

Cheerleading Guidelines

Equal Opportunity:

Cheerleading is an activity conducted under the auspices of the Ysleta ISD Equal Opportunity Policy (EDHG, approved April 12, 1995). Under this policy, there shall be no discrimination on account of student's race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sex, or economic condition. There will be equal access to available equipment, supplies, transportation, lodging, apparel, etc. All cheerleader groups will have equal attire, fund-raising, and opportunities for camp experience.

Cheerleading Guidelines:

Cheerleading responsibilities begin with the selection of the squad and continues until the next squad is chosen. The size of these squads will be determined by the coaches and the campus principal.

The Varsity Squad - is comprised of juniors and seniors when the number trying out makes this possible. This squad cheers at varsity football games, assigned volleyball, basketball, and baseball games; and at other assigned events.

The Junior Varsity Squad – is comprised of sophomores and juniors who cheer at J.V. football games, assigned volleyball, basketball, and baseball games, and other assigned events.

The Freshman Squad – is comprised of freshmen who cheer at freshmen football games, assigned freshmen volleyball and basketball games; and other assigned events.

The Middle School Squads – is/are comprised of 7th and/or 8th grade students who cheer at assigned events.

Tryouts:

According to TEA rules as of July 1995, an ineligible student **may be** allowed to participate in a one day tryout performance.

The applicant must:

1. Attend a pre-tryout meeting to review requirements and guidelines with a parent/legal guardian.
2. Prior to the beginning of the tryout workshop:
 - A. Turn in a copy of the rules, signed by the applicant and the responsible parent/legal guardian.
 - B. Turn in a copy of the previous grading period report card or campus eligibility report form for the three weeks grade checks.
 - C. Turn in a completed clearance sheet indicating that there are no issues concerning trancies, serious discipline problems (SAC, etc.), attendance and financial clearance problems in the business office.
3. Will be enrolled as a Full Time student at the school.
4. Enroll in the fall semester cheerleading class, if selected as a cheerleader, unless a wavier is approved by the coach & campus administrator. Submit an application to the review committee if he/she was ever a member of a cheerleading squad and had been removed or resigned.
5. Have a signed physical examination form on file with the coach or athletic trainer on campus, prior to participation, including the tryout.

In addition to these procedures, the coaches may develop a campus citizenship form to be completed by campus teachers and staff, Each applicant's name will appear on the form and comments will be solicited

in a format similar to that used by the National Honor Society. If any issues are indicated, a committee will review the situation and make a recommendation. The review committee will make recommendations concerning clearance issues, citizenship issues, and previous cheerleader removals or resignations prior to the tryout workshop. Any applicant who meets the high ethical standards demanded by participation in a campus cheerleader program shall be afforded the opportunity to tryout.

The following format should be adhered to for all cheerleading tryouts on the High School campuses:

1. The coaches will distribute all pertinent forms and information to potential applicants.
2. The coaches will organize and conduct a meeting for students and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to discuss all requirements and expectations for being a cheerleader. Students and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will have the opportunity to ask questions.
3. The coaches will conduct a workshop session(s) to teach applicant's a few basic skills needed for tryouts.
4. The procedure for actual tryouts will vary from one day to three days on the various campuses. The district individual rating sheet and judge's ranking form will be used at all tryouts in order to guarantee uniformity on the selection criteria across the district.
5. The district standard is at least three external judges, but no more than five external judges who are district employees. In the event that a cheerleader judge does not appear due to extenuating circumstances, the remaining judges may judge the tryout or the tryout may be postponed and/or rescheduled. The campus cheerleader coaches will select the judges who best meet the selection process of their campus. High school and middle school coaches are encouraged to judge each other's competitions in the Spring.
6. An exception to #5 is the option of paying Universal Cheerleading Association (UCA) judges a consultant and transportation fee to judge and tabulate scores for all squad tryouts on a campus.
7. Cheerleader judging form – Use ink pen and initial if there is a change in score.
8. Cheerleading Coaches will not assist or compute judge's scores.

Requirements for Elected Cheerleaders:

A cheerleader must meet **TEA/UIL credit requirements** at the beginning of the Fall semester and meet all TEA/UIL eligibility requirements throughout the cheerleading calendar year. Failure to do so **will** result in suspension from all cheerleading activities, including wearing the uniform. Cheerleaders who are ineligible for two grading periods during the cheerleading calendar year will be removed from the squad and **may be** transferred out of the cheerleading class. (**Refer to #5 – “Tryouts”**).

Good conduct and citizenship are required of all cheerleaders. Smoking, drinking intoxicating beverages, using illegal drugs, or engaging in **any** activities which could adversely reflect on the individual, squad, or school will result in disciplinary action. A student may be removed from the squad for health reasons (example: pregnancy).

A cheerleader may be placed on probation/suspension only once. This includes suspension due to ineligibility or due to disciplinary action. The second time a cheerleader is put on probation/suspension during the cheerleading calendar year, he/she **will be** removed from the squad.

A cheerleader will adhere to the following attendance policies or face disciplinary action:

1. Attend all summer practices and camp(s).
2. Participate in fund-raising activities sponsored by the campus cheerleaders.
3. Bring a parent's note for the first 2 days to be excused from cheerleading class participation. After the 3rd day, a doctor's note will be required.
4. Notify the coaches prior to missing **any** cheerleading activity, including practice.
5. Resolve any conflict due to participation in cheerleading and other school activities, to the satisfaction of coach(es) involved before the scheduled event or activity.

Activity Requirements:

1. The first responsibility for all cheerleading squads is to cover home games or events.
2. A cheerleader may cheer at one contest during the school week (Monday through the final school day of the week at 4:00 PM). One contest is a single game or a double-header/tripleheader of one sport.
3. A cheerleader may not cheer at different sports on different nights during the same week.

Camps:

Varsity:	Camps may be paid for by fund-raising or parents payment. The Varsity squad is limited to one out-of-town and one local camp.
J.V. & Freshmen:	J.V. and Freshmen squads are limited to one national in-town camp (which would include Las Cruces, New Mexico) and one other local camp.
7 th & 8 th Grade:	Middle school squads are limited to one national in-town camp and one other local camp or two local camps.

Uniforms:

The Ysleta ISD will purchase cheerleader uniforms, including a shell and skirt or jumper, warm-ups or jacket for all levels beginning in the 1996-97 school year. In addition, the district may also purchase a sweater and camp clothes for the varsity squad only.

The campus may purchase all equipment including pompoms, megaphones, travel bags, and raincoats, beginning in the 1996-97 school year.

Parents will be responsible for the purchase of personal items including body suits, bloomers, hair bows, socks, shoes, bags (optional by school), and a water jug beginning in the 1996-97 school year. The choice of uniforms and squad needs is contingent upon approval of the coaches and the campus principal.

Cheerleader squads may fundraise for sets of camp clothes, not to exceed the following:

7th & 8th Grade Squads \$100.00 per girl
Freshmen Squads \$130.00 per girl
J.V. Squads \$130.00 per girl

Varsity Squads may fundraise for an additional shell and skirt at a maximum cost of \$250.00 per girl.

Uniform items that are purchased by the Ysleta Independent School District, by the campus, or with money obtained through a school sponsored fund raising project or activity, are the property of the school and the district and are to remain so. Lost or damaged uniforms must be replaced or paid for at the replacement cost by the cheerleader who lost or damaged the merchandise.

Y.I.S.D. Athletic Director

Campus Principal

Campus Cheer Coach

Campus Administrator