

## CHEERLEADING/MASCOT GUIDELINES

### PURPOSE

- To lead and direct spirit for athletics, special events and activities.
- To encourage school pride, good sportsmanship and a positive campus image at school activities.
- To direct positive crowd involvement at all school activities.

### TRYOUT QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidate must currently be in grade 9, 10 or 11.
- Candidates are allowed to try out regardless of grade eligibility at the last marking period.
- Candidate must meet CFISD residency requirements.
- Candidates must meet campus requirements for discipline and conduct.
- Candidates must meet campus requirements for parent/candidate meeting and pre-tryout clinics.
- Candidates must have a physical on file with the campus.
- Candidates and their parents will agree to the district and campus requirements as well as all financial commitments and responsibilities.

### TRYOUT PROCEDURES

All procedures will be provided at the beginning of the tryout period and at any meetings held prior to tryouts.

- Tryouts will be held in the spring semester.
- Varsity squads will be a maximum of 20 members.
- Junior varsity squads will be a maximum of 14 members.
- Mascot number will be determined by campus.
- Campuses will determine the method for squad placement.
- Tryouts will be held before a panel of judges. Judges may include the campus coach/coaches.
- Tryouts are closed to observers.
- Tryouts must be done in person as opposed to taped or otherwise recorded performances.
- A campus rubric for skill evaluation will be developed and given to the candidates prior to tryouts.
- Tryout scoring will be based on a method determined by the campus and may include an interview or classroom performance record (including grades) as well as skills evaluation.
- Members must tryout each year for placement on a squad.
- Tryouts are final and non-appealable.
- Other than the alternate tryout there are no further tryouts. Should a vacancy occur **before cheerleading camp**, the campus **may** replace the vacancy if it chooses. If a vacancy should occur **during or after cheerleading camp**, the vacancy will **not** be filled.

### ALTERNATE TRYOUT PROCESS

All candidates must be physically able to compete on the day of the tryouts or, if eligible, on the alternate date. In the event a candidate, for the current school year, is seriously ill or unable to participate on the tryout date, an alternate tryout date may be set by the coach/coaches. The following procedures will be in effect:

- The alternate tryout must take place within ten (10) school days of the scheduled tryout date.
- A written statement from a physician may be required confirming that a candidate was unable to participate in the original tryout but is now capable of participating.
- A three judge panel consisting of coaches or assistant coaches from other CFISD high schools will serve as judges. The campus coach may serve as one of those judges.
- The scoring system will be the same as that used for the first tryout process.
- The candidate's final score must be equal or better than the lowest final score of those selected during the regular tryout session. The score will determine the squad on which the candidate will be placed.
- The candidate will be an addition to the previously declared size of the squad.

### POST TRYOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

- The cheerleader must have been promoted to the next grade level by the first day of school. Failure to be promoted will result in immediate removal from the squad.
- Cheerleaders are required to be at summer camp, all practices, games, pep rallies, fundraisers and other activities arranged by the coach. These dates, with the exception of playoff dates, will be communicated in advance.
- Cheerleaders must be in the cheerleading class for the fall semester. Campuses will determine spring semester class requirements.
- Coaches may require a doctor's release to participate if the cheerleader presents a condition or the coach suspects a condition which may be injurious to the cheerleader if he/she continues to cheer.
- Eligibility is based on the pass/fail standards outlined in the [CFISD Student Handbook](#).
- Demerit/merit systems will be determined by campus and communicated to the cheerleader and parents in writing.
- Dismissal procedures will be determined by campus and communicated to the cheerleader and parents in writing.

### LETTER JACKET POLICY

- Campuses will determine letter jacket requirements. These requirements will be communicated to the candidates.