2019-2020

Blocker Middle School Cheer Tryout Information

Ms. Parani
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BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Organization
This constitution has been written and adopted for the Blocker Middle School Cheer Team. The team and its constitution are governed by Blocker Middle School and Texas City ISD. The purpose of the BMS Cheer team is to:

• Promote school spirit, pride, and loyalty.
• Support BMS school organizations, clubs, and teams.
• Support all athletes.
• Develop responsibility, leadership, and character.
• Promote teamwork and sportsmanship.
• Perform at games, school functions, and community events.

BMS cheer members are expected to represent their school and community in a positive and professional manner at all times.

A cheer coach will be responsible for:

• Organizing the teams daily routines, performances, and activities.
• Administer: merits, demerits, and discipline procedures.
• Maintain cheer finances.
• Relaying information to parents/guardians regarding the cheer program.
• Ensure safety procedures are followed.

BMS Cheer members understand that teamwork and maintenance of discipline are foundational keys to the success of the cheer program. Cheer members are dedicated to promoting school spirit, enthusiasm, and exemplify a positive and encouraging attitude. BMS cheer members will promote school pride, good citizenship, and a strong leadership character.

BMS Code of Ethics
Ensure equal opportunity to all students without regard to gender, race, religious creed, national origin, or economic status.

• Members will show: sportsmanship, ethical conduct, integrity, accountability.
• Know and follow all school rules, procedures, and code of conduct.
• Show courtesy to all visiting teams, host, and officials.
• At all times treat others with respect. Cheer members are accountable for treating sponsors, advisors, parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and team members with respect and dignity.
BMS CHEER TEAM **Constitution**

**UIL Rules, Policies and Eligibility** (directly from the TEA-UIL policies)

- Cheerleading teams do not come under the UIL rules, but the regulations in this document regarding NO PASS NO PLAY, eight-hour practice limitation, athletic periods, one contest during the school week and extracurricular absences are applicable.
  
  Email address: [info@uiltexas.org](mailto:info@uiltexas.org)

- UIL Rules require that cheer and spirit performances at any UIL activity shall be in accordance with safety standards.
- Eligibility- the first 6 weeks of the school year a student who receives a grade below 70 at the end of the grading period or a student that fails to meet the IEP standards may NOT participate in any extracurricular activity for at least 3 school weeks. If ineligible the student may practice and rehearse. The student REGAINS eligibility when the coach determines the grades are 70 or above after 3 full weeks or 15 school days.
- All schools must check grades for all participants at the end of the first six weeks. Students who pass remain eligible until the end of the next grading period. It also applies to all three-school week evaluation periods for ineligible students.
- Pep Rally, Field Trips, Assemblies- All Students may attend. Only eligible students may be in uniform and actually take part in pep rally performances, leading cheers, routines, giving speeches, playing in the band. May attend field trips, fundraisers, assemblies, but must not perform or assist with public performance.
- If ineligible the cheer member may NOT travel with the team to a competitive activity.
- It is not a UIL violation to TRY OUT if ineligible because the actual participation does not occur until the next school year.

[https://www.tcisd.org/our-schools/middle-schools/blocker-middle-school](https://www.tcisd.org/our-schools/middle-schools/blocker-middle-school)

[https://www.tcisd.org/uploaded/Schools_-_Middle/BMS/Admin_Files/Eligibility_Calendar_2017-18_PDF.pdf](https://www.tcisd.org/uploaded/Schools_-_Middle/BMS/Admin_Files/Eligibility_Calendar_2017-18_PDF.pdf)

[https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/tea-UIL-side-by-side/academic-requirements](https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/tea-UIL-side-by-side/academic-requirements)
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Eligibility

- Each cheer member must be a student of Blocker ISD for the 2019-2020 school year.
- All candidates MUST have a current physical on file. The physicals for the 2019-2020 school year must be dated after May 1, 2019.
- All candidates must complete the Try-Out application and commitment forms.
- A parent meeting will be held on April 4th at 5:30 in the blocker library. A signed permission slip agreeing to acknowledgement of the rules, policies and constitution of the BMS cheer team will be due prior to the tryout and No Later than April 12th.
- The parent signature will acknowledge the financial responsibility being a member of the BMS cheer team.
- Members shall not have been suspended or assigned to DAEP in 2018-2019 school year.
- If member was removed or resigned after June 1, 2018, they are ineligible to try-out for the 2019-2020 season.
- All financial responsibilities must be taken care of before deadline date.

