

TAFT AFJROTC

DRILL TEAM SOP (Standard Operation Procedure)

Congratulations on your decision to join the TX 882nd AFJROTC Drill teams. In order to have a competitive team your full commitment and dedication is required. Unlike most competitive sports where individual statistics and accomplishments are noticed, JROTC Drill “**TEAMS**” is just that. A group of individuals flawlessly striving to achieve the same goal. In AFJROTC Drill Team, the “**Team**” is only as good as the weakest or least experienced member. It is that reason you must be committed and dedicated to the **Team**. Our regulation and exhibition drill routines take countless hours of practice for a **Team** to become competitive. If someone is late or misses practice, the **Team** will fail to have a productive practice. Compound this with several cadets missing practice then the **Team** practice is useless.

My Drill Team Commanders and I have several goals this year; to place in the top three in the overall category at 75% of the meets. To place in the top three in at least inspection, regulation or exhibition in 100% of the meets, and to make it to the Air Force Academy National Drill Meet. This will take discipline, dedication and commitment of every cadet on a team. Although we would like to stay positive at all times, it would be unrealistic to think we could achieve our goals without rules and procedures. Please know what is expected of you and your team and understand the necessity for this SOP.

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- **ARRIVE TO PRACTICE NLT 6:50AM, practice starts at 7:00 and ends at 8:30am.**
 - **If you have tutoring during practice, I will require a note from the teacher.**
 - **If you have an appointment during practice, I will need a note from your parent or guardian.**
 - **If you have tutoring or an appointment that will require you to leave during practice, make sure you bring your personal belongings up to the Drill Pad.**
 - **The classrooms will be locked immediately after the teams march up to the Drill Pad, and will not be unlocked until after practice.**
 - **During drill practice and competitions the Commander and the XO are the ranking cadets and in charge, regardless of your rank or position in the corps.**
 - **All incidents of disrespect and confrontation will be dealt with immediately.**
 - **Armed Drill Team members, if you are late for practice, report directly to the drill pad, you will not be issued a weapon for that day.**
 - **Armed Drill Team members are responsible for their weapon at all times, do not let someone else have it or turn it in for you.**
 - **If your weapon is found unattended you will lose your Beret for three weeks; on the second occurrence you will lose your beret for the semester, on the third occurrence, you will be removed from the team.**
 - **As a Drill Team Member you can earn the privilege and recognition of either wearing a beret during uniform day (Armed Drill Teams/Male Color Guard) or wearing a shoulder cord (Unarmed Drill Team/Female Color Guard). These items recognize your dedication and commitment to your team and the Corps and your conduct is expected to be above reproach.**

- To earn your team recognition (Beret/Cord) you must be recommended by your Commander and the XO, be on time to all practices with no unexcused absences. You must pass a Drill Team/Color Guard Knowledge Test, be academically eligible and approved by your Team Instructor-(MSgt DaLuz - Drill Teams) (MSgt Hanberry -Color Guards).

You can also lose you privilege of wearing your Beret/Cord

- Failure to maintain academic eligibility. Beret/Cord may be reinstated after you regain eligibility.
- Three unexcused tardies to practice. Beret/Cord may be reinstated after a six week period.
- One unexcused absence or three excused absences. Beret/Cord may be reinstated after a six week period.
- Any disciplinary problems (Attitude, ISS, Demerit, etc) will be reviewed by the Instructor and removal of Beret/Cord will be determined by that Instructor. Beret/Cord may be regained on the Instructors recommendation.

You will be removed from a team for any of the following reason or reasons.

- On your fourth unexcused absence to practice.
- NOTE: Every three unexcused tardies constitutes one unexcused absence.
- Failure to maintain academic eligibility for two consecutive six week periods.
- Disciplinary action: not limited to JROTC, other teachers school administrators and or local law enforcement agencies.
- You may regain your status on the team with the approval of the Instructor staff after a review has been conducted.

Again, I would like to welcome the new, and returning cadets to William Howard Taft AFJROTC Drill Teams. I hope you understand the hard work that lies ahead of you. For you have chosen to part of something that requires your full commitment and dedication, not only to the team, but yourself. You will be part of a family that requires your loyalty and devotion. You will learn to discipline yourself to achieve perfection and be part of something that stands for integrity, service and excellence. Are you up for the task?

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Drill Team Coach