



*cheerleading*

**TRYOUT PACKET**

## Dear Parents and Guardians

Your student is interested in becoming a member of the James Madison Middle School Cheerleading Squad. If selected there are specific responsibilities and obligations, which he or she must assume in order to qualify and remain part of the squad.

In this tryout packet you will find information regarding tryouts and the tryout process. Please read all information so you and your child are aware of the expectations and requirements.

On the following pages, you will find the Cheerleader Tryout Qualifications and Requirements, Cheerleader Expectations, Projected Expense List, Important Upcoming Dates, Tryout Timetable, Expectations on Tryout Day, and the necessary forms to be completed and returned. Please be aware of due dates and paper work that needs to be turned in. If the information is late or if the candidate fails to turn in any required paperwork, the candidate will be disqualified from Cheerleader tryouts.

Being a cheerleader is a big commitment and requires an extreme amount of dedication from not only the cheerleader, but the family as well. If you and your child both feel the obligations and responsibilities can be met, please allow your child to participate in tryouts.

**Mandatory** parent meeting will be held on Monday, May 17 at 5:00 pm in the JMMS Library.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation

Taylor Goodman  
James Madison Middle School Cheer Head Coach

# CHEERLEADER TRYOUT TIMETABLE

All meetings and clinics are **MANDATORY**.

All cheerleaders must have a **current physical** on file with the school to participate.

## **April 26-May 13**

Pick up Cheerleading Tryout Packet in the JMMS office, or feeder schools.

## **Friday, May 14**

All applications for cheerleader must be turned into the front office at JMMS, by Friday, May 14th by 3:00 pm.

## **Monday, May 17**

**We will have a mandatory meeting for all cheerleader applicants and their parent/guardian on Monday, May 17 following the first clinic.** The meeting will be held at 5:00 PM in the library. All cheerleaders need ONE representative only so we can cut down on attendance due to COVID-19.

## **Monday, May 17 – Wednesday, May 19**

- Cheer clinic: 3:00 – 5:00 pm  
To learn tryout material: cheer, sideline, and jumps

## **Thursday, May 20**

- Cheerleading tryouts: 4:00 pm start time
- All candidates must be in the lobby dressed and ready to go by 3:45 pm
- Candidates are expected to be there until they tryout.

**NO parents, family members, or friends will be able to come in the school during clinics or tryouts due to COVID-19 restrictions.**

**Violation of this rule may result in disqualification from tryouts!**

# CHEERLEADER TRYOUT QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

- 👉 The squad will consist of 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students only.
- 👉 Current Health Physical must be on file or turned in prior to clinics.
- 👉 All forms must be turned in to the cheer coach or JMMS before the deadline in order to tryout. Candidates will **not** be allowed to tryout if everything is not completed and turned in by the designated date.
- 👉 Cheerleaders will be selected by impartial and qualified judges.
- 👉 To be eligible to tryout, each candidate must be enrolled at James Madison Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 👉 The candidate must be in good academic standing in order to participate in the tryout clinics and judging process.
- 👉 The candidate **must** attend all 3 days of the tryout clinic and parent meeting.
- 👉 The candidates will be judged on: motion technique, jump technique and height, showmanship, voice projection, memory, tumbling, spirit, and overall appeal. (see attached scoresheet)
- 👉 Cheerleaders are held to the highest standards of leadership, character, and cooperation as they are the leaders of our school spirit and sportsmanship. Therefore, each candidate will have two references to complete an evaluation form and return in an envelope with their signature across the seal.
- 👉 The candidate's score will consist of:
  - Judges' Scores 90 points x 3 judges = 270 points
  - Teacher/Coach Evaluations 10 points x 2 = 20 (2, one coach/one teacher if student has cheer experience or two teachers if no cheer experience)
  - Grades will be considered for up to 10 points.
  - Total points = 300

# CHEERLEADER EXPECTATIONS

All duties and responsibilities as a squad member begin upon selection and do not end until the next tryout date. All squad members will be required to:

1. Attend all assigned practices and performances.
2. Attend all games (Football and Basketball).
3. Attend all summer practices except for KHSAA dead period.
4. Attend gymnastics. Each member and their parents are responsible for the cost.
5. Attend all competitions.
6. Attend and actively participate in all assigned promotional activities (pep rally, jamboree, etc.).
7. Meet all financial obligations by established deadlines.
8. Uphold all the articles contained within the JMMS Cheerleading Constitution and the JMMS Athletic Policy.