Tryouts

- The tryout date is April 17th, 2019 at 4:15.
- Must attend tryout clinic to tryout.
- The 8th grade clinic leaders will be chosen by the cheer coach.
- Candidates will be judged using the attached score sheet.
- There will be at least three qualified judges that will judge fairly at the BMS cheer team tryouts. Judges have the right to request call-backs to re-evaluate. All decisions by the judges are final and may not be challenged.
- Wear tryout attire.
- Clinic and Tryouts are closed. No parents, friends or guests allowed during the clinic and/or tryouts.
- Each Candidate will draw their number the week of the clinic. Numbers will be provided for the candidates and must be worn in front of shirt during the clinic and tryouts.
- Only the Candidates numbers will be posted on the front of the Blocker gym doors announcing the 2019-2020 BMS cheer team.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Captain/Co-Captain:

- 8th grade candidates will be eligible to apply for Cheer Captain. The cheerleader with the highest score from their tryouts, notebook, and interview will be named Captain.
- 7th grade candidates will be eligible to apply for Cheer Co-Captain. The cheerleader with the highest score from their tryouts, notebook, and interview will be named Co-Captain.

Captain Responsibilities

- Complete Orientation with Cheer Coach
- Lead by Example
- Be Prepared
- Be Early, Dressed, and Ready to Lead the Team.
- Lead and Determine the Outline of practices and performances while communicating with Cheer Coach’s goals and expectations.
- Communicate and determine the attire for game days, practices, performances, games, and events with coach and team.
- Coordinate new cheers and routines.
- Coordinate all posters and flyers for events
- Serve as a representative in school, community events, and/or fundraisers.
- Be prepared to keep notebook updated using it for leadership skills and training issued by the cheer coach.
- Keep Captain Notebook updated.
- Mentor and Train the Co-Captain

Co-Captain

- Complete Orientation with Cheer Coach.
- Lead by Example.
- Be Prepared Be Early.
- Lead ALL Warm-Ups.
- Communicate and Determine new cheers and routines.
- Serve as a representative in school, community events, and/or fundraisers.
- Be prepared to keep notebook updated using it for leadership skills and training issued by the cheer coach.
- Keep Co-Captain notebook updated.
- Mentor and Train alongside the Captain.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Officers:

Ambassador
- Will be responsible for positive team building and team unity.
- Plan two social events for the whole team. Keep records of birthdays and special occasions, and plan ahead to coordinate a celebration moment.
- Keep communication with the captains and cheer coach of upcoming social/special occasion events.
- Coordinate the Big/Lil sister.
- There is NO financial obligation. There will be a budget request or supply request when necessary.

Resource Coordinator
- Will be responsible for keeping a record of all major events throughout the year in the form of a scrapbook or social media page.
- Coordinate community activities.
- Coordinate fundraisers.
- Coordinate Calendars and Cheer Bulletins’.
- Coordinate Expenses and Budget.
- Coordinate all upcoming activities and to-do lists.
- Keep Records of ideas, goals, and events.
- Communicate with Captains, Cheer Coach, and the BMS Cheer Fundraiser Booster President if and when necessary.
- Will be responsible for coordinating with the BMS cheer team.

Officer Position: 7th or 8th grade are eligible to apply. Please see attach form. The officers will be chosen based on: teacher recommendation, peer recommendation, attitude, character, interview questions, notebook, and the final decision will be announced by the Cheer Coach. Date and Time- TBA
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Expectations of BMS Cheer Members

