

Cougar Cheer Attendance Policy

It is very important that cheerleaders attend all practices and games. It is incredibly difficult for the team to learn new cheers, routines and formations with missing cheerleaders. If there is a reason a cheerleader cannot attend a practice or a game, the coach and/or cheer director must be notified in advance.

Conflicts with other sports/ activities should be discussed with the coaches of both sports/ activities so arrangements can be made and the player is not penalized.

Some examples of excused absences are doctor notes, funerals, approved vacations by the coaches prior to the start of the season. Please turn in all vacation dates, in writing to the coach, by the second week of practice using this form: <https://forms.gle/zA5xiHpUC5qFZgZr8>

Cheer practice will be MANDATORY for all Cheerleaders for 2 weeks prior to Cheerfest Competition. Cheerleaders that wish to compete must attend all mandatory practices, no exceptions.

Unexcused absences:

- 2 unexcused absences - sit out first quarter of the game
- 3 unexcused absences - sit out first half of a game
- 4 unexcused absences - Sit out 1 full game
- 5 unexcused absences - Not eligible to participate in Cheerfest

Unexcused Tardies:

A cheerleader is considered tardy if they are 5 or more minutes late to practice.

An unexcused tardy will equal 0.5 unexcused Absences

Note: Tardies are only considered excused for doctor appts or other approved sports/ activities.

CHEERFEST

Cougar cheerleaders are not required to participate in Cheerfest (competition) that is held at the end of the season. Cheerfest is an opportunity for our cheerleaders to show the skills they have acquired and compete for medals. If a cheerleader does not wish to perform at Cheerfest, the coaches should be notified at the beginning of the season (by September 1st at the latest). When we start to prepare for Cheerfest, practice times will increase. All practices will become mandatory. Any cheerleader who misses practices may be removed from Cheerfest performances as they may be unable to learn what they have missed.