member will receive a demerit that could lead to suspension and/or dismissal. If the behavior continues, then a parent meeting will be held. This is to be determined by the discretion of the director.
- A color guard member is not allowed to post any inappropriate pictures/videos with gestures, words, nudity, wardrobe, dancing and/or of intoxicants or tobacco on any social media network; this includes being tagged by family members that have posted inappropriate pictures of the member. This is to be determined by the discretion of the director.
- The Silsbee Color Guard member is to pose as a role model for those around him/her and to treat others with the upmost respect. If his/her actions are contrary to that or if any of the above items become a serious problem (to be determined by the director), the color guard member will be dismissed from the Silsbee Color Guard Team by the director. Insubordination and disrespectfulness will not be tolerated.
- The color guard member may be given privilege to the director and other guard members' private information that may include, but not limited to phone numbers, social media accounts, email addresses, etc. If for any reason a color guard member abuses this info with excessive phone calls and/or texting, inappropriate use of someone else's social media, or careless sharing of private info, then that color guard member will be given one warning resulting in a demerit. If the act occurs again, an automatic dismissal will occur. This is all at the discretion of the director. (This includes being irresponsible with any technology and anyone in general)

## Duties and By-Laws

1. Color guard members are required to perform and participate at all games, pep rallies, competitions, fundraisers, meetings, and practices.
2. All color guard members are required to ride the bus to away games and competitions. If a parent/guardian signs the member out with the director after the game then the member can ride home with his/her parent/guardian.
3. All color guard members must report to preparation time in the band hall or the distinguished area before each color guard function to get ready (this includes getting dressed in uniform and doing hair and makeup in the style that is required and set forth by the director). Color guard members are not allowed to leave the prep area without permission from the director. Friends are not allowed in the prep area without permission from the director.
4. All color guard members are required to take care of the equipment (flags, rifles, sabers, uniforms, and props) they are given and to treat it with care (it must stay in the condition it was given to you and it must be returned in that condition). They must also bring all required equipment to each practice and performance (this includes, but is not limited to, uniform, undergarments, field shoes, makeup, hair accessories, backpack, warm-up clothing, etc.). The member is responsible for his/her own equipment and the replacement of his/her equipment if it is damaged, lost, and/or stolen.

5. All color guard members that receive demerit laps are required to run off those demerits by the day before a required performance day (e.g., If we have a Friday football game, then all demerit laps will have to be ran by Thursday to be able to perform). Demerits are to be ran (not walked) before and after practice (not during unless given permission by the director) and director needs to be aware of the laps, and a demerit form needs to be filled out and turned in. \*see demerit form for details
6. All color guard members are required to attend color guard camp and band/marching camp (some exclusions apply, see frequency of meeting). To miss could result in dismissal
7. All color guard members must maintain a 70% average in classes .
8. Color guard members must give notice to director if he/she will be absent from a color guard function of any kind.
9. Any color guard member will be dismissed from team after three unexcused absences.
10. No jewelry of any kind is to be worn at practice or during a performance unless the director approves, this is for the safety of the guard member and for the safety to the equipment. Due to this no new piercings is allowed during color guard season because they can not be taken out.
11. All color guard members are to wear the proper clothing to practice (workout clothes that are school appropriate – fingertip length shorts, capris, T-shirts, dancewear, tank tops with two-inch wide straps, etc., no jeans or crop tops please). Hair is to be pulled back out of face (pony-tail, buns, braids, etc.)
12. No chewing gum at practice or during performances – it’s for safety!!
13. No un-natural hair colors during color guard season and no fake nails are to be worn, please. Clear nail polish is fine.
14. Any tattoos must be able to be covered (it may not go with the theme of the halftime show)
15. All members are to be in full uniform (hair, clothing, makeup) or that member will be required to sit out for that performance (this is at the discretion of the director)
16. As a color guard member you are expected to participate, show enthusiasm, and have willingness to work. We will go by a demerit system in order to ensure the items in the constitution and by-laws are upheld.
17. All color members are expected to “perform” at all functions as a unit from the time they are dressed to the time they are released (each member will be shown proper protocol for performance situations). They are to show their officers, teammates, band members, and any visitors respect at all times.
18. During any color guard functions, unless given permission from the director, a member is not to talk to anyone other than family members and/or band members until the regulated time (this is for your safety, the safety of your teammates, and the safety of the public).
19. After two full years of Silsbee Color Guard member service, a member will qualify for a letterman jacket. (New members will have to participate in two UIL competitions).
20. Color guard members can try-out for an officer position of if they have acquired one full year of Silsbee flag guard service at Silsbee ISD. They are required to choreograph a one-minute to one-minute 30 second song routine (to be approved by director) on their own (without professional help. This includes dance instructors, previous used choreography, or choreography that does not belong to the applicant). The performance has to include both dance and flag routine, but is not limited to just those genres. The results will be taken into account by judges with dance and color guard background. The officer positions will be taken into account. On several different factors, including small essay questions about leadership, the applicant’s resume, and a pro’s/con’s from the director about each applicant since the director

