

# STARTING A DANCE TEAM

- I. The Chairman, his Advisor, their enthusiasm and dedication are initial keys to beginning a dance team successfully.

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- II. Decide what type of dance team you want.

A. Performance - specialty dances only, i.e. Eagle, Crow Hop, Buffalo

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B. Powwow style

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- III. Get support from the Lodge

A. Perform for the Lodge

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B. Submit a budget request to the Lodge to help youth get started

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- IV. Key to keeping enthusiasm and interest

A. Schedule activities

1. Monthly team meetings

a. Craft sessions

b. Dance and/or drum practice

c. Imperative that experienced dancers and craftsmen help new team members or you will lose them

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2. Travel to Powwows

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3. Compete at Conclave and NOAC

B. Performances

1. Council, Troops, Packs, Community groups
  2. Practice, Practice, Practice
  3. Develop several dance programs and lengths
    - a. Variety for dancers
    - b. Fit dance program to type of audience
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4. M.C. to explain dances, regalia descriptions
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- V. Emphasize research, authenticity, library of research material, books, craft supply sources so that you do it right.
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VI. Develop written guidelines for dance team members including policy regarding:

A. Practices

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B. Performances

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C. Attendance

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D. Attire worn to performances (team shirt or scout uniform)

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E. Craft sessions

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F. Dance opportunities outside of performances

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G. Dance regalia (personal or team)

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VII. Responsibilities of:

A. Chairman

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B. Advisor

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C. Team members

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VIII. Besides a budget proposal to your Lodge, develop ideas for fundraising and minimum standards for participation by team members in fund raising activities

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