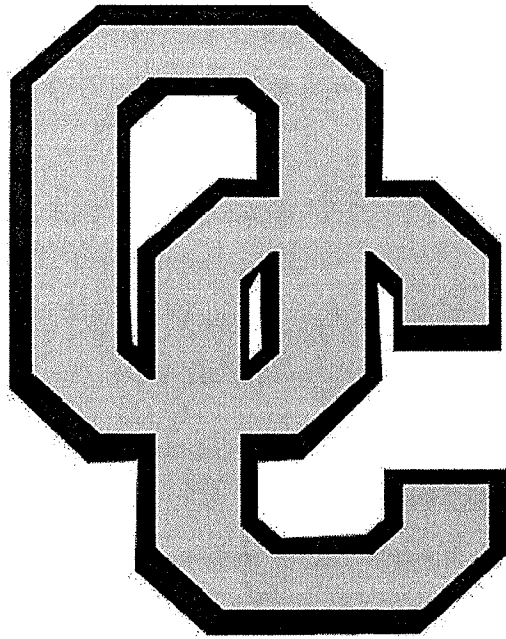


Ore City Middle School

Cheerleader Handbook

2020-2021



WE ARE OC!

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Purpose of Cheerleading

Our cheerleading squad serves a valuable purpose to the overall mission in the educational process at Ore City Middle School. We believe that involvement in cheerleading enhances our students' educational experience by providing them opportunities to serve, support, lead, represent, and compete. The combination of these attributes make cheerleading a worthwhile extra-curricular activity for our students to be involved in.

Our Standards

It is our belief that being a member of the Ore City Middle School Cheer Program is a select honor and privilege, not a right. That in order to maintain this privilege, certain standards shall be kept in order to protect this honor. As a member of the program, you will represent the community of Ore City, Ore City Middle School, and yourself in a manner that will reflect pride for these entities. We will uphold the following standards:

1. Treat others with respect. This includes sponsors, teachers, administration, teammates, and opponents.
2. Be a great student in the classroom. Do your best in the classroom from an academic and behavioral standpoint. UIL eligibility rules apply.
3. Attend all practices, games, camps, competitions, and events.
4. Come prepared. This means wearing appropriate attire and knowing designated routines.
5. Know all material, cheers and dance routines in order to represent the squad in a pep rally, game, or competition.
6. Be coachable.
7. Be positive.
8. Participate in fundraising activities.
9. Cooperate with and assist the sponsors and administration in maintaining safety, order, and discipline on the squad.
10. Refrain from the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, inappropriate language, and indecent or crude behavior.
11. Follow all OCMS Student Code of Conduct guidelines.

Guidelines

1. Reasons for missing a **practice** are few: Sickness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances. If an absence is unavoidable, it is your responsibility to contact your sponsors ahead of time and make them aware.:
 - a. Excused Absence- 10 bleacher snakes (a coach has to watch)
 - b. Unexcused Absence- 20 bleacher snakes (a coach has to watch), possible suspension for future events, possible dismissal from squad
2. Reasons for missing a **game, pep rally, camp, competition, or fundraising event** are also few: sickness, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances. These events are scheduled well ahead of time and should be planned for. Please let your sponsors know at the earliest point if an absence is unavoidable.
 - a. Excused Absence- 10 bleacher snakes
 - b. Unexcused Absence- 20 bleacher snakes, suspension for future events, possible dismissal from squad
3. Ride to and from away games on district transportation with the squad.
4. 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.
5. Exhibit proper sideline behavior- pay attention to game, stand in correct formation, no gum chewing, no cell phones, show respect during National Anthem/School Songs, cheer throughout the game.
6. Never leave a practice or game down or frustrated. Come talk to a sponsor and tell them your concerns before you leave. Don't allow frustrations to build.

Behavior Management

Sponsors have the authority, and responsibility, to maintain good discipline and conduct of the squad. The following behavior management techniques may be used alone, in combination, or as part of progressive interventions for behavior detrimental to the squad. This list is not meant to be all inclusive, but rather a guide for general behavior management.

