

Ore City ISD  
2019-2020  
Cheerleading Contract

**Must Read**

Please read the following information carefully before you make your final decision to try out for Ore City cheerleader/mascot. The following guidelines are intended to help you be a part of the best cheerleading squad possible. It should be the goal of each individual to make the cheerleaders of Ore City ISD a model for other schools in the district and area. You must also consider the position an honor of which you will be placed. Your actions and performances will affect the entire school. More will be expected of you and your behavior will be held at a higher standard than that of the average student.

Please consider very seriously the commitment you are about to make for the upcoming school year. It is a tremendous duty to take on many activities and it is encouraged that you make the highest possible effort to support all of your activities to the fullest. Since Ore City ISD has the desire for our students to be successful, we hope that your participation in the cheerleading squad is an amazing experience for many years to come.

Keeping all of this in mind, as well as the following guidelines, you need to set your priorities and decide if you are prepared to do what is necessary and make the sacrifices that may be required to be an Ore City Rebel cheerleader or mascot.

After you and your parents have read all the attached material, you should complete the information pages attached and return them to the middle school offices. Failure to return these documents by the deadline will result in your inability to try out.

Best of Luck!  
Kate Crutcher & Tonia Quinn- Middle School Sponsors

In accordance with the Ore City High School Code of Conduct and the Ore City ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct, the following policies and guidelines will govern all aspects of the athletic programs in Ore City ISD.

- 1. Follow all rules and guidelines set forth in the “ECC” and “SCC”**
2. At the time of tryouts, a minimum of 70 in each subject and must abide by the UIL “no pass, no play” rule.
3. Summer practice schedules will be handed out at a later time.
4. Cheerleaders are required to cheer at all appropriate games.
5. Must conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times, especially when in uniform.
6. Must refrain from the use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, profane language, and indecent photos on social media at all times. If caught with evidence; cheerleader, cheer coach, and girls’ athletic coordinator will have a meeting at which time will determine your placement on the cheer squad.
7. Must notify sponsor/coach ahead of time for any absences.
8. No practice will be conducted without a coach.
9. Each cheerleader will be expected to attend all practices once school begins. These will normally be after school.
10. Members of the squad are to listen and follow the directions of the coaches.
11. Each cheerleader will be required to know game day cheers and assigned material for the current weeks pep rally.
12. Cheerleaders will maintain proper sideline behavior at all times. This, includes but not limited to: no excessive talking/visiting, no gum chewing, paying attention to game, standing in correct formation, showing respect during National Anthem/School songs, no taunting, cheer/spirit throughout game.
13. Proper uniform is required at all times.
14. Members are encouraged to take part in other activities related to school PROVIDED that any conflict can be worked out in advance.
15. Cheerleaders will abide by the UIL guidelines and will be expected to follow the current OCISD Drug and Alcohol regulations.
16. A cheerleader who is injured at any time during the season must have a doctor’s note to be excused. A doctor’s release must be on file before a member returns to performing status.
17. Members will be responsible for the care and cleaning of all uniforms provided by the school. No part of the uniform may be worn by anyone who is not on the squad.
18. No cell phones out during practice or games. If parents need to reach you they can call the head coach or assistant coach.
19. If a cheerleader quits the squad she will not be able to tryout the next school year.
20. Cheerleading for athletic events comes before work as you have signed the After School Work Agreement.
21. Cheerleading year: The rules and procedures outlined in this constitution are in effect from the time the student is selected to the cheerleading squad until the next tryout date. This does not include the academic guidelines. Because of TEA rules, the academic policies are in effect for a school year.
22. If a cheerleader/mascot becomes pregnant while serving, she will be dismissed from the squad for safety reasons.

## 23. Parent Expectations

- a. A ticket to the game is a privilege to observe and support high school athletics. It is not a license to verbally assault others or act obnoxious. We want to be known as a first-class program. This includes the actions of our coaches, players, and parents.
  - b. Respect all fans, coaches, and opponents.
  - c. Be a fan. Support your girls.
  - d. Parents are expected to support the Cheerleading Program. Some of these activities include volunteering at fundraiser events, snacks/meal pick-up for camp, providing candy bags, etc.
  - e. Parents are strongly encouraged to join the Ore City Rebel Club.
24. Transportation- Cheerleaders will ride to and from away games with the squad or can be checked out by a parent from the coach.
25. First payment of \$185 will be due March 19<sup>th</sup>. This covers your child's camp cost. All payments are due on time! **We can not order camp clothes or pay for camp without payment from cheerleaders.**
26. All cheerleaders are expected to participate in fundraising or will result in disciplinary action.

