

Chapin Dance Team



**“THE CHAPIN GIRLS” DANCE TEAM
2020-21 AUDITION INFORMATION**

The Chapin Girls dance team program has gained respect throughout the dance team industry as one of the most successful and rewarding dance teams in the country. The Chapin Girls have won the highest award of “Camp Champion” with an invitation to perform at the Capital One Bowl for every year since 2011, are the eight time Southeast Regional Champions and seven time National Dance Champions. This prestigious group of dancers holds these championship titles while maintaining the highest of academic standards. In addition, the team has won Grand Champion at every regional championship this held this year.

There will be an information meeting for all parents of applicants on **March 4 at 6:30 pm in the CHS cafeteria.** This meeting will provide a more in depth description of our program and give you, the parent, the opportunity to ask questions and meet the coaches. Registration applications will be available at the meeting. This meeting is optional.

Please bring a recent photo of your child to attach to the registration form.

Auditions for the 2020-21 teams will take place in the **CHS cafeteria as follows:**

Jr. Chapin Dance Team (rising 5th/6th graders): March 9, 10, 11

CMS Chapin Dance Team (rising 7th/8th graders): March 18, 19, 20

JV and Varsity Chapin Dance Team (rising 9th - 12th grades): March 23, 24, 25

Attached, you will find additional information regarding audition workshops, team requirements, judging criteria and the team constitution. Should parents have further questions, please feel free to e-mail me at sheryl4dance2@aol.com . It is my desire that your time working with the Chapin Girls Dance Team, whether it is our workshops or a year, be a rewarding experience for you. I am seeking dedicated dancers who have a commitment to academics, their school and their community. The decision to audition for this prestigious team is an important one. I hope to meet your daughter soon!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sheryl Olecheck, Director

The Chapin Dance Teams

2020-21 CHAPIN DANCE TEAM
WORKSHOP & AUDITION INFORMATION

Audition Workshops

Applicants should wear dance attire or shorts and a t-shirt. If the applicant has jazz shoes, they should be worn for all workshops and auditions. Applicants are not expected to purchase jazz shoes unless they are chosen for the team. Tennis shoes are acceptable. Hair is to be worn in a high ponytail with bangs secured off of the face. No jewelry except small stud earrings for those with pierced ears. Applicants will be taught all dance material. Workshops are closed to the public. Parents should pick up their children in the front of the CHS cafeteria at the end of each session.

Auditions

The coaching staff and select dance adjudicators will be selecting the team on the last day of workshops. The list of those selected will be posted on the glass doors leading to the CHS cafeteria within one hour of the conclusion of the last workshop.

Judging Criteria

Each applicant will be adjudicated on the following criteria:

1. **Dance Technique (short jazz routine):** extension, posture, turnout, alignment, execution
2. **Dance Technique (Sidelines Pom routine):** strength of movement, alignment, extension
3. **Leaps/Turns:** technical execution, level of difficulty per team level
4. **Showmanship**
5. **Overall Impression:** confidence, stage presence, overall technique, potential

The decision of the selection of the teams is final.

Should your daughter be chosen for the team, you will be notified of the first parent meeting via email.

Financial requirements

Dance Team is not a district funded activity. We have acquired numerous sponsors for our dance team program and have continued future sponsorship interest from a variety of our community businesses and individuals. We have a very successful **Chapin Girls Dance Booster Club** which helps raise funds throughout the year.

ATTACH RECENT
PHOTO HERE

Chapin Dance



2020-21 Chapin Dance Team "CHAPIN GIRLS"

AUDITION APPLICATION

Bring this form along with the signed Contract to the parent meeting on March 4 or return to the Attendance office at **Chapin High School OR CIS, CMS** no later than the Friday Before the Team Auditions. (We will also accept at the door if necessary) Please email questions to chapingirls4dance@gmail.com.

