2023-24 CHEER CONSTITUTION

MCADAMS JUNIOR HIGH

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be to support McAdams Junior High at athletic events and to consistently and effectively perform our best in cheer ability, academic achievement, and individual character, while also exhibiting confidence, ambition, optimism, and positivity for our teammates and community.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The students selected to the position of cheerleader or manager will make up the membership of this organization. Every reference to cheerleader in the remainder of the constitution also refers to a manager.

The membership shall consist of no more than 20 7th or 8th graders.

The qualifications for cheerleader:

1. Must be in enrolled in DISD for the 23-24 school year.
2. Must meet UIL scholastic eligibility for all classes taken.
3. Attend ALL required meetings and functions.
4. Meet state attendance requirements.
5. Agree and comply with the constitution.
6. Obtain parental approval.

**CHEERLEADER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Duties of members shall be:

1. To work on ALL fundraising projects.
2. To attend ALL scheduled events and practices.
3. To attend ALL summer practices and summer camp.
4. To attend ALL ASR practices.
5. To paint spirit signs.
6. To let the coach know via email or phone that he/she will not be at practice.
7. To present the coach with a note signed by a parent or guardian stating the reason for absences from duties and responsibilities. A parent note may NOT eliminate demerits.
8. To cooperate and compromise with all members.
9. To work all assigned tournaments, parades, functions after school, nights or weekends.
10. To attend ALL games as designated by coach.
11. To keep all uniforms in good condition.
12. To place MJHS cheerleading above all other non- school activities.
13. To abide by school regulations and board policies.
14. To boost school spirit for all athletic events designated as necessary by the coach.
15. To remain with his/her squad while performing cheer duties.
16. To appear spirited, well-groomed and in command of any situation.
17. To be present at ALL pep rallies.
18. To be present at school the day of a game and cheer at that game.
19. To refrain from going into the stands or visiting with friends and family during the games.
20. To wear the proper uniform or practice clothes as assigned.
21. To refrain from eating, drinking, or chewing gum while on the field or floor.
22. To refrain from using electronic devices on the field or floor.
23. To conduct themselves properly at ALL times, for they are representing Dickinson ISD.
24. To conduct themselves properly when using any type of social media (Facebook, Instagram, twitter, Snap Chat, FaceTime, etc.).
25. (8th graders) To help the coach and the applicants with spring tryouts.

Summer Camp:

1. A site shall be chosen by the coach.
2. The expenses shall be paid for by each member by the assigned date.
3. At camp, each student is to conduct himself or herself in a proper manner. If any problems arise and it is determined that the student is to be dismissed for camp, that student will be sent home at the parent’s expense.
4. All cheerleaders MUST attend camp. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Uniforms:

1. Each cheerleader shall be responsible for the care of his/her uniform and equipment.
2. All uniforms and apparel are to be worn only by DISD cheerleaders. No one else may borrow uniforms or apparel.
3. The uniforms are to be worn in conjunction with school activities.

**PENALTIES AND LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Penalties:

1. 15 demerits= Suspension from EVENT.
	1. *(Probationary contract will be given)*
2. 20 demerits= Suspension from two EVENTS.
	1. *(Probationary contract will be given)*
3. 30 demerits = Dismissal from SQUAD.

Reasons for Loss of Membership:

1. Withdrawing from school.
2. Conduct not in accordance with regulations set by the constitution.
3. Requesting withdrawal from squad (written request to coach).
4. Not meeting scholastic eligibility for two consecutive grading periods during the school year.
5. Thirty demerits.
6. Inappropriate use of ANY social media.
7. To dismiss a student on the basis of one incident, that incident must be of a serious nature such as stealing, fighting, threatening any person, or any act deemed to be immoral or illegal.
8. Missing three or more practices at Cheer facility.
9. Consistent disrespect towards coaches and/or team members and negative behavior.
10. The use, possession, transmittal or being under the influence of drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol is prohibited.
11. Receive any U’s in conduct.
12. Receive Suspension (off campus) by MJHS administrators.
13. The inability to purchase or pay for all uniforms, camp fees, and/or supplies on or before the deadline.

**DEMERITS**

In order to maintain a working cheerleading squad, it is necessary to implement a demerit system. Demerits are given at the discretion of the coach. The following demerits will apply:

**Practice/Performance**

Missing Competition (even with an excuse) 10

Not attending a required event (game, parade, fund raising, etc.) without excuse 10

Tardy/Leave Early to an event/practice/game 5

Missing practice without an excuse note 5

Wrong uniform (spanks, shoes, bow, etc.) 5

10 or more minutes late being picked up from any school event 5

Missing practice without 30-minute notice to coach 3

**Insubordination**

Use of profane/vulgar language 10

Truancy 10

Disobedience to coaches’ request 10

Disrespect to coach and/or any cheerleader 5

Documented discipline problem in the classroom by teacher 5

Documented disrespect towards any school staff or faculty member 5

Failure to meet a deadline 5

Teacher email about misbehavior etc. 3

**Other**

Assigned to ISS 20

Leaving school premises during school, games or school function without approval 10
Inappropriate Social Media: Text Messages, Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Instagram, etc. 10

Assigned detention 5

Use of inappropriate language towards another person (see social media) 5

Showing public affection while at school or representing the school 5

Each conduct grade of N or U on a report card 5

Lack of completing responsibilities (making signs, promoting MJHS, etc.) 3

Using cell phone without permission 3

\*Cheerleaders are required to attend all practices. Family emergencies with parent contact are the ONLY exception.

Other demerits may be given on an individual basis at the coach’s discretion.

An injury does not excuse a cheerleader from dressing out at practice or attending a scheduled event.

***Demerits CANNOT be worked off.***

**TRANSPORTATION**

The school will not provide transportation to or from games/events or practices at ASR. It is the responsibility of the parent to transport their cheerleader to all events, or arrange for transportation, and to do so on time. Cheerleaders not being dropped off or picked up on time from an event may receive demerits.

**INJURIES AND INSURANCE**

Injury Protection:

1. All reasonable caution to avoid injury of the cheerleader/mascot will be exercised by the school and the coach.
2. The above stated parties will assume no financial obligations for injury.
3. A statement to this effect is included on the cheerleader tryout permission form, which must be signed by the parents or guardian of the cheerleader candidate prior to cheerleader tryouts.
4. Each cheerleader will be required to have a physical examination on file with the school district.
5. Cheerleaders/mascot MAY NOT practice without a coach present.

Insurance:

1. Dickinson ISD does not provide insurance coverage for cheerleaders.

**COMPETITION**

In the event the squad participates in competitions, the competition squad will be made up of MJHS cheerleaders. Should the competition squad experience a loss of a member or members, it is at the discretion of the coach or coaches to select a suitable alternate to join the competition squad. Cheerleaders are REQUIRED to help raise funds to attend competition. Cheerleaders who do not participate in raising funds will be required to pay their competition fees out of pocket or will not be allowed to participate. *All fees are non-refundable.*