

2017 JPS Cheer Parent Newsletter

- First I would like to say welcome to the Junior Pirate program! I, as well as the other coaches, are very excited for this season and hope to continue to grow in size and skill this year.
- We would like to continue to make the program better and improve from last year. Having said that, I have made some changes to the 2017 season. Some things may be repeated from the parent handbook.
- At the beginning of the season, Coach Maddie will have all numbers of the athletes. If you want to receive the texts that are sent, let me know and I will add to the list. Other coaches might have their teams' numbers and the girls are welcome to get their coaches numbers as well.
- I create a Groupme account for the season so that I do not have to send a million texts all the time, as I send a lot. This will come to your phone as a text if you do not download the app so no worries if you do not have the app. The app is free if you choose to download it though. I create one for the girls where I send out information that needs to be sent to them and then another one for the parents. If you don't want to be included in the parent one, that's fine however, I do need the girls to be on there unless it's not possible.
- I will also send weekly, if not every two-week, newsletters to the parents via email. This will include upcoming events, problems we are running into, or successes we have along the way. I found them beneficial last year as a reminder for the week. I work off of weekly schedules so this helps me stay sane.

- If your child misses a practice during the week of a game for an unexcused absence, they will sit out for a quarter or half of the game. They will be in half time unless they miss both practices during that week. It is very hard to be game ready when we have people missing and only have two practices during the week. If they miss both practices then it is likely they will not perform in half time.
- Due to weather we may have to change locations for practice. I believe we were able to get the gym at Heights so if it rains, we will be in the gym. If during practice, it starts to rain, pick up will be in the gym. (This is when Groupme comes in handy!)
- I will not be as available as I have been in previous years. I am student teaching and will be working during the day. I won't be able to respond to emails or calls as quickly as normal. If you need to get ahold of me, please text me or put it in the Groupme. I like Groupme better because someone else may be able to answer the question before I see it. I will look at my phone seldom during the day but will answer when I can. I may not get to it until after practice even, just be patient with me.
- The final thing I would like to discuss is the demerit system. As we all know, middle school is a rough time but I need the girls more than somewhat dedicated to the team. The girls will each have 5 demerits and after 5, they will no longer be on the team. I will have a list of what the demerits will consist of to assure that we are being fair to the girls. After practice, the coach will talk to the parent to let them aware of the issue. We will also be keeping track of the demerits.

Demerit List

- 1 Demerit
 - Not showing up to practice without notifying a coach
 - Tell the coach if you aren't going to be there! It stresses us out when we expect people and have no idea where the athlete is.
 - After third warning of attitude towards coach or other teammates
 - This goes without saying but attitudes aren't accepted, including eye rolls.
 - Outside drama that is hindering practice or team
 - Middle school girls and drama tend to be best friends. Don't let it affect the team.
- ½ Demerit
 - Coming to games without the proper attire
 - Uniform, midriff, jacket, pants, shoes, spunks, bow, and poms are required at all games. We sometimes put on/take off pieces depending on the weather, if someone is missing a piece, the whole team is not allowed to wear them.
 - Coming to practice over 15 minutes late without notifying a coach
 - No need to notify coaches if it's five minutes! I expect people to be late because parents get off work later just notify if you're going to be 15 minutes or later.

I understand the rules, expectations, consequences, and demerits for the 2017 JPS season.

Parent: _____

Athlete: _____