



*South Lake High School*  
*A Blue Ribbon Exemplary School*  
*21900 East Nine Mile Road*  
*St. Clair Shores, MI 48080*  
*586-435-1400*

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## **CHEERLEADING (or SPIRIT) INFORMED CONSENT**

This school strives to protect each student from possible injury while engaging in school activities. The guidelines and/or practices identified below have been established for this activity in order to protect the student and others from injury and/or illness. Participants and their parents should recognize that conditioning, nutrition, proper techniques, safety procedures, and well-fitting equipment are important aspects of this training program. Each participant is expected to follow the directions/standards of the coach.

Most cheerleading practice areas are constructed with extremely hard surfaces. Athletes who fall during participation risk potentially dangerous injury -- especially to knees, elbows or head. Injury may include damage to joints, broken bones, or serious head or eye injury.

SAFETY RULES to be followed by all participants including but not limited to the following:

1. Travel to and from off-campus facilities shall be in accordance with the directions of the activity coach.
2. Make certain that you wear all equipment that is issued by the coach. Advise the coach of any poorly-fitted or defective equipment.
3. Advise the coach if you are ill or have any prolonged symptoms of illness.
4. Advise the coach if you have been injured.
5. Engage in warm-up activities prior to strenuous participation.
6. Be alert for any physical hazards in the locker room or in or around the participation area. Advise the coach of any hazard.
7. Practice stunts prior to the event that you will perform in. Stunts can be dangerous if not spotted correctly.
8. Lead cheers at the appropriate time so you will be aware of the ball's and player's positioning to prevent possible injury.
9. Be aware of supervisory staff of both teams and where they can be located, so they may be contacted in case of an emergency or an undesirable crowd control situation.

The above information has been explained to me and I understand the list of rules and procedures. I also understand the necessity of using the proper techniques while participating in the cheerleader program.

I am aware that cheerleading is a high-risk sport and that practicing or competing in cheerleading will be a dangerous activity involving **MANY RISKS OF INJURY**. I understand that the dangers and risks of practicing and competing in cheerleading include, but are not limited to, death, serious neck and spinal injuries which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, serious injury to virtually all internal organs, serious injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons and other aspects



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of my body, general health and well-being. I understand that the dangers and risks of practicing or competing in cheerleading may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of my future abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational activities and generally to enjoy life.

Because of the dangers of cheerleading, I recognize the importance of following coaches' instructions regarding techniques, training and other team rules, etc., and agree to obey such instructions.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am the parent/legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (student). I have read the above warning and release and understand its terms. I understand that cheerleading is a **HIGH-RISK SPORT** involving many **RISKS OF INJURY**, including but not limited to those risks outlined above.

In consideration of the school district permitting my child/ward to try out for the school cheerleading team and to engage in all activities related to the team including but not limited to trying out, practicing or competing in cheerleading, I hereby assume all the risks normally associated with cheerleading and agree to hold the school district, its employees, agents, representatives, coaches and volunteers harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, debts, claims or demands of every kind and nature whatsoever which may arise from such risks. The terms hereof shall serve as a release for my heirs, estate, executor, administrator, assignees, and for all members of my family.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Athlete's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date