



## Utica-Shelby Rebels Football and Cheer Handbook

### Our Mission Statement

To provide the youth in the Utica School District and surrounding communities with an educational program using the activities of football and cheerleading to promote teamwork, friendship and a healthy, fun filled physical lifestyle.

### Club Information

Utica-Shelby Rebels Football and  
Cheer Club

[www.shelbyrebels.com](http://www.shelbyrebels.com)

[shelbyrebelsfootballclub@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyrebelsfootballclub@gmail.com)

President - Andrew Leggat

Vice President - Jeremiah Orvelo

Secretary - Brandie Bourbrit

Treasurer - Kelly Beard

Football GM - Christopher Lenz

Cheer GM - Shelby Perkins

## Registration Refund Policy

Full Refund of Your Registration Fee:

You will receive all fees paid if your child leaves the program prior to May 1, 2025. Note: You WILL NOT receive a refund from any customized items ordered.

There will be no partial refunds at any time.

Other items purchased separately are non-refundable, Examples include apparel, duffle bags, chin strap, etc.

No Refund of Your Registration Fee:

**You will FORFEIT ALL fees paid if you child leaves the program on or after May 1, 2025. All Fundraising Completed for the Utica Shelby Rebels organization is non-refundable.**

## Parent Fundraising and Volunteer Policy

All parent(s) and/or guardians of one or more Rebels athletes are required to volunteer in order to have a successful season.

### **Volunteer Requirements:**

1. For the 2025 Regular season you must volunteer in assignments that are designated by the Utica-Shelby Rebels board.
2. The number of volunteer assignments needed to be completed by each family will be determined on the amount of families registered for the 2025 season versus the amount of positions needed throughout the year. Some of these positions may be field set up, field clean up, chain crew, clock operator, announcer, concessions, etc.
3. There are several spots that can be filled that may require more or perhaps less time but are deemed necessary to the daily function of the club. Those spots are designated by the Board. For example: Coaching, Team Parent, Game Spotter, Game Film and any other position selected by the Board.
4. All spots must be completed by an adult representative of the family.
5. Play-off season, Championship game and Mini/Mega Cheer events could be hosted by the Utica-Shelby Rebels during any year. This will require additional volunteer spots. Each family will be responsible for a volunteer spot during these events.
6. Each family will be responsible for providing a volunteer check to the Utica-Shelby Rebels in the amount of \$250. This check will be held in Escrow by the Utica-Shelby Rebels Treasurer. At the end of the season (after the banquet) the check will be returned to the families if requested. If not, the check will be destroyed.
7. Families who do not wish to volunteer during the regular season can OPT OUT of their positions and responsibility by paying the club the sum of \$250.00.
  - a. This will not eliminate any family however of volunteering during a post season, playoff, Championship or Mini/Mega Cheer event should the need arise.

### **Volunteer Requirements continued:**

8. All volunteers must be to their position at least 15 minutes prior to the event time to prepare for their position. **If you cannot make your assigned position(s), it is your responsibility to find a substitute and notify the Utica-Shelby Rebels volunteer Coordinator prior to the event.** Failure to meet any of your volunteer commitments will result in your volunteer check being cashed.

### **Fundraising Requirements:**

Fundraising is the lifeblood of any youth sports club. The registration costs that are charged for each child cover only a portion of the total cost to make the program run. Therefore, each family will have an obligation to participate in the Mandatory Fundraising Event(s), or they can Opt Out of fundraising activities for a donation of \$300 per family.

Each year fundraising programs and initiatives may change but the importance will always be great. Each year there will be one mandatory fundraiser that each family must assist in. The rest will be voluntary.

As an incentive for all of us to help raise funds, Utica-Shelby Rebels will reimburse an athlete's registration fee in full who raise \$1,000 or more in sponsorships or donations (one registration fee per \$1,000 raised).

### **Participant Code of Conduct**

The following Utica-Shelby Rebels Participant Code of Conduct has been developed to provide a uniform set of rules and regulations for all participants. The Code of Conduct will be in effect during the entire season which includes practices, camps, games, competitions and other Utica-Shelby Rebels sponsored activities. Athletes are to comply with all parts of the Code of Conduct in order to be considered an eligible participant in the Utica-Shelby Rebels Football and Cheer Club.

