

Spur High School and Junior High School Cheerleader/Mascot Contract 2011-12

Spur Junior High and High School cheerleader/mascots are expected to take the lead in the promotion of school spirit and loyalty. For this reason, the position of cheerleader/mascot is one of the most important positions of leadership at Spur ISD. Because of the nature of the position, high standards have been set for those who seek to be a cheerleader/mascot. Please read the following rules and requirements for Spur Junior High and High School cheerleader/mascots for the 2011-12 school year. **In order to become an SHS/SJH Cheerleader/mascot, one must meet ALL of the requirements listed below. To maintain this position, one must continue to follow ALL rules the entire time he/she holds the position of cheerleader/mascot.**

TRY-OUT REQUIREMENTS:

Any individual wishing to try out for SHS/SJH cheerleader/mascot for the 2011-12 school year **MUST:**

1. Have been enrolled in Spur I.S.D. school system since January 3, 2011.
2. Maintain a passing average in all classes each six weeks throughout the school year
3. Maintain 90% attendance in all classes.
4. NOT have any school fines, or owe any Spur organization money or items (this includes cheerleading uniforms not turned in from previous years).
5. NOT have more than one (1) office discipline referral during the current school year.
6. NOT have been removed from a cheerleading squad at any point during the 2010-11 school year. Removal from a squad excludes a student for trying out the next school year.
7. NOT have quit an SHS/SJH cheerleading squad in ANY year previous to 2011-12. An exit interview will be conducted if a cheerleader/mascot quits.
8. Submit a completed application form and parental consent/medical release form **BEFORE** the annual tryouts take place.
 - a. The form must be signed by the candidate.
 - b. The form must be signed by the parent or guardian of the candidate.
9. Candidates must attend required meetings and practice sessions before the selection process begins.
10. Must comply with the Spur ISD Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct.

CHARACTER OF CITIZENSHIP:

The position of cheerleader/mascot involves many responsibilities. Proper leadership requires high moral character, good citizenship, and high ideals. **This also includes social activities that take place away from school.**

Cheerleader/mascots are expected to:

- Take the lead in promotion of school spirit and school loyalty
- Set an example for other students **at all times** (for example: MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, texting, photographs, etc.)

March 30, 2011

A cheerleader/mascot's conduct is expected to be beyond reproach and failure to live up to the high standards of Spur ISD may result in dismissal or suspension from the squad.

ELECTIONS:

- Wednesday, April 6: 5:30 pm, School Library
A **mandatory** Parent and Cheerleader/Mascot Candidate meeting will be held in the library at Spur High School.
- Preparation/Practice sessions
 - All required paper work submitted before or at 3:30 pm, Monday, April 11, 2011. Junior High turn in to Tonya Givens, high school to Amy Jarrett.
 - Tryout video DVD will be provided when required paper work is turned in to advisor(s).
 - Attendance to **three (3) practice sessions** required (Times may be changed due to conflict with high school track)
 - Tuesday, April 12, 4:00-5:00 pm, Gymnasium
 - Thursday, April 14, 4:00-5:00 pm, Gymnasium
 - Monday, April 18, 4:00-5:00 pm, Gymnasium
 - Tuesday, April 19, 4:00-5:00 pm, Gymnasium
 - Wednesday, April 20, 4:00-5:00 pm, Gymnasium
 - Spirit poster due Wednesday, April 20
- **Thursday, April 21: 4:30 pm Cheerleader/mascot Tryouts**

In order to ensure fairness, all candidates will wear a solid white t-shirt or colored tank underneath (no writing, decorations, etc.) with black or blue athletic shorts/pants. Tryout clothing is the responsibility of the candidate.

The candidates must follow all try-out rules in order to be considered for cheerleader/mascot.

ELECTION PROCEDURES:

1. Election procedures will be based on four different criteria.
 - a. Spirit Sign (see Item #3 below) – 10% of total score
 - b. Teacher Vote – 25% of total score.
 - c. Student Body Vote – 10% of total score
 - d. Judge Evaluation – 55% of total score (Outside judges will evaluate each candidate.)
2. **Tryout Performance:** Cheerleader/mascot candidates will perform one individual chant, one cheer, and a 1-minute dance routine for his/her tryout routine.
3. **Spirit Sign:** Cheerleader/mascot candidates will create a poster/sign showing spirit, support, and creativity. All completed signs will become the property of the cheerleading squad and displayed in the school halls for the coming year.
4. The tryouts will be conducted by the current senior cheerleader/mascot(s) and/or advisor(s).
5. All scoring will be tallied on computer by an adult not affiliated with the cheerleader/mascots.