### Discipline

<b>2 demerit Infraction</b>
Incorrect outfit or uniform worn to an event (including missing parts of the uniform such as bow, socks, bloomers; wearing jewelry, wearing hair improperly, wearing wrong uniform) or wearing wrong or unsafe practice attire. Hair always in a ponytail to games and pep rallies. Missing poms or any practice gear/attire
Unexcused tardy (arrive 20 minutes early to a home game) or leaving early to or from a performance or practice (included half-time breaks). Late to a game: benched for a quarter
Public display of affection while in uniform or out
Failure to follow cheer coach's instructions
Displays of anger, verbal aggression, and/or directed shouting at teammates or coaches during practice, pep rally, game and other activities
Late for practice, meetings
Unexcused missed practice (AND NON-SCHOOL EVENT)
<b>5 demerit Infraction</b>
Unsportsmanlike conduct (including inappropriate language) towards teammates, the other team or peers during practice, pep rally, game and other activities
Noncompliance to cheer camp rules
Does not follow a directive from a coach

Poor attitude or work ethic during practice or game
Inappropriate behavior toward peers in person or on social media during school hours or after (ie taunting, name calling, excluding from groups, threatening, etc)
School dress code violation
Use of inappropriate language or gestures at school
Any disciplinary action in principal's office (includes principal's detention but not OCS)
<b>10 demerit Infraction</b>
Any office referral that includes receiving OCS
Unexcused missed games, events, & pep rally
Disrespect (including interrupting), sarcasm, insults or negative remarks made to a coach, teacher, cheerleader, staff, or administration.
Any act at school or cheer event deemed unsafe by the coach
Any misuse of social media that degrades self, other, or the school including but not limited to the use of inappropriate language or gestures
<b>OFF THE SQUAD!</b>
Consumption or use of an illegal or prohibited substance, disorderly conduct, or any offense covered by moral turpitude <b>(including participation of any type in creating, possessing, displaying, or forwarding illicit content by means electronic or other wise)</b> on or off campus.
An accumulation of 20 demerits.

Consequences:

**10 Demerits** – Benched for one Football Game. When games are not an option, sponsors will assign another task.

**15 Demerits** – Placed on Probation, Benched for remainder of 6 weeks.

**20 Demerits** – Dismissed from the squad.

1. Parent will be contacted after two minor offenses, any major offenses, or removal.

2. What is excused?

- Medical Doctor appointment
- Family Death
- Immediate family Weddings
- Illness that is verified by a medical excuse
- Injury with a medical excuse and/or trainer's excuse
- UIL school activities
- Any other approved absence by your cheer coach

3. If the cheerleader/mascot receives any minor or major infractions, she/he will have the options to make signs, help clean up home side football stand (home or away game) and/or run bleachers as a disciplinary consequence. The coaches will make the decision on the type of punishment.

**As the cheer coach I have authority to enforce additional rules and policies at my discretion. Removal from the squad is at the coaches' discretion.** I will only discuss your child and your child's circumstance with you. If a circumstance arises, parents and cheerleader must go through the correct chain as stated in the ECC for a situation to be resolved.

### Grievance Procedure

A cheerleader/mascot and parent must schedule a meeting and discuss any grievance with the cheer coach first. If the grievance is not settled to the cheerleader's/mascot or parent's satisfaction, then a formal meeting may be scheduled with the principal to review. If the grievance is still not settled after meeting with the principal, then a formal meeting may be scheduled with the superintendent to review. Grievances not heard in this order will result in no action unless the process is started over and plaintiff follows these procedures exactly.

- a. If you have a concern or disagree with a decision, please schedule a meeting with the sponsor first.
- b. If you and the sponsor cannot agree in the first meeting, a conference with the principal can be scheduled. If you bring your concern to the principal first, he or she will refer you to the sponsor.
- c. If the concern cannot be settled with the principal, you are free to pursue the formal grievance process listed in the district board policy manual.

### Try-Out Information

Please read carefully over the following information. Please sign stating that you have read the requirements, expectations, discipline system, and estimated expenses for those chosen as OCMS Cheerleaders and I agree to follow all of the rules and guidelines of the organization.

