



Cougar Cheer Attendance Policy

In an effort to remain safe and as fair as possible to all team-members, we are updating our attendance policy in 2025. This policy will apply to all cheerleaders and is consistent with the updates to the SMYFA league-wide Attendance Policy changes.

It is very important that cheerleaders attend all practices and games. It is incredibly difficult for the entire team to learn new cheers, routines, stunts, and formations with missing cheerleaders. If there is a reason a cheerleader cannot attend a practice or a game, the head coach should be notified. Some examples of excused absences are doctor notes, funerals, etc. at Cheer Commissioner's Discretion.

Unexcused Tardies A tardy will equal 0.5 unexcused Absences.

A cheerleader is considered tardy if they are 7 or more minutes late to practice.

Other Sports and Activities

- Your cheerleader will be excused from attending a full or partial practice up to **ONE time per calendar week** for other sports/ activities.
- If they will miss more than **one time per calendar week** for other sports/ activities, those absences are unexcused (even if they are for another sport or activity that has been excused in previous years).
- Attendance during all scheduled games & practices during the two calendar weeks prior to competition will be **mandatory** - no exceptions. Other sports and activities **will not** be excused during that timeframe.

*******When a Cheerleader reaches 3 unexcused absences, they are ineligible to compete in Cheerfest, per SMYFA League rules.*******

*NOTE: If you are going to miss more than 1 day of practice a week through the season for another sport's practices/games, you can absolutely still join cheer (We'd love to have you!) & you may participate in all games, **but you will be ineligible for participation in Cheerfest.***