March 30, 2011

6. The high school squad will consist of the six (6) candidates with the highest combined scores and the mascot candidate with the highest combined score. The junior high squad will consist of the six (6) candidates with the highest combined scores. Tryout results will be posted on foyer windows as soon as scores are tallied following tryouts.
7. If a cheerleader/mascot is unable to complete his/her duties as required by this contract, the cheerleader/mascot with the next highest score will be moved into his/her spot if vacancy occurs before the summer camp date. If the vacancy occurs after summer camp, the spot will not be filled.

CAPTAIN (High School Only):

The high school cheer squad will have a captain/head cheerleader. The captain/head cheerleader will be chosen by sponsor(s) and cheerleader/mascot votes and will be determined at the first official squad meeting. Must have one year's experience as high school cheerleader to be considered as captain/head cheerleader.

The captain must be able to meet with the sponsor(s) at least once a week. She will be expected to work with the sponsor(s) to coordinate pep rallies, practices, and other activities. She will also be responsible for contacting other squad members and leaders of other sports with information concerning cheerleading.

Specific responsibilities will include:

1. acting as a leader of the squad,
2. presiding at all meetings and practices,
3. calling special meetings or practices with permission of sponsor(s),
4. creating, teaching, or assisting in teaching routines,
5. directing practices,
6. seeing that all members are present at practices, games, and activities,
7. serving as a constant example of good character,
8. being governed by the sponsor(s) and working in cooperation with the school leaders (athletic director, principals, coaches, etc.), sponsor(s) and teammates, and
9. having all decisions approved by the sponsor(s) and/or principal.

FINANCES:

Uniforms:

Spur ISD will provide uniform shell and skirt of each junior high and high school uniform. The district will also provide the wind suit worn during the instructional day. Any additional costs will be paid by the cheerleader/mascot. Uniforms must be paid for before they are worn. Fundraisers will be conducted and money will be collected in order to pay for uniforms **prior to use**.

Camp:

All Spur Junior High and High School cheerleader/mascots are required to attend a school-sanctioned training camp as arranged by the sponsor(s). Fundraising opportunities may be

provided to assist with camp expenses. Any camp expense balance will be covered by each cheerleader/mascot. **Camp will be held in Spur May 31-June 1, 2011.**

ALL MONEY MUST BE TURNED IN BY 3:30 PM ON THE DATE SPECIFIED. IF ANY CHEERLEADER/MASCOT IS LATE FOR A DEADLINE, THEY WILL BE REMOVED AND THE ALTERNATE WILL BECOME ACTIVE. SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND ITEMS PURCHASED WILL BE GIVEN TO THE CHEERLEADER/MASCOTS AFTER THE DEADLINE.

ACADEMICS:

After election, a cheerleader/mascot must maintain a 70.0 or above average in all classes. According to TEA State Law, failure to maintain this scholastic standard will result in the cheerleader/mascot being suspended for a 3 week period. At the end of this three-week period, the cheerleader/mascot must be passing ALL classes. If the cheerleader/mascot is not passing ALL classes, he/she will be immediately removed from the cheerleading squad. If the cheerleader/mascot is passing ALL classes at the end of the third week of suspension, he/she will be allowed to participate again as a cheerleader/mascot. He/She will be put on "Academic Probation" at this time, meaning that if he/she fails a six weeks in ANY class the remainder of their time as a cheerleader/mascot he/she will be immediately removed from the squad.

APPEARANCE:

A representative of Spur MUST be dressed in a neat and acceptable manner at all times.

- Cheerleader/mascots must keep their uniforms neat and clean at all times.
- Body piercings are a direct violation of school dress code. Cheerleader/mascots having a body piercing must remove the jewelry before cheering at any school function. This is a safety issue.
- Cheerleader/mascots must dress alike at all functions in which they are participating. (i.e. games, pep rallies, etc.) Garments that are not school colors and sponsor(s) approved will not be allowed.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

Games:

It is very important that all cheerleaders/mascot attend all football and basketball games as scheduled. If a cheerleader/mascot must miss a game, the sponsor(s) must be informed no later than the day of the game. If a cheerleader/mascot is too ill to attend a game, a note is required. Cheerleaders/mascot who work or participate in other non-school activities must schedule their work hours and other activities around cheerleading activities.

Transportation:

Each cheerleader/mascot is responsible for her own transportation to and from all HOME games. The school provides transportation to all out of town required activities. You must be at the school by the scheduled time of departure. Cheerleader/mascots travel to all games as a squad. Cheerleader/mascots will be released to ride home ONLY with parents with a note turned in to sponsor(s).

Restaurants:

Cheerleaders/mascot will eat together as a group along with the team at the selected restaurant. All cheerleaders/mascot and sponsor(s) will sit with the team as a group.

General:

Cheerleaders/mascot need to be at all required activities as assigned by sponsor(s).
Cheerleaders/mascot need to be prepared for all activities.