has had the most knowledgeable time spent working with each applicant. Just because an applicant will tryout for a certain position does not mean they will leave with that position. The judges have the right to place an applicant in another position if they feel it better suits the applicant based on all the results. If the officer(s) fails to uphold their duties then the directors holds the right to strip them of their positions and replace them with another.

## Selection Process

1. The selection of color guard members will be in February.
  - There will be clinicals (learn routines to try out to) starting Monday, February 4-13th 3:45-5:45pm at SHS band hall
  - Must have completed color guard application and submitted with all parent & applicant signatures before applicant can try-out.
  - Applicants must wear all dark colored athletic/dance wear (e.g., black or grey workout top or leotard with shorts, capris, leggings, yoga pants). Shorts must be school appropriate (finger tip length). T-shirts are fine, but they must be form fitting. Dance or athletic shoes, no flip-flops!
  - Hair and makeup (if applicable): ponytails, buns, braids (nice & neat, out of your face); makeup is to be worn, but stick to natural looking please.
  - Each color guard applicant will be given a school issued try-out flag and flagpole to try out with (this will be in top condition when issued and will be expected to be returned in the same condition or payment of reimbursement will be expected to replace equipment). Return of equipment is expected once try-outs are over or reimbursement is expected (see director for price list of equipment).
2. The membership fee's are due (\$395 estimated) in July, and a set date will be given at the parent meeting. As your director, I try to keep all fees to a minimum and do as much fundraising as possible. As a team, we will try to make it where the least amount as possible will come out of pocket for you all. That being said, with
3. The generosity of our community comes the responsibility of following through with what they are providing the funds for and taking care of anything purchased with those funds. If you accept the funds then you are accepting the role to fulfill what we are fundraising for.
  - If fundraising covers your membership fees then you are accepting that if you withdraw or are expelled from the Silsbee Color Guard Team, you are responsible for the reimbursement of all funds that were donated towards your fees.
  - All members are required to participate in fundraising.

## Absences

### Unexcused

1. Miss one practice/late one practice – three demerits (six laps)
2. Miss any mandatory performance (football game, pep rally, fundraiser, competition, exhibition, community service, etc.) – four demerits (eight laps) and sit out at next performance (but must show up dressed in uniform)
3. Miss or late to two practices – three demerits (six laps) and warning of dismissal
4. Miss any two mandatory performance (football game, pep rally, fundraiser, competition, exhibition, community service, etc.) – four demerits (eight laps), sit out at next performance (but must show up dressed in uniform), and warning of dismissal

5. Miss or late to three practices – grounds for dismissal
6. Miss any three mandatory performance (football game, pep rally, fundraiser, competition, exhibition, community service, etc.) – grounds for dismissal

Once a member receives three demerits for the same infraction, he/she could be put on probation that could lead to dismissal. Parents will be notified of demerits by members, then a parent note will be sent home by director once the third has been reached.

## Excused

Excused absences include two parent notes per semester, funerals (with documentation), tutorials (with documentation), other school sponsored activities (with documentation), and doctor's excuses.

## SECTION VII: CHOIR

Silsbee High School Choir consists of three performing groups

- Mixed Varsity
- Girls Choir
- Men's Ensemble

There are many opportunities to perform, some required, but some are optional. Every choir member is important and needs to be at all required rehearsals and concerts.

Students are not excused from rehearsals and concerts for their jobs. Ample notice is given to students to modify schedules.

If a student is not at a rehearsal or performance, there will be a makeup assignment.

