

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line

Audition Packet

I. Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line

The Pom Pon Line serves as the official spirit hostess group for Northwestern State University. The purpose of the Pom line is to promote school spirit and entertainment while providing athletic opportunity. Team unity develops friendships and support outside of the classroom. Leadership opportunities and team building are taught to enforce working in diverse groups and environments. Members will become role models for their appropriate behavior and respect towards college facilities and policies.

During the fall semester the Pom Pon Line performs at all home pep rallies, football games, and selected away games. Pom Pon Line specializes in precision Pom Pon style dance routines as well as chants during football games. Pep rally routines consist of pom style choreography. At football games, the squad cheers on the NSU Demons sidelines and provides performances at half-time. During the spring semester, the Pom Pon Line provides the spirit for the home basketball games. The squad also performs at many functions in the community and other NSU events as needed.

II. Membership Selection Process

Tryouts are held during the spring semester to assess the skills and ability of potentially interested candidates. For this reason a three-phase tryout will be conducted, during which each candidate's skill level will be evaluated. A short interview with the candidate may be conducted at anytime during any of the phases. Actual attendance to the audition is mandatory; therefore, videos will not be accepted.

Auditions are closed to the public, including parents. Only candidates and judges will be allowed in the audition room; however, parents are welcome to sit in on the learning process if they choose.

Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts

Candidates who wish to tryout for the Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. All candidates must plan to enroll at NSU and participate in both fall and spring semesters.
2. If the candidate is an incoming freshmen or transfer student, the candidate must complete the regular admissions application process including having an official transcript sent to NSU by high school/University.
3. All candidates must have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to be eligible for auditions and must maintain a 2.0 grade point average (current) in all academic work while enrolled at NSU.
4. All candidates must have high level of physical fitness, endurance, strength, and skills to perform the requirements set below.
5. Although there is NO minimum weight requirement, the first round will mainly be determined on overall collegiate image (appearance and weight) as well as technique. Members will be required to maintain their audition appearance throughout the season.

Selection Criteria

Members chosen for the Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line will be based on the following criteria:

Mastery of the following criteria:

- Ability to blend the elements of precision pom and hip-hop choreography

- Ability to learn and perfect choreography quickly and efficiently
- Collegiate appearance
- Strong leadership qualities
- Charismatic presence/personality
- Confidence and Enthusiasm
- Motivation and Dedication
- Cooperative and positive attitude
- Strong Discipline

III. Frequently Asked Questions

What should I wear to auditions?

- Candidates are required to wear a black hot short, black sports bra, and flesh colored tights for tryouts only. Any comfortable dance attire will be allowed during workshop, however no warm-ups, t-shirts, shorts, or cover-ups of any kind will be allowed during evaluations. Jazz shoes and/or tennis shoes are highly recommended. Your make-up and hair style should be worn in a style which accents and flatters your facial characteristics as well as balance the overall appearance of the Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line.

What time should I show up for the tryout session?

- We recommend that everyone attending the tryout session show up 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time for stretching

What are tryouts like?

- A workshop will be held the day of tryouts to learn the tryout material.
- Tryouts are done in three phases with cuts after each phase.
- There may be call backs for final selection

Do you offer a scholarship?

- Fall and spring scholarships of \$700/semester are awarded to members plus out-of-state fee waivers for all out of state students that are selected. These awards can be combined with other scholarship awards. Second year members that make the line will be awarded \$800/semester, third year members will be awarded \$900/semester and 4th year members will be awarded \$1000/semester.

Am I allowed to have a belly button ring or tattoos?

- Members of the Purple Pizzazz Pom Pon Line are not allowed to have belly button rings in during practices or performances. Visible tattoos **ARE NOT** allowed. All current tattoos **MUST** be covered by your try-out attire. Further, you will not be allowed to cover tattoos with make-up. If it is discovered that you are covering any visible tattoos with make-up you will be asked to leave the audition and/or the team. Any questions concerning this matter please contact the director.

Who can I contact for information?

- For more information you can email:
 - Director of University Recruiting/ Pom Director, Ashlee Crooks Hewitt at crooksa@nsula.edu