#### Middle School

1. Up to 12 candidates. We will take no more than 12 candidates, but can take a minimum number at coach's discretion.
2. 1 mascot

A signup sheet for tryouts will be in the middle school office beginning February 11<sup>th</sup> and ending on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Tryout forms will be handed out at the time of sign up.

- A. Tryout forms must be signed and returned to the middle school office **by 3:45 PM on February 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please hand the forms to Mrs. Smith for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders.

- B. No late forms will be accepted. If not turned in completed by the due date, you will not be allowed to tryout.
- C. **Move ins into the district after February 25<sup>th</sup> must have paperwork, forms (constitution, work agreement, etc.), enrolled, and grades by March 1<sup>st</sup> to try out.**
- D. **Mandatory practice for tryouts will be on Friday, March 1 from 4-6 and Thursday, March 7 from 4-6. A parent meeting will be held on Friday, March 1 following practice. A parent/guardian is required to attend this meeting in order for your child to tryout!**
- E. Each candidate must wear **solid** black shorts with no extra logo showing (may be covered by black tape), a white t-shirt, white “no-show” socks, and tennis shoes. There can be no writing on any part of the tryout clothing. Black spandex may be worn under shorts, but not alone. No tight tops or sports bras should show.
- F. No jewelry, glitter, or nail polish of any color should be worn at tryouts.
- G. Hair must be pulled away from face and secured in a ponytail. A bow is optional.
- H. Tryouts will be conducted **Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11:00 AM in the High School Gym**. All candidates will remain in the girls’ locker room until their candidate number and group is called to perform for the judges. **There will be no parents allowed in the building including the foyer. Candidates will not be allowed to check out early the day of tryouts. If a candidate checks out early the day of tryouts they will not be allowed to tryout.** Candidates will stay in the locker room until every candidate has gone due to unforeseen callbacks. Results will be posted on the front gym door.
- I. Numbers will be assigned by lottery to determine the order in which candidates will try out and to determine groups for cheer and dance. (Groups will consist of 2 or 3 candidates, depending on the number trying out.)
- J. Cheerleaders will be scored and selected by a judge along with coaches. Selection will be based on individual ability to perform, communicate, motions, cheer, chant, jumps, tumbling and crowd leading. Middle School will also include a dance.
- K. Scoring results are confidential; however, upon written request, a parent may be shown the judges total score for his/her child only. No other candidate’s score will be shown. Your child’s score will be made available the week following Spring Break upon written request.
- L. **IF the candidate makes the squad we will have a MANDATORY parent and cheerleader/mascot meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the MS Gym.**

## **Mascot Tryouts**

- M. The mascot will be the highest scoring candidate who tries out.
- N. Mascot candidates will follow the same guidelines as cheerleaders to be eligible for tryouts and to maintain an active status.
- O. Mascot candidates will do a one minute routine. Candidates will be required to wear the Rebel mascot uniform. For the routine you need to provide the music and props.
- P. Numbers will be assigned by lottery to determine the order in which the candidates will tryout. Candidates will tryout in numerical order.
- Q. The mascot's identity should be hidden at all times. The mascot will be expected to wear the full uniform at all times during pep rallies, assemblies, games, and other activities, except during cheer coach approved break times. During extended breaks, the mascot is required to wear cheer coaches approved spirit attire.
- R. The mascot must attend all practices designated by the cheer coach.
- S. The mascot will be responsible to perform skits at pep rallies per coach request.

### **★Candidate Eligibility:**

1. Forms include: after school work agreement, and a signed (by both candidate and parent) constitution agreement.
2. Must maintain passing grade average of 70 or better. No Pass – No Play rules apply.
3. Candidate must have an acceptable discipline record. A candidate cannot have had DAEP during the school year prior to tryouts.
4. If a cheerleader quit the squad during the prior year she/he will not be able to tryout the following year.

### **Skills and Procedures:**

1. Tryout material will be presented at the first practice.
2. Each Middle School candidate will perform an individual cheer, chant and dance in a group.
3. Each candidate will perform three jumps and one must be a toe touch.

4. Spiriting and tumbling should be done as the candidate enters and exits the judging room.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT FORM

By signing your name to this contract, you are stating that you agree to the Ore City Girls' Cheerleading Standards of Behavior on and off the field. All cheerleaders and managers are subject to suspension and/or removal from the cheerleading program if you are unable to follow these standards.

Cheerleader Name:

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Cheerleader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: