

## Owen J. Roberts High School Cheerleading



### Team Member Code of Conduct

2021 – 2022 Seasons

#### Our Organization

- A. As an Owen J. Roberts Cheerleader, your primary responsibility will be your academics. The purpose of our team is to support student athletes.
- B. You will serve as an ambassador of the Owen J Roberts School District. You will be expected to uphold the goals of our school community.
- C. The purpose of OJR Cheerleading is to...
  - 1. Represent Owen J. Roberts and promote school spirit
  - 2. Develop techniques and skills necessary to perform safely as a squad
  - 3. Create a “family” atmosphere inside and outside of cheerleading
  - 4. Develop your ability to be a leader in the community
  - 5. Prepare you for your future endeavors
- D. Remember that you represent not only Owen J. Roberts Cheerleading, but also Owen J. Roberts as a whole and at all times. Being on the team is a privilege and should be treated as such.

#### Punctuality

- A. You are expected to be on time, or early, to ALL events including games, practices, workouts, and any other team events.
- B. Being “on time” means that at the time the event is scheduled to start, you are ready to begin.
- C. Please be respectful of your coaches’ and team members’ time.

#### Attendance

- A. Attendance at all practices, games, and performances is **mandatory** unless specified.
  - a. **Varsity/Competition:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Practices (5:00 – 7pm); Friday Football Games
  - b. **Junior Varsity:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Practices (4:00 – 6pm); Monday Football Games
- B. The schedule will be given to you as early as possible, so you can plan accordingly.
- C. Absence is excused for illness **only** and must be reported to the coaches in advance. In the event of an extended absence, a doctor’s note may be required. This goes for all events including games, practices, workouts, and any other team events.
- D. If you miss practice for a reason that is unexcused, you will be issued an infraction. A parent and cheerleader signature will be required. (note: accumulation of 3 infractions will result in removal from the team)
- E. Please notify your coaches that you will be absent from school (and therefore practice) if it is a practice day.
- F. Playoff Games – if given two weeks notice of when playoff games **could** or **will** be, there will be **no** excused absences because of their importance.

#### Respect

- A. Please show respect toward your teammates and coaches through respectful words and body language.
- B. To create a “family” atmosphere we want everyone to feel comfortable speaking up when they see necessary without fear of being put down or ignored.
- C. Please refrain from wearing any cheerleading apparel when taking part in activities that would poorly represent the team or our school.

#### Communication

- A. Cheerleaders must check the “Band App” on a **daily** basis. This is where we will post information you need to know.
- B. Parents should check the parent “Band App” on a regular basis. We will strive to allow you ample time to read information and respond if need be.

- C. *Social media*- Some information will also be shared via @OJRHSCheer on Instagram and Facebook. Information will never be posted exclusively on social media.

## Equipment and Gear

### Personal

- A. You are responsible for purchasing your own practice/game gear that has been decided for the season. This includes, but may not be limited to uniform liner, sneakers, team t-shirt, bows, socks, warm-ups, and bloomers.
- B. If there is a financial challenge, please speak with your coach in private, and we will do our best to make accommodations.

### Provided

- A. You will receive a shell, a skirt, and poms at the beginning of the season that will be yours only for that season.
- B. You are responsible for keeping track of your gear. Numbers will be taken at the beginning of the season, and you will be responsible for giving that number back at the end of the season.
- If you and another team member feel you need to switch any gear for any reason, you are responsible for informing your coaches **prior** to trading items.
- C. This gear belongs to the school and Owen J. Roberts Cheerleading, so you are responsible for keeping it in the condition that it was given to you. This will allow it to be passed along for several seasons.

### Appearance

- A. You are expected to be wearing the **exact** outfit that was picked out for the event
- For example, if the game day outfit says, “shell, skirt, liner, bow, crew socks, sneakers, and hair half-up-half-down” you should be wearing that exact outfit.
- B. Be sure your outfits are clean. This includes washing your uniform prior to game day.
- C. An outfit includes clothing, hair, and makeup (if you choose to wear any). Uniformity of our outfits will add a look of professionalism to the team.
- D. Nails should be trimmed to fingertip length at all times in order to protect athletes during stunting. Additionally, no dark polish or brightly colored polish should be worn for games or appearances.

### Proposed Schedule

- A. We will be having mandatory UCA camp in early August (please see dates document).
- B. **Varsity**- During the fall season, there will be four practices a week in addition to Friday football games.
- C. **Junior Varsity**- During the fall season, there will be 3 practices a week in addition to Monday football games.
- D. District competition will be held in January (dates tbd). State competition will likely be held in March (date tbd).

