**Boys & Girls Clubs of Wichita Falls**

**YOUTH CHEERLEADING PROGRAM**



**DEADLINE:**

**SCHOOL ATTENDENCE:**

 **All cheerleaders must be currently enrolled and attending school.**

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

# All cheerleaders must cheer in the district in which they attend and show enrollment (AGR) card for the next school year of the current playing season.

* 1. Districts are laid out as shown on the official map for each league, which is on display at the Central Branch. Copies are furnished to each head coach on request.
	2. Copies are furnished to each Head Coach upon request.
1. A player who changes schools before the current playing season may have the opportunity to play for the team into whose district he has moved, subject to verification and approval by the Boys and Girls Club Athletic Director. No player may change teams after league games have started.
2. ***A player living within a district may request a transfer to a district which has fewer players if the team he or she is currently playing on has more than 25 players in the American and National Leagues (22 in the JV League). This is done on a first come, first serve basis.***

**EXCLUSIVITY:**

**A. No cheerleader can be a member of two squads.**

**GRADE REQUIRMENTS:**

**A. Questions of eligibility, the determining date will be September 1st of the current season.**

**B. Junior Varsity – Must be 6 years of age and in the 1st or 2nd grade.**

**C. American League – 3rd & 4th graders.**

**D. National League – 5th & 6th grade.**

**ELIGIBILITY:**

**A. Cheerleader must be a member and be in good standing with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wichita Falls. Memberships are $12.00 per year.**

**B. Present a contract / sportsmanship pledge and release form signed by a parent or legal guardian and by the participating player to the Central Unit. NO ONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN WORKOUTS UNTIL A PROPERLY FILLED RELEASE FORM HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE CENTRAL UNIT.**

**C. Be listed as an official member on the cheerleading team roster at the Central Unit.**

**D. Must pay a $15.00 participation players fee due by roster deadline.**

**COACH’S SELECTION & ELGIBILITY:**

**A. ALL COACHES MUST ATTEND A COACHES ORIENTATION MEETING BEFORE THEY WILL BE APPROVED TO COACH.**

**B. Each perspective coach must fill out a Coaches Application and submit it to the athletic department. Teams may not begin workouts until at least one coach has turned in an application and has been approved. THEY MUST ALSO ATTEND A COACHES ORIENTATION.**

**C. Knowledge of cheerleading is a plus, not a requirement. The ability to understand and implement the goals of the Cheerleading Program, and impart this understanding to youth and adult participants is the most important consideration.**

**D. No practices can be held until at least one coach has been cleared with background check and completed orientation.**

**E. Coaches have the opportunity to choose uniforms for their squad this year. The cost cannot exceed $100.00 for the entire uniform package.**

**F. All uniforms must be approved by the Athletic Department.**

**G. Uniforms can be a true cheerleading uniform or shorts and t-shirts but must be the same color. T-shirts and shorts have to be the same color. Please choose your team’s uniform cost and selection with the mindset that best fits your team’s needs and income. We do not want to turn any interested child away due to cost.**

**H. If you have a low income participant that cannot afford your selection please provide a fund raiser for them to cover the cost. Not to exceed $100.00. (See Fundraising Below)**

**SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR HEAD COACH:**

**A. Providing that all coaching requirements have been met, the Head Coach from last season will have the first opportunity to assume the head coaches position for that same team in the new season.**

**B. Application for returning Head Coaches must be presented to the Athletic Department NO LATER THAN APRIL 15TH!**

**C. If the Head Coach is no longer interested in coaching, the Assistant Coach will be asked offered the Head Coach position first before offered to the general public.**

**FUNDRAISING:**

Coaches shall not conduct or allow parents to conduct any fundraisers without the written consent of the Executive Director/Athletic Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wichita Falls. If the fundraiser is granted; receipts of all money raised must be turned in to the Athletic Director. Fundraisers will not be allowed unless the Head Coach has a team account with his name and the Team name on the account. Monthly statements of the account have to be turned in to the Athletic Director each month. Receipts from any Team purchases must be turned in with the bank statement.

