

BYAFL Cheerleading – Rules and Regulations

ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL

1. Coaches, cheerleaders, parents and other volunteers must abide by the Rules and Regulations set forth by the Cheerleading Committee, and the BYAFL by-laws already established.
2. Cheerleaders will perform at BYAFL games, local high school games, parades, and any other special activities at the discretion of the Cheerleading Committee.
3. Only approved coaches will be allowed to coach registered cheerleaders. Only registered cheerleaders will be allowed to participate in BYAFL activities. This includes going on the field at half time during BYAFL games.
4. Mandatory head coach meetings will be scheduled monthly after the start of registration. Head coaches or a representative must attend $\frac{3}{4}$ of required meetings per calendar year. Failure to attend meetings is justification for suspension of the Head Coach.
5. The Cheerleading Committee will provide each head coach with a copy of the Cheerleading Rules and Regulations. It is the responsibility of each head coach to copy the Cheerleading Rules and Regulations and give them to the cheerleaders and their parents, as well as other information as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE II – REGISTRATION

1. Each cheerleader must have a completed registration form signed by a parent or guardian on file with BYAFL prior to the start of practice. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted. A violation of registration form content or nonpayment of registration fees may result in removal from squad. Any cheerleader owing money to the BYAFL from a previous year may not be allowed to register unless money owed is paid in full.
2. Registration dates will be posted and communicated with the BYAFL community and will occur on a weekly basis for the duration of registration.
3. The Cheerleading Committee will determine registration fees prior to the start of the season. A \$10 discount will apply to those families with more than one child participating in the program.

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ARTICLE II – REGISTRATION - CONTINUED

4. Cheerleaders will be put on the cheerleading squad of their sibling's football team before all other requests are honored. Cheerleaders will be assigned to squads on a first come–first served basis. Returning cheerleaders will have the option of requesting the same cheerleading squad from the previous season. Upon registration, cheerleaders may request a certain team, and all requests for teams will be honored if possible.

ARTICLE III – COACHES

1. Returning head coaches must notify the Cheerleading Committee by February 1st of their intent to return to the cheer squad/football team. If the Cheer Director is not notified, the position may not be held for them.
2. Coaches must be the age of 18 years old by January 1st. There will be no junior coaches permitted without the supervision and support of a second coach who is equal or greater than 18 years of age.
3. All persons wishing to coach must submit a Coaches Application and sign the Coaches Code of Conduct. Coaches will follow the Rules and Regulations already in place according to BYAFL by-laws. Coaches will be required to undergo an approved background check.
4. Head coaches or a representative must attend all scheduled games and practices. If a coach quits during the season without reasonable cause or fails to attend required head coach meetings, there will be a one –year (season) suspension of eligibility for that head coach.

ARTICLE IV – CHEERLEADERS

1. BYAFL Cheerleading is not a competitive activity and is strictly for fun and instruction.
2. Cheerleaders ages 4 – 6 will be called Junior Cheerleaders. Junior Cheerleaders must be 4 years old by June 1st for the upcoming season. Jr. Cheerleaders will need parental participation in order to be a junior Cheerleader. Parent must be with Jr. Cheerleader at all practices and games. This is mandatory and there will be no exceptions. Cheerleaders will be assessed as to their ability by the head coaches, and will be involved on squads accordingly at the head coaches' discretion.

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ARTICLE IV – CHEERLEADERS - CONTINUED

3. All registered cheerleaders must cheer with the squad they are assigned to. Special requests will be made for siblings playing football and on different teams. All other requests must be made at registration, and after that, there will be no exceptions to this rule.
4. If a cheerleader quits or has been removed during the season, the head coach is required to provide in writing to the Cheerleading Director the circumstances surrounding the case of removal. The Cheerleading Director will rule and make a decision as to whether the specified team will be under obligation to provide for or to include the cheerleader in any end of year activities. (i.e. banquets, trophies)

ARTICLE V – TEAM ROSTERS

1. Team rosters will be provided to each head coach prior to the start of the BYAFL practice.
2. Head coaches will contact their registered cheerleaders and verify the roster.
3. Head coaches are required to provide a roster of their cheerleaders with correct spelling of the participants' names by September coaches meeting. This information is required for the purchasing of trophies or end of the season gift.

