Prospective Member:

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Texas Tech Pom Squad! We are a part of the Texas Tech Spirit Program, which also consists of the Co-Ed Cheerleading Squad, All-Girl Cheerleading Squad, Raider Red, and the Masked Rider. Our team serves as ambassadors for Texas Tech University and helps promote spirit at several athletic events including Football, Men’s and Women’s Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Baseball, etc. as well as other events for our school and community. Our team members will also compete at the UDA Collegiate Championships in 2023.

We are looking for confident, talented, humble, dedicated, and passionate dancers to be a part of the 2022-2023 Texas Tech Pom Squad. Squad members are responsible for representing Texas Tech in the classroom, on the court/field, and on stage at the national level. Being a member of our team comes with several exciting opportunities but is also a major commitment. Please review all of the materials thoroughly. If you foresee any conflicts, these must be discussed prior to the on-campus audition date.

The video component is the first step in our audition process. All interested dancers are required to submit an audition qualification video to receive an invitation to the on-campus audition. If you received a video bypass already, you do NOT have to complete a video audition. More information on this process is listed in this packet.

This is a life-changing opportunity and we are excited about the possibility of having you in our program. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you might have.

Wreck ‘Em!

Coach Erin Harold Alvarado
Pom Squad/Dance Team
Adjunct Dance Faculty
Texas Tech University

“The ultimate goal is to be better today than you were yesterday.”
2022-2023 Texas Tech Pom Squad: Program Information

Overview: As a member of the Texas Tech Pom Squad, it is your responsibility to be present at all practices, workouts, games, community appearances, and Collegiate Nationals.

Conflicts: The below dates are mandatory. Should an on campus audition invitation be extended, any conflicts for the key dates listed below must be discussed prior to the audition via email. All dates are subject to change.

Auditions:
- 2 Day On-Campus Audition (by invitation only) – May 7-8th

Summer:
- June Camp (in Lubbock): June 9-14th
- July Practice (in Lubbock): TBD (depending on camp dates)
- Summer Dance Camp: TBD
- August Practices: August 15th (tentative)

Fall Practice Schedule:
- Tuesday/Thursday 6:00-9:00PM
- Sunday 4:00-8:00PM
- 2-3 Mandatory 6AM workouts during week
- Saturday Rehearsals when necessary
- Shortened Thanksgiving Break
- Shortened Winter Break
- UDA College Nationals January 11-16th, 2023

Spring Practice Schedule:
- Tuesday/Thursday 6:00-8:00PM
- 2-3 Mandatory 6AM workouts during the week
2022-2023 Audition Schedule

QUALIFYING VIDEOS:
Note: All incoming freshmen, transfer students, and current Texas Tech students looking to audition for the team must first submit a qualifying video. Members of the 2021-2022 Texas Tech Pom Squad & Video Bypass Recipients do not need to complete this step.
MONDAY, March 28th: Qualifying Videos Due Application Closes for Video Applicants
WEDNESDAY, March 30th: Qualifying Video Results Sent
MONDAY, April 4th: Audition Confirmation Registration Closes

Video Requirements:
- Short 30 second introduction of yourself and why you are auditioning.
- Quint (5) Pirouette: Parallel passé & must be to the right.
- A la seconde Turns: Minimum 2 eight-count turn combination of your choice & must be to the right.
- Leg Turn: Can be front, side, or back & on either side
- Center Leap: You may prep however you’d like. This can be on either side.
- Calypso: You will need to prep with at least one chaines turn before this leap. This must be to the right.
- Toe Touch
- Switch Variation: May choose any type of switch leap & can be performed on either side. (Ex. Switch-Tilt, Switch-Reverse-Jete, Switch-Leap, Switch-Center, Etc.)
- Leg Extension: Should show optimal flexibility. Can be performed on either leg. (Ex. Penche, Tilt Extension, Side Extension, Back Extension, etc.)
- Hip Hop Skill: Headspring & Kip-up (can include optional skills as well)
- Side Aerial: Right & Left (can include front aerial if you can do it)
- Right, Left, Center Splits
- 60 second solo—Any Genre

Include with video submission:
- Audition fee $25 (Cash or Check). Non-Refundable. Make checks payable to TTU Pom.
- Online Application

Please submit your qualifying video and required documents to:
Texas Tech Pom Squad
c/o: Erin Alvarado
1502 Akron Ave, Box 45014
Lubbock, TX 79409

AND/OR Email your video link to: erin.harold@ttu.edu

LIVE AUDITION (ON CAMPUS): May 7-8th
Live Audition Requirements:

**Note:** On Campus Auditions are for those who have been invited to tryout after completing the qualifying video process or were a member of the 2021-2022 Texas Tech Pom Squad or received a video bypass at a clinic/intensive/online challenge.