- UIL eligibility must be maintained at all times. Grades will be monitored every three weeks.
- Maintain good academic standing.
- Must have physical on file.
- Student and Parent must sign the rules, regulations, and expectations.
- Commit to being on the cheer team a year round. This needs to be taken into consideration before trying out and during the school year. You are to be present during practices, games, and events. Missing or tardy will cause demerits to be issued which can affect the members placement on the team.
- Members must attend summer cheer camp at the TCHS cheer mat room. Date TBA but usually the 2nd week in August.
- All games, practices, events are mandatory. If unexcused there will be a demerit issued.
- Duck Derby performance and volunteering in the booth fundraiser is Mandatory.
- There will be a posted outline for practices, games, events, and performances. Follow those directions.
- Dress out every practice in cheer practice attire.
- Be on time. Be in warm up position on time. Unexcused tardy will be a demerit.
- Members must communicate with parent/guardian and team members.
- Maintain Positive attitude toward yourself and team members.
- Members must follow: School Codes, Policies, Rules, and Expectations.
- Complete duties such as: painting signs, organizing material, routines for games/pep rallies/events.
- Pay Attention to the game/event/practice.
- No Horseplay No Casual Play or Talk with non-members.
- Stay in formation at all games/rallies/events. No grouping, visiting, huddling unless directed is not accepted as quality cheer behavior.
- Members will follow the Demerit system.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Internet Code of Conduct

- Do not post information or pictures that would embarrass or bully another individual.
- No Inappropriate Language.
- Inappropriate behavior (alcohol related, drugs, personal pictures wearing suggestive clothing, nudity, inappropriate gestures.
- Do not do an act that would constitute an offense under federal, state, or local criminal stature. Do not allow personal friends to post inappropriate information or pictures of on ANY site. It is your right and responsibility to have them removed.
- Do not post information that refers to private situations within the cheer team or a member of the cheer team. No posting videos or comments of negative or cruel intention of the cheer team or a member of the team.
- Violation of the BMS and TCISD Internet code of conduct will be grounds for removal of a leadership position and/or removal of the team depending on the severity of the violation.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Consequences

BMS Cheer Team Merit and Demerit System:

The Merit system will be in effect at any cheer function immediately following try-outs in April. BMS Cheer members are allowed 10 Demerits in one school year. They will be removed from the team if they receive more than 10 demerits.

1 Demerit
- Wearing jewelry.
- Using Cell phone and/or eating without Permission.
- Tardy to warm up line for any practice or event.
- Out of team dress attire for any practice or event.
- Horseplay during practice or event.
- Not cleaning up or putting away materials.

1-3 Demerits
- Conduct problems in school reported to coach by principal or teacher through emails, conduct grades, or conference.

3 Demerits
- Unexcused absence or failing to participate in a mandatory practice or event.
- Arguing or being disrespectful to team member.
- ISS

5 Demerits
- Not attending game/rally/fundraiser/performance because of a lost/left/unclean uniform.
- Leaving practice/game/event without permission.
- Insubordination, disrespect, or non-compliance towards the coach.

Immediate Removal from the team:
- Fighting under the jurisdiction of BMS campus.
- Transporting or consuming illegal substances at anytime.
- Two Day-Suspension or DAEP.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Merits

The merit system will be in effect at any cheer function immediately following try-outs in April. BMS cheer members are encouraged and will be awarded and recognized for their merits earned at the end of the year party.

- Receiving All A’s.
- Outstanding performance.
- A teacher recognition of an outstanding performance.
- Community Service Hours turned in.
- Good Deed never goes unnoticed.
- Showing leadership in a not ideal situation.
- Showing good team unity.
- Showing team spirit.
- Showing strong Character.
- Showing integrity.
- Showing honesty.
- Assisting team member with extra help.
- Showing up to a non-mandatory practice.
- Keeping an active journal.
- Teaching the team a New cheer or New routine.
- Putting in extra study time for the team to evolve and become better.

Chain of Command

- Parents and members if there is a concern or a disagreement please email or call the cheer coach to address or resolve the issue.
- If there is still a concern or an issue there will be a conference time.
- If there is still no resolution the grade level assistant principal or campus administrator will be notified.
- Please leave complaints, disagreements, and concerns for private conversations. Games, events, fundraisers, pep rallies, during practice are quality team moments and can cause discord or disruption within the cheer team.