1. Verbal correction
2. Physical activity (i.e. running, jumping, pushups, sit ups)
3. Service (i.e. making signs, cleaning stadium after games)
4. Parent conference
5. Withdrawal of privileges (suspension from games, pep rallies)
6. Dismissal from squad

Cost

This is an estimation for budgeting purposes. All costs are subject to changes.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>	<u>What For</u>
3/20/20	\$150	Summer Camp
4/20/20	\$190	Shoes and camp clothes
5/20/20	\$240	Shorts, Leggings, Socks, Jacket, Bows, Water Jug

Fundraising

Participation in our fundraising events is important and expected.

1. Fern sale
2. TBA

Tryout Information

1. Middle School
 - a. Maximum of 20 candidates. Minimum at coach's discretion.
 - b. 1 mascot
2. Your student and parent signature page (found at the end of the handbook) must be returned to your campus office by 9:00am on February 24th. No late forms will be accepted.
3. Sponsors will teach new try out material, in the high school gym. Practice times and places are as follows: February 24th and 26th, March 2nd in the HS gym from 4:00-5:15 pm. Practice sessions are closed to the public, parents, outside coaches, and spectators. Material may be recorded.
4. Each candidate must wear solid black shorts, 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.
5. No jewelry or glitter should be worn at tryouts.
6. Hair must be pulled away from face and secured in a ponytail. A bow is optional.
7. Tryouts will be conducted Friday, March 4th, following HS tryouts, which start at 4:00pm in the HS gym. All candidates will remain in the girls' locker room until their candidate number and group is called to perform for the judges. Tryouts are closed to the public and parents. Candidates will not be allowed to arrive late or check out early the day of tryouts. If these occur, they will not be allowed to try out. 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.
8. Each candidate will perform an individual cheer, chant, and dance routine to music in a group. Each candidate will perform three jumps, and one must be a toe touch. Spiriting and tumbling should be done as the candidate enters and exits the judging room.
9. Cheerleaders will be scored by OC Cheer sponsors and an independent consultant. Selection will be based on individual ability to perform, communicate, motions, cheer, chant, jumps, tumbling, dancing, and crowd leading.
10. Scoring results are confidential. However, upon request, a parent may be shown the judges total score for their child only.
11. If a cheerleader quit the squad in previous years, they will not be allowed to tryout.

Dates

All dates, times, events, and locations are subject to changes and additions. Does not include practice dates.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
2/24/2020	9:00am	Signature Page Due	Campus Office
2/24/2020	4:00-5:15pm	Tryout practice	HS Gym
2/26/2020	4:00-5:15pm	Tryout practice	HS Gym
3/2/2020	4:00-5:15pm	Tryout practice	HS Gym
3/4/2020	4:00 pm	Tryouts	HS Gym
3/17 - 3/31	TBD	Fern sale fundraiser	
6/8-9	TBD	Camp	TBD
TBD	TBD	Meet The Rebels Community Pep Rally	Stadium
Thursdays	4:30	All Middle School Football Games	Stadium
Thursdays	TBD	Pep Rallies for Home Football Games	MS Gym

Signature Page

My signature below indicates that:

1. I have read the OCMS Cheerleader Handbook and agree to comply with all standards and guidelines set forth in the handbook.
2. I understand that I will be financially responsible for lost or damaged property of the district.
3. I will represent myself, my family, my squad, my school, and my community in a manner that brings pride and respect to these entities.

Cheerleader Printed Name

Student Signature

Date

Cell phone

As a parent/guardian, my signature below indicates that:

1. I have read the OCMS Cheerleader Handbook and agree to comply with all standards and guidelines set forth in the handbook.
2. I will encourage and support my student as they comply with all standards and guidelines set forth in the handbook.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Cell phone

Please detach and return only this page to the campus office.