



Hauppauge Youth Cheerleading  
[www.hauppaugeyouthcheer.com](http://www.hauppaugeyouthcheer.com)

## **Code of Conduct**

Hauppauge Youth Cheerleading is a member of SCYCA (Suffolk County Youth Cheerleading Association). During cheer season, July through November Whether on the Competition Mat, in the practice gym, on the field or on social media Hauppauge Youth Cheerleading EXPECTS our athletes and parents to be role models of positive behavior.

### **PARENT SUPPORT**

One of the most important roles we all have in life is that of a parent! Without the support and cooperation of our parents we would not be able to continue on the path of success with our Hauppauge Youth Competition Team. We believe that as the young athletes on our team begin to create lasting and supporting bonds the parents will as well, as we too are a team. It is so important for us to model positive behavior as we evolve as a group. As a result, we ask for our parents to also follow important guidelines to help aid in another year of success and growth. The behavior of parents may not be distracting or disrespectful at any time. A parent is an extension of this cheerleading team. As a parent, I not only represent my cheerleader, but I also represent the Hauppauge Youth Organization, and all others affiliated with it. I take this role seriously and thus, will work with all parents to be a positive support to our youth.

The following will not be tolerated at any time and will be dealt with by HYO immediately. There has been and will always be zero tolerance in our organization. I understand that I will be removed from the event and/or my cheerleader could be removed depending on the severity of the situation.

- A. Inappropriate or negative outbursts at cheerleaders, coaches, volunteers, or other parents during practices, games, competitions or other events
- B. Profanity, both verbal and written (including social media)
- C. Inappropriate discussions between parents, coaches, and/or cheerleaders
- D. Disruptive or un-sportsman like behavior
- E. Excessive and inappropriate gossiping and the spreading of rumors

1. Coordinators and coaches will make decisions regarding placement on the team and who will participate in different parts of the routine.

2. All practices are closed practices. This means that parents, friends, and/or family members are not allowed to attend practices. This is for insurance purposes and this will allow the cheerleader to focus on what the coach/coordinator is trying to teach them.

3. A practice calendar will be given out at least 1 month in advance. However, practice locations or times can change due to us using the school space.

4. If a parent or guardian has a concern, they are to bring that concern up with the Coordinator/Lead Coach of your team privately. It is neither appropriate nor ethical for a parent or guardian to talk to cheerleaders or other coaches of other teams.

5. The Coordinators / Lead Coaches will collectively make the decisions on which competitions the team attends, fundraisers, games, uniforms, practices, camps, and other things that concern the cheerleaders. If problems arise they will be discussed with the HYO Board. You need prior approval from the Coordinator before you put anything to a vote when it comes to purchasing items for the team. Parents and guardians are more than welcome to buy customized items for their own cheerleader.

6. Please do not post Competition Videos of your team. Only on the HYO Members Only Facebook Page or in the teams communication page, No personal social media until the end of the season.

7. Each team will use a form of communication app to communicate with their parents. Parents and coach is encouraged to download the App, once invited, as this is where you will be able to have a texting conversation regarding the team, events, etc. We also created a Members Only Facebook Page for our teams. You can also email HYO Lead Coordinator Laura Alonzo at

[laura@hauppaugeyouthcheer.com](mailto:laura@hauppaugeyouthcheer.com), [info@hauppaugeyouthcheer.com](mailto:info@hauppaugeyouthcheer.com) or your team's Lead Coach.

8. On competition day, cheerleader will remain with the team until after awards, then they will be released to their parent or guardian unless an emergency arises or approved by your Lead Coach Prior.

9. As a parent of an athlete on the team, I understand that Competition Cheerleading has the risk of injury. I will speak to and educate my athlete on the importance of listening and behaving properly in order to maintain a safe environment for myself and my teammates.

