

# **Jacket Guard – 2014-2015 Troop Information**

We are very excited that you are interested in becoming a member of the Rockwall High School Jacket Guard for the 2014-15 school year! The RHS Jacket Guard serves at the direction of Ms. Jessica Clark. The primary role of Jacket Guard Troop member is to: engage students and the Jacket Nation in school spirit related activities, serve as escorts for the Stingerette's, Cheer teams, mascot and others as necessary, interact with children and serve as a role model for good citizenship, support Ms. Clark, Dr. Gober and the Jacket Backer Booster Club in special projects, present a positive attitude and maintain a good report with all administrators, faculty and staff, display character and integrity when representing RHS, perform special projects that foster school spirit and uphold traditions. It is a great way to get involved and to share your enthusiasm for the Rockwall Yellowjackets! Most notably, the Jacket Guard manages the school spirit flags at various sporting activities.

The 2014-15 Jacket Guard troop will fill some new roles as they will assist with hanging banners at football games, assist with setting up a tailgating area at Home football games and at the Cowboys Stadium game and any playoff games necessary. The Jacket Guards will also work closely with the Jacket Backers Booster Club in presenting spirit awards for students and fans that are announced at all Home football games and some select basketball games. They will also act as escorts onto the playing field for a victory line and guides to meet the various spirit groups for all visiting feeder schools that are recognized at the first Home football game this next year. The Jacket Guards will also accompany the mascot into the bleachers for photo opportunities. Finally, we will work as a team to develop some activities and stunts that showcase the Jacket Guard on the sidelines. Jacket Guards will work closely with school administration on special events and activities.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as a Jacket Guard and to represent the Rockwall Yellowjackets. Therefore, it is important to select only the top students from each class. We will be selecting a cross-section of troop members from entering freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior classes to represent all grades. Approximately, 20 students will be chosen. The troop will also select a senior troop member to serve as sergeant and a senior to serve as lieutenant. The sergeant and lieutenant will help to keep the troop organized and working as a team. Many factors will be considered in selection of the Jacket Guard troop members. Grades, teacher recommendations, reputation, community and school involvement, leadership skills, attitude, citizenship, personality, interaction with the public and elementary aged school children, creativity and team work will all factor into the decision. It is a time commitment to serve as a Jacket Guard. Your decision to apply for Jacket Guards should be discussed and approved by your parents as well because you will travel to all of the football games and other activities as necessary. We also will invite some parental assistance from time to time for special projects and events. Make sure this is something that you really want to do!

## **UIL & TEA**

It is the practice of Rockwall Independent School District to utilize the University Interscholastic League (UIL) guidelines to regulate and govern all recognized school groups with regard to no pass/no play, eight hour practice limitations, athletic periods, and all other applicable regulations. Therefore, the Jacket Guards will follow the eligibility requirements as outlined by the TEA and the UIL.

### **APPLICATION – ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS**

- A student must be enrolled in Rockwall ISD and be in attendance by the first day of the second semester. The Principal has discretion to determine participation for students new to district.
- A student must have a cumulative GPA of 70 or better (high school) or an overall average of 70 (middle school) as of the preceding semester.
- A student must meet state guidelines for compulsory attendance.
- A student must have no outstanding balance for prior year financial obligations.
- A student must have never received deferred adjudication and/or a conviction for a Class B misdemeanor or higher-class crime conviction.
- Students who have been expelled or sent to discipline school on mandatory placements during the current school year are ineligible to tryout.
- A student is not eligible who has resigned or been dismissed from the Jacket Guard Troop in the previous year. However, if he/she resigns due to circumstances out of his/her control, the sponsor and campus principal will determine whether he/she may be considered for tryouts the following year

Prospective Jacket Guard troop members will be asked to complete an application and appear before a selection panel for an interview. They will be interviewed about general information on their applications (to see how well they present themselves publicly) and they will be asked to give one example of a way to get more students involved in showing school spirit, present an idea for a new spirit activity, design a sports promotion activity, or create a spirit prop, etc... The more creative – the better! The Sergeant and Lieutenant will be voted on by the newly selected Jacket Guard troop. Once we have our 2014-2015 Jacket Guard troop is decided, we will meet along with your parents to go over expectations and other pertinent information.

***All applications are due to Ms. Clark no later than Friday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014!***

***All interviews for Jacket Guard will take place immediately after school on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in the down stairs dance room.*** You will be given a number and be interviewed by a panel for about 10 minutes. We will continue to interview until all applicants have finished. You must be present and complete an interview to be considered unless you have a written

excuse from a doctor or have practice for another activity. In that case, you may make arrangements to phone us or send video, if possible. The interviews are closed to parents and the public. Only Jacket Guard applicants will be allowed in the waiting area.

The 2014-15 Jacket Guard Troop will be posted on the front entrance doors of the school on the same night at about 6:00 p.m. We will meet briefly at 6:30 to have a picture taken for the website, newspaper and social networking and other media formats.

**Expectations:**

**Attend 2 training camps (a Saturday morning in early May and another all-day camp on a Saturday in late July in Rockwall)**

**Attend every varsity football game, selected Home basketball games, a special soccer event, a special baseball event and other sporting events as deemed necessary**

**Attend all "Meet the Jacket" events**

**Participate in all pep-rally's**

**Participate in the Homecoming Parade and Homecoming Community pep- rally**

**Participate in Spring Swarm**

**Participate in Freshmen Fish Camp (Orientation)**

**Participate in special projects as much as possible**

**Purchase one "official Jacket Guard" shirt, khaki shorts, white or black tennis shoes, and a Jacket Guard Sweat Shirt- Approximate cost is \$75.**

**Participate in at least one possible fund-raising activity**

**Maintain all UIL guidelines relating to grades and participation**

**Maintain a good standing within RHS and the community**

**Work with/ escort the Stingerettes with all their activities.**

## Jacket Guard Application 2014-2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size: S MED LRG XL

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2014-15 Grade Level: \_\_\_\_ Have you served as a Jacket Guard before: \_\_\_\_\_

List 1 RHS teacher that would serve as a reference to your character, grades, citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Cumulative Grade Average 2013-14: \_\_\_\_\_

List any activities you are involved in at RHS:

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How well do you relate to elementary aged school children – give an example:

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Please give us your idea of a way to get more students involved in showing school spirit, or describe an idea for a new spirit activity, or, describe a sports promotion activity you think would be good for RHS, or, describe an idea for a spirit prop, etc... The more creative – the better:

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**Describe anything specific to you or your personality that would make you the ideal Jacket Guard troop member:**\_\_\_\_\_

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**If selected my parent/s, \_\_\_\_\_ would be willing to help construct spirit props or assist with a fund-raising project or host a breakfast or lunch for the troop or assist in locating a sponsor for props, uniforms, jackets, equipment, etc...**

**Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address \_\_\_\_\_**