Please check which team this applicant is auditioning for:

- Jr. Chapin Dance Team (rising 5th/6th graders) CMS Chapin Dance Team (rising 7th/8th graders)
- JV/Varsity Chapin Dance Team (rising 9th - 12th grades)

APPLICANT NAME: _____ CURRENT GRADE: ____ AGE: ____

ADDRESS: _____

MOTHERS NAME: _____ CELL PHONE #: _____

FATHERS NAME: _____ CELL PHONE #: _____

STUDENT CELL PHONE # (if applicable): _____

PARENT EMAIL: _____

STUDENT EMAIL(if applicable): _____

PLEASE LIST ANY CURRENT OR PAST DANCE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE: (Continue on back if needed) _____

PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICATIONS THE APPLICANT IS CURRENTLY TAKING: _____

PARENTS: Please initial the following:

I have read the information regarding auditions and participation on the Chapin Dance Team. ____ (initial)
I have read the Chapin Dance Team "Chapin Girl" Constitution and have signed the Contract . ____ (initial)



CHAPIN DANCE TEAM

"The Chapin Girls"

2020-2021 TEAM CONSTITUTION

Keep this copy for your records DO NOT return with application

I. STRUCTURE

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Chapin Girls Dance Team.
- B. The colors of the organization shall be Columbia blue, navy blue and white.
- C. The organization is an activity under the direction of the Chapin High School "Chapin Girls" dance team program, its coaches and the CHS administration.

II. OBJECTIVES

- A. To increase and develop character, leadership, self-worth, responsibility, community involvement, while exemplifying high moral character
- B. To promote school spirit and good sportsmanship
- C. To promote and represent the community of Chapin, SC
- D. To represent the District 5 School District and our high school at major athletic events, school functions, competitions and community activities, on and off campus
- E. To develop and maintain a high level of dance training in various areas of dance and styles of dance

III. AUDITIONS/ ELIGIBILITY

A. **Jr Chapin Dance Team:** all rising 5th and 6th graders. A rising 4th grader may be awarded a position at the annual Youth Dance Clinic. **CMS Chapin Dance Team** must be a rising 6th-8th grader. **JV Chapin High Dance Team:** must be rising 8th -11th grade. A rising 7th grader may be brought onto JV Chapin High Dance Team should she have the more advanced dance skills or be needed as an alternate. **Varsity Chapin Dance Team:** will be rising 8th-12th graders.

B. All applicants must be in good academic standing.

C. All prospective members must attend and participate in the audition process. The Director and school administration will handle, on an individual basis, circumstances presenting a prospective member from participating in the audition process.

D. Each student shall be adjudicated on the basis of dance ability and other related areas such as style, poise, projection, age appropriate maturity and knowledge of routine. All former members will also receive a score based on their attendance and participation from the previous year.

1. Prospective members may not audition without a completed application and signed constitution contract.

E. Current members of the dance team must audition each year.

1. The dance team year begins with the announcement of the new squad and ends with the following years audition process.

2. Any former member who quits during the previous season is not eligible to audition the following year unless excused for severe illness, injury, or family emergency by the Director.

F. Each member must be physically capable of enduring the strenuous activity of dance including but not limited to stretch/flexibility, strength and conditioning training, and fast dance choreography.

IV. MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

A. Grade Requirements

1. All members must maintain a strong academic standing.
2. Any member who cannot maintain a strong academic average will be put on academic probation until the next interim report is issued.

B. Conduct

1. It is expected that dance team members conduct in classes, hallways and anywhere on or off campus is an example of the highest moral expectations of this team.
2. All members are expected to follow all rules and policies of this constitution.
3. Any violation of the constitution may result in probation or termination from the team.
4. Probation will be determined by the Director of the dance team
5. Any violation that results in termination from the team will be at the discretion of the Director and CHS administration.
6. Any student who is suspended from school will be automatically terminated from the dance team.
7. Any member who is terminated from the dance team will not be eligible to audition for the team the following year.
8. Any member who has engaged in any form of vaping, smoking, drinking alcohol, illegal drugs or is a threat to the moral and ethical values of this team will be immediately terminated from the dance team.
9. Parents who are disruptive to the spirit, moral and positivity of the team will not be tolerated and risk their child being dismissed from the participation of the dance team program. This includes but is not limited to harassment of coaches, disregard for the signed constitution, harassment to dancers or their parents and misrepresentation of the program.

C. Social Media

1. **TEAM** Group Text messaging may be used as a means for sharing team information regarding practice attire, change of schedules, extra rehearsals, and motivation. The coaches will monitor the team group text.

2. Members may not, at any time, post vulgar or distasteful comments or pictures on any form of social media.

3. Coaches will be connected with members on Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat. All social media will be monitored by coaching staff.

V. DEMERIT SYSTEM

A. General

1. This organization will be governed by a demerit system. The system will begin with the first official meeting after auditions and will continue throughout the school year.

2. The Director/Coach may assign demerits to members and has the authority to adjust the amount of demerits according to the infraction and any reoccurrence thereafter.