## The YEAR of a CHEERLEADER

This is just an outline to give each candidate an idea of how much commitment is required. Each cheerleader is expected to participate in ALL events!

As you will see, CHEERLEADING IS ALMOST A FULL YEAR COMMITMENT!

- I. Summer (June, July)
  - Team bonding
  - Uniform fitting
  - Gymnastics
  - Practice to cover sidelines, cheers, and stunts.
  - Dead Period (Dates TBD)
- II. FALL (August – October)
  - Gymnastics
  - Game Practices
  - Football Games
  - Competition Practices (learning routine)
- III. WINTER (November – February)
  - Gymnastics
  - Game practices
  - Basketball games
  - Competition practices
  - Competitions

# PROJECTED CHEERLEADER EXPENSE LIST

Listed below is an itemized list of expenses from years past, this will give you an idea of what to expect in terms of financial obligations. The largest sum of money is due in June; however, some other items may be purchased over a period of time. This list is not inclusive and must be realized by all members and parents/guardians that additions must be made from time to time. Great care is taken by the coach to keep costs as low as possible.

This is a sample list of out-of-pocket expenses. You can estimate around \$250 if you order all new. You may try to contact a past cheerleader and purchase used items that are in excellent condition in order to save money. Please make sure they fit properly and are still in excellent condition.

**New bags will be purchased for all squad members, so please do not buy a used one.**

#	Style	Description	Size/Adj	Ltr Name/Yr	Qty	Unit Price	Unit Total
1	PEJ130	Jacket	S		1	\$42.75	\$42.75
2	MNARCIOW	Outerwear Embroidery			1	\$11.87	\$11.87
3	PEP110	Pant	S		1	\$28.50	\$28.50
4	N12MDCIIPS	Nike Mix Down II	6		1	\$74.00	\$74.00
5	QMDSACP	Cheer Dbl Stripe Ank. Pkg			1	\$.00	\$.00
12	SSM15	MockNeck MidriffBodysuit	XS		1	\$18.66	\$18.66
13	SSM15	MockNeck MidriffBodysuit	XS		1	\$18.66	\$18.66
14	SSBC15	Boy Cut Brief	S		1	\$11.86	\$11.86
15	CBI110	3" Ribbon Bow with Tails			1	\$5.91	\$5.91
16	CBI110	3" Ribbon Bow with Tails			1	\$5.91	\$5.91
17	1911	Tote Bag			1	\$21.21	\$21.21
18	MNIOW	Campwear Embr / Min Qty 6			1	\$9.02	\$9.02
<b>Subtotal:</b>							\$248.35
<b>Shipping/Handling:</b>							\$.00
<b>Tax:</b>							\$.00
<b>Total:</b>							\$248.35
<b>Payment Amt:</b>							\$.00
<b>Balance Due:</b>							\$248.35

# WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE DAY OF TRYOUTS

1. Each candidate will be judged on a 90-point scale, with the following additional points:
  - 270 points - Judge's scores (cheerleading ability)
  - 10 points - Grades
  - 20 points - Teacher/Coach evaluations
  - 300 points TOTAL
2. Each candidate will be known as an identification number, which will be worn during the tryout process.
3. Each candidate will perform the sideline in a group of 3 or 4, in front of the judges. The candidate's jumps, cheer, and tumbling will be performed individually. If the judge(s) deem necessary, any part of the tryout material may be performed twice.
4. Each candidate's cheerleading ability will be judged by qualified judges.
5. Tryouts are closed to all spectators. JMMS cheer coaches, administration, judges, etc. will be the ONLY people allowed in the tryout area with the candidates.
6. Results will be posted approximately one hour after the end of cheerleading tryouts and the final tally of scores.
7. If the candidate has made the 2021-2022 cheerleading squad, they will be asked to complete additional paperwork at the first parent meeting.

