

# **Springboro Pee Wee Cheerleading Association Rules and Guidelines**

## **Eligibility**

Cheerleaders must either attend Springboro Schools or reside in the City of Springboro or Clearcreek Township. Parental permission must be provided for all cheerleaders. It is strongly suggested that all Springboro Pee Wee Cheerleaders undergo a physical before participating; however, proof of said physical is not required at this time.

## **Attendance Requirements**

Attendance at all practices, games and cheer camps is MANDATORY. Absence from these events will be excused ONLY for illness, family emergency or pre-planned vacations with PRIOR approval from the coach. Prior approval for vacations MUST be received two weeks prior to the requested vacation. Prior approval for vacations that occur during the school year that would cause a cheerleader to miss a game, would require the notice to be received no later than the end of July. Missing practice or a game without meeting these requirements will constitute an unexcused absence.

If the cheerleader is on a competition squad, for purposes of choreography and placement, attendance at ALL competitions is MANDATORY. If you are planning a vacation during the time when SPC attends competitions (typically mid-October through Thanksgiving), this vacation must be disclosed prior to choreography camp (mid to late July). It will be an excused absence, but failure to attend a competition could result in loss of placement in the routine and result in the cheerleader having to sit out the following competition. Although this may seem extreme, moving placements in a routine can be dangerous if girls are not given ample time to practice their new positions. There are typically only two practices between competitions which is not enough time to take someone out and change placements at this age. If a vacation is not disclosed prior to choreography camp and a cheerleader misses a competition, a demerit will be issued.

Tardiness will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.

All practices are considered “closed” practices unless otherwise denoted by the head coach.

## **Financial/Transportation Responsibilities**

All fees as set forth by SPC must be paid in a timely manner. Failure to do so may result in removal from the program. Any child with an outstanding debt to SPC must resolve that debt before he/she will be permitted to participate in awards activities or to try out again.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for all transportation to and from all SPC events, including practices, games and competitions (if on a competition squad).

## **Uniforms/Practice Wear/Appearance**

Each cheerleader is required to purchase practice wear from SPC and is required to wear said practice wear to ALL practices. Uniforms are NOT to be worn anywhere but to games, competitions and to school on days designated by the coach.

Uniforms are the property of SPC. They must be turned in at the end of the season. Parents/Guardians will be financially responsible for damaged or lost uniforms.

Cheerleading shoes are to be worn ONLY to practices, games and competitions. They should not be worn anywhere else during the cheer season.

Jewelry is not to be worn during practices, games or competitions. Makeup should be age appropriate, natural and not excessive. Hair must be kept neat and secured up out of the face, and when possible, pulled up in a ponytail.

### **Conduct**

Springboro Pee Wee Cheerleaders are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Negative behavior and/or bullying, whether in person or on any type of digital or social media, will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action. Physical contact of any kind will result in an automatic demerit.

Parents should behave with the same sportsmanlike manner that is expected of the cheerleaders. Parents should never approach a game or competition official or competition judge, but should direct concerns or questions to coaches or the director. All communications with a coach, whether in person or through any type of digital or social media, should be polite and respectful.

There should be no public displays of affection, hand holding, etc. while wearing SPC clothing (this includes practice wear, jackets, or uniforms).

Cell phones are not permitted to be out of cheer bags during practices, games or SPC events.

Tumbling is never to be attempted without a certified spotter. Parents, student coaches and other cheerleaders should never spot.

### **Disciplinary Action**

Demerits will be issued for violations to the rules set forth by SPC.

The first demerit issued in a season will result in the cheerleader sitting out ½ of a game. During that time, the cheerleader must be in uniform and must sit with the coach.

The second demerit issued in a season will result in the cheerleader sitting out a full game. During that time, the cheerleader must be in uniform and must sit with the coach.

The third demerit issued in a season will result in the cheerleader being removed from the squad.

Demerits will carry a value of one point each and will carry over to the next season's tryouts. One point will be deducted from the cheerleader's tryout score for each demerit issued.

A cheerleader may be dismissed from a squad without demerits being issued for the following reasons: excessive or irreconcilable disruptive influence on the squad, conduct likely to bring the squad or team reputation into disrepute, and as otherwise deemed necessary by the coach and the SPC Board. Cheerleaders removed from a squad for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to try out for a position with SPC again without Board review.

If a cheerleader is suspended or expelled from school, it will be at the discretion of the coach and the SPC Board if any disciplinary action will carry over to cheer.

Cheerleaders who quit a squad will not be allowed to try out again. The only exceptions to this will be for those children whose parents move out of the district mid-season, injury that prohibits cheerleading, or in cases of a family emergency and are subject to Board approval.