

SJHE 2023 Spring Semi-Formal Dress Code

This is a Catholic sponsored event. We expect clothing and behavior to comply with the virtues taught by the Church and to show respect for your fellow peers, your parents, our chaperones, and priests.

Modesty is admittedly a subjective interpretation, but one which we have a duty to uphold. Attendees should therefore err on the side of modesty so as to not place chaperones in the difficult position of upholding our dress code standards. We expect nothing less than full cooperation from attendees and parents/guardians on this issue. We (the chaperones) reserve the right to determine whether an attendee's attire does/does not fully comply with the dress code.

BOYS Semi-Formal Dance Attire

Must wear a button down dress shirt that has a collar, tie or bow-tie OPTIONAL, dress pants (no jeans, denim, shorts or cargos), belt, and dress shoes with dress socks.

- Jackets optional, and shirts must be tucked in at all times
- If worn, ties must be worn properly at all times
- No hats

GIRLS Semi-Formal Dance Attire

Must wear "afternoon" or "cocktail" dress, tea length (middle of the knee or longer) or longer, OR, long dressy skirt with blouse (dressy separates) Shoes should be ballet flats or heels, **no athletic shoes**.

- Length: Dresses must be middle of the knee or longer, to include slits.
- Neckline: Dresses must be cut in a modest way without showing cleavage. (Follow the 4 finger guideline: Neckline must not exceed 4 fingers below the collar bone.)
- Shoulders: No strapless, off the shoulder, halter, or dresses with spaghetti straps. Backs covered to no lower than shoulder blades or traditional undergarment strap. Straps should be at least 2 inches, with cap sleeves or more preferred.
- Miscellaneous:
 - Transparent fabrics do not count as coverage. Solid fabrics need to be meeting the requirements above.
 - No visible undergarments
 - For flouncy or swingy knee length dresses, long shorts are required to be worn underneath

Not to Code? SJHE has a bin of cover-up items for those dancers who have not adhered to the above dress code. We know that our cover-up items might not be as stylish or cute as your teen's original outfit. Your teen can avoid this situation by carefully following the Dress Code!

Advance Approval Preferred: We highly recommend and **prefer** that teens email us a picture of themselves in their attire ahead of the dance. This will help avoid any uncomfortable situations on the day of the dance if their attire is not to code. Please send those pictures (front and back) to sjhedances@gmail.com. If your teen has found the perfect outfit, but it does not fully comply, we can recommend help with modifications.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask! We are looking forward to a wonderful dance experience for our teens.