



SHS CHEERLEADING TRYOUT APPLICATION PACKET

2017-2018 CHEERLEADING SEASONS

Thank you for your interest in trying out for cheerleading. In this packet, you will find the following: tryout information with a list of important dates, an information sheet, the 2017-2018 Rules for Cheerleading, and the Statement of Permission and Agreement. Please read and understand all the enclosed information before tryouts.

Cheerleading Tryout Dates:

- Try-outs will be held Monday, May 22nd – Thursday, May 25th from 4:00-6:00 pm. Tryout material will be taught during this time. As well as short interviews of each candidate.
- Official tryouts will take place on Friday, May 26th at 4:00pm until everyone has been seen. The goal is to announce who made the team Friday evening. We are asking those who made it to be prepared to stay until about 7:30pm for additional packet information.

Eligibility:

To be eligible in the fall/spring of 2017 -2018 for cheerleading, a student must have:

- Achieved a 2.0 grade point average for the previous semester
- 2 letters of recommendation from teachers of the previous semester

The following **MUST BE** turned in **BEFORE** you can participate in tryouts:

- Completed Information Sheet
- Statement of Permission and Agreement
- Physical Release, Concussion Consent Form and Emergency Contact Form
- Copy of your year-end report card

Note: *The deadline for turning in this paperwork is **Monday, May 22nd!** Participation in cheer try-out on the final day will be prohibited if any of the forms are missing or incomplete.*

Selection of the cheerleaders will be based on the following:

- A cheer and dance that will be taught to you during try-out days. You may also be required to create an original cheer or dance within a group.
- Jumps (A toe touch and a jump of your choice out of what else is taught)
- 1-2 interview questions
- Scholastic achievement and eligibility
- Attitude and Coach-ability

What do you wear to tryouts?

- Clinic & tryout attire, Sac High school colors ONLY: T-shirt (NO TANKS), shorts with spunks under shorts, hair pulled away from face and ABSOLUTELY no jewelry.
- During all try-out days please wear comfortable, length appropriate shorts and a t-shirt or tank top. Sports bras must be worn. No basketball shorts or pajamas. No denim shorts or jewelry. Your hair should also be off your shoulders and out of your face.
- An athletic shoe with ankle support is necessary. No Vanz or Converse.

****Attached you will find your teacher recommendation sheets, sample interview questions and the template that will be used to judge you on try-out day.***

For those who make the squad:

Meeting for all cheerleaders: Friday, May 26th at 7:30-8:00pm Small Gym
Uniform Fitting/Mandatory Parent Mtg: Wednesday, May 31st at 4:30pm in Mel Lawson

Practices will begin on Monday, July 10th and will continue through the 2017-2018 school year. These practices are mandatory and missing them (without valid reason from parent or legal guardian) will result in appropriate action. A Calendar will be provided at the beginning of every month the cheerleaders and parents.

Time: TBA
Location: SHS Cheer Annex/Track Field

*During summer, there may be some early morning or Saturday practices. Camp dates will also be announced. Dates and location TBD.

Fundraising:

First will begin on May 26th and End on June 9th; Second will run in conjunction with the first, but run longer. All info will be distributed after a team is chosen.

Estimated Costs

We realize that Cheerleading in an expensive sport, however we try to cut the cost down as much as possible through fund raising. We will be ordering uniforms through Varsity, the leading cheer apparel company, and the cheerleader will be responsible for paying for them. While I can't give you an exact amount, I can give you an estimate of about \$500 for a brand new cheerleader. This includes shell top, skirt, liner, bow, poms, briefs, shoes and warm-ups. We also plan to go to cheer camp in July. Which is quickly approaching. Although we hope that fundraising will help, we know in just a short amount of time, it won't cover it all. We're expecting about \$300 per cheerleader. Altogether, we're looking at approximately \$800-950 if you are new. The uniform is not expected to change this year. Returning cheerleaders are expected to pay for camp and any additional items for the upcoming season ranging from \$50-150 on top of camp Costs. There will be multiple fundraisers starting from the day the team is formed and throughout the summer. Of which, much of the costs can be covered.