## WHAT TO WEAR FOR TRYOUTS

1. Solid color t-shirt
2. Plain shorts.
3. Athletic shoes
4. Hair needs to be pulled back in ponytail.
5. If your hair is too short for a ponytail, then make sure it is all pulled away from your face.
6. If you are a returning cheerleader, please do not wear anything that indicates you are a returning cheerleader.

# JMMS Tryout Score Sheet

Candidate # \_\_\_\_\_

Sideline		Max Points	Points Earned	Comments
Execution	Motion Technique, Timing, Memory	10		
Showmanship	Voice, Projection, Facials, Spirit	5		
<b>Jumps</b>				Comments
Toe Touch		5		
Double Toe Touch		5		
Optional Jump	Choose One: Side Hurdler, Pike, Triple Toe Touch	5		
<b>Gymnastics</b>				Comments
Back Hand Spring	(deduct 3 points if use spot)	10		
Round Off BHS	(deduct 3 points if use spot)	10		
Optional 10 Points Possible	RO BHS + another skill choose one below			
Level of Difficulty (worth up to 5 points)	RO BHS	1		
	RO 2 BHS or RO Tuck	2		
	RO BHS Tuck	3		
	RO BHS Layout or Standing BHS Tuck	4		
	RO BHS Full or Standing Tuck	5		
Execution (worth up to 5 points)	(deduct 3 points if use spot)	5		
<b>Cheer</b>				Comments
Execution	Motion Technique, Timing, Memory	10		
Showmanship	Voice, Projection, Facials, Spirit	10		
<b>Overall Impression</b>				
	Overall spirit, crowd appeal, personality, enthusiasm, smile, energy	10		
<b>Total</b>		90		Judges Initials: _____



# JMMS CHEER RULES

1. **Absence from game** 3 demerits  
Only (1) parental note for sickness  
Any doctor's note for sickness/injury/etc. will be accepted.  
  
Unexcused: as determined by the coach.  
Excused: In order to receive an excused absence, must be deemed necessary and you must notify coach **prior** to absence! (871-5542)  
NOTE: Other school functions (except chorus or band), church retreats, etc. are not to be used as an excuse for missing a game! You have a responsibility to your squad. They may be unexcused.
2. **Absence from practice** 3 demerits  
Two (2) parental notes for sickness  
Any doctor's note for sickness/injury/etc. will be accepted.  
Unexcused: as determined by the coach  
Excused: Follows the same guidelines as games.
3. **Tardy to practice or game**  
Arriving 1 – 15 minutes tardy – 1st offense 25 sit-ups or 5 laps, 2nd offense 50 sit-ups or 10 laps, 3rd offense 75 sit-ups or 15 laps, 4th offense 100 sit-ups or 20 laps. Tardies after that will require a parental meeting and benching for quarter of a game to half of game. It is your responsibility to keep up with the time and place of your commitment!
4. **Defiance in the form of** Sit-ups, Benching, Parental Conference  
Back talking coaches, demonstrating poor attitude or not following directions, lack of willingness to cooperate, poor attitude toward others.
5. **Wrong/Forgotten Equipment** ½ to 1 demerit  
You are responsible for knowing what to have with you at either practice or game: tights, socks, bows, uniform, shoes, proper practice clothes, poms, etc. HAIR must be worn as instructed by the coach
6. **Nail polish/fake nails/jewelry/gum** ½ demerit  
All jewelry is a safety hazard.
7. **Excessive talking at practice or game** ½ demerit – 1 demerit  
Talking while the coach is talking – 25 immediate sit-ups
8. **Social Media** ½ demerit to Severe Clause  
Your social media presence should be positive. Any form of cussing, referencing drugs/alcohol, partying, inappropriate pictures/video, bullying, etc. on social media is prohibited.

## SEVERE CLAUSE

If you are involved in a situation involving misconduct, then your standing/position on the squad is at the coaches/Principal's discretion. All school code of conduct rules strictly apply and are enforced. Your conduct is directly related to your participation in cheer. Please refrain from damaging your leadership position within your school!