3. Demerits may be assigned during school, at any school or dance team function on or off campus.

4. Each member will also have the ability to receive Merits to counter any demerits received.

B. Disciplinary Actions

1. Demerit *probation* is defined as the period when a member has accumulated more than 10 demerits.

2. This probation period will last 2 weeks.

3. While on probation, the member may not participate in events or performances.

4. At the acquisition of 20 demerits, the member will no longer be eligible to remain on the team.

C. Demerits

**** “excused” is defined as severe illness, injury, death in immediate family, family emergency.**

1. Unexcused absence from performance or required function without notification	10
2. Unexcused absence from performance or required function/practice w/ notification	5
3. Afterschool detention or lunch detention due to improper conduct/behavior in school	10
4. Leaving practice or event early without permission	5
5. Leaving practice or event early- excused	2
6. Showing disrespect to another member	5
7. Showing disrespect to an adult/parent/teacher	10
8. Improper rehearsal attire (incl hair not being pulled back)	1/item
9. Tardy to rehearsal (5 minutes) unexcused	1
10. Tardy to rehearsal (6-15 minutes) unexcused	2
11. Tardy to rehearsal more than 15 minutes (unex)	5

VI. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

A. All concerns regarding YOUR child’s performance status, behavior, participation or conduct on the Chapin Girls dance team must be made **in writing** via email to the Program Director at sheryl4dance2@aol.com.

B. **All** written concerns will be shared with and reviewed by the principal of Chapin High School, Mr. Michael Ames. Text messages are not acceptable forms of communication when lodging a concern about your child’s involvement in the Chapin Girls Dance program.

VII. COMMITMENTS

A. SUMMER PRACTICE

1. During the summer, there will be mandatory practices 1 week prior to summer camp (CMS, JV and Varsity only) along with mandatory August practices for conditioning, technique and choreography for the first football game.

2. Any member who is unable to attend over 1/2 of scheduled summer rehearsals leading up to the first football game, will be placed on alternate status for the first football game, and the first pep rally. Summer practice dates and times will be announced after auditions.

3. There will be rehearsals **2 weeks prior to each teams first football game**. For Varsity, this includes all Jamboree games. Any members who do not attend these rehearsals will be benched for the first regular season football game and the first pep rally should that pep rally be scheduled before the date of the first home game. Emergency situations will be considered by the Director.

4. Summer camp is **mandatory for CMS, JV and Varsity Chapin Girls**. The ***CMS Chapin Girls*** will attend the Universal Dance Association Dance Camp at Lander University June 17-20. This is an overnight camp at a cost of an estimated \$365.00/dancer which includes 3 meals/day, overnight accommodations and instruction. The ***JV and Varsity Chapin Girls*** will attend the National Dance Association camp at Univ. of Wilmington (NC) July 20-23. The estimated cost, which will include a chartered bus will be approx. \$420.00.

B. REGULAR SEASON REHEARSALS/GAMES

1. It is mandatory that all members attend all rehearsals. All rehearsals are held in the CHS dance room. Our tentative rehearsal schedules are as follows:

Jr. Chapin Girls: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm. Tuesdays rehearsal 3-4:00pm, Ballet 4-5:00pm

CMS Chapin Girls: Tuesdays Ballet 5-6:00pm rehearsal 6-7:30pm, Thursdays 4-5:30pm

JV Chapin Girls: Mondays Ballet 5-6:00pm, Wednesdays rehearsal 5:30-7pm, Thursdays 5:30-7:00pm

Varsity Chapin Girls: Mondays Ballet 5-6:00pm, rehearsal 6-8:00pm, Wednesdays 4-6:00pm, Fridays 4-6:00pm

All attempts will be made to schedule any extra rehearsals with at least 2 weeks advance notice. These practice times will be extended during competition season. There will be additional weekend rehearsals to learn choreography. Summer practice hours vary.

2. It is mandatory for all members to attend and participate in all activities, fundraisers, rehearsals, performances and functions.

