

2010-2011 Brookhaven Cheerleading

Parent/Cheerleader Meeting

All cheerleaders wanting to try-out for Football season must attend the mandatory meeting with a parent/guardian. Failure to attend this meeting with a parent/guardian representative will result in not being permitted to attend clinics or try-outs. Important information regarding try-out requirements, season requirements, and costs will be given at this time making it imperative to attend. A statement of understanding regarding the rules and code conduct of the Brookhaven Cheerleading program will also be signed at this time and required to be on file before participating in clinics to try-out.

Try-Outs

Try-outs for Football season will be held in May. There will be four days of mandatory clinics followed by the official try-out that Saturday. Failure to attend all four clinics will result in not being able to try-out. Those wanting to try-out will be observed during each day of clinics and observations of attitude, work ethic, teamwork, and character will be added to the participant's try-out score. Anyone involved in inappropriate or insubordinate behavior that does not reflect the proper representation of the Brookhaven Cheerleaders throughout the four clinic days will be dismissed on the spot and not permitted to return to clinics or try-out.

Academic Expectations

Brookhaven Cheerleaders are to be held in the highest of regards as leaders not only athletically but also academically. It is required by the school to hold a 2.0 GPA to be eligible to participate in cheerleading. Brookhaven Cheerleaders will also be required to attend mandatory study tables after school from 2:45-3:45 to maintain their academics. All cheerleaders will be required to turn in a Grade Check weekly. It is highly advisable that grade checks be collected by Wednesday each week so as to gather all necessary grades from all teachers and still allow for two extra days in case of teacher absences. Any Grade Checks not turned in by 2:45 on Friday, or turned in incomplete, will result in sitting out one quarter of that evening's game. If needing to sit out for a portion of a game, cheerleaders will still be expected to arrive at the required time, in uniform, ready to warm up with the team.

Attendance Expectations

All fundraising events, practices, gymnastics, games, parades, or other events requested by the Athletic Director or Administration are mandatory unless previously excused by the coach, at the coach's discretion. The coach needs to be aware of any possible absence at least one week in advance so as to prepare accordingly. In emergency situations, the coach will need to be alerted within 24 hours in order for the missed event to be excused. Failure to contact or notify the coach will result in the missed event counting as unexcused and appropriate consequences to follow.

Behavior Expectations

Brookhaven Cheerleaders are to be revered as good leaders within their school, family, and community. Cheerleaders will show respect and carry themselves with respect as mature young people. There is always a time to be professional and a time to let loose; while in school, at an event, or in uniform it is always a time to be professional.

Demerits and Merits

Mistakes happen and with those mistakes come consequences. Demerits will be given for a variety of disciplinary infractions, including but not limited to, the list below. Demerits are accumulative throughout the summer and the football cheer season. Merits are earned by running one mile for every demerit. Demerits need to be run off before being permitted to cheer any game throughout the season. Earning merits does not cancel out the demerits; demerits remain on record for the entire summer and cheer season.

Behavior warranting Demerits	Number of Demerits received	
Foul/inappropriate language	1	
Tardy to practice	1	(not previously excused)
Absent from practice	2	(not previously excused)
Disrespect (attitude, refusal, etc)	1	
Wednesday School	2	
Tardy to Study Table	1	(not previously excused)
Absent from Study Table	2	(not previously excused)
Tardy to fundraiser/event	1	(not previously excused)
Absent from fundraiser/event	2	(not previously excused)
Absent from a game	2	(not previously excused)
Tardy to a game	1	(not previously excused)

Receiving 15 demerits will result in removal from the team.

Suspension/Removal from School

Any cheerleader who is suspended or removed from school for one day will be put on probation for ten days. During the ten day probationary period, the cheerleader is permitted and expected to attend practice, games, and other events. If during those ten days, any disciplinary issue occurs, including but not limited to the above mentioned behaviors, the cheerleader will be removed from the team. Should a cheerleader be suspended from school for more than one day, they will be removed from the team. Actions meriting suspension from school do not coincide with the characteristics of a good representative of Brookhaven High School or the Brookhaven Cheerleading Program.

Payments

All payments are required in full by the deadline given on the calendar. Time has been given well in advance to plan for the expense of the Brookhaven Cheerleading Program and fundraisers have been established to help off-set the cost. Missing a payment will result in not being able to participate in the cheer season. Payments have been scheduled in accordance with order placement deadlines to ensure that uniforms and other necessary cheer material requirements arrive before the season begins. Missing these deadlines will result in not receiving materials and therefore not being able to cheer.

Checks and money orders can be made payable to Brookhaven Cheer. Cash payments will need to be exact as change is not always available. All payments will be accompanied by a receipt showing the date, time, payment amount and type, person accepting the payment, person making the payment, and cheerleader account. A copy of this receipt will go on file with the Brookhaven Cheerleading Accountant, the coach, and given to the person making the payment. To ensure accuracy of records, please make sure to keep all receipts.

Practices/Games

During the school year practices will be held twice a week after school from 4:30-6:30 following mandatory study table for all cheerleaders from 2:45-3:45. Being on time is an important life skill as well as necessary to have enough time to accomplish all goals for each practice. Being on time not only means you are at the practice area, in your spot, ready to stretch, it also means that all snacks/food have been eaten and trash disposed of properly, practice clothes on, shoes tied, hair pulled back, and jewelry removed before practice begins.

“Early is on time, on time is late, late is unacceptable”

All cheerleaders are expected to report one hour before all home games, dressed in uniform and ready to warm up. Meeting times before away games will depend on when the bus will be leaving and will be given well in advance for proper planning. All cheerleaders will be given a Uniform Schedule telling them what they are to wear to school on game days and what to wear to the game. Failure to adhere to the Uniform Schedule will result in extra conditioning before the game as we are a team and need to represent team unity both on and off the sidelines.

Quitting the Team/Being Removed

A commitment is being made even before trying out to start and finish the cheerleading season through following the guidelines and expectations set forth by the coach, Athletic Director and Administration. Season begins after try-outs and the team has been established and ends after the last game being played, play-offs included.

Should Brookhaven make it to play-offs, there is a limit to the number of cheerleaders each team may have on the sidelines. To be fair, priority will go to seniors. After, names will be drawn at random and there will be a rotation of cheerleaders. Anyone refusing to cheer a play-off game will be considered to quit the team and therefore violating their commitment to the Brookhaven Cheerleading Program.

Any cheerleader who chooses to quit the team will not receive their Varsity letter and will not be eligible for try-out the following year. Any cheerleader removed from the team will not receive their Varsity letter and their removal will be taken into consideration should they choose to try-out the following year.

Brookhaven Cheerleading Try-Out Requirements 2010-2011

Each cheerleading candidate will be evaluated based on the following criterion. The judges for try-outs will be outside affiliates of the sports of cheerleading, dance, and gymnastics. These judges have been involved in the sport in various ways and hold a certain level of expertise in regards to what a cheerleader should represent and what the art of cheerleading should demonstrate.

All requirements will be taught each day of clinics and practiced. Clinics are mandatory each day in order to try-out. Each candidate will try-out with a partner chosen at random on the third day of clinics. Each candidate pair will visit four stations where they will demonstrate their knowledge of the materials and skills taught and practiced during clinics. Each station will be equipped with expert judges in that particular area of cheerleading.

Final scores will be calculated throughout try-outs and the team will be announced following the final try-out pair. Following try-outs, a mandatory meeting will be held regarding the first payment, uniform fittings, and practice schedule.

***ALL SCORES ARE FINAL AND WILL BE SEEN ONLY BY THE SCORE CALCULATOR, JUDGES,
AND COACH!***