ARTICLE VI – LEAGUE PLAY AND PRACTICE

1. Practice schedules are to be determined by the head coach. The head coach must provide in writing to the Cheerleading Director of location, times, and dates of all practices. Cheerleading squads must practice at the same field as their assigned football team when there is a brother/sister option on the squad, unless previous arrangements have been made between the head coach of the football team, parents, and cheerleading squad. The Cheerleading Director must be notified of any changes in practice locations. Practice dress code is to be determined by the head coach but shoes must be worn at all times.
2. Failure to attend scheduled practices may result in suspension. Cheerleaders must attend at least two or more practices per week to be able to participate during the half-time activities or cheer in the game. A cheerleader that only misses one practice may not be allowed, at the discretion of the head coach, to participate in the first quarter of a scheduled game. A

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ARTICLE VI – LEAGUE PLAY AND PRACTICE - CONTINUED

Cheerleader that attends practice but does not participate, without reasonable cause, will be considered to have missed practice.

3. BYAFL Cheerleading will operate on the same schedule as the BYAFL Football program regarding bad weather and cancellations of practices.

ARTICLE VII – UNIFORMS

1. The official cheerleading uniform will consist of a skirt, shell, spunky pants (panty/brief), and pom-poms. The cost of the uniform is included in the registration fee. Parents are responsible for white tennis shoes, white/black long sleeve shirt, and white crew socks. Warm up consisting of a jacket and pants will be included in the registration fees as long as prices can fit into the approved registration fee budget.
2. The uniform will be subject to change by the Cheerleading Committee, which includes style, color, design, and accessories. Skirt lengths must be at least two inches longer than the spunky pants (panty/brief) lowest line.

ARTICLE VIII – SPONSORSHIP / DONATIONS

1. Cheerleading squads who obtain sponsors and/or donations must have the funds made out to BYAFL Cheerleading. In an effort to keep all cheer squads uniforms, all monies will go into a general fund for every team to benefit from.

ARTICLE IX – SAFETY

1. No cheerleader is to practice stunting without having it been demonstrated by the head coach, or to the head coach by the stunt coordinator. Stunting must have spotters and adult supervision at all times.
2. A coach or coach's representative is required to be on the field at all times during practices and games. The coach is not to leave the field until all cheerleaders have been picked up by their parents or guardians.

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ARTICLE IX – SAFETY – CONTINUED

3. Excessive tardiness by a parent in picking up a participant may result in action being taken by the Cheerleading Committee. Such action may include, but is not limited to, the parent being required to be present during entire game or practice and possible suspension of the participant from BYFAL Cheerleading.
4. While performing pyramids or performing stunts, there will be only one person high off the ground, and only with spotters.

ARTICLE X – RESPECT AND CONDUCT

1. All cheerleaders, coaches, and parents will maintain the highest standard of sportsmanship and conduct. All head coaches will be responsible for cheerleaders and parents. All participants will be required to a Sportsman –like Conduct Code of Ethics. Any violations of this rule be reason for disciplinary action as determined by the Cheerleading Committee, up to and including dismissal from the BYAFL Cheerleading program.
2. There will be random monitoring of practices and games by the Cheerleading Director. Head coaches will be required by the Cheerleading Committee to provide a practice schedule so that monitoring can be coordinated.
3. Fighting will not be tolerated. Any ejection by a football official or coach from a game or practice will automatically be cause for suspension of the cheerleader from the team’s next scheduled game. Re-occurrences of fights will be cause for removal from the squad. There will be no refunds for any participant if they are removed as a result of disciplinary action.

ARTICLE XI – GRIEVANCES

1. Complaints regarding coaches shall be reported to the Cheer Director. The Cheer Director will then communicate to the coach about the complaint. Both parties will be brought together to resolve the issue if needed. If the complaint is regarding the Cheer Director the Cheer Committee (Coaches) will hear the complaint out and communicate to the Director about the complaint.