As a member of the Utica-Shelby Rebels Football and Cheer Club, an athlete acknowledges the receipt of and are required to comply with the following rules:

1. I agree to display conduct both on and off the field which reflects only the highest standards of sportsmanship. I understand my conduct also reflects directly upon my parents, friends, the community and the Utica-Shelby Rebels program which I represent.
2. I agree school is very important. My school attendance and performance in school will remain a priority.
3. I agree to refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco and other illegal drugs. I will not associate with individuals who use any of these substances.
4. I agree to use only language which is socially acceptable.
5. I agree to listen to the direction of my coaches and show respect toward my teammates, opposing players, spectators, parents, and officials at all times.
6. I agree to refrain from participating in any bullying against another person or be associated with those who are involved in bullying.

### **Participant Code of Conduct Continued**

7. I will adhere to all rules of the Northern Youth Football League (NYFL).
8. I will adhere to all rules sent by my individual coach.
9. I understand violating any of the rules can lead to reduced playing time or dismissal from the Utica-Shelby Rebels program.

### **Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct**

The following Utica-Shelby Rebels Code of Conduct has been developed to provide a uniform set of rules and regulations for participants. The Code of Conduct will be in effect during the entire season which includes practices, camps, games, competitions and other Utica-Shelby Rebels sponsored activities. Athletes are to comply with all parts of the Code of Conduct in order to be considered an eligible participant in the Utica-Shelby Rebel Football and Cheer Club. Parents are subject to all Utica-Shelby Rebels rules and regulations even though such rules may not be included in this document.

An athlete in good standing will have all entry fees, registration forms, birth certificates, Codes of Conduct, and physical/health forms turned in prior to the start of the season.

I, as a parent/guardian of a Shelby Rebel athlete(s) acknowledges receipt of and agree to the following rules:

1. I agree to display conduct during games which reflects only the highest standards of sportsmanship; using socially acceptable language, showing respect toward referees, coaches, and other parents regardless of team affiliation.
2. I agree to show respect toward players, coaches and other parents during practice and other Utica-Shelby Rebel sponsored activities.
3. I understand sideline coaching shall not be tolerated during practice or games. Any person not authorized by the Utica-Shelby Rebels will not be allowed on the field during practice or games.
4. I acknowledge all team members in good standing shall attend all events designated by their coach. Should a situation occur such as illness, required school or family events, the athlete must make prior arrangements with their head coach for an excused absence.
5. In the event of an absence due to injury, I will provide written approval from the athlete's physician that they are able to return to play to the Utica-Shelby Rebel Football or Cheer GM accordingly.
6. I understand that violations of the above rules could result in me being asked to leave an event. Repeat offenses will result in being barred from future games and other Utica-Shelby Rebel sponsored activities
7. I agree to not use any tobacco product including vape pens, alcohol or any other illegal drugs near any Utica-Shelby Rebel practice field, game field or other field associated with the Northern Youth Football League. Since most games occur on school property, school rules shall apply as well.

8. I will follow all rules of the Northern Youth Football League.
9. I will follow all additional rules handed down by my participants coach.
10. I agree to try and resolve any issue in an orderly manner. Concerns involving my child, and their team or coach, should first be addressed with the head coach. If this does not solve the issue, I will contact the Football or Cheer GM to assist in solving the issue.
  - a. Note: If the issue at hand has to do with playing time or assignments or decisions made during a game you must wait 24 hours before you contact any coach.
  - b. Under NO circumstance are parents to resolve issues on the field with any coach, player or spectator.
  - c. The preferred method for voicing concerns initially is after 24 hours and via email so that a record can be kept.
11. I understand the equipment which is issued to my child is on a rental basis and I am required to return all pieces on the day specified at the end of the season. The equipment will be returned in the same condition as issued accounting for normal wear. If I neglected to return any issued equipment to my child, I understand I will receive a bill for the replacement cost of the missing equipment and agree to pay in full.