Pep Rallies:

Pep rallies will be planned and approved by the squad and ultimately the sponsor(s) during the summer. Pep rallies should be encouraging, motivating and promote good sportsmanship. Dates will be given for these planning meetings at a later time. These meetings are mandatory. All cheerleader/mascots are required to remain after all activities and make sure all materials and equipment are put away and location is put back in original order.

Cheerleader & Mascot Demerit System

Spur High School/Junior High School

2011-2012

The maximum amount of accumulated demerits allowed will be twenty (20). After obtaining ten demerits, the cheerleader/mascot will be put on a one-week probationary period, during which he/she will continue as normal (attend practices) with the exception of performances. After obtaining fifteen demerits, the cheerleader/mascot will be placed on a three-week probationary period, during which he/she will continue as normal with the exception of performances. On the dates of any scheduled performances that occur during the probationary period, the cheerleader/mascot will attend games with the rest of the squad, but will not wear their uniform to school or to the game. The cheerleader/mascot on probation will be required to sit in the stands with the sponsors. Accumulated demerits will be calculated for probationary period. Parents will be notified for every 5 demerits accumulated.

1. Suspension from school	12
2. Failure of a course for any six weeks period (includes suspension)	6
3. Use of drugs, tobacco or alcohol (includes suspension in accordance to the Spur ISD Student Handbook)	6
4. Failure to cooperate with the sponsor(s), insubordination.....	5
5. Truancy from school (unexcused school absences)	3
6. Use of profanity while representing SHS/SJH in any way	4
7. Any use of cell phones or other electronic devices during any cheerleading activities	4
8. Tardy to return after a break or half-time	2
9. Missing part of uniform during a game or practice	2
10. Wearing jewelry, chewing gum, or having hair down for game or practice	1
11. Tardy to game or practice (1st offense).....	1
12. Tardy to game or practice (subsequent offenses).....	2
13. Improper behavior on sideline (horsing around)	1
14. *First unexcused or unexplained absence.....	3
15. *Subsequent unexcused or unexplained absences	5
16. Leaving game or practice early (1st offense)	1
17. Leaving game or practice early (subsequent offenses)	2
18. Not representing SHS/SJH appropriately at all times.....	5
19. *Excused Absence (1st offense with a note/ without a note it is unexcused)	0
20. *Excused absence (2nd offense with a note)	3
21. *Excused absence (subsequent offenses with a note)	5
22. Level I disciplinary office referral	3
23. Level II disciplinary office referrals	5

**Cheerleading activities*

Cheerleader/Mascot Pledge

I PLEDGE

- to be drug, tobacco, and alcohol free.
- to do my best at all practices and performances.
- to promote school spirit and sportsmanship by my words and actions.
- to be a positive leader and role model for my squad, school, and community
- to be someone others can count on to be hardworking, dependable, & positive.
- to follow all safety guidelines set up by my sponsor(s).
- to be the type of cheerleader/mascot that I would like to coach.
- to help others.
- to constantly work at improving myself and my cheerleading skills.
- to keep academics as my number one priority.

A signed copy of this policy will be kept on file.

I understand all policies as stated and intend to abide by these policies or accept consequences as outlined.

Cheerleader/mascot/ Mascot signature

Parent signature

Date _____

Date _____

Keep this copy for your records.

March 30, 2011

March 30, 2011

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Cheerleader/mascot/ Mascot signature

Parent signature

Date _____

Date _____

Return this copy to sponsor.

PARENTAL PERMISSION AND RELEASE FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: COMPLETE ENTRIE FORM AND TURN IN TO SPONSOR TO HAVE ON FILE.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ BIRTH DATE: _____

The following are means of contacting a parent or guardian of participant:

Name _____

Home/Cell # _____ Work # _____

A relative or friend who could locate the parent or guardian:

Name _____

Home/Cell # _____ Work # _____

Physical limitations:

Allergies:

If you are taking medications, list the name, physician, and reason:

Minor Release:

I, or we, parent(s) of a minor child, named _____, do hereby give consent for said minor child to participate in all activities scheduled as a part of SPUR ISD CHEERLEADER/MASCOT tryouts. I, or we, further give permission to have emergency first aid administered by any qualified person in case of illness and/or injury to said minor child and to have said minor child transported by the most expedient means of conveyance to the nearest available treatment center as is medically prescribed by physician(s). In case of extreme illness and/or injury while at or enroute to or from SPUR ISD CHEERLEADER/MASCOT tryouts activities, I or we, do further agree that Spur ISD, their employer or agents individually or collectively, shall not be held responsible or liable for personal injury or loss resulting either on the premises of SPUR ISD CHEERLEADER/MASCOT tryouts activities or enroute to or from the activities.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

This authorization extends to medical doctors, nurses, hospital personnel and any other person trained to administer emergency medical aid should the need arise

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____ in the county of Dickens, City of Spur, Texas.

March 30, 2011