



PTYCA CHEERLEADER CODE OF CONDUCT

PTYCA 2023

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Date: FEBRUARY 2023

PTYCA Cheerleaders and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) represent both Peters Township and the Peters Township Youth Cheerleading Association (PTYCA). It is imperative that members of PTYCA maintain good sportsmanship, positive attitude, and appropriate behavior. PTYCA Cheerleaders and families will adhere to the rules set forth below by the PTYCA BOD.

CHEERLEADER CODE OF CONDUCT

ATTENDANCE

- Cheer Camp is MANDATORY. The material used for the season will be taught during this camp. Exceptions will be made for preplanned family vacations - but Cheerleaders will be responsible for learning any missed material on their own.
- Missing practice(s) may result in the cheerleader being removed from the halftime routine and stunting. This is per Coach's discretion.
- If a cheerleader will miss a game, it must be communicated to the coach prior so adjustments can be made.

GAMES

- If a football player is injured, cheerleaders will be silent and will, if possible, kneel at their designated cheerleading location. If kneeling is not possible or advisable, cheerleaders should stand still and silent at their designated cheerleading location.
- Cheerleaders must arrive one (1) hour prior to the scheduled start of a game or at the time designated by their coach. The early arrival permits cheerleaders to warm-up and practice.
- Cheerleaders are required to cheer the entire game, including overtime.
- GAME CANCELLATIONS - Come sunshine, rain, cold or snow – football games will be played.
- In the event of extreme weather ONLY, game cancellations will be left up to the discretion of your squad's coaching staff. Please check your email/ app before leaving for the game.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

- Cheerleaders are responsible for bringing a clear drink in a plastic bottle with them to all practices and games. All drinks must be labeled with the cheerleader's name.
- We kindly ask parents to feed your child and use the restroom BEFORE coming to an event.
- Cheerleaders are prohibited from eating once practices and / or games begin.
- Cheerleaders are not permitted to eat concession stand food or snacks during a game. This includes during halftime. ❖ Diagnosed medical conditions will be the only exception.

APPEARANCE

- Cheerleaders are responsible for obtaining and maintaining all pieces of the mandatory uniform requirements.
- Skirt with briefs and vests may be worn during warmer days (subject to coach's discretion)
- Skirt with leggings, long sleeve shirt, and vest may be worn on cool days (less than 65 degrees Fahrenheit) (subject to coach's discretion)
- PTYCA jackets and wind pants may be worn over the PTYCA uniform as needed during cold weather (coach's discretion); Black gloves may be worn on colder days (coach's discretion)
- Shoes must be white and kept clean; Shoe laces must also be clean.
- All hair (except bangs) must be pulled away neatly from the face, off the collar, in a ponytail (if length of hair permits), and the designated PTYCA cheer bow must be worn. This should be done prior to arriving at practices, games, or events.
- Jewelry: No jewelry is allowed; this is a safety concern. Please refrain from getting new piercings during cheer season.
- Makeup: No makeup is allowed.
- Cheer Practices: Dress appropriately and have hair fully pulled back away from the face.
- Cheerleaders may only wear their PTYCA uniforms during the Peters Township Recreation Football games, PTYCA organized events, High School Youth Recognition Night, and Other Specified events decided on by the PTYCA board.
 - Unless otherwise specified, PTYCA uniforms (skirt and vest) are not to be worn
 - PTYCA uniforms (skirt and vest) are not to be worn as costumes
- All other uniform pieces not directed to be worn should be kept in a PTYCA Cheer bag and brought to all games & events. Be prepared for weather changes.
- During the month of October, pink hair bows will be worn, unless directed otherwise by PTYCA.
- On Fridays during football season, the uniform can be worn to school at the discretion of the cheerleader's parents.

CONDUCT

PTYCA Cheerleaders are expected to:

- **Show respect for others. It is okay if someone has a different opinion than you or your family.** *I represent Peters Twp Cheerleading. I will conduct myself in a way that presents a positive image of PTYCA and myself both on and off the field. I will work hard in school and maintain good grades. I will respect and obey my teachers. I will respect and obey my parents/guardians. I will respect coaches, and address them as Coach (first name).*
- **Be polite, treat everyone equally, and use good manners. Including the opposing team.** *Win or lose, I am proud to be a PT Indian. I will hold my head high and have fun. I will not use undesirable language. I will not use profanity, inappropriate language, "trash talk" or taunt others, before, during or after a game or practice.*
- **Always show good sportsmanship. Be respectful and helpful to other cheer squads.** *I will not yell unflattering remarks to squad members or visiting teams.*
- **Listen to your coaches and follow their direction.** *I will be prepared for each practice and game by listening and bringing all of the equipment issued to me by the organization and as instructed by my coach.*
- **Arrive on time for all practices, games, and events. PTYCA cheerleaders will not leave the cheering area, eat in the cheering area, or use a cell phone/electronic device in the cheering area.** *I will make every effort to be at all games and practices on time. If I know in advance I will be late or unavailable for a practice I will contact my Coach. If I know in advance I will be late or unavailable for a game I will contact my Coaches so that they can plan accordingly. I agree that if I arrive late to the pre-game practice, and I have not contacted the coach to inform them of a situation, I will not be permitted to participate in the half time portion of that day's game. This is a necessary safety precaution so that the routine can be altered according to the number of girls performing that day.*

- **DO NOT practice mounts, stunts, tumbling, or flips without a PTYCA Coach.** *I understand that I must pay attention to my Coaches, and not engage in horseplay to prevent causing injury to myself or my teammates.*
- **Take care of PTYCA uniform and equipment.** *I will respect, protect, and maintain my equipment in good condition.*
- **Participate in PTYCA events.** *I know it is my job as a PTYCA cheerleader to spread PT spirit throughout the community. This includes participating in parades, charity events, football/cheer gift exchange and creating a sign for my designated football player during the season.*
- **In the event that a football player gets injured, immediately stop cheering and be silent. Kneel until the injured player has left the field. [If it is not possible to kneel (example: muddy field), cheerleaders should stand still instead.]**
- **Abide by PTYCA member etiquette on and off the field.** *I will refrain from use of email and social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc) to maliciously and publically project a negative image of any form which attacks or harms the reputation of PTYCA, including but not limited to, my teammates, opposing team's players/parents, as well as any coaches, officials, volunteers, etc. I will understand that negative comments of any form on social media relating to those mentioned above will NOT be tolerated and may result in suspension and/or my termination from the program.*

The following will NOT be tolerated and Violations will result:

- Not listening to a coach / back talk.
- Undesirable, inappropriate and/or vulgar language.
- **Bullying or physical altercations (such as hitting) will be an automatic removal from the program. We have a zero tolerance for this type of behavior; safety of PTYCA members is of utmost importance.**