



# CHEER POLICIES

## **2024 - 2025 ALL-STAR CHEER POLICIES**

Welcome to our all-star cheer policies packet. Here you will find more information the commitment and rules that are required of all Titans member families and athletes. Taking part in the program requires agreeing to all of these policies.

At the first tryout evaluation your athlete attends, at least one parent (or person otherwise financially responsible for the athlete's account) will be required sign a contract agreeing to all terms and policies in this packet.

Please plan to take the time to read this and fill out an athlete information form out when your athlete arrives to the evaluation.

### **TEAM POLICIES**

Titans Cheer & Gymnastics reserves the right to:

- Place athletes on the team(s) it feels will best suit the program and athletes.
- Decide if an athlete may participate on more than one team.
- Decide the roles and positions an athlete may have on their team(s) (E.g. base, flyer, back spot, tumbler, dancer, alternate, etc.)
- Decide at any time if an athlete needs to change team(s) or positions for any reason.
- Require that an athlete/team take additional classes or camps to improve their skills.
- Require that an athlete/team practice longer than their regularly scheduled time or additional practices, camps, or competitions if necessary.
- Move, replace, add, suspend, or even dismiss an athlete from a team or the program for a period of time or permanently based on criteria including but not limited to: attendance, conduct, skills, finances, parent conflicts, team needs, etc.

### **GYM FIRST MENTALITY**

Titans Cheer & Gymnastics coaches work hard to provide the utmost in quality of instruction both on the competition mat, and off. We strive to make the gym atmosphere one of not just hard work and success, but of positivity and encouragement. We want every athlete to end up placed in a position where they can be an asset to the team and gym, and where they can contribute to that positive environment. Team placements are never considered final and may change at any time based on the gym's needs.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

All athletes & families must:

- Make Titans a priority over any other extracurricular activities.
- Attend and participate in all practices and performances including those added unexpectedly throughout the season.
- Notify Titans immediately when an injury occurs so changes to routine choreography can be made prior to practice.
- Arrive early to all team related activities.
- Notify coaches immediately by email of all expected tardiness or absences.

- Notify Titans by phone immediately of any unexpected tardiness or absences.

## ***OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE POLICY***

Athletes are allowed 3 missed practices from the time team evaluations finish until choreography camp begins. After choreography camp, the only excused absences are for CDC recommended Covid-19 protocols & school events for a grade. Excessive absences for any reason, including excused absences, may be grounds for removal from a routine for a specific competition or for the remainder of the season. If an athlete cannot fully participate in two practices the week prior to a competition, they risk not performing at that competition or removal from a team entirely. During blackout dates, no athlete may miss any scheduled team training or activities.

## ***TRAVEL & COMPETITIONS***

Competitions are a huge investment of time, effort, and money by the athletes, coaches, program and families of Titans. All athletes and families must:

- Read all emails & communications concerning dates, venues, and itineraries. (Information will typically be posted the Wednesday prior to a competition)
- Have all travel arrangements booked as soon as possible and by the required dates.
- Arrive to competition and be FULLY prepared by meet times and check in with designated staff by meet time. (SEE ON TIME POLICY)
- Not use competitions as family vacations, adhere to the designated schedules and abide by all rules.
- Not to schedule travel so that it conflicts with any scheduled practices at the gym or in the competition city.
- Realize that additional practice times at competition venues or local gyms, earlier than expected meet times, and late dismissal times after a competition or awards may be required.

## ***ON TIME POLICY***

There will be a \$50 fine for the first time an athlete is not FULLY ready and at the designated meeting area ON TIME for a competition. Subsequent occurrences will result in additional fines or penalties, up to but not including dismissal from the program.

