

# **Constitution of University of Northern Iowa Dance Team**

## **Section I – Identification**

The name of this organization is the University of Northern Iowa Dance Team.

## **Section II – Purpose**

The UNI dance team is dedicated to bringing excitement and entertainment to UNI Athletic events and to promote school spirit among UNI fans on campus as well as in the community.

## **Section III – Captains**

The leadership within this organization is made up of four Co-Captains, which are voted upon the returning team members each year during tryouts.

## **Section IV – Membership**

Any full-time student may try out for the University of Northern Iowa Dance team. We hold tryouts each spring, and choose qualified dancers to then be a part of the team for the following school year. Team members must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA.

## **Section V – Officers' Qualifications and Functions**

There are four co-captain positions that make up the leadership of the University of Northern Iowa Dance Team. To qualify, one must be voted upon by the returning team members at spring tryouts in order to fulfill this position for the following year. Team members will hold this position for the entirety of the year, and may be captain for more than one year.

Duties and responsibilities of the co-captains includes creating choreography for the team, leading practices, calling games, helping with decision-making for the team, and setting a good example.

## **Section VI – Ratification/Amendment of Charter**

Proposals for amendments of the constitution may be made at any time, provided it has the support of 2/3 of members. Only one amendment may be ratified at a time. Members will be given 1 week to consider any amendment. Any amendment that is supported by a 2/3 vote of the members will be ratified to the constitution.

## Section VII – Financing

The University of Northern Iowa Dance Team is financed through the Panther Spirit Club program, personal payments, and fundraisers. The UNI Dance Team also hosts clinics for dancers where we charge a fee to provide our time and dance knowledge.

### By-Laws

1. Team members must attend all scheduled practices, athletic events, performances, community services, and competitions.

a) If a team member does not actively participate in a practice preceding an event due to injury or an unexcused absence, team member may not participate in said event. This does not include members missing practice due to a school activity, family emergency, or illness. Dance team coach deserves the right to eliminate any team member from a game or performance at any time.

b) Team members must attend all scheduled summer practices, community service events, and camp.

c) Absences not previously excused by coach will be counted as unexcused. First unexcused absence will result in team member being benched for one game/performance of the coach's choice. Second unexcused absence will result in team member being benched for two games/performances of the coach's choice. Third unexcused absence will result in team member being removed from her position on the team.

d) Unless otherwise approved by the dance team coach, team members should not register for evening classes.

2. Team members are required to complete 30 hours of community service.

a) If a team member commits to a community service event and then is unable to attend, they must find another team member to take their position. The coach must be informed about this prior to the event.

3. Team members who receive three minors will be benched for a game/performance of the coach's choice. Examples of minors - late personal payment, incomplete workout log, late PSC payment, tardy to athletic event/community service/performance/competition/practice, incomplete uniform at a performance, etc.

4. If the dance team coach decides the team will attend a national competition, it is required for all team members.

5. Disrespectful comments, behaviors, or attitudes toward fellow teammates, fans, or the dance team coach will not be tolerated and could result in being benched for a game/performance or removal from the team.

6. In order to insure the safety of the UNI Dance Team, the UNI athletic department, and UNI's reputation, good conduct and public relations are essential. Therefore the following policies are in effect:

a) No alcohol consumption is allowed at University sponsored events or on University sponsored trips (Nationals, MVC tournament, etc.)

b) Team members will not be allowed to consume alcohol 24 hours prior to athletic events, performances, community services, and competitions.

c) Any offense issued by an officer of the law or University Police for illegal possession of alcohol and other tickets of the like are punishable by:

I. First Offense: You must dress and sit on the sidelines at the next two events, but will not participate.

II. Second Offense: You will be dismissed from the team.

d) Any ticket issued by an officer in which team member had not consumed alcohol, but received a citation for being at a party will be at the discretion of the coach.

e) Any arrest made by an officer of the law or University Police in which said team member is admitted to jail (examples: public intoxication, OWI, assault/battery, possession of controlled substance, etc.):

I. First Offense: You must dress, but not participate for the next two events. In addition, travel privileges will be taken away for the remainder of the season; this includes away UNI athletic events, MVC tournaments, nationals, and events of the like. Community service events are not included.

II. Second Offense: You will be dismissed from the team.

f) It is important that the coach is aware of your legal situations immediately following the incident. Failure to report such offenses will result in removal from the team.

g) If a team member is charged with any item from section "b" and section "c" it will not count as two offences, rather a first offense and second offense resulting in removal from the team.