

Cheerleader Guidelines to the Athletic Constitution

Wayne High School

Article I: Purpose

Cheerleading is an *athletic team* whose purpose is to enhance school spirit and to foster good sportsmanship and enthusiasm throughout the school and community.

Article II: Eligibility

Section A: Time of Tryouts

At the time of tryouts all 6th, 7th and 8th Graders, Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors must have a minimum grade point average of 1.5 based on the second quarter grades and must be passing five full credit classes.

Section B: Personal Qualifications

Qualities expected to be displayed by a Wayne High School Cheerleader are enthusiasm, leadership, enthusiastic personality, school spirit, proper appearance, scholarship, coordination, good character, self confidence, and loyalty to the school. **Other school activities are encouraged, however, some activities practice or perform during the cheerleading games or practices and will not work in conjunction with cheerleading (i.e. band or Warriorettes). Cheerleaders will have to make a choice of activity if schedules can not be meshed.**

Each cheerleader must have the following:

- a. A current physical on file with the Athletic Office.
- b. An emergency medical card on file with the cheerleading coach.
- c. A *Code of Conduct Awareness* form on file with the Athletic Office.
- d. A *Cheerleading Constitution* form on file with the Athletic Office.
- e. A cheerleading cost sheet on file with the Athletic Office.

Section C: Academics

1. *Quarterly*

Must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0. If your grade point average is between 1.5 and 2.0, you must attend study table twice each week during the nine week grading period in order to maintain eligibility.

2. *Weekly*

Each individual cheerleader must turn in, on a weekly basis, a report or account of her classes. She must be passing the equivalent of 5 (five) *full credit classes* each week. Two "F's" will make the cheerleader ineligible. Failure to pass the required number of classes and/or turning in the eligibility sheets on **time** will result in the cheerleader not being able to cheer the following week.

Article III: Method and Squad Selection

Section A: Selection of Finalists

A standard score sheet will be used by the participating judges. Selection of each squad shall be determined by the candidates' top choices of the squads she wants to cheer on and the ranking of her total accumulated scores including teacher and clinic evaluations.

Section B: Replacement

In the event that a cheerleader is dismissed from the squad or unable to cheer on the squad made, a replacement will be made by the candidate receiving the next highest tryout score, depending on the time of year. Coach's discretion will be used.

Article IV: Attendance

Section A: Games

Cheerleaders will report to the coach at the game/meets at the time designated by the coach. Cheerleaders who are late will be disciplined according to the Disciplinary Actions, Article IX, Demerit System, Section A.

Section B: Practice

1. Practice is when the coach calls it. If for some reason it is changed from the regularly scheduled time, the cheerleader is expected to be there. If a cheerleader misses a practice she is responsible for all information given during their absence.
2. ***Work is not an excuse for missing either practices or games***. The cheerleader should submit practice and game/meet schedules to employers so that work schedules can be made around the practices and games/meets.
3. Drivers education classes, dance classes, hair appointments or shopping will not be considered excused absences.

Section C: Excused Absences and Tardies

It is of the utmost importance that the athlete or parent notify the advisor before scheduled practice or game. If this is not done, it will be considered as an unexcused absence! (Emergency cases as decided by the coach are exceptions.

Excused absences and tardies are as follows:

1. Illness--verified by parent note or phone call.

2. Death in the family or close friend--verified by:
 - a. Student notifying the coach **in advance** of absence.
 - b. Parent note or phone call.
3. Parental need (vacations, religious holidays, needs at home, etc.)--verified by a parent note or phone call in advance (it is expected that parents knowing the demands of Cheerleading will keep these absences to a minimum).
4. Academic school related activities--verified by:
 - a. Student notifying the coach in advance.
 - b. Teacher in charge providing a note or phone call.

Article V: Uniform Regulation

Section A: Uniforms Supplied

Skirt, shell, body liner, warm-up pants and jacket, which are the property of the school, will be provided for each cheerleader.

Section B: Care of Uniforms

1. Each member will be expected to care for and maintain their own uniform. Uniforms, including skirts, shells, sweaters, shoes, socks, etc., should be pressed and/or cleaned for **each event** and will be inspected.
2. All cheerleaders will dress alike while cheering during the games .
3. All cheerleaders will be expected to have their uniform **clean and in good repair upon returning it at the end of the season**. Those cheerleaders returning a damaged uniform will incur the **cost to replace or repair the uniform**.
4. *Warm-up pants provided by Wayne High School, Must be zipped down to the top of the shoe to prevent dragging and fraying. Failure to obey this regulation will result in demerits.*

Section C: Accessories

1. Each cheerleader will purchase any other attire necessary to complete the uniform, such as shoes, socks, briefs, turtlenecks or bodysuits. This may include hair items and pompoms, as well as camp (5) and parade (1) uniforms.
2. Cheerleaders may have the opportunity to raise money through fund raising projects to help pay for the purchases of squad uniforms. These will become school property.
3. All money and measurements required for uniform or accessory purchases must be turned in by the date designated by the coach. Failure to do so, may result in a dismissal from the squad.