First deposit and payment is due on Wednesday, May 31st during Mandatory Parent Meeting of \$150. Exact due dates for remaining payments TBD. This is an approximation. Total and accurate balances will Be provided during information meeting and after uniform fittings. Please be prepared to have this amount of money in the event that you make the team. There are NO REFUNDS.

I look forward to seeing you at tryouts. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Owens
sachighcheer@icloud.com.

Information Sheet

Please complete the following information. Please write LEGIBLY.

Student Name:	Student ID #:
Current Grade Level:	School you attended 16-17:
Home Address:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Email address:	Birthday:

Parent/Guardian Name:	
Home address (if different from above)	
Parent/Guardian Phone (If different from above)	
Mother's Work Phone:	Mother's Cell Phone:
Mother's Email:	
Father's Work Phone:	Father's Cell Phone:
Father's Email:	
Emergency Contact Name:	Relationship to You:
Emergency Phone:	Emergency Cell Phone:

Allergies/Health Problems/ Medications (Please describe in detail):

Were you involved in any behavior infractions during the 2016-2017 school year?

If yes, please explain below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Statement of Permission and Agreement

If you make the cheerleading squad, realize that you are making a commitment to your high school, your coaches, your teammates, and yourself for the complete season (full year). The decision to tryout should not be taken lightly. Furthermore, as a representative of Sacramento High School, you must maintain proper behavior at all times. You must follow the athletic and activity guidelines set forth in the athlete's handbook. Students who break the rules will be disciplined accordingly. By making this commitment to the Sacramento High School Cheerleading program, you will receive many valuable and rewarding educational experiences that you will remember long after you graduate from high school. These activities will not only channel your enthusiasm and spirit in a constructive and beneficial manner, but will give you a sense of pride and accomplishment in being a part of a group.

Student Agreement

I, _____, have read, understand and agree with the statement above. I have also read the RULES FOR CHEERLEADING in its entirety and I agree to abide by these rules if I am chosen as a member of the squad. I am agreeing to the information in the packet pertaining to try-outs and understand that failure to adhere to any of these policies could result in dismissal from the squad.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Agreement

I, _____, the parent or legal guardian of _____, have read and understand the RULES FOR CHEERLEADING and the 2017-2018 TRYOUT INFORMATION. I agree to abide by the policies described if my child is chosen as a member of the squad. I also agree to the financial obligations as they are described in the information provided. I understand that failure by me or my child to adhere to these policies could result in my child's dismissal from the squad.

Parent Signature

Date

RULES FOR CHEERLEADING

Purpose

The objective of the Sacramento High School cheerleading squad is to effectively execute a school spirit program that supports the athletic teams and promotes the school itself. Cheerleaders will serve as positive role models and leaders for SHS and should promote sportsmanship within our school and among other schools. The highest priority should be to display and encourage spirit and pride.

Squad Members and Practices

- Members will be chosen at a formal tryout session.
- The JV squad will consist of no more than 15 students who will cheer at JV football and basketball games and will participate in some rally events.
- The Varsity squad will consist of no more than 25 sophomores, juniors, and seniors who will cheer at all Varsity football and basketball games, competitions, and rally events. Freshmen typically do not make a Varsity squad; however, exceptions can be made at the coach's discretion.
- If a member of a squad is removed from a position, a replacement will be determined by the coach, Athletic Director, and Principal.

Practices and Games

- Squads will have practices each week. A tentative schedule will be given out at the beginning of each month. ALL PRACTICES ARE MANDATORY. Additional practices may be added when needed.
- Cheerleaders will be expected to be present at all games, including playoff games. Also, JV will stay until half time of Varsity games and Varsity will show up at half time of JV games unless told otherwise.
- All cheerleaders must download and use GroupMe application available for free on all cell phone platforms. This will be a direct communication link between cheer peers and coaching staff.

Attendance Requirements

- ABSENCES CAN BE THE DOWNFALL OF A GREAT CHEERLEADING SQUAD! If one or more squad members are absent from a practice or game, the other members are forced to make last minute changes. This can be both stressful and dangerous to squad members.
- You will be expected to be at all games and practices.
- Unexcused absences are those caused by anything other than illness or family emergencies. In addition, just because a cheerleader asks to be excused doesn't mean that the excuse will be granted.
- If you are ill or have a family emergency, the coach needs to be notified by a parent or guardian in order for this absence to be excused. Please notify the coach before the absence or as soon after as possible. Please call or text to notify the coach of any excused absences
- As stated in the Athlete's handbook, students must be present half the school day (2 full class periods) to be eligible for practices and games scheduled for that day.