### **HAUPPAUGE YOUTH ORGANIZATION ATHLETE ATTENDANCE RULES & POLICIES**

Once our season begins, it is your obligation to attend practices July through November. When one member is absent it can keep a whole team from achieving their goals for that practice. We cannot function as a team without your attendance and commitment. Please realize this before entering into this contract. We understand and certainly value family vacation time in the summer, but ask that when not on vacation you attend all summer practices as the foundation of the routine will be developed as well as stunt groups and tumbling routines. Excessive absences are defined as missing 2 weeks of practices during the summer schedule (July & August) and/or missing more than 3 practices during the fall competition season (September through November). If excessive absences occur, a change in your child's place in a stunt group or removal from the program may be necessary. From September through November ALL practices are mandatory unless they have been excused. Any cheerleader with excessive absences may be subject to sitting on the sideline or have their placement moved in the routine. If there are more than 3 unexcused absences as of September, a coordinator review will take place and your child may not be able to continue. When one child is consistently absent, their stunt group is not able to practice as well. (We take stunting very seriously as coaches and participation is required to teach how to ensure a safe execution during the routine.)

The following rules apply to attendance:

#### ***EXCUSED***

- Family Event (Death/Religious Event)
- Doctors Note
- Absence noted and approved by Lead Coach on conflict calendar

## **UNEXCUSED**

- Minor injury/non-contagious illness (you can watch if you are unable to practice physically)
- Homework (Please plan accordingly)
- School Activities (Please plan accordingly/contact coach)

THE EARLIER WE KNOW THE BETTER! Please note that FULL ATTENDANCE is important and excessive tardiness will not be tolerated.

## **Team members**

Please note that late arrival or leaving early disrupt and distract practices. In order to get the most out of our practices and for them to run more effectively, efficiently and most of all, safely, we ask of the following:

1. Arrive on time, coaches will dismiss from the gym when practice is complete. Parents are not to enter the gym or call athletes over when practice is ending. Please wait outside the gym doors.
2. Proper attire, including the correct practice outfit and cheer shoes (no velcro), must be worn.
3. Safe and appropriate behavior is expected at all times to keep our practice environment safe.
4. Hair must be in a ponytail or braid pulled back neatly and securely away from the face so it is not distracting or played with during practice.
5. Jewelry of any kind is not allowed for safety purposes. This includes all forms of earrings. Please have them removed prior to the start of practice
6. No fake nails are permitted. Nails are to be kept short at all times.
7. Gum chewing, eating and soft drinks are not allowed during practice.
8. Cell phones, apple watches (or any other type of smart watch), make-up or toys are not allowed during practice. If you need to reach your child for any reason please text your coaches or team mom.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR OUR ATHLETES

### I understand that my participation on the competition team is

1. Athletes are responsible for their own safety. This is through appropriate behavior, listening,
2. Personal issues are to be left at the door before entering your practice. We are always here to help. If there are any conflicts between cheerleaders please let us know before practice.
3. Athletes should not engage in rough-play at any time as this can result in injury. Concentration is required at all times for athlete's safety and your teammates safety
4. Athletes should never practice without safety mats/in a safe environment (this includes practicing at home).
5. There is zero tolerance for any form of bullying. If any of this is observed your cheerleader will be immediately removed from the practice and placement on the team will be reviewed. The goal is to create a safe and supportive environment for all of our youth.
6. Have a positive attitude! We understand there will be bumps along the way and there certainly will be times throughout the year when people get "stressed out". Overall, we do our best to encourage a team environment that is positive and enjoyable for everyone involved.

The following actions by an athlete or parent can result in being removed from ANY team

- Temper tantrums/outbursts, profanity
- Showing any disrespect to the coaches/coordinators and staff members
- Physical or verbal abuse toward a volunteer, parent or athlete
- Showing disrespect to a fellow program member or parent
- Lack of participation/attendance or poor attitude
- Unnecessary and/or excessive talking during practices & event
- Use of Social Media in a negative way
- Bullying

PLEASE KEEP THE ABOVE PORTION OF THE DOCUMENT FOR YOURSELF. THE NEXT PAGE MUST BE HANDED INTO YOUR TEAM COORDINATOR BEFORE YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST TEAM EVENT.

**HAUPPAUGE YOUTH ORGANIZATION CHEERLEADING PARENT & ATHLETE CONTRACT  
SIGNATURE PAGE**

My child and I have reviewed the Parent Contract as well as the Athlete Rules & Policies. When concerns or conflict arise, as a parent of the HYO Cheer program, parents must abide by the guidelines indicated above. I recognize failure to do so will affect my cheerleader's participation in this program.

HYO Athlete Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

When concerns or conflicts arise, as a parent of the HYO Cheer program, Parents must abide by the guidelines set forth. I recognize failure to do so will affect my cheerleader's participation in this program. All decisions are reviewed by Coordinators collectively.

Print Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_