## PENALTIES FOR DEMERITS

- 3 demerits – Benched ½ game
- 4 demerits – Benched full game
- 5 demerits – Benched 2 games; parental conference
- 6 demerits – Same as above; parent notification of additional demerits
- 7 demerits – REMOVAL FROM PARTICIPATION

# FINAL TRYOUT CHECKLIST

Please place on top of all submitted paperwork.

To be turned in by **Friday, May 14, 2021**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Completed cheerleader application and candidate/parent agreement
- Up to date physical form
- JMMS Middle School Cheer Rules/Demerit Sign off Sheet
- Teacher Evaluation Form #1 Must be in a sealed envelope, with signature on seal
- Coach/Teacher Evaluation (Teacher if never cheered) Form #2 Must be in a sealed envelope, with signature on seal
- Copy of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester Report Card.

PLEASE TURN IN **ALL** DOCUMENTATION NEEDED ON TIME. IF YOUR INFORMATION IS LATE OR YOU FAIL TO TURN IN ALL DOCUMENTS, YOU **WILL** BE DISQUALIFIED FOR CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS.

# James Madison Middle School

## Application for Cheerleader Squad Selection Process

---

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Classification: 5 6 7

Applicant cell phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

### CHEERLEADER CANDIDATE/ PARENT AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, would like to tryout for James Madison Middle School Cheerleader for the 2016-2017 school year.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to tryout for the James Madison Middle School cheer team.

We have read the tryout information concerning the Cheerleader organization and the tryout procedures. We are satisfied with the high standards set forth to govern this organization. We understand that it is a privilege and not a right to be selected as a member of this group. We also understand that not everyone can be chosen. We further understand the tryout procedures and how cheerleaders are selected. We agree to abide by the decision of the judges and know that all decisions are final.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheerleader Candidate Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**JAMES MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**Cheerleading Rules and Demerit Policy**  
**Signature Page**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge we both have received a copy and understand the guidelines and rules as outlined in the 2016-17 James Madison Middle School Rules and Demerit Policy. We understand that failure to comply with the mandates of this constitution will result in disciplinary action ranging from demerits to dismissal from the squad. We further understand that a spirit of respect, cooperation, and teamwork is necessary to continue the tradition of cheerleading excellence at James Madison Middle School.

Squad Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Teacher Evaluation Form #1 for Cheerleading Tryouts

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and place it in a sealed envelope and sign across the seal. Then, return it to the cheerleader who you are evaluating by Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Teacher evaluations count for 20 points of their total score.

Please rate the student according to how YOU feel the student does in YOUR class or classes. Please be honest, as well as courteous. These evaluations will determine if the student will make a good member of the JMMS Cheer team. These evaluations are kept confidential.

On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the best), please rate the student after considering the following attributes and characteristics:

## Student exhibits

- appropriate behavior
- positive attitude towards teacher
- demonstrates responsibility
- demonstrates leadership
- exhibits positive attitude towards other students and peers
- demonstrates dependability
- demonstrates cooperation with others
- turns in all assignments on time
- motivated to be a hard worker
- supportive of his/her school

Score \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Coach/Teacher Evaluation Form #2 for Cheerleading Tryouts

(If you have cheered before you have to use your previous coach. If you have no cheer experience, choose a different teacher.)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and place it in a sealed envelope and sign across the seal. Then, return it to the cheerleader who you are evaluating by Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Teacher evaluations count for 20 points of their total score.

Please rate the student according to how YOU feel the student does in YOUR class or classes. Please be honest, as well as courteous. These evaluations will determine if the student will make a good member of the JMMS Cheer team. These evaluations are kept confidential.

On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the best), please rate the student after considering the following attributes and characteristics:

### Student exhibits

- appropriate behavior
- positive attitude towards teacher
- demonstrates responsibility
- demonstrates leadership
- exhibits positive attitude towards other students and peers
- demonstrates dependability
- demonstrates cooperation with others
- turns in all assignments on time
- motivated to be a hard worker
- supportive of his/her school

Score \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10

Teacher/Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_