

LSYC Policies

Coaches

The coaches of this organization shall be the responsibility of LSYC officers. All coaches must interview with a member of the board. All coaches, assistant coaches, and team moms will have to submit a Washington State Background check (preferable prior to season starting.) Due consideration will be given to all interested in this commitment. Coaches shall be responsible people of the community. Coaches will be 18 years of age or older. At this time, they may put in a request to be assigned to a specific football team if desired. Priority placement will go as follows:

1. Returning Coach following a Football Coach
2. Returning Coach
3. New Coach with child on the football team or spouse as coach.
4. New Coach

Teams will not be assigned to a Coach until all applicants have been interviewed and the board has voted on the selection. Coaches will receive their team assignments in May. Cheer Coaches or team representatives will be required to attend all LSYC Coaches meetings from April thru November. Cheer Coaches are required to attend relevant Coaches training. Coaches are not voting members of the board, with the EXCEPTION of general elections. If any head coach or eligible substitute (assistant coach, team mom) misses 2 meetings during one season they will be ineligible to coach the following season.

It is the responsibility of the Coach to ensure that all practices end on time, allowing the parents sufficient time to pick up their children. In the event that a parent has not arrived at the conclusion of a game or practice to pick up their child, it is the responsibility of the Coach to remain until all children have been picked up.

Practices will not exceed 3 hours per day and a total of 9 hours per week.

Coaches are responsible for conduct of their Cheerleaders and Parents during any team function.

Coaches will also sign and adhere to the Coaches Code of Conduct.

It is the responsibility of LSYC and all individuals participating to provide a proper environment for the players. At no time will adult participants swear, drink alcohol, take drugs or use tobacco products while participating with the children. In addition, no adult shall physically abuse any player in the league, bad mouth the league or any of its participants. As adult participants in the league it is our responsibility to ensure that players of the league not only learn the basics of cheer, but that they have a fun time doing so (refer to the code of conduct).

Removal of a Cheer Coach for any actions deemed inappropriate of a league representative will be reviewed and a decision made by vote of the voting members. The individual under review will have the right to address the officers with any character witnesses that person chooses to explain their circumstances. After the review, the subject must leave the meeting and a vote of 2/3 of the body present will commence. If a vote to remove said individual is rendered, then the subject will not participate in the organization for a period not to exceed one year. Any violation after a one-year suspension will result in being banned for life from LSYC. If a vote to remove is not rendered, then no further actions will be taken.

Participants

Registration is open to boys and girls aged 5-18 (still in High School) as of date determined by the Lake Stevens School district (August 31st). Participants must register with their legal name and be accompanied by at least one parent or legal guardian. Full payment of registration fees is required for placement on a cheer squad, and all LSYC Equipment will be held for participants with unpaid fees. Participants with outstanding balances from the previous season (rec or comp) must settle them before registering for the following season.

All youth will be eligible to participate regardless of race, religion or income.

Participants seeking financial assistance must complete an application during registration. Scholarships are not available for Competition Cheerleading. Board approval is required for scholarships, which are limited to a full registration fee reduction and equal payments for uniforms. Payments must be $\frac{3}{4}$ complete before the first game and fully paid by September 30th. Participants with previous season balances must pay in full before registering for the following season. Scholarship applications must be submitted by the closing of registration and scholarships will be determined before cheer camp.

Any add on accessories purchased for scholarship parents will be held until balance is paid in full. Items above and beyond are not covered by LSYC and include but are not limited to: team jackets, sweaters, times related to Cheerleading but are not required by LSYC such as cheer clinics and gymnastics.

Cheerleaders will be placed across all teams according to the following:

Age Group by Grade	Amount of Athletes
Senior (8th +)	25
Bantam (7th)	25
Junior (5th & 6th)	20
89er (3rd & 4th)	15
PeeWee (K - 2nd)	15

Priority placement will be as follows:

1. Returning Cheerleader / Prior Team-Coach
2. Cheerleader with sibling or parent on the football/cheer team
3. New Cheerleader placed in the correct age group by cheer squad division
4. Family members on football teams.
 - a. Cheerleaders will not be placed on a team that is more than one age bracket apart unless prior approval by the coach.

