

CHEER PARENT GUIDELINES

1. All communication will be done through emails or text messages. If the parent has a complaint, even if it's a minor complaint, email or text the coach with the complaint. If the parent would like to speak to the coach face to face, the parent needs to email or text that coach and ask to meet before or after practice. Then the coach can ask what the issue is, to see if she will need to contact a Board member to be present, and then set up a time to meet with the parent that is convenient for the coach and/or Board members to attend. No more parents coming onto the field to speak to coaches or talking to the coaches over the fence. These conversations will not be in front or in earshot of the kids to hear or witness. You may not think they are paying attention but they are.

2. Parents are not allowed on the field at any time, unless invited by the coach. Parents don't need to go on the field or call their child to the fence to fix hair bows, tie shoes, talk to the child or to the coach. Parents will be asked to leave the field and if they refuse, will be asked to leave the complex and/or possibly banned from attending games altogether, depending on the situation.

3. Let the coaches coach. Parents don't need to hover at the fence and correct the child. That's what the coaches are there for and parents are not helping the coaches to have control over the squad. There are going to be games where the kids are going to be too far away to speak to or for parents to even see what they are doing, so now is the time to let go and let the coaches make the corrections for the kids to learn to listen to them. If parents see corrections that need to be made with a child, then email or text the coach. For example, my child doesn't seem to be paying attention. I'm going to email the coach, tell her my concern and ask her if maybe she could move her to the front for a few practices to help her. Simple.

4. Drama and gossip, not here. Parents if you have an issue, contact the coach and don't go to other parents. Have a family issue, leave it at home, we are not going to get involved in family issues. The coaches, volunteers and participants will not be bullied or harassed on the field, through email, through text, across the fence, in the parking lot, on social media, and not at all. It STOPS today!

3. Make sure your child has all her gear with her always. If she doesn't have gear she may be not be allowed to participate and asked to leave the game field. If she is a younger child, I expect that the coach will walk her to the parent to explain the issue and leave her with the parent to get gear. The coach may also text or call the parent if there is an issue with equipment and the coach is unable to leave the field.

4. Make sure your child is on time and if she will be late or missing practice or games, contact your coach. Your child may not be allowed to participate in halftime or homecoming if she misses practice or is late to a game. It's for safety reasons.

5. Flag/Mini Behavior issues. Children that are not controllable on the field will be taken to a parent. If a child refuses to participate or is rude to the coaches, she may be removed from the field and brought to the parent. If this happens, one of the coaches will walk the child to the parent, explain what the issue is and leave her with the parent to be corrected. The coach may also call or text the parent about an issue with the child if the coach is not able to leave the field. This is not the time for the parent to take offense and attack the coach. This is the time for the parent to pull the child to the side and talk with her about the issue. If the child decides she wants to participate, the parent may walk her back to the fence and the child may go on the field, apologize to the coach and go back to her spot. We are adults and every situation should be treated that way. If a parent goes after a coach, they will be asked to leave with their child and maybe be banned from attending games altogether or have the child removed from the squad, depending on the situation.

6. JV/Varsity Behavior issues. Children that are not controllable on the field will be asked to leave. If a child refuses to participate or is rude to the coaches, she may be asked to leave. If this happens, the child will be sent off the field to be with their parent. The child should be old enough at this level to explain what the issue is to the parent without involving the coach and interrupting the squad. This is not the time for the parent to take offense, attack the coach or blow the coaches her phone up while she is coaching on the field. This is the time for the parent to pull the child to the side and talk with her about the issue. If the issue needs to be discussed immediately, then the coach may call or text the parent. We would suggest that all issues be discussed after the game and away from any children or other parents. When the child decides she is willing to abide by the rules, she may walk back on the field, apologize to the coach and go back to her spot if the coach allows. We are adults and every situation should be treated that way. If a parent goes after a coach, that parent will be asked to leave with the child and maybe be banned from attending games altogether or have the child removed from the squad, depending on the situation.

7. Make sure your child has a ride to and from practice and games. The coaches don't need to know why that person is taking the child, that is the parents business but if this person is not on the registration sheet as a contact, then I would send the coach an email letting them know who to contact in case of an emergency. Make sure the child is picked up and dropped off on time. The coaches are instructed to stay at the field on practice days until all kids have been picked up but that doesn't mean they should be waiting with or searching for any child afterward.

8. Make sure the coaches have the parents contact or a contact for a person that will be able to be there to deal with an issue or emergency concerning the child. BJR is not a babysitting service and while we understand that parents have jobs and/or kids at other levels, we need to be able to get in contact with someone at all times. Please do not drop off children and leave the field unless you have someone that can be contacted, if that person is not a contact on the registration sheet then the parent should send an email or text the coach so they are aware. We would suggest not sending a kid with anyone that is not a contact on the registration sheet to avoid any confusion in the case of an emergency.

9. Coaches – They have rules and know what they are. If a parent thinks a coach has been out of line, then they need to get a Board member to talk to the coach right away, parents please do not approach the coach directly and cause issues that may get the parent and/or the coach removed from the field. The Board member discuss the issue with the coach and then bring a resolution back to the parent. If you are not happy with the resolution or would like to have it taken to the Board then follow #10 for filing a formal complaint.

11. Officials. They are there to do a job. There will be no yelling at the officials or threats made towards the officials. If this happens, the official will notify the MV Rep and the offender will be asked to leave. They take this very seriously and have been known to call the cops to have parents removed from the property and that will lead to the offender being banned from all MV games.

12. Formal complaints. If parents have an issue that cannot be resolved between parent and coach, then the parent will need to send a complaint through the website and it will be taken to the Board for discussion. The coach may also request that a Board member be present when the parent request to meet about an issue. All complaints sent through the website are confidential and the sender is only known to a few select Board members. Parents can also contact a Board member if they would like to have one present when meeting with a coach. Please do not ask parents to be witnesses to complaints. We keep all these situations within the league and only concerning the parties involved.