5 Merits Serving as an Officer or Captain for the Cheer Team or a Blocker School Club Organization.
5 Merits Attending NON required school events Plays/Shows/Art Exhibits (Teacher Signature or Email)
10 Merits 15 volunteer hours per semester.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Loss of Membership and Removal of the Team

If a cheer team member is removed from the team, they are ineligible to try out the following year.
- Failure to meet UIL eligibility for 2 consecutive grading periods.
- Resigning from the cheer team after May 7, 2019
- DAEP or JJAEP.
- Receiving 11 demerits.
- After 5 consecutive unexcused absents.
- Failure to attend Camp.

If cheer member is removed, they are required to return ALL school property, equipment INCLUDING UNIFORMS.
If a cheer member is removed, they lose the BMS CHEER Team privileges to the organization.

Fundraising
- BMS CHEER team is to participate in monthly fundraisers. See fundraiser attachment for upcoming goals and dates.
- No fundraiser should be conducted without approval of the coach. The coach has to go through proper protocol and get each fundraiser approved through the administration.

Awards

Members will be recognized for Outstanding Sportmanship, Most Improved Member, Highest Merit Recognition, 2nd, and 3rd place for Most Merits.

Team Members will nominate two awards by naming the awards and then the team will vote, the one with the most votes will win those particular awards. Each member will leave the end of each season with a recognition based off of team member vote and coaches approach to deliver the awards.
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Medication
Members must have a signed release form from their doctor for any medication to be administered. Medication will be distributed by the school nurse or parent/guardian.

Attendance/Practice/Games

- Your presence matters. Avoid being tardy or having an unexcused absence.
- Please text or email if there will be a tardy or an absence.
- Unexcused tardy and absence will receive a demerit.
- If excused with an absence or have an excuse from a teacher due to a school obligation, the Captain can approve you to perform that week’s event/game.
- BEFORE any event/game/rally/performance there will be a lineup of who is performing and/or cheering. The cheer coach is the ONLY one who will write the events line up. This is NOT a form of punishment or a form of discipline, but an accuracy of the members that are performing to be accountable and to commit to the obligations expected for the event. If your name is not put up and it is suppose to be, notify the captain, and if there is unresolved issues notify the cheer coach.
- Be Prompt * and have Restroom Breaks when Appropriate!
- Wear the required Attire.
- All Games Are Mandatory.
- Do NOT be late to the warm-up line. Completely dressed and cheer ready. A demerit will be issued if late to the warm-up line.
- Bring positive energy.
- BMS Cheer promotes school spirit which creates an environment of school pride!
- BMS Cheer has Blocker School Pride!
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

Performance and Placement in Cheer/Routine

Placement for performances in routines will be based off of participation, ability, and effort. If the routine is not clean enough for the performance, be prepared to sit out of that particular routine. After communicating with the Captain and Co-Captain the cheer coach will execute the ‘sit out’ directly to the member. If there are any concerns address them at an appropriate time. If there is disrespect, abandonment, or “I QUIT” nature, the member can be removed from the team or issued demerits.

Activities BMS Cheer Team is Obligated to Participate In:

- BMS cheer team cheer and perform during the BMS football 8th Grade A Team and the 7th Grade A TEAM home games.
- Cheer at Basketball Games.
- Host Pep Rallies, Assemblies, and School Events.
- Homecoming Parade.
- Duck Derby and Fundraisers.
- Community and Volunteer Services.
- Transportation is required from the parent/guardian for drop-off and pick-up.

Communication is something that middle school parent/guardians and coaches acquire patience. The 7th and 8th graders are learning how to develop their communication and social skills. Giving each member time and resources, they will gain the skill and learn how to effectively communicate. Cheer members will be responsible for taking home hand-outs, information on upcoming events, and communication about costs, attire, etc…

- The cheer team Resource Coordinator will be responsible in communication with the cheer teams bulletin and calendar.
- BMS Cheer Parent Involvement Club or Booster Club will nominate a Fundraiser Coordinator and a President. This will help with communication and funding for the cheer team. The meeting date and time will be announced at the parent meeting in April.
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Uniforms:

- The **uniform is school property** and must be returned by the specific date given by the cheer coach. Uniform, Poms Poms, and any other equipment is Blocker’s Property and must be returned by the deadline.
  1\(^{st}\) attempt to collect will be a verbal warning
  2\(^{nd}\) attempt will be parent/guardian notification
  3\(^{rd}\) attempt will be an Office Referral
  4\(^{th}\) Attempt will be a Meeting with the Grade Level AP
  5\(^{th}\) attempt will be a conference with principal and parent/guardian either by phone or in person.