### **Attendance Policy**

The following policy will be in effect from the official season start date through Super Bowl for all participants and will be strictly enforced and documented due to the physical demand for football and cheerleading. Athletes who do not participate may jeopardize their safety and the safety of those around them. ALL athletes are expected to be present and arriving on time to all events (practices, games, competitions, etc.). As such, the attendance policy will apply to all Shelby Rebel sanctioned events. Proper notification and adherence to the attendance policy is expected as it was drafted to maximize the safety of the children involved and minimize disciplinary issues.

We will consider the various school times in order to schedule practice times. If you have an issue making practices, please notify your athlete's head coach or a board member.

With your cooperation, these rules will help insure your child experience in Shelby Rebels will be safe, healthy and positive.

### **Utica - Shelby Rebel Attendance Policy:**

Missed Practices:

1. One (1) unexcused missed practice will result in the athlete being ineligible to participate until the second half of the next scheduled game.
2. Two (2) unexcused missed practices will result in the athlete being ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game.
3. Excessive unexcused tardiness to practice will result in your athlete's expulsion from the Utica-Shelby Rebel program for that season.
4. Cheerleaders: Attendance at games is mandatory for Mini and Mega Cheer. Multiple excused absences could result in your child being pulled from one or both rounds of Mini and Mega Cheer.

### **Attendance Policy Continued**

- a. Attendance at the entire game is mandatory or it becomes an unexcused absence.
- b. One (1) unexcused absence will result in cheerleader being ineligible to participate until the second half of the next scheduled game and a loss of position (base/flier/spot) during all or portion of the Mega Cheer routine and/or removal from one round of Mega Cheer starting with the most difficult and safety oriented round (Round 2).
- c. Two (2) unexcused absences will result in the athlete being ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game and removal from Mini and/or Mega Cheer
  - i. Attendance at the games are mandatory or it becomes a 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence.
  - ii. Attendance at Mega Cheer is mandatory, or it becomes a 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence.
  - iii. Three (3) unexcused absences will result in the athlete being dismissed from the Utica-Shelby Rebel program that season.

We understand that illness, vacations and other family or religious obligations happen. However missing practices for extracurricular school activities, other sports practices or events may not be acceptable as an excused practice. The head coach will be the final say to excuse the absence.

Parents must contact the head coach prior to the event for the absence to be considered excused.

### **Equipment Policy**

The following Utica-Shelby Rebel Equipment Policy for all participants will be strictly adhered to. The parent or guardian of all participants must return the equipment at the designated equipment return date.

Failure to return any equipment will result in a bill being issued for the complete replacement cost of missing items(s).

Specifications for equipment being returned as follows.

Football Player:

1. Helmet including chin strap
2. Knee and Thigh pads
3. Shoulder pads
4. Practice jersey (if it was not a customized purchase)
5. Game and Practice pants

### **Equipment Policy Continued:**

Cheerleader:

1. Cheer vest
2. Skirt
3. Compression shirt
4. Rain Jacket/Warmups
5. Poms

### **Media Release Policy**

I hereby consent to the use by Utica-Shelby Rebels Football and Cheer Club (USA Rebels), and those acting with permission and authority of USA Rebels, of all photographs, videotape, or other images or recordings that USA Rebels has taken of me or in which I may be included, for all purposes, in any and all media including the Internet, without limitation, including promotion, solicitation, advertising or trade.

I am fully aware that my likeness may appear in materials available to students, parents, faculty or staff of USA Rebels, and individuals outside of the USA Rebels community. I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the finished images or other content, including advertising copy or printed matter, in which they may be used. I understand that any distribution of the images will be fully compliant with USA Rebels policies, statements and values.

I release USA Rebels and those acting under their authority from any liability related to the alteration, intentional or otherwise, that may occur in connection with the processing, editing, transmission, display or publication of the images, and understand that images may be cropped or altered for purposes of illustration.

I understand that all images in which I participate, including film, photographic prints, digital files or video are the exclusive property of USA Rebels and I grant to the USA Rebels the unrestricted right to copyright, publish and republish the images.

If you have any questions in reference the Utica - Shelby Rebel Handbook please contact us at [ShelbyRebelFootballClub@gmail.com](mailto:ShelbyRebelFootballClub@gmail.com)