- Freshmen/Transfer Students - Accepted to TTU for Fall 2022 (if you haven’t been accepted, yet, you can still audition)
  - Students may participate in **Summer Gateway**.
- Current TTU students:
  - Enrolled full time (Undergraduate: 12 hours, Graduate: 9 hours)
  - Cumulative & Current GPA of 2.0 or above
- Current Health Insurance (a copy of insurance card must be sent in with application)
- Pay Application Fee ($25 - nonrefundable)
  - Paid at Door for Live Auditions for video bypass recipients & Current TTU Pom members.
  - Video Submission qualifiers do NOT have to pay a second fee.
- Extensive Studio/Dance Training is a prerequisite.
- **One Personal Letter** stating why you want to be a part of the Texas Tech Pom Squad & what you feel you bring to our team.
- Two dance specific references for evaluation purposes.
- Online Application
- Are not allowed to participate in Fall Greek Recruitment. (Schedule Conflicts, but can do Spring Recruitment).

**Live Audition Attire**

- Black Fitted Shorts
- Solid Black Sports Bra
  (small logos are acceptable, no embellishments)
- No Embellishments on top or bottoms allowed
- Hair Down and Fixed
  (Bangs do NOT need to be pulled back—for technique portions, hair can be pulled back)
- Full Performance Make-Up
  (this includes an appropriate shade of Red Lipstick and lip liner)
- Jazz Shoes/turners
  (cannot dance bare foot, color of shoe does not matter)
- No Jewelry allowed, except for rhinestone earrings
Live Audition Elements

- Individual Interview (Semi-Final Round)
- Audition Routine (Semi-Final Round)
- Spirit & Motion Technique (Semi-Final Round)
- Across the Floor & Center Floor Technique (Semi-Final Round)
- Across the Floor Improvisation (Final Round)
- Conditioning Evaluation (Final Round)
- Potential Call Backs (Final Round)

Live Audition Format

- **Individual Interview (May 7th, Morning)**
  - You will be interviewed in a ZOOM format. Link will be sent the day of the interview. **Attire: Business Professional**
- **Texas Tech Fight Song & Chant (May 7th, Evening)**
  - Each candidate will be scored on pom technique, performance, and projection. (Learned prior to auditions)
- **Center Combinations (May 7th, Evening)**
  - Each candidate will be scored on technique, performance, and memory. (Learned via YouTube Link prior to auditions)
- **Individual Technique Across the Floor & Center Combinations (May 7th Evening)**
  - May include:
    - Quint (5) Pirouette: Parallel passé & must be to the right.
    - A la seconde Turns: Minimum 2 eight-count turn combination of your choice & must be to the right.
    - Leg Turn: Can be front, side, or back & on either side.
    - Center Leap: You may prep however you would like. This can be on either side.
    - Calypsos: You will need to prep with at least one chaines turn before this leap. This must be to the right.
    - Toe Touch
    - Switch Variation: May choose any type of switch leap & can be performed on either side. (Ex. Switch-Tilt, Switch-Reverse-Jete, Switch-Leap, Switch-Center, etc.)
    - Leg Extension: Should show optimal flexibility. Can be performed on either leg. (Ex. Penche, Tilt Extension, Side Extension, Back Extension, etc.)
    - Hip Hop Skill: Must show strength, control, and/or flexibility. Scored on execution & degree of difficulty. (i.e. headstand, kip up, headspring, rubber band, hopping handstand, etc.)
    - Side Aerial: Right & Left. If you cannot do this skill, you will be asked to do your most advanced cartwheel (example: butterfly).
    - Right, Left, Center Splits
• **Across the Floor Improvisation (May 8th, Morning)**
  o This section will be done with all candidates in the room. We will play music and each candidate will need to go across the floor showing any skills that they would like the judges to see. We ask that each candidate use at least 2 full eight-counts, and no more than 3 full-eight counts. All technical skills should be connected with appropriate dance movement.

• **Ballet Class Evaluation (May 8th, Morning)**
  o Barre & Center Floor

• **Conditioning Evaluation (May 8th, Early Afternoon)**
  o This section will be done with all remaining finalists in the room. We will give you an upper body, lower body, abdominal, and cardiovascular circuit on the spot. At this time, we will be looking for mental toughness, physical fitness, will power, and preparation.

• **Potential Callbacks (Afternoon)**
  o This may consist of Fight Song, Audition Routines, Technique, and Interview.

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2022-2023 Texas Tech Pom Squad Announcement
(May 8th, Afternoon)

*Mandatory team meeting directly following announcement.*