All participants and parents/legal guardians of participants must sign a Code of Conduct for parents and players. Coaches are responsible to have a signed copy of the Code of Conduct in a binder with them at every team practice and every game.

Cheerleaders are required to participate in team fundraising to cover team costs of additional items/activities as per team coaches' discretion.

Cheerleaders shall attend all practices and games. Failure to attend practices or games without an excused absence may be cause for suspension, or dismissal from the squad per the coaches' discretion after the team admin has intervened.

A participant may be dropped from the squad for the following reasons:

1. Disciplinary Reason (derogatory remarks, profanity, causing dissention, etc.)
2. Failure to attend practices or games (after warnings)
3. Use of drugs, alcohol, or any tobacco product
4. Participation in any illegal activity, suspensions from LSYC for reasons covered in the LSYC code of conduct.
5. Failure to participate in fundraising options.

It is the responsibility of the LSYC and all participating individuals to ensure the proper environment for cheerleaders. At no time will adult participants swear, drink alcohol, take drugs or smoke while participating with the children. In addition, no adult shall belittle or badmouth cheerleaders or board members or physically abuse any cheerleader. As adult participants in this organization it is our responsibility to ensure that the cheerleaders of LSYC not only learn the basics of cheerleading, but they also have fun doing so.

Any music used (i.e. half time dance or competition routines) must be sent to the Team Administrator for approval by the board to assure appropriateness. No songs with swear words or inappropriate ideas (i.e. drinking, drugs, sex) will be allowed.

Equipment

The LSYC complete uniform will consist of a shell, skirt, brief, bow, socks, coat and poms. Any additional accessory will be the responsibility of the parent. Cheerleaders shall be in complete uniform for all games and LSYC events and any other time as directed by LSYC. No jewelry shall be worn during games or practice and will be enforced by the squad coach and officers. Cheerleading uniforms are not to be worn by anyone other than the individual cheerleading participant. Cheerleading uniforms are to be retained by the cheerleader/parent.

No cheerleader shall be allowed to participate in any season game or activity unless wearing a full complete cheer uniform, per coaches' discretion.

It is the responsibility of the cheerleader and parent to keep the uniform and equipment in good, clean order.

Insurance

LSYC provides secondary insurance to all LSYC participants.

Various Cheerleading activities (stunts, tumbling, etc.) shall be pre-approved by LSYC and insurance policy. A stunt certified coach must be present before any stunting or stunt practice may take place. A copy of the coach's stunt certification must be kept on file with the board.

Conflicts

Conflicts within the LSYC organization shall be submitted to the president in writing within one week. The acting officers shall then rule upon the situation. The officers' decision is final. If circumstances beyond parent or child control prevents a child from being able to comply with any of the rules set forth herein and would affect a said child's participation, such matter would be handled on an individual basis.

Competition Cheerleading

Competition Cheerleading is a division of LSYC and will be governed under the same board members and bylaws. To participate in competition cheerleading all candidates must be physically able to participate as an active team member. Eligible age for competition cheer is 10-18 (still in high school) as of October 1st of the current season. Team divisions will be dependent upon the number of registrants and at the discretion of the coaches. Prior to the start of each Competition Cheer season tryouts will be held for team placement. Any participant who has a balance due from the previous season (rec or competition) will be unable to register for the following season until that balance is paid in full. Any cheerleader that was on Scholarship the prior rec season is required to pay back the registration fee on top of competition fees. Registration fees must be paid at time of registration and equal monthly payments may be made for the remaining balance with all competition fees owing being paid by the end of season party. Any Cheerleader who makes it onto a competition cheer team and does not complete the season is not eligible to try out the next season. A cheerleader may still try out for competition cheer if the reason is related to an injury or other extenuating circumstances.

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