**Rosters:**

**A. The head coach of each team must turn in a roster on or before the date specified on the calendar of events. The roster must list the cheerleader’s name, age, address, birth date, and Club card number. COACHES SHOULD NOT INITIAL VERIFICATION BOXES.**

**B. New cheerleaders may be added to the roster at the CENTRAL UNIT ONLY. They may be added up to the last day which is August 1st.**

**C. Cheerleaders must have met all of the eligibility requirements by the last day to add new players. Anyone still ineligible at that time will be removed from the team.**

**NUMBER OF CHEERLEADERS:**

**A. Rosters will be limited to 25 cheerleaders per team. Returning cheerleaders should be given first consideration. If a child is not placed on their district team due to number limit they need to contact the Assistant Athletic Director at the Central location to be placed on a different team, if space is available.**

**CONDUCT OF COACHES, CHEERLEADERS, AND FANS:**

**A. Each coach is required to conduct themselves in a positive and sportsmanlike manner in speech and actions at all times. Negative comments directed toward other teams, players, cheerleaders, parents, game officials, or Boys & Girls Club staff SHALL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

**B. Each coach is responsible for the conduct and sportsmanship of their players, cheerleaders, other coaches, and spectators before, during and after each game and practice session, and is expected to maintain the highest level of sportsmanship for their team and its supporters, as is consistent with the aims and policies of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wichita Falls.**

**C. All coaches must assist the Field Representative and Athletic or Assistant Athletic Director if adults from their team become unruly, in order to safely and expediently handle and control instances of unsportsmanlike conduct both on and off the playing field.**

**D. The use of excessive noise makers will not be allowed at any game. The Head Coach is responsible for compliance with this rule. (NO AIRHORNS!!!)**

**E.VIOLATIONS OF ANY RULES WILL BE EJECTION FROM THAT GAME AND SUSPENSION FROM THE NEXT GAME.**

**CHEERS:**

**A. All coaches need to make sure the cheers your team chooses to use at games and practices are appropriate. Bad language or movements to a cheer WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!**

**B. Coaches are to choose cheers and dance routines for their team. These cheers should not put down other teams, players, cheerleaders or coaches.**

**C. Dance / Cheer Competition should not use bad language either by the team or from lyrics in the choice of music used. Movements to the routine or cheers should be in good taste. REMEMBER COACHES, THESE ARE YOUNG MINDS YOU ARE MOLDING!!**

**HALFTIME SHOWS:**

**A. Cheerleading squads may perform in front of the opposing team’s crowd at halftime.**

**B. Same rules apply as before – KEEP IT CLEAN.**

**COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES:**

**A: All complaints and grievances by parents or other interested parties must be communicated through the cheerleading coach, unless the complaint involves the cheerleading coach. If that is the case, please contact the Assistant Athletic Director.**

**UNIFORMS:**

**A: Cheerleading Teams will not be allowed to perform in any other uniform than that authorized by the Athletics Department.**

**B: Uniforms are chosen by the head coach and approved by the Athletic Department. NO OTHER UNIFORM IS ALLOWED! This is a mandatory uniform for all squads, NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Each squad will be allowed to choose its’ own colors for their uniform selection. Shoes and socks are up to the coaches but must be approved first by the Athletic Department.**

**C: Accessories are up to the coaches. Bells in shoes, pom-poms for shoes, or hair bows, etc. are fine as long as the coaches agree.**

**D: All uniforms ordered are not to exceed the $100.00 dollar limit in place. (Can wear t-shirts and shorts as long as they are the same color shirt & lettering & shorts.)**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**A: Cheerleaders are required to attend all practices and games unless otherwise cleared through the Head or Assistant Coach. Failure to come to at least one practice per week can result in the cheerleader sitting out for the next upcoming game and/or competition.**

**B: If the cheerleader misses 3 games without a reasonable excuse, she is then removed from the roster.**

1. **Coaches have say over a cheerleader performing in a game or activity due to lack of practices however the coach must let the parents know why their child is not cheering in a game and then they must let the Athletic Department know.**

**Please support all coaches. As the sport of cheerleading becomes more popular each year, spaces become very limited. There are more cheerleaders than football players on some teams. Remember the space in front of stands is limited and makes it difficult to cheer in this space. Parents please use the stands provided and a watchful eye on your children that are not participating. Thank you!**

**2014**

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**Official Rules & Regulations**