



# *Tyneside Ignite Cheerleading CIC*

## Attendance Policy

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## Overview

The Attendance Policy is designed to ensure that athletes maintain consistent participation in practices and events, which is crucial for team cohesion, skill development, and overall success. The policy aims to clearly communicate expectations regarding attendance and the procedures for reporting absences. This policy applies to all athletes enrolled in our cheerleading gym programmes, including competitive teams, recreational classes, and camps.

## General Attendance Requirements

1. Regular Attendance: Athletes are expected to attend all scheduled practices, events, and competitions. Consistent attendance is vital for the development of individual skills and team routines.
2. Punctuality: Athletes should arrive on time and be prepared for all practices and events. Being punctual shows respect for the coaches, teammates, and the gym's schedule.

## Reporting Absences of Athletes

1. Advanced Notice: Parents or guardians must inform the coach of any planned absences as far in advance as possible, with a minimum of 2 weeks' notice. This includes holidays, school events and other planned commitments. Submit your notice via the appropriate email address listed at the end of this policy.
2. Illness or Emergencies: In case of *genuine* illness or emergency, notify the coach or gym management as soon as possible via the club's preferred contact channels. For illnesses, especially contagious ones, athletes should stay at home to prevent spreading illnesses to others.

## Excused Absences

- Illnesses that are contagious.
- Illnesses which present symptoms too unsafe to train.
- Injuries that make it extremely difficult for the athletes to sit and observe their training session.
- Family emergencies.
- Mandatory school events.
- Religious observances.
- Pre-approved holidays.
- Anything agreed by the coach with advanced notice, this will be at the coaches' discretion.

## Unexcused Absences

- Birthdays or birthday parties.
- Other sporting events (unless authorised by coach with advanced notice).
- Absences without prior notice.
- Absences without valid reason, or evidence of reason being inaccurate.

## Consequences of Absences

1. Warnings: After the first unexcused absence, a warning will be issued to the athlete and their parent/guardian.
2. Meeting with Coaches/Head Coach: If unexcused absences continue a meeting will be scheduled with the athlete, their parent/guardian, and the coaches to discuss attendance issues and potential solutions.
3. Suspension from Activities: Continued failure to meet attendance requirements may result in temporary suspension from practices, events or competitions causing serious detriment to the athlete and their team.

4. Removal from Programme: In severe cases, an athlete may be removed from the team or programme if attendance issues persist and efforts to resolve them are unsuccessful.

## Make-up Practices

1. Availability: If an athlete misses a practice due to an excused absence, they may be required or given the opportunity to attend a make-up practice, if available. Additionally, an athlete may be required to do an at-home work-out to make up for their lost practice (this will be in addition to any at home workouts already assigned to the athlete within their team).
2. Scheduling: Make-up practices should be scheduled in coordination with the coaches and should not interfere with the athlete's regular cheer commitments.

## Acknowledgement

By enrolling in our cheerleading programmes, athletes and their parents/guardians acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with this Attendance Policy. Consistent attendance is essential for the success and enjoyment of the sport for all participants.

This Attendance Policy ensures that athletes understand the importance of commitment to their team and the gym, helping to foster a disciplined and respectful environment for all members.

## Contact Information

To inform a coach of a planned absence, send an email to:

Tyneside Ignite: [tyneside@ignitecheer.co.uk](mailto:tyneside@ignitecheer.co.uk)

Ignite, Barnsley: [barnsley@ignitecheer.co.uk](mailto:barnsley@ignitecheer.co.uk)