## ***SPORTSMANSHIP & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY***

At all events, athletes & parents must remember that they are a representation of Titans Cheer & Gymnastics. As such we require that all athletes & parents:

- Set a positive and encouraging example.
- To NEVER approach a competition official with any issues.
- Be respectful, kind, and courteous to everyone.
- Follow our communications protocol whenever any issues may arise.
- Refrain from gossiping or any form of verbal or physical confrontation.
- Accept placements with dignity and class.
- TO NEVER show disrespect toward any member of Titans Cheer & Gymnastics staff, outside contractors, athletes, or families.
- Refrain from posting, reposting, or sharing anything that is negative, defamatory, or that is inappropriate for a young audience.
- Refrain from celebrating another person, team, or program's misfortune, falls, or defeats.
- To be encouraging, uplifting, and a great example of sportsmanship to any and all teams, athletes, coaches, or competition officials you may come into contact with during an event.

## ***DRESS CODE***

At any practice, competition, or times otherwise representing Titans, athletes must always:

- Maintain a well-groomed appearance and good personal hygiene.
- Wear designated attire, socks, and shoes.
- Keep hair out of the face.
- Keep nails shorter than fingertips.
- Remove all jewelry.
- Wear assigned practice wear, outfits, and uniforms to all team functions per your head coach's request.
- IMMEDIATELY repurchase any items lost, damaged, or that no longer fit and wear a matching substitute until the item is replaced.

## **COMPETITION DRESS CODE**

Athletes must be dressed in their designated outfit and shoes by each team's scheduled meeting time. Hair and make-up must be completed as per your team coach's specifications BEFORE the scheduled meeting time. Any braces or taping that need to be done prior to warm-ups must be done by the meeting time as well and must be provided by the athlete.

For awards, all athletes must be in full competition warm-ups and may not wear or bring backpacks, phones, headphones, sunglasses, etc. to meet for award times. Athletes not in compliance will not be allowed on the stage or in the award area until any issues are remedied.

## **COMMUNICATION POLICY**

Crystal clear communication is vital to the gym's success on and off the competition mat. All athletes and families understand that:

- Emails and Band posts will be sent out for all important communication and it is the family's responsibility to check and read all information as it is communicated to them.
- Respectful communication between coaches, staff, and other families is required of all employees and member families.
- We have a strict 24 hour cool down policy for any issues that may warrant a discussion.
- At any competitions, performances, or special events any issues brought to the staff's attention should be either safety/health related issues or any other issues that could affect a performance (Unexpected lateness, missing uniform pieces, etc.). Any other issues relating to an event or performances can be addressed by scheduling a discussion after the event and travel from the event is concluded.
- Any unscheduled or unplanned absences or tardiness should be communicated as far in advance as possible directly to the head coach of your child's team.
- While we are strict in the way that we communicate, we have an open door policy. If there are any questions or issues that may arise throughout the season we encourage parents to call our office or email your child's coach to schedule a meeting.
- It is vital to remember that while we all share different perspectives, we are all on the same team and all want what is best for the athletes and teams.

## **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

Cheerleading can be a costly sport. Families need to be fully aware of the costs involved and understand that:

- They assume full responsibility for all costs incurred as a member of Titans including but not limited to: gym registration, monthly tuition, apparel costs, competition and travel expenses, or any other item(s), or services purchased or rendered and the payment in full of those items regardless of any circumstances that may arise such as dismissal from the team or program.
- Monthly payments will be posted on the 25th of the preceding month and payments will be made with the on file card on the 1st of each month.
- Monthly payment for normal tuition rate is due from May through April of the participating season.
- Tuition pays for training. It does not pay for a spot on a certain team or for the right to perform.
- Vacations or time off will not be prorated. Please note that all time off has already been prorated into the monthly fee.
- An athlete's account must be current and in good standing to participate in practices, competitions, or special events.
- Any current season apparel that is damaged, no longer fits, or is lost must be immediately re-purchased.
- Titans reserves the right to withhold items, deny participation, and remove an athlete from their team for failure to keep up with financial obligations.
- All tuition/fees must be current before an athlete may collect any clothing/uniform or other retail items.
- If an athlete chooses to or is asked to leave Titans for any reason before the season is over, any and all funds are completely non-refundable.
- End of Season Travel Events may be required and no associated costs are included in tuition.