### Uniforms

Students will need to purchase a choir t-shirt for informal concerts and to travel. Tshirt orders will only be placed at the beginning of the year. The school provides a formal uniform for formal concerts and competitions. Students will need black dress shoes (not sneakers or flip flops, not even Yellow Box, ladies). Men need to wear black socks with their black dress shoes (Elvis has left the building.) If you do not wear proper attire, you will not perform. You will not receive a grade and an alternate assignment required to replace the grade. Uniforms not turned in will result in having their exemptions being taken away in all classes for semester exams.

### Letter Jackets and Cords

Letter jackets can be earned after a completion of 3 years (6 semesters). They must also participate in 1 TMEA All Region Choir audition and 2 UIL Solo & Ensemble auditions. Graduation cords can be earned by making the TMEA All State Choir or advancing to TSSEC for 4 years and making the All Region Choir for all 4 years.

### Contest Policy

In order to participate in any UIL/TMEA contest, you must be a viable member of the SHS Choir organization. All competitions also fall under the UIL No Pass, No Play rules.

Students will not be able to travel without proper documentation and consent forms.

## SECTION VIII: DRAMA CLUB

The purpose of Silsbee High School Drama Club is the advancement of standards of excellence in the theatre. More specifically, the club encourages students to attain a better mastery of theatre arts.

Membership is given as recognition of meritorious work in theatre arts.

### Membership

1. All nominees for active membership shall be regularly enrolled as students of Silsbee High School.
2. All members must be enrolled in grades 9-12.
3. Final authority concerning membership requirements shall be vested in the club sponsor.
4. In order to maintain active membership, the fee of \$20 must have been paid.

### Officers

1. Silsbee High School Drama Club elects officers by a majority vote. Voting will be done by a secret written ballot.
2. At the time of election, students running for an officer position must be upperclassmen and passing all classes.
3. The Drama Club will elect a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer each school year.
4. If an officer does not fulfill his/her duties or does not participate in the club, that officer will meet with the club sponsor to discuss consequences or removal from office.
5. The duties of the club's sponsor will be to oversee all club activities, meetings, be the final authority in the selection of new members, and to be the guide and inspiration of the group.

### Duties of Officers

1. President
  - Preside at meetings
  - Vote only in case of a tie
  - Represent the club
  - Oversee other officer's assignments and duties
  - Plan social activities
  - Relay and report information to club sponsor
  - Motivate others at all events
  - Be available to attend all events
  - Perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office
2. Vice-President
  - Preside in the absence of the President
  - Assist President with meetings and social activity planning
  - Distribute club notes to students
  - Preside in the absence of the President
  - Be available to attend all events
  - Perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to this office
3. Secretary
  - Record the minutes of all meetings

- Keep a file of the club's records, including points sheet updates
  - Maintain a current roster of membership
  - Be available to attend all events
4. Treasurer
- Help sponsor with all money, dues, and accounts for the club including receipts and all duties that pertain to
    - the office
    - Keep a file of the club's records
    - Maintain a current roster of membership
    - Be available to attend all events

## Meeting and Attendance

1. Meetings shall be held as needed on Thursday mornings in the Theatre Arts room, room 121.
2. A quorum shall be 50 percent of the active membership and must include two officers.
3. Any member who is absent for six meetings per school year, unless they have an excuse deemed valid by the club's sponsor, shall be removed from the club. Any member who causes dissension, which would disrupt the workings of the club, productions, activities, or meetings shall be removed from the organization.

## Dues

1. The amount of dues or fees will be \$20.
2. In order to be considered a member of the club and to participate in all club activities dues must be paid by due date set by sponsor each year.

## SECTION IX: FFA

### Mission and Strategies

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

1. Develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
2. Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
5. Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.
6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of the community.
7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction.
8. Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
9. Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
10. Promotes healthy lifestyles.
11. Encourages excellence in scholarship.

### Organization

The Silsbee Chapter of FFA is a chartered local unit of the Texas Association of FFA, which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

This chapter accepts in full the provisions in the constitution, bylaws and policies of the Texas Association of FFA and the National FFA Organization and the policies and regulations of the Silsbee Independent School District.

### Officers

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Reporter
- Sentinel

Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the chapter. The teacher(s) of agriculture, food and natural resources shall be the FFA advisor(s). Chapter officers shall be elected annually by the members present at a regular meeting or called special meeting of the chapter. Procedures for electing officers and specific duties of each office are described in the bylaws of this chapter.

### Membership

Membership in this chapter shall be of four kinds: (1) Active; (2) Alumni; (3) Honorary and (4) Junior, as defined by the National and Texas FFA Constitutions and by Texas FFA Association membership policies.



