

**COUGAR**



**CHEER**

Constitution

## Constitution of the Jarrell High School Cheer Team

### I Purpose

The purpose of the Jarrell High School Cheer Team shall be twofold: to perform and entertain audiences through cheers, and to boost morale and spirit of the school and school district. The purpose shall also be to develop character, leadership, and individual responsibility in each member, while maintaining high moral standards. It is the Cheer purpose to represent Jarrell Independent School District in a manner which will reflect credit upon the district, as well as each member of the team. Each member agrees to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth in this constitution.

### II Qualifications and Requirements

- A. Membership in this organization shall be restricted to Jarrell High School Students enrolled by the time tryouts arrive in the spring.
- B. Anyone who meets the above qualifications as well as the qualifications outlined in this constitution will not be discriminated against because of race, creed, or educational handicap. Candidates who are physically handicapped must have physicians, principals, and coaches' permission to participate in all Cheer activities.
- C. At least one parent or guardian must be present at the parent orientation meeting or must contact the coach for a make-up meeting at the coach's convenience.
- D. Tryout requirements will be reviewed in the tryout handbook at the time.

### III Personal Qualifications

- A. You must want to be a Cheerleader. If you really want to be a Cheerleader you will gladly accept criticism that will help you attain perfection.
- B. You must be willing to abide by the rules and follow directions.
- C. You must enjoy learning and performing at school events.
- D. You must demonstrate responsibility at all times.
- E. You must be willing to participate in fundraisers and activities 100%.
- F. You must understand that any decision made by the coach is in the best interest of the team and individual members.
- G. You must have perfection as your goal and understand that Cheer demands a high degree of determination, hard work, strength, dedication, self-discipline, and loyalty.
- H. You must have a desire to cooperate – to be “one of the group”. Individual exhibitions are not for the Cheer team.

### IV Membership

- A. There will be no set number of members. Membership depends on the fall of a natural break in scores. Returning members are not guaranteed a position on the team each year.
- B. Returning members must try out each year.
- C. Members will participate in all activities which the organization is involved in.

D. Members must exhibit and maintain a good attitude toward school policies and regulations.

E. All members are required to attend cheer team camp each summer. No cheer team member may leave camp for any reason other than illness, injury, or death in the family. The member may only leave with a relative who must contact the coach.

F. The term of membership shall be recognized as the time immediately following cheer team tryouts through the following tryouts.

G. A member's resignation will be accepted only after all financial obligations are complete. All JHS Cheer owned property must be returned in acceptable shape.

H. Students who enroll after tryouts may join the JHS Cheer team if they had made the team at their school prior to moving. Example: Student makes team at High School A for the 2023-2024 school year, then moves over summer. Student must provide signed letter from previous coach.

#### V Parental Permission and Responsibilities

A. Parents must sign a permission slip after reading all guidelines. A meeting will be scheduled for all parents of prospective members. A parent must attend.

B. Parents must be willing to meet all financial obligations involved in having their daughter as a member of the cheer team.

C. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to all activities, except when transportation is provided by the school district or booster club.

D. Parents are encouraged to participate in the Cheer Booster Club.

E. Parents must be willing to cooperate with the coach and keep her informed of dates that might conflict with at least 48 hours notice unless an emergency.

#### VI Practice Session Responsibilities

A. Practice will be required each day during a specified time period. Students in this class must fulfill specific requirements for performance, which will be evaluated by the coach as for any other academic class.

B. Before school, after school, and summer practice sessions will be required. Time specifications for these sessions will be established as camp dates, and other school schedules become available to the coach. Summer practice for all members is mandatory upon notification of these dates and times.

C. Members will arrive on time to practice and will be dismissed by the coach.

D. On a performance day, members must attend school for at least half a day or be excused by the principal and coach.

E. It is the responsibility of each member to notify the coach of her absences before cheer team class. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action.

F. Work cannot be given as an excuse for missing a scheduled practice or performance.

#### VII Routine Evaluation and Performance

A. A complete uniform check will be held 30 minutes prior to the activity or performance. This includes hair, make-up, etc... Fingernail polish and jewelry may not be worn with

any part of the uniform. Dirty uniforms or refusing to follow the coach's directive on hair, make-up, etc... will receive one week probation.

B. At all times, members will be expected to conduct themselves in a ladylike manner. There will be no excessive talking, eating food, drinking, or gum chewing unless the coach has given permission. Unlady-like conduct or the use of profanity will not be tolerated. The coach reserves the right to dismiss any member immediately if unlady-like conduct or the use of profanity is observed.

C. Visitors (family members, boyfriends, friends, etc...) are not allowed around the team unless the coach has given permission.

D. No part of the uniform may be removed unless the coach has given permission.

E. Report cards will be checked at the end of the grading period

### VIII Absences and Tardiness

A. All members must be present and on time for practices, games, camps, pep rallies, and planned activities. Only excuses approved by the coach will be accepted and each one will be evaluated individually. Parental grounding, work, bad weather, and/or principal/teacher detention hall will not be excused.

