



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF COOKE COUNTY**

2021 CHEER GUIDELINES

Updated 7/29/2021

Article I. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. PURPOSE

The primary objective of the Boys & Girls Club of Cooke County (BGCCC), is to promote social interaction in a team setting and the development of basic fundamentals for the youth we serve.

The BGCCC cheer program offers members the chance to learn and develop cheer skills while building strong self-esteem and self-confidence. Our goal is to not only teach our cheerleaders the fundamentals of cheerleading but to also teach them the skills they will need to be positive and productive members of our community. We work towards achieving our goals through committed staff, coaches, volunteers, parents, and cheerleaders.

The volunteer coaches in this program should promote this objective, and emphasize skill development and participation. Any questions or concerns shall be directed to the BGCCC Athletic Director - Madyson Cassidy mcassidy@bgccooke.com -940-665-6527.

Section 2. ELIGIBILITY

Members:

- A.** Cheerleaders may participate on only one Boys & Girls Club cheer team per season.
- B.** Grade is determined by the participant's grade as of September 1st 2021

Coaches:

- A.** An individual may be denied coaching privileges for any violation of the BGCCC code of ethics, conduct code and for the best interest of the BGCCC. Regardless of a clear background report and or completed training.
- B.** Eligibility and responsibility for being identified as a coach in the BGCCC cheer program:
 - 1. No player or coach may participate in any team meetings, workouts or games until he or she is officially registered and met the below requirements.
 - 2. Coaches must meet the below requirements specified by the BGCCC:

- Pass background check and complete abuse training before practices begin
- Coaches must also read and sign code of conduct acknowledgement

Section 3. TEAM ORGANIZATION

A. The Athletic Director reserves the right to consolidate or split one or more divisions/teams, if it proves necessary for the benefit of the program(s).

B. Member assignment:

1. Cheerleaders will be assigned to a new or existing team in the respective league. Athletic Director has the right to place members on any team that is proven to be the best fit for that member.
2. Teams:
 - A.** Each player must register individually and must have paid their registration or will not be issued a uniform.
 - B.** Teams will have a minimum of 4 cheerleaders and maximum of 14.
 - C.** When registering, if parents request their child be placed on a head coach's pre-formed team, the head coach of that team must inform the league of the request and approval.
 - D.** Coaches of pre-formed teams should ensure that each parent registers their child correctly through the league office.
 - E.** Coaches will not be allowed to add to their rosters after the deadline.
 - F.** Cheerleaders will not be added to teams once games have started.

Section 4. CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The BGCCC cheer program strives to develop skills, teamwork, achievement and good sportsmanship among all participants. Coaches and fans are expected to abide by these principles. We are not a select league, we are focused on opportunity and development.
2. All coaches must demonstrate good sportsmanship and fair play at all times to fans, officials, and players.
3. Members, coaches, officials, and participants are subject to, and must abide by, the BGCCC Code of Conduct.
4. Head coaches are responsible for the actions of their team. Coaches must explain to their parents and members during a team meeting that any negative actions they take before, during or after a game in relation to the officials, coaches, players, or spectators will have a negative impact on the team as a whole.
5. All coaches and players shall show good sportsmanship before, during and after the game.
6. Violation of the conduct described in this Section may result in an immediate suspension or other penalty as determined by the BGCCC Athletic Director.

Article II. EQUIPMENT & PROGRAM FORMAT

Section 1. UNIFORMS

- A. All cheerleaders will be issued skirts, shirts, and pom poms. Teams must wear the issued uniform and no alterations should be made unless approved by Athletic Director.
- B. Any athletic tennis shoe may be worn by cheerleaders.
- C. Shorts or bloomers must be worn under issued skirt.
- D. Bows will not be issued.
- E. Teams will be allowed to purchase/make their own bows as long as each member of the team has one and they are uniform in fashion.
- F. If cheerleaders are performing stunts or tumbling; jewelry is not permitted and long hair must be secured away from face.
- G. Hard or rough supports, braces and air casts must be covered. Wearers of certain types of casts may not perform stunts and certain other activities.

Section 2. League Structure & General Rules

- A. Cheerleaders who sign up for the BGCCC youth cheer program should commit themselves to the whole program including: camp, practices, and football games.
- B. All cheerleaders will attend mandatory cheer camp September 11th, 2021 9am-3pm
- C. Practices will be held at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cooke County on Wednesday nights. If the coach chooses to practice at an off-site location, Athletic Director approval is needed.
- D. **General Rules:**
 - Cheerleaders will cheer at designated football games on Saturday. Cheerleaders need to be present 15min before game time.
 - Cheerleaders will be allowed to cheer on the sidelines. No parents will be allowed on the field. Coaches will need coaches' badge to be allowed on the field.
 - All cheers/chants performed are not allowed to be derogatory in nature. BGCCC will not tolerate any cheers that degrade the opposing team.
 - Cheerleaders will have 5min at halftime to perform a cheer.
 - Stunts can be performed but bases must not hold flyer above waist level unless it has been deemed safe by Athletic Director.
 - Tumbling such as front rolls, cart wheels, and round offs are permitted. The performance of heels-over-head tumbling passes (back handspring, back tuck, etc.) must be approved by Athletic Director.
 - Coaches should limit a squads' activities to what is appropriate for its level of ability. Cheerleaders should not perform activities until safely perfected/demonstrated and approved.
 - Parents and coaches should remember that Cheerleading is an athletic activity and safety should be the first priority.
- E. If the football game is canceled due to inclement weather, the game will not be rescheduled.

- F. Football schedules will be posted to BGCCC QuickScores
<https://www.quickscores.com/bgccookecounty>

**THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR HAS THE AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTE NEW RULES OR
CHANGE OLD RULES TO MAINTAIN THE OVERALL MISSION OF THE YOUTH
SPORTS PROGRAM. THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S DECISIONS SHALL BE FINAL.**