The regular activities of this chapter shall be carried on by the active membership.

To be eligible for active membership in this chapter, a student must meet the membership eligibility requirements of the National FFA Organization and the Texas FFA Association. Active members in good standing may vote on all business brought before the chapter. An active member shall be considered in good standing when he or she:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture, food and natural resources course, as defined in Texas FFA Association membership policies, during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, food and natural resources career.
2. Shows an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pays all current local, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Displays conduct that are consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization, Texas FFA Association and with the school district's code of student conduct.
5. Meets all other local standards and requirements described in this chapter's bylaws and policies.

## Member Participation

Every FFA member should take advantage of the variety of activities that the FFA has to offer. Each different activity that an FFA member participates in will be worth one point. Participation also helps to determine who will get the Star Awards. Sign in sheets will be at each activity held. Please make sure you get your name on the sheet to receive credit. **Senior cords can be earned by earning 30 points in their FFA career.**

### Activities

- Chapter Meetings
- Community Service Activities
- LDE's- District, Area, State
- CDE's-District, Area, State
- District, Area, and State Convention
- Leadership Camps
- FFA Sponsored Events
- Fundraising Items- One point for every item sold

## FFA Dues

Dues are \$20 or free if you sell 20 fundraising items. The money will be due on October 3, 2020.

## FFA Jackets and Ties/ Scarves

FFA Jackets can be purchased for about \$65. All members are encouraged to purchase a FFA Jacket, especially if you have plans to compete on LDE or CDE teams. See your FFA Advisor for more details.

## FFA and Agriscience Department Code of Conduct

FFA Members should conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community, and family.

Requirements and expectations at school and during all school sponsored activities

### FFA Members Should

1. Communicate in an appropriate manner.
2. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
3. Respect the rights of others and their property.
4. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
5. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion as outlined in the Silsbee ISD Student Handbook.

### FFA Members Will Not

1. Be a part of robbery or theft.
2. Assault or vandalize people or their property.
3. Fight or be a part of a violent situation.
4. Use or have in their possession fireworks or firearms of any type.
5. Be a part of sexual harassment situations.
6. Use unethical practices to show or exhibit their projects.
7. Partake, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol beverages.
8. Partake, possess, or be under the influence of tobacco or tobacco related paraphernalia.
9. Partake, possess, or be under the influence of illegal substances.

### Consequences

Will be dealt with through school administration.

## FFA Degrees and Awards

Students who participate in FFA events and activities can be eligible for degrees and awards on the chapter, area, state, and national levels. Members interested in attaining these awards must complete required record books and applications, and other guidelines set by the National FFA. These guidelines can be found in the FFA Manual.

### FFA Degrees

- Discovery Degree
- Greenhand Degree
- Chapter Farmer Degree
- Lone Star Degree
- American Degree

### Star Awards

Outstanding members at each degree level are selected for the Star Awards on all FFA levels.

- Star Greenhand

- Star Chapter Farmer
- Star Lonestar
- Star American

## Scholarship Opportunities

\$2,000 - \$18,000

- San Antonio Livestock Show Program
- Houston Livestock Show Program
- National FFA Foundation
- Texas FFA Scholarships
- Ford Motor Company

## Proficiency Award Areas

The following awards can be given to students who excel in any of the following areas and who complete a record book and application:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| • Agricultural Communications                   | • Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production  |
| • Agricultural Education                        | • Food Science and Technology       |
| • Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication | • Forage Production                 |
| • Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems         | • Forest Management and Products    |
| • Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance | • Fruit Production                  |
| • Agricultural Processing                       | • Goat Production                   |
| • Agricultural Sales                            | • Grain Production                  |
| • Agricultural Services                         | • Home and/or Community Development |
| • Agriscience Research                          | • Landscape Management              |
| • Beef Production                               | • Nursery Operations                |
| • Dairy Production                              | • Outdoor Recreation                |
| • Diversified Agricultural Production           | • Poultry Production                |
| • Diversified Crop Production                   | • Sheep Production                  |
| • Diversified Horticulture Production           | • Small Animal Production and Care  |
| • Diversified Livestock Production              | • Specialty Animal Production       |
| • Emerging Agricultural Technology              | • Specialty Crop Production         |
| • Environmental Science and Natural Resources   | • Swine Production                  |
| • Equine Science                                | • Turf Grass Management             |
|   | • Vegetable Production              |
|   | • Veterinary Science                |