B. Excused absences from a Cheer function will include participation in another approved school function or observance of a religious holiday. All other excuses will be evaluated on an individual basis.

C. An absence from a planned Cheer activity will result in additional missed performances, probation of 1-6 weeks, or dismissal. Each case is evaluated on an individual basis.

D. If a member is tardy to a practice and has been replaced, the member will automatically be dropped to an alternate position.

E. Excessive tardiness in Cheer will result in an automatic probation/ suspension from the team. Eight tardies is considered excessive in a school year's time period.

1. First Warning: 1 week probation
2. Second Warning: Probation
3. Third Warning: Suspension Article

### IX Grading System

A. Grades given to Cheer will be based on effort, attitude, performance, sense of responsibility, and achievement. Blanket grades will not be given. Grades are assigned to Cheer for all functions before, during, and after school hours.

B. Conduct grades are based on appropriate or inappropriate behavior. The Cheer member will be informed when their conduct grade has been lowered.

C. Grades will not be given on fundraisers. Fundraising money is used for activities not funded by the school district. Failure to meet all requirements in regards to fundraisers will result in not being able to participate in activities funded by the Cheer Booster Club or the high school activity account. 100% participation in fundraising is a must! Members who do not participate will be required to pay their own way on any trip or contest.

### X Probation/Suspension

#### A. General Probationary Procedures

1. Failure to comply with any regulations as stated in this constitution may result in probation for the member in question until the reason for probation is corrected to the satisfaction of the coach and/or principal. If the problem is not corrected, automatic suspension will occur.
2. Minor infractions of the rules (gum chewing, tardiness, wrong/dirty uniforms, etc...) will condition. Infractions that are repeated will receive 1-6 weeks probation or complete suspension from the team.
3. A member on probation will not participate in performing activities, banquets, or meetings unless the coach gives permission.
4. If a member is dismissed from an organized activity, probation or suspension may occur. Each case will be evaluated individually.
5. Any member assigned ISS for minor infraction of school rules can be dismissed from the team after a review by the principal and coach.
6. Suspension/Expulsion from school will be grounds for dismissal from the team. No exceptions.

#### B. Scholastic Probation

1. If a member fails the same class for two consecutive grading periods or more than two nine weeks total, will be dismissed for the remainder of the year. Upon dismissal, the member will not receive credit for the class unless she transfers into a physical education class. If a schedule change cannot be made until the end of the semester, the former member must continue to dress out and participate in practices and will be graded on PE scale.
2. If a member fails more than three classes in a nine-week grading period, then the member will be dismissed from the team with no probation. Upon dismissal, the member will not receive credit for the class unless she transfers into a physical education. If a schedule change cannot be made until the end of the semester, the former member must continue to dress out and participate in practices and rehearsals and will be graded on a PE scale.

#### C. Probation Procedures

1. first warning – verbal warning, parent contact, and documentation in the coach's binder.
2. second warning – verbal warning, documentation in the coach's office, documentation in the principal's office, parent contact, and probation/suspension may occur.
3. third warning and fourth warning – conference with coach, parent, counselor, principal, and probation and suspension may occur.
4. "severe clause" – a member may be removed at any time by the principal and/or coach for major disciplinary problems.

### Article XI Conduct

#### A. Games

1. Members will meet at the designated area at a designated time. All members will walk into the game together.

2. Members must remain on the sidelines at all times unless given permission by the coach.
3. No visitors are allowed unless approved by the coach.
4. There will be no candy, gum, food, or drinks unless approved by the coach.
5. Restroom breaks will be given in emergency situations.

B. Conduct in General

1. Cheer team members' actions outside of the cheer team requiring any disciplinary procedure or suspension by administration involving tardiness, truancy, misconduct or any kind, etc... will be reviewed by the principal and coach and additional action may be taken.

C. Moral Conduct

1. cheer team members must display appropriate behavior both in and out of school. Probationary status, as well as, dismissal from the team, may be given to the member for the following reasons: a. Smoking, use of alcohol, use of drugs, attending parties where drugs and alcohol are being used, use of profanity, harassment, citations involving drugs, alcohol, etc...

D. Unlady-like Conduct

1. Lack of respect towards the coach, officers, managers, parents, school personnel, school property, other team members will receive probation or suspension from the team. The coach and principal will review all cases on an individual basis.

E.. Parents, Guardians, Friends, and Family Members

1. Parents, guardians, friends, and family members must remember that the rules set forth in this constitution are expected to be followed. Anyone who verbally threatens or abuses the coach or members of the cheer team will be asked to leave the function immediately.
2. All parents, guardians, friends, and family members must refrain from talking to members of the cheer team while they are in uniform and under the responsibility of the coach.
3. Only parents or legal guardians may check out a team member from the coach and only if the proper documentation has been submitted to the coach's office before the function. Emergency situations will be taken into consideration.

