

2016-2017

Iraan-Sheffield I.S.D.
Cheerleading
Constitution

Iraan-Sheffield ISD Cheerleading Policy and Procedures

Why ISISD Cheerleading Exists:

- To create: spirit, pride, loyalty, in school activities.
- To promote: teamwork, responsibility, dedication, and self-respect.
- To build: better relationships between school and community

Vision:

- Iraan-Sheffield ISD Cheerleading develops leadership, time management skills, cooperation and appropriate standards of behavior.

Mission:

- Iraan-Sheffield ISD Cheerleading promotes school spirit, pride, cooperation, good behavior, sportsmanship, friendship, self-discipline and lifelong values and skills.

Goals and Duties:

- Cheer at all football games and district basketball games. (including playoffs)
- Plan, schedule and participate in pep rallies/sendoffs, Homecoming/Spirit week
 - Decorate halls, make signs
- Be a positive role model at all times.

Character Expectations:

- Cheerleaders will be leaders; set a good example; have good personal grooming habits; be courteous and friendly; be respectful to all; abide by rules set by the school, district, and UIL; respect officials; work with team members and the cheer adviser; be punctual at all times; maintain an attitude of enthusiasm; and never engage in gossip or slander.
 - Cheerleaders must realize that the manner, in which they conduct themselves, in and out of uniform, directly reflects on the team, school and community.
 - Cheerleading is a privilege, not a right.

Eligibility:

- For the first two nine week grading periods, members must be passing in all classes. **If at any point during the first two nine weeks you become ineligible due to UIL regulations, you will be dismissed from the squad.**
- If at any point during the year you are placed in the Discipline Alternative Education Program (DAEP) you will be dismissed from the squad and ineligible to try-out again for one full year.

- Members must maintain good citizenship, attendance, class performance and teacher recommendations during the time on the squad and for try-outs.
- Cheerleaders must have a physical and signed **Policy and Procedures** on file with the athletic department.
- Cheerleaders must attend games, practice, camps and participate in fundraisers.
- **If you are on the cheer squad and quit for any reason, then you are ineligible to participate the next year.**
- **Cheerleaders must abide by all district rules and policies including: Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct and Extra-Curricular Handbook.**

Conduct:

- Cheerleaders will promote good sportsmanship, not use foul language, show public displays of affection, and maintain proper and appropriate appearance for the occasion.
- Excellent behavior is expected at all times in the community and at school functions. You represent Iraan-Sheffield ISD at all times, in uniform or other attire.
- Cheerleaders will have proper behavior in class, be on time, respectful, and never skip class or cheat.
- **Cheerleaders will be disciplined on case by case basis by the sponsor. The sponsor may involve school administration if deemed necessary. Any discipline will be fair and equitable as determined by the sponsor and/or administrator.**
- Parents will be kept informed as quickly as possible of problems, severity and the discipline that must occur.

Absences:

- Cheerleaders will be present and on time for all activities. This includes camp, practice, games, pep-rallies and all other meetings and functions the sponsor has deemed necessary.
 - Failure to comply will have a negative effect on the squad and activities cannot go on without your presence.
- If you are absent; a cheerleader must have a doctor's note, phone call to sponsor or note from parent. **Three unexcused absences will be grounds for dismissal from the squad.**
 - **Three tardies will result in suspension from the next pep-rally.**

Game and Practice:

- Be on time wearing proper clothes and shoes. Hair needs to be out of eyes and in a ponytail if shoulder length or longer. Fingernails must be cut short, and fake fingernails are not allowed. No gum, food, cell phones or jewelry are allowed at practice or games.
- Safety is the first priority. Cheerleaders will stretch and warm-up before practice. No horse-play. No stunts unless the sponsor is present.
- It is mandatory cheerleaders know all cheers and routines, be at all football games and district basketball games. This includes all playoff games in both sports.
- Cheerleaders must arrive 45 minutes before a game dressed in full uniform and stay after for cleanup.

- The sponsor can require cheerleaders to come earlier and will dismiss the squad to go home when appropriate.
- During a game socializing while the game is in progress is not allowed.

Uniforms:

- Uniforms are provided by the school district. They must be cleaned and pressed. Uniforms cannot be shared including warm-ups and sweatshirts.
- Camp uniforms will be agreed upon by the sponsor and squad and purchased by the cheerleader.
 - Cheerleader shoes must be worn at all practices and games and purchased by the cheerleader. All cheerleader shoes will be the same style.
- Cheerleaders will wear their uniforms or team designated outfit on game days.

Transportation: Cheerleaders are expected to ride school transportation or other authorized vehicles to away games. With proper documentation cheerleaders may ride home with their parents.

Discipline: Violations of cheerleader rules and policy will result in disciplinary action. Additional disciplinary action may occur as stated in the Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook and Extracurricular Handbook.

Mascot: The mascot will abide by all rules set forth for cheerleaders in this document.

Fundraisers and Finances: Cheerleaders are required to participate in all fundraisers. Individuals will replace lost, damaged or stolen uniforms. The cost of camp clothes and shoes are provided by the cheerleader. Spending money at camp is the responsibility of the cheerleader. Additional expenses may occur as well. All cheerleaders will be required to meet camp fees per girl through their sale efforts on fundraisers.

Cheerleading Criteria & Selection of Squad Positions:

- High School Varsity
 - To be sophomore (10), junior (11), or senior (12)
 - The six highest composite scores
 - One mascot with the highest composite score
- High School Junior Varsity
 - To be freshmen (9), sophomore (10), or junior (11)
 - The second six highest composite scores
- **Refusal to participate on the junior varsity squad will make you ineligible to try out the following year. Seniors will have the option of being on the Junior Varsity squad if they are not in the six highest composite scores. Seniors will sign a pre-tryout waiver if they do not want to be considered for the Junior Varsity squad.**

- Junior High
 - The first three highest 8th grade and 7th grade composite scores will be the junior high squad.
 - If only two try out in 7th or 8th grade, then four will be selected from a grade to complete the squad to 6 members.

Tryout Information: There will be three categories weighted 33.3% each as follows:

- Panel of three judges from a local college or university consisting of cheerleading coaches or cheerleaders. The focus will be on:
 - Appearance, spirit, enthusiasm, motion, technique, voice, projection, jumps and dance.
- Teacher Classroom Recommendations. The focus will be on:
 - Grades, attitude, accountability, responsibility, and leadership.
- Student Vote

Selection Decisions are Final

Demerits, Suspension and Dismissal: The sponsor determines if demerits are to be given or not. The following are guidelines to be used:

- One (1) demerit
 - Late to game, practice, sign painting, or clean up.
- Two (2) demerits
 - Failure to wear the appropriate uniform; disrespect to sponsor; failure to learn cheers, chants or dances; missing practice without prior notice; engaging in public displays of affection.
- Three (3) demerits
 - Any violation of the Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook or Extracurricular Handbook.

Consequences of Demerits:

- Five (5) demerits: Suspension from one game.
- Eight (8) demerits: Suspension from one game and one pep rally
- Fifteen (15) demerits: Dismissal from the squad. (requires approval from principal)

***There are other events which could cause dismissal from the squad based on the seriousness of violations of the Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook and Extracurricular Handbook**