

Wolfpack Cheer Attendance Policy

Cheerleading is a team sport which requires every cheerleader to know their responsibilities and perform as part of a TEAM. Attendance is essential to the success of each season. Attendance will be taken at the beginning at each practice, game or event. Each Cheerleader's 100% commitment is required as each position on the squad is dependent on the other. When one Cheerleader is absent, it places hardship on the entire squad and can become a **safety issue**. It is for these reasons the Cheerleader and the parents must be advised of the importance of compliance to the attendance policy.

We understand things may come up throughout the season. For that reason we have defined our attendance policy below.

Attendance Policy is as follows

1. All practices, games and competitions are MANDATORY.
2. Athletes are expected to be on time (on time is at least 5 minutes early to practice dressed and ready to begin on time!). The expectation is athletes will be on time for practice and participate in stretching, warm up, etc...
3. Athletes must turn in an Absence Request Form (ARF) at least a week in advance of requested date in order to be considered as an excused absence.
4. Any missed indoor gym practices will only be excused if a family emergency occurs, or a special circumstance, as these are crucial to getting ready for competition.
5. Athletes can not miss any practices the week leading up to competition
6. Athletes will be allowed **four (4) excused** practices throughout the August - December season.
7. Athletes will be allowed **one (1) unexcused** practice throughout the August - December season.

Head Coaches and the cheer committee will make final decisions on each absence status. Excessive absences will be taken into consideration in competition choreography.

Examples of excused absences:

- Athlete is sick but returns with a doctor's note;
- Serious illness or death in the family;
- Mandatory school event; and,
- Planned vacation prior to Jamboree provided the coach has been notified by the first week of practice.

When an athlete knows that he/she is going to be absent or late, he/she has the responsibility to notify their coach in advance, otherwise it will be treated as an unexcused absence. Also, Coaches understand that occasional school conflicts arise, and we prioritize academics first. However, we also expect cheerleaders to use good time management skills to complete school work and make practice.

Examples of unexcused absences:

- Planned vacation after Jamboree;
- Conflict with other sport/activities (special circumstances apply for High School Cheerleaders);
- Birthdays; and,
- Camps, other teams, including try-outs, practices, etc... of other sports organizations.

Wolfpack Cheer is expected to be a priority commitment during the season. When a team is missing cheerleaders, it diminishes the cheerleaders' opportunity, both individually and as a group, to safely learn and practice their skills. A single miss affects the entire squad and impacts those cheerleaders who have committed to be at all practices and games.

After four excused absences, the fifth absence will result in an automatic unexcused absence.

TARDINESS/LEAVING EARLY: 3 times unexcused tardy, leaving early, and any combination of the two is considered 1 UNEXCUSED absence.

Consequences for Unexcused Absences

1st unexcused absence: A warning is issued to the player and parent.

2nd unexcused absence: A parent is issued two (2) hours of volunteer commitment (concession, booster, game day, etc...) due within one week of the absence, and a parent meeting to help prevent future unexcused absences. Failure to complete these hours within the week will count as another unexcused towards the child.

3rd unexcused absence: Athlete must check into the next game and sit out during the entire game.

4th unexcused absence: Athlete is ineligible to compete with the team at competition.

*** PLEASE DO NOT EVER USE CHEERLEADING AS A PUNISHMENT TO YOUR CHILD, THIS IS A TEAM SPORT AND DOING SO THEN PUNISHES THE REST OF YOUR CHILDS TEAM***

Game Day Attendance Policy

Per Pop Warner's rules and guidelines, an athlete is required to check in and participate in at least 70% of all football games in order to be eligible to participate in competition.

Official Pop Warner Absentee forms are required for every game missed. Please see your Head Coach or the Cheer Coordinator to request the form.