## XII Uniforms and Equipment

- A. Uniform Purchases will be dictated every year and will be discussed with parents.
- B. Members will purchase all practice clothes, uniforms and accessories as approved by the coach.
- C. All financial responsibilities regarding cheer team payments must be cleared before the first football game. The coach may grant exceptions.
- D. Uniforms will be worn at all school functions as selected by the coach and approved by the principal.
- E. Uniforms and practice wear must be kept clean and in good condition.
- F. Each member must mark her name in each piece of the uniform/practice wear as issued.

G. Only members of the Cheer Team will wear uniforms. This includes your letter jacket and t-shirts.

H. School issued items will be checked out to each member. Each member assumes 100% liability for the care and return of each item. If not returned monetary and graduation hold will be put on the students account.

I. Members will not be allowed to wear any part of the Cheer uniform outside of the cheer team unless permission has been given by the coach.

### XIII Transportation

A. Transportation will be provided to all school activities by the school district and/or Cheer Booster Club when available. All cheer team members must ride to the game together unless other arrangements have been made through the coach and approved by the principal. A member may be dismissed to her parents only if the proper papers have been filled out, signed, and approved prior to departure. Other arrangements require a notarized letter and approval by the principal. Exceptions for emergency situations will be considered.

B. Cheers will conduct themselves in a lady-like manner at all times.

C. Members will abide by all school rules.

D. Members will abide by all school bus rules.

### Article XV Competition

A. Competition will be during the spring semester and will be determined by the coach and approved by the principal.

B. The coach will select all routines used.

C. The coach will decide on a schedule for practices.

E. All members will agree to an attendance and tardy policy. Each member will sign the attendance and tardy policy.

### Article XVII Amendments to the Constitution

A. The Jarrell Independent School District reserves the right to amend the Jarrell High School Cheer Constitution at any time in the event that district, state, and/or federal laws change.

B. The Jarrell Independent School District reserves the right to amend the Jarrell High School Cheer Constitution in the event that clarification of the rules and regulations are needed.

## JHS Cheer Demerit System

6 Demerits = Benched until Coach Determination

10 Demerits= Dismissal from Team (Demerits may be worked off throughout the school year by participating in certain activities and events that will be discussed throughout the season)

1 point violations can be characterized as, but not limited to: Missed practice, game or event with more than 24 hour notice (excused), Missing attire or not being in complete uniform on a game day (shoes, warm-ups, poms, bag, bow, practice clothes, hair style), Late arrival (more than 5 minutes), Late pick up (more than 25 minutes), Lack of teamwork/ sportsmanship, Inattentiveness or excessive talking during practice/ game/ event, Unauthorized use of electronic device, Jewelry during practice/ game/ event Nail violations- acrylic and long natural nails (this will result in being benched as well), PDA in Uniform, Missing a deadline, Talking while stunting, Allowing non-cheerleaders to wear cheer items, Any teacher negative comment

2 point violations can be characterized as, but not limited to: Poor attitude (after initial warning), Untruthfulness/ Untrustworthiness/ Dishonesty, Inappropriate social media content in and out of uniform (case by case), Missed practice, game, or event with less than 24 hour notice (excused) Missed practice, game, or event with more than 24 hours notice (unexcused) Conflict with a coach, teammate, or school personnel (major conflicts will be immediate termination)

3 point violations can be characterized as, but not limited to: Missed practice, game, or event with no notice (plus benched) Missed practice, game, or event with less than 24 hour notice (unexcused) Inappropriate actions while in uniform

### Merits

**\*\*50 Merits will erase 1 demerit\*\***

Merits will be given only for specific activities. They will not be given to any required event, specification will come from Head Director/Coach only.

1 merit - service to school

2 merit - service to community or teachers

3 merit - non-required games, events

5 merits - non-required away games



## Jarrell Cheer Payment Agreement

We are fortunate enough that the school has the capacity to buy certain items. Those items will belong to the school and be issued at the beginning of the year. If you are wanting to purchase those items at the end of the year, that is possible and will be an additional cost.

Camp - \$210  
Uniform - \$150  
Sleeves- \$15  
Camp shirts - \$45  
Camp Shorts - \$30  
Spanx - \$25  
Bows - \$15  
Mum- \$15  
  
Total - \$505

### Optional

Shoes- Any plain white cheer shoes. \*Only optional if you do not have already\*

Backpack - \$35  
Sweatshirt - \$25  
Water Jug - \$20  
Yard Sign - \$45

### Payment Dates:

\$150 - March 31, 2023  
\$100 - April 14, 2023  
\$150 - May 1, 2023  
\$100 - May 15, 2023  
Rest of balance - June 1, 2023

\*\*If payment is an issue please see Coach Zoretic ASAP

\*\*\*Parent/Guardian Please keep the top of this page.

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I agree to pay/fundraise the above amount by the date listed if my candidate makes the team.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature \_\_\_\_\_