

Sharyland North Jr. High Spirit Program

DEMERIT PLAN

The Demerit Plan was established as a form of self-discipline management. A member will be dismissed upon accumulating 12 demerit referrals. A member will be notified when a demerit has been issued. Demerits are severe and could include exclusion from a performance or loss of membership eligibility for one academic year. It is essential that a member clearly understand expectations.

As an established extracurricular activity on campus, additional standards to those cited in school policy can apply. If a violation is also a violation of school rules, the consequences specified by Sharyland ISD Student Code of Conduct will apply in addition to any consequences specified by the spirit program. Any sponsor and principal review of student's actions may result in dismissal from the squad.

*All infractions receiving three or more demerits will also result in member being benched from next game, performance, or event.

- A. Tardies: 1 Demerit
 - a. Practice
 - b. Game
 - c. Event
 - d. Placement (not in position to resume participation after halftime, etc.)
- B. Absences: (refer to Leaves and Absences below)
 - a. Practice
 - b. Game
 - c. Event
- C. Personal Appearance: 1 Demerit
 - a. Grooming
 - a. Females –pinned away, pony tail, from the face and shoulders.
 - b. Males – clean shaven and well-groomed.
 - b. Jewelry
 - a. Wearing jewelry (i.e. watch, rings, hair wraps, bracelets – all types, necklaces, earrings of any size or any kind in any place – navel rings, nose rings, tongue ring, etc.) is not permitted except for religious or medical medal, which shall be taped to the body under the attire.
 - c. Fingernails
 - a. Fingernails, including acrylic nails, shall be kept at a length appropriate for safe participation. Nail polish must be clear or natural.
 - d. Glitter
 - a. Glitter/Glitter spray shall not be worn on the face (make-up), hair, body, or uniform/accessories.
- D. Performance and Practice Apparel: 3 Demerits and Immediately Benched from Game, Event, or Performance
 - a. Proper Uniform - Inappropriately wearing or not wearing the uniform and accessories (hair bow, bodysuit, brief, socks, proper shoes), or any other scheduled uniform/apparel. Uniforms should not be soiled (dirty) or wrinkled.
- E. Personal Actions: 3 Demerits
 - a. Abuse of authority by a captain
 - b. Chewing gum in uniform
 - c. Departing from practice, game, or event without approval or dismissal
 - d. Classroom/Office Detention

- e. Distractive behavior (i.e. making contact with a particular fan in the audience, national anthem, school songs, etc.)
 - f. Grooming in public
 - g. Insubordination to captains
 - h. Lack of participation and/or uncooperative behavior
 - i. Lack of spirit or enthusiasm
 - j. Leaving personal property unattended after dismissal
 - k. Lending out cheerleading apparel/ accessories to non-team members
 - l. Safety violation
 - m. Unsportsmanlike conduct
- F. Severe Personal Actions: 5 Demerits
- a. Insubordination/Lack of respect to sponsors – includes talking/laughing while coach is addressing team
 - b. Insufficient Knowledge of material and skills (Benched Immediately from game, performance, or event)
 - c. Lack of respect for all teachers/staff/school affiliated members
 - d. Not following school rules and Sharyland ISD Parent/Student Handbook Extracurricular Guidelines, including the dress code.
 - e. Office Referrals
 - f. Placement in ISS per day
 - g. Posting inappropriate pictures in uniform or cheer attire on ANY social media network.
 - h. Public display of affection
 - i. Use of profanity including hand gestures

Leaves and Absences

Excused- Benched from next game, performance, or event due to safety purposes.

Unexcused- 3 Demerits and benched from next game, performance, or event due to safety purposes.

- a. A valid reason for an absence from practice, game, or other cheer-related activity includes:
 - i. A verified medical absence (maximum of 3) on a school day due to a personal illness (sick leave) with immediate and proper medical documentation.
 - ii. Emergency personal illness (maximum of 1) after the school day, if the cheer coach is notified by the member/parent in a timely manner.
 - iii. Family emergency (natural disasters or life-threatening situations), if the cheer coach is notified by the member/parent in a timely manner.
 - iv. Death in the immediate family (parents, siblings, grandparents), if the cheer coach is notified by the member/parent in a timely manner.
- b. Parent request school days are considered unexcused from an assigned cheer activity (practice, game, or event).

Immediate Dismissal from the Squad

- A. Absence from summer camp
- B. Fighting/Bullying
- C. Receiving 12 demerits
- D. Smoking, Drinking, or illegal substances will not be tolerated on or off school property