



cheerleader

TRYOUT PACKET

Dear Parents and Guardians

Your child is interested in becoming a member of the James Madison Middle School Cheerleading Squad. If selected there are specific responsibilities and obligations, which he or she must assume in order to qualify and remain part of the squad.

In this tryout packet you will find information regarding tryouts and the tryout process. Please read all information so you and your child are aware of the expectations and requirements.

On the following pages, you will find the Cheerleader Tryout Qualifications and Requirements, Cheerleader Expectations, Projected Expense List, Tryout Timetable, Expectations on Tryout Day, and the necessary forms to be completed and returned.

All necessary paperwork will be signed and turned in during our first open practice, September 8th. Failure to turn in such paperwork could result in dismissal from the team.

Being a cheerleader is a big commitment and requires an extreme amount of dedication from not only the cheerleader, but the family as well. If you and your child both feel the obligations and responsibilities can be met, please allow your child to participate in open practices.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation

Taylor Goodman

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James Madison Middle School Cheer Head Coach

CHEERLEADER TRYOUT QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

- 👁️ The squad will consist of 6th through 8th grade students only.
- 👁️ All forms must be turned in to the cheer coach or athletic director at the first open practice.
- 👁️ Cheerleaders will be selected by impartial and qualified judges.
- 👁️ To be eligible to tryout, each candidate must be enrolled at James Madison Middle School for the 2020-21 school year.
- 👁️ The candidate must be in good academic standing in order to participate in the tryout clinics and judging process.
- 👁️ The candidates will be judged on: motion technique, jump technique and height, showmanship, voice projection, memory, tumbling, spirit, and overall appeal. (see attached scoresheet)

CHEERLEADER EXPECTATIONS

All duties and responsibilities as a squad member begin upon selection and do not end until the next tryout date. All squad members will be required to:

1. Attend all assigned practices and performances.
2. Attend all games (Football and Basketball).
3. Attend all summer practices except for KHSAA dead period (June 25 – July 9).
4. Attend gymnastics. Each member and their parents are responsible for the cost.
5. Attend all competitions.
6. Attend and actively participate in all assigned promotional activities (pep rally, jamboree, etc.).
7. Meet all financial obligations by established deadlines.
8. Uphold all the articles contained within the JMMS Cheerleading Constitution and the JMMS Athletic Policy.

THE YEAR of a CHEERLEADER

****Subject to change due to COVID-19****

This is just an outline to give each candidate an idea of how much commitment is required. Each cheerleader is expected to participate in ALL events!

As you will see, CHEERLEADING IS ALMOST A FULL YEAR COMMITMENT!

I. Summer (June, July)

- Team bonding
- Uniform fitting
- Gymnastics
- Practice to cover sidelines, cheers, and stunts.
- Dead Period is the last week of June and first week of July.

II. FALL (August – October)

- Gymnastics
- Game Practices
- Football Games
- Competition Practices (learning routine)

III. WINTER (November – February)

- Gymnastics
- Game practices
- Basketball games
- Competition practices
- Competitions

PROJECTED CHEERLEADER EXPENSE LIST

Listed below is an itemized list of expenses from last year, this will give you an idea of what to expect in terms of financial obligations. The largest sum of money is due in June; however, some other items may be purchased over a period of time. This list is not inclusive and must be realized by all members and parents/guardians that additions must be made from time to time. Great care is taken by the coach to keep costs as low as possible.

This is a sample list of out-of-pocket expenses. You can estimate around \$250 if you order all new. You may try to contact an old cheerleader and purchase used items that are in excellent condition in order to save money. Please make sure they fit properly and are still in excellent condition.

New bags will be purchased for all squad members, so please do not buy a used one.

#	Style	Description	Size/Adj	Ltr Name/Yr	Qty	Unit Price	Unit Total
1	PEJ130	Jacket	S		1	\$42.75	\$42.75
2	MNARCIOW	Outerwear Embroidery			1	\$11.87	\$11.87
3	PEP110	Pant	S		1	\$28.50	\$28.50
4	N12MDCIIPS	Nike Mix Down II	6		1	\$74.00	\$74.00
5	QMDSACP	Cheer Dbl Stripe Ank. Pkg			1	\$.00	\$.00
12	SSM15	MockNeck MidriffBodysuit	XS		1	\$18.66	\$18.66
13	SSM15	MockNeck MidriffBodysuit	XS		1	\$18.66	\$18.66
14	SSBC15	Boy Cut Brief	S		1	\$11.86	\$11.86
15	CBI110	3" Ribbon Bow with Tails			1	\$5.91	\$5.91
16	CBI110	3" Ribbon Bow with Tails			1	\$5.91	\$5.91
17	1911	Tote Bag			1	\$21.21	\$21.21
18	MNIOW	Campwear Embr / Min Qty 6			1	\$9.02	\$9.02
						Subtotal:	\$248.35
						Shipping/Handling:	\$.00
						Tax:	\$.00
						Total:	\$248.35
						Payment Amt:	\$.00
						Balance Due:	\$248.35

JMMS CHEER RULES

- Absence from game** 3 demerits
Only (1) parental note for sickness
Any doctor's note for sickness/injury/etc. will be accepted.