### Social Media

- A. Please be respectful of yourself and your team members on social media.
- B. Your representation of Owen J. Roberts and OJR Cheerleading should reflect in your social media at all times.
- C. Please refrain from posting unacceptable posts on social media as you are representing both the team and yourself.
- D. The above apply to all social media accounts (Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, etc)

### Accountability

Owen J. Roberts Cheerleading expects all members to follow the guidelines in the OJRHS Student Handbook. OJR Cheer consequences are specifically aligned to three main sections of the handbook. Please reference these prior to signing this document.

1. Athletic Eligibility & Sportsmanship: **under student activities/athletics**
2. Code of Ethics: **under disciplinary code & policies**
3. Disciplinary Levels: **under disciplinary code & policies**
  - A level 1 infraction will result in an oral or written apology to all involved parties
  - A level 2 infraction will result in missing the following game
  - A level 3 infraction will result in removal from the team

**For your convenience, we have included an excerpt of the disciplinary levels outlined in the Owen J. Roberts High School Handbook.** Please note that not all infractions will be applicable. Additionally, some infractions will be altered slightly to reflect OJR Cheer. *An example of this is: unexcused lateness to practice instead of “unexcused lateness to school.”*

**“Disciplinary Levels**

This discipline code provides guidelines to students and school employees and administrators, but will not under any circumstances be considered a limitation on the authority of school employees, administrators, and the school board to define misconduct and determine the appropriate punishment for any particular misconduct. The misconduct listed under each level shall not be considered exclusive, but merely provides examples of misconduct that may be considered under the specified level. Depending on the circumstances, misconduct listed under a particular level may be treated as a higher level offense, and a student may be subject to suspension or expulsion for a single incident or for misconduct not specifically listed under Level III. The penalties set forth should be considered minimum penalties for designated offenses.

**Level I** – General misconduct for which a detention is assigned include but not exclusive to the following:

*Bus violation, cafeteria violation,, classroom disruption, cursing, dishonesty, dress code violation, failure to return required forms, failure to sign in late, inappropriate/offensive behavior or language, late to class, pass violations, possession of lighter or matches, presence in a restricted area, public display of affection, roughhousing/play fighting/horseplay, throwing of objects (minor), unexcused lateness to school, other instances of unacceptable behavior in or on school ground*

**Level II** - Infractions which may result in Saturday detention, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension. A parent conference may be required before the student can return to school. These offenses include but are not limited to:

*Simple fighting, bullying and harassment, cutting class or other assigned periods, defiance, disorderly conduct, disrespect to any staff member, disruption during detention/ Saturday detention, failure to attend detention/ Saturday detention, forgery, hostile/intimidating behavior, aggravated fighting, insubordination, leaving class or other assigned area without permission, leaving school/campus without permission, yhreat to others, truancy, any other serious instances of unacceptable behavior in or on school property.*

**Level III** - Illegal acts which may result in up to a ten (10) day out-of-school suspension and/or a hearing before the Board of School Directors or a committee of the Board. The severity of the act may be grounds for an expulsion by the School Board in accordance with Section 1318 of the PA School Code. Level III infractions generally pose potential injury/damage to another’s person/property, or a serious threat to the safety of others in the school. In these instances parents will be contacted as soon as possible. Police and/or juvenile authorities may be contacted in cases where a student has violated the law or poses a threat to himself/herself or others. A written report shall be filed with the Superintendent of Schools within 24 hours of the incident. These offenses include, but are not limited to:

*Arson, assault, acts punishable by PA Criminal Code, discriminatory behavior, extortion, false alarm, possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons, possession/use/transfer of drugs, alcohol, mood altering substances, possession/use/transfer of fireworks or related materials, theft, vandalism (includes restitution), any unacceptable behavior that poses a serious threat to the health or safety of others.*

This student discipline code is a summary of School Board **Policy 218** and **Regulation 218B**. Complete copies are available online.”

*Note: All infractions will be documented and signed by the coach, cheerleader, and parent.*

**PLEASE SIGN BELOW ACKNOWLEDGING THAT YOU ACCEPT THIS CODE OF CONDUCT AS SET FORTH AND THAT YOU WILL ABIDE BY THIS CODE FOR THE 2021-2022 CHEERLEADING SEASON.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Cheerleader Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**