3. Missing rehearsal the week of a game will result in being benched for that week's game regardless of the absence being excused or unexcused. The member will be expected to attend the game and sit on the sidelines with the Director/Coach. Emergency situations will be taken into consideration for exemption. **A concert ticket or vacation does not excuse a dancer from a game.**

4. Any time a member is going to be absent, it is expected that the Director/Coach is contacted prior to the absence.

5. The **Jr. Chapin Girls** will perform sidelines at one CMS game, one JV game and 1st quarter of the CHS Homecoming game and select events. The **CMS Chapin Girls** will perform at all **home** C team middle school football games and 1st quarter of the CHS Homecoming Game along with all CMS pep rallies and select basketball halftimes. **JV Chapin Girls** will perform at all **home** JV football games, all 4 quarters of the CHS Homecoming Game and all CHS pep rallies. The **Varsity Chapin Girls** performs at all varsity home and away football games, all CHS pep rallies, and select basketball halftimes. All teams will participate in a variety of charity and community events.

6. Any member who is absent from a rehearsal is expected to learn all missed material **prior** to the next rehearsal.

7. The commitment for all dance team members includes all playoff games.

8. All dance studio commitments that interfere with dance team rehearsals, performances, and events must be dealt with between the member's parent and the studio director. It is understood that as a member of the Chapin Girls Dance Team Program, you are 100% committed to the rehearsals, performances, and events that encompass membership to this team. **Outside conflicts with your studio or sport are not to become an issue with your Chapin Girls Director, Coaches or team nor are these conflicts excused.**

8. All members are expected to attend all state, regional and national competitions whether as a performing member or as an alternate. **Practices the week before competition are mandatory. This may be every day of that week.**

9. Other performances during the year may occur. They include, but are not limited to: Basketball games, other athletic events (i.e.; soccer/baseball), college/professional athletic performances via invitation, performances and community fundraisers.

VIII. ALTERNATE STATUS

A. All members must audition for each competition routine. Alternates will be named for each routine.

1. Alternates are chosen at the discretion of the choreographer and the coaches.

2. Dancers may be placed on alternate status due to the inability to perform more advanced choreographed skills, inability to execute the choreography with proper technique, injury, or have accumulated excessive absences from rehearsals.

3. Any member on alternate status is required to attend all rehearsals through the end of the season and be prepared to perform in any given spot of the routine without prior notice.

4. Alternates are required to attend all competitions and purchase the costume for the routine they are an alternate to.

5. All team members are to attend the choreography workshop regardless of whether that member is chosen to compete in the routine taught by the choreographer.

6. The cost for master choreographer fees/travel/meals is split between all team members regardless of whether that dancer is chosen to compete the routine taught by the choreographer.

IX. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

A. All parents of Chapin Girl Dancers are expected to participate in fundraising activities arranged through our Chapin Girls Dance Booster Club.

1. Any parent who does not participate will not have access to fundraised monies being applied towards competition fees or gear.

B. All parents who sign the contract of this constitution understand the financial responsibilities that are required for participation on the Chapin Girls dance team.

1. In the past, all competition entry fees with the exception of a portion of Nationals, has been covered by fundraised monies. Members will have the opportunity to buy/sell used gear at the annual Gear Swap following auditions.

C. All required camp fees, gear expenses, travel expenses, and lodging expenses are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

D. Should a member resign from the team, all fundraising monies, lodging expenses, monies due for competitions including but not limited to lodging, costumes and coaches fees is non-refundable.

X. AMENDMENTS

A. This constitution may be amended by the Chapin Girls Director and Chapin High School administration at any time.

2020-21 CHAPIN DANCE TEAM CONTRACT

Return this signed contract along with Audition Registration

My child, _____, has my permission to audition for the 2020-21 Chapin Dance Team.

I understand that all forms must be completed and returned to the Director of the Chapin Dance Team to be eligible for auditions.

I understand that rehearsals and auditions are **closed to the public and all decisions of the judges will be final.**

I understand that if my child is selected for the Chapin dance team, they must abide by the rules and regulations set forth in the team constitution and must be present for all rehearsals, games, competitions, pep rallies, camps and events.

I understand that should my child be selected as a Chapin Dance Team dancer, participation on this team requires a 100% commitment from my child and studio/sport conflicts will not interfere with her Chapin Dance commitments.

I have read, understand, and agree to the rules, standards, and expectations set forth in the team constitution.

I understand the financial responsibilities and understand that if my child is selected for the team, I am responsible for these expenses.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I, _____, as a candidate auditioning for the Chapin Dance Team have read and understand the team constitution with my parent/guardian. Should I be selected to the Chapin Dance Team, I will abide by all rules, standards, and expectations as stated in the Chapin Dance Team "Chapin Girls" 2020-21 Team Constitution.

Furthermore, should I be selected to the team, I understand the level of commitment involved and I am ready to make that commitment to my team.

Signature of Dance Team Candidate

Date