Section D: Hair, Appearance, Jewelry

1. The style of the hair will be such that the hair does not hang down in the cheerleader's face.
2. Cheerleaders will not wear excessive make-up or colored nail polish. Specific guidelines will be left up to the discretion of the advisor/coach.
3. A cheerleader will not primp in front of the crowd. Putting on of make-up, combing of hair, applying lotion, etc. will be done in the **rest rooms only**.
4. There will be no gum chewing or food eaten while cheering.
5. **No jewelery**, including watches, is to be worn during practice, games, pep assemblies or other cheerleading function when the cheerleading uniform is worn.

Article VI: Team Rules

Cheerleaders not only represent themselves, but also their squad, the sport and team, their coach, their school, and their community. Cheerleaders must therefore conduct themselves appropriately **at all times**, not just at games or meets or school activities. This includes out of season as well as during the cheerleader's season. Infractions based on the following will lead to disciplinary actions:

1. Insubordination.
2. Disrespect of coaches, officials, teammates, crowd, etc.
3. Failure to participate in squad activities.
4. Inappropriate behavior, such as disrespect during the fight song, alma mater, or National Anthem, public display of affection, inappropriate language or gestures, and poor classroom conduct.

The Athletic Director, cheerleading coordinator and cheerleading coach will determine the consequence for the above infractions based on severity.

Article VII: Travel

1. Cheerleaders will go to and from away games/meets as a group. *Cheerleaders are not permitted to ride in separate cars. **Squads will sit together as a group in the front of the bus.***
2. Cheerleaders **must ride the bus** to and from away games. The only exception to this rule, is if a parent is physically present at the event and submits a note relieving the school and the coach from all responsibility **prior to the game.** This must be cleared with the Athletic Director in advance.

Article VIII: Coach Substitute

In the rare event that the coach is unable to attend a game or practice, a substitute coach will be appointed. This substitute will be knowledgeable of the constitution.

Article IX: Disciplinary Action

Section A: Demerit System

5 demerits = Benched one game.

10 demerits = Dismissed from the squad.

Infraction	Demerits
1. Unexcused tardiness to practice	3
2. Unexcused absence from practice.	5
3. Not bringing proper clothes, shoes, or equipment to practice.	2
4. Unexcused tardiness to reporting time to game (more than 15 minutes).	5
5. Unexcused absence from start of event.	10
6. Not bringing proper clothes, shoes, or equipment to game.	2
7. Lack of respect for coach or others (other cheerleaders, members of the squad, opposing teams, etc.). a. Foul language b. Talking back/Insubordination c. Not following directions (this includes excessive talking d. Arguing e. Misbehavior on bus or van	2 2 2 2 2
f. Failure to take proper care of uniform (i.e. cleaning after each game, not having warm-up pants zipped to the shoe etc.)	5
8. Not meeting financial obligations on the due date as set by the advisor/coach (unless prior arrangements have been made).	5

Section B: Coaches' Discretion

1. Coach's discretion will be used in the issuance of all demerits.
2. It will be up to the discretion of the coach to eliminate any demerits through merits earned through extra duties or assignments (i.e., painting extra posters).

Article X: Financial Responsibilities

Due dates and the exact dollar amounts for the fees described below will be announced when appropriate. Some of the additional fees are due during the summer.

Section A: Uniform/Accessories

Each cheerleader will purchase any additional accessories necessary to complete the uniform, such as shoes, socks, briefs, blouses/shirts. This may include hair items and pompoms. Accessories will vary depending on the season, advisor, and squad preferences; therefore, cost for these items will vary.

Section B: Fourth of July Parade

Each cheerleader is required to purchase a uniform (shorts and shirt) to be worn in the fourth of July parade. Marching in the parade is a mandatory activity.

Section C: Cheerleading Camp

All cheerleaders are expected to attend camp with their squad.

1. A deposit is due when the registration is submitted. The final balance will be due prior to attending camp.
2. Each cheerleader is responsible to purchase (5) camp uniforms (shorts and shirts).

Section D: Fund Raisers

All cheerleaders will be expected to participate in the standard fund raisers that are used to support the general Cheerleading fund. The purpose of this fund is to purchase new uniforms and equipment deemed necessary by the Wayne High School Cheerleading staff. These items will remain the property of Huber Heights City Schools.

The standard fund raisers may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Cartwheel-a-thon
2. Bagging groceries at Cub Foods
3. Sales

Article XI: Seniors helping with tryouts

It will be the discretion of the Cheerleading Coordinator and Athletic Director to select the graduating senior cheerleaders to assist the cheerleading coaching staff with tryouts for the following year. Selections will be based on the following:

1. Leadership
2. Academics
3. Attendance
4. Attitude
5. Skill level
6. Behavior

Helping with tryouts is a privilege and is earned during the cheerleader's tenure at Wayne High School. There is no vested right to assist with tryouts.

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**Huber Heights City Schools
Cheerleading Constitution
Awareness Form**

As the parent or legal guardian of _____
and as the participating athlete, we have read and are aware of the rules and regulations that govern the conduct of the athletes who participate in the sport of Cheerleading. I agree to abide by and support the rules as established by the advisor/coach of this sport, the Huber Heights City Schools Athletic Department, the Huber Heights City Schools Board of Education, and the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

Cheerleader's Signature

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

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