- Failure to return school property will result in financial obligation and replacement **Cost of $345.00**. The member will be against violation of school code and will result in suspension from all events and further disciplinary action that is required by district.

- ONLY!!Shoes, socks, undergarments, bows, camp/practice shirts and shorts, jacket, back pack are the cheer members to keep.

- Must be cleaned properly.

- There is zero toleration for loaning out any piece of the BMS cheer uniform. The cheer wardrobe should not be worn by anyone but the member. This includes: uniform, warm ups, t-shirt practice and performance gear, shoes, bows, jacket, back pack.

X X

Parent/Date Cheer member/Date

X

Coach/Date
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

BMS Cheer Captain and Co-Captain Tryout Score Sheet

The Notebook Evaluation and Interview Process will be conducted by Cheer Coach. The try-out score will be the average of the evaluation and the try-out score sheet.

Candidate# __________

Try Out Score (35) __________

Notebook (15) ________

Interview with Coach (25) ________

Evaluation (25) ________

Total Score + _________

Side
Notes________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
I have read and understand the BMS Cheer Team:
Please Initial:

Constitution __________
Student Code of Conduct __________
Internet Code of Conduct __________
UIL eligibility Policy __________
Cheer Member Expectations __________
Demerit and Merit System __________
Try-out Requirements __________
Choosing of Captain, Co-Captain, and Officers __________
Financial Responsibility __________
Uniforms Must Be Returned by the Deadline Date __________

I understand the expectations and requirements of being a cheer member for Blocker Middle School. I understand that the team is created and designed for unity and fairness. That the cheer coach strives for consistency, fairness, loyalty, equality, and dedication within herself, so the foundation of the team is strong and unified. I realize that the Blocker cheer team will require my time, leadership, dedication, and I agree to commit myself to the team. The signatures below indicate that I agree, understand, and will comply with the rules set by Blocker, TCISD, UIL State Law, and the Cheer Coach.

________________________________________________________
Member Signature                   Cell Phone Number

________________________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature   Cell Phone Number
BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

TCHS Cheer Team Application

Name: ________________________________

Current Grade: _____

Address_______________________________________

1) Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________

2) Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________

Interested in BMS Cheer Parent Committee? y/n

Parent Cell: ____________________________
Emergency Number ______________________

Student Cell: __________________________

Email: ________________________________

Student Email: _________________________

____ Cheerleader 7th Grade
C0-Captain _______

____ Cheerleader 8th Grade

Officer: ____________________  Spirit Crew___

Resource Coordinator ___  Mascot _______
/Ambassador__
# BMS CHEER TEAM Constitution

## BMS Cheer Tryout Score Sheet

Candidate#________________     Judge#________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entrance (Spirit, Enthusiasm, Creativity, Voice)</td>
<td>5pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tumbling (Execution, Difficulty of Skill, Technique)</td>
<td>5pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumps (Flexibility, Height, Form, Variety)</td>
<td>5pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheer (Voice, Technique, Memory, Motion Placement)</td>
<td>5pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Performance (Confidence, Ability, Facial Expression)</td>
<td>5pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers, Judges, Ap, Previous Coaches</td>
<td>10pt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Score (Highest 35) ___________

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BMS Cheer Captain and Co-Captain Tryout Score Sheet

The Notebook Evaluation and Interview Process will be conducted through Cheer Coach. The try-out score will be the average of the evaluation and the try-out score sheet.

Candidate# __________

Try Out Score (35) __________

Notebook (15) __________

Interview with Coach (25) __________

Evaluation (25) __________

Total Score + __________

Side
Notes____________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
The Notebook Evaluation and Interview Process will be conducted through the Cheer Coach. The try-out score will be the average of the evaluation and the try-out score sheet.

Candidate# __________

- Try Out Score (35) __________
- Notebook (15) __________
- Interview with Coach (25) __________
- Evaluation (25) __________

Total Score + __________

Side
Notes

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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