Unexcused: as determined by the coach.
Excused: In order to receive an excused absence, must be deemed necessary and you must notify coach **prior** to absence! (871-5542)
NOTE: Other school functions (except chorus or band), church retreats, etc. are not to be used as an excuse for missing a game! You have a responsibility to your squad. They may be unexcused.
- Absence from practice** 3 demerits
Two (2) parental notes for sickness
Any doctor's note for sickness/injury/etc. will be accepted.
Unexcused: as determined by the coach
Excused: Follows the same guidelines as games.
- Tardy to practice or game**
Arriving 1 – 15 minutes tardy – 1st offense 25 sit-ups or 5 laps, 2nd offense 50 sit-ups or 10 laps, 3rd offense 75 sit-ups or 15 laps, 4th offense 100 sit-ups or 20 laps. Tardies after that will require a parental meeting and benching for quarter of a game to half of game. It is your responsibility to keep up with the time and place of your commitment!
- Defiance in the form of** Sit-ups, Benching, Parental Conference
Back talking coaches, demonstrating poor attitude or not following directions, lack of willingness to cooperate, poor attitude toward others.
- Wrong/Forgotten Equipment** ½ to 1 demerit
You are responsible for knowing what to have with you at either practice or game: tights, socks, bows, uniform, shoes, proper practice clothes, poms, etc. HAIR must be worn as instructed by the coach
- Nail polish/fake nails/jewelry/gum** ½ demerit
All jewelry is a safety hazard.
- Excessive talking at practice or game** ½ demerit – 1 demerit
Talking while the coach is talking – 25 immediate sit-ups
- Social Media** ½ demerit to Severe Clause
Your social media presence should be positive. Any form of cussing, referencing drugs/alcohol, partying, inappropriate pictures/video, bullying, etc. on social media is prohibited.

SEVERE CLAUSE

If you are involved in a situation involving misconduct, then your standing/position on the squad is at the coaches/Principal's discretion. All school code of conduct rules strictly apply and are enforced. Your conduct is directly related to your participation in cheer. Please refrain from damaging your leadership position within your school!

PENALTIES FOR DEMERITS

3 demerits – Benched ½ game

4 demerits – Benched full game

5 demerits – Benched 2 games; parental conference

6 demerits – Same as above; parent notification of additional demerits

7 demerits – REMOVAL FROM PARTICIPATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do I have to have a back handspring to make the team?

A: No. There is no tumbling requirement to be on the team.

Q: How many girls make the team?

A: It depends on how many people try-out.

Q: How often do we practice?

A: Cheerleaders are expected to be at every practice. Practices will be held 3-4 time per week. Tumbling will be included in practice time.

Q: Do we practice during the summer?

A: Yes. Practice attendance is flexible during the summer due to vacations. It is **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** that you attend practices that you are in town for. Practices become mandatory when school starts.

Q: When do you pick the competition team?

A: The competition team will be selected 2 months before the first competition.

Q: How do you select the competition team?

A: After a few months of practices, I assess all of the athletes and put together the best combination of athletes to ensure that we have strong stunts, tumbling, and jumps on the mat.

Q: How many girls make the competition team?

A: We compete in the small division which has a maximum of 12 athletes.

Q: What events do we cheer at?

A: We cheer at all pep-rally's, home football and basketball games, and Maroon Madness. We also travel during the WKAC football and basketball tournaments (by bus). During a normal year there will be 4 competitions (subject to change due to COVID-19).

Q: Do I have to take the tumbling class?

A: Our tumbling will be provided during practice time. It will cost on average _____ a week. You are welcome to take any tumbling classes at local gyms as long as there isn't a time conflict with our practice time.

CHEERLEADER CANDIDATE/ PARENT AGREEMENT

I, _____, would like to tryout for James Madison Middle School Cheerleader for the 2016-2017 school year.

I, _____, parent or guardian of _____ has my permission to tryout for the James Madison Middle School cheer team.

We have read the tryout information concerning the Cheerleader organization and the tryout procedures. We are satisfied with the high standards set forth to govern this organization. We understand that it is a privilege and not a right to be selected as a member of this group. We also understand that not everyone can be chosen. We further understand the tryout procedures and how cheerleaders are selected. We agree to abide by the decision of the judges and know that all decisions are final.

Cheerleader Candidate Signature

Date

Parent/guardian Signature

Date

JAMES MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
Cheerleading Rules and Demerit Policy
Signature Page

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____ acknowledge we both have received a copy and understand the guidelines and rules as outlined in the 2018-19 James Madison Middle School Rules and Demerit Policy. We understand that failure to comply with the mandates of this constitution will result in disciplinary action ranging from demerits to dismissal from the squad. We further understand that a spirit of respect, cooperation, and teamwork is necessary to continue the tradition of cheerleading excellence at James Madison Middle School.

Squad Member Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____