Grades

- A minimum of 2.5 GPA must be maintained throughout the cheering season to remain on the team.
- Cheerleaders expecting to be a part of competitions WILL maintain a 2.8 or better. NO EXCEPTIONS
- Because cheerleaders are students first and athletes second, bi-weekly progress reports will be turned in so the coach can monitor academic progress.
- If at any time you are failing a class, you will be required to attend tutoring at Dragon Academy and/or study hall, and failure to attend will result in benching.
- From the time the No Grade/Credit is written on the progress report, you have two weeks to pull it to a C or better before a more severe consequence is given.

Tutoring

- Cheerleaders are encouraged to attend tutoring/study hall on all off days.
- If the cheerleader must attend tutoring/study hall on a practice day, the cheerleader must inform the coach, and bring a note from the teacher to the following practice.

Uniforms

- Washing instructions will be provided when uniforms are distributed.
- Damaged or lost uniforms will be replaced by the cheerleader.
- A cheerleader may not represent another sport (soccer, track, baseball, etc) while in uniform.
- Cheerleaders are NOT to distribute any article of cheer attire to other members of the school. You must be the only one to wear your uniform, warm ups, camp clothes, etc. We take it very seriously if articles of clothing is found on non-cheer members, it could result in removal from the squad.
- There will be **NO PDA** (public displays of affection) while in uniform.

Fund Raising

- Every cheerleader will be expected to support all fundraising events which support the team.
- Failure to participate can result in dismissal from the squad.
- Turning in fundraising money after the due date will result in being benched.

Transportation

- If a parent/guardian is going to pick up their cheerleader at an home or away game, the coach must speak or have visual confirmation of the parent. Otherwise how we arrive, is how we will leave.
- Your parent is the only one you are allowed to leave a game with, not friends UNLESS your parent/legal guardian has told the coach otherwise.

Expected Behavior

- All Sacramento High School guidelines must be followed at all times.
- Consequences will be issued for misbehavior or poor conduct
- Promote a positive image for the school community—your peers, parents, teachers, and community members
- While representing SHS , cheerleaders must not:
 - ⊗ Drink alcoholic beverages
 - ⊗ Use controlled substances
 - ⊗ Use tobacco products
 - ⊗ Show unsportsmanlike conduct
 - ⊗ Use profanity
 - ⊗ Show displays of affection
 - ⊗ Be academically dishonest
- Cheerleaders must wear the designated uniform to school on game/rally days.
- Attend all practices and games.
- Your attitude and ability to work with other different personalities must be exceptional.
- Lying or fabricating the truth will not be tolerated and can result in immediate termination from the squad.
- Part of a coach's job is to know where you are at all times during practices, games, and special events. Consequences will be issued for failure to follow the coach's direction or to stay in assigned areas during events.
- While safety is our number one goal, please understand that you should expect bumps, bruises, and other occasional minor injuries. This is all part of cheerleading.
- Cheerleaders cannot wear or loan cheerleading uniforms/outfits when attending non-cheerleading activities.
- All official cheerleading decisions and activities will be made by the coaching staff. **All coaches and captains are to be given respect and cooperation by cheerleaders and parents at all times.** Lack of respect will not be tolerated and can be grounds for dismissal.
- **ZERO TOLERANCE FOR FIGHTING OR ANY KIND OF VIOLENCE.** Automatic dismissal from the squad.

**Being in correct uniform means wearing the appropriate uniform—sports bra, bloomers, hair ribbon, socks, shoes, having hair pulled up. Complete uniform also means wearing no jewelry, glitter, or fingernail polish. Your nails must be trimmed short, and no acrylic nails or tips will be worn.*

**Exceptions made for Major School Events such as Prom, Homecoming, etc.*

Coaches reserve the right to make changes/additions to the rules as needed. In addition, if you have any questions or concerns, please respect the following chain of command: Squad Coach, Athletic Director, School Principal.