

Southwestern University Cheerleaders

Article I – Southwestern University Cheerleaders

The name of this organization shall be the Southwestern University Cheerleaders.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be to promote spirit and traditions throughout the Southwestern University community; including students, faculty, staff, friends, families, fans, and the city of Georgetown.

Article III – Membership

Section 1 – Any student in good academic and disciplinary standing at Southwestern University may tryout to become a member of the Southwestern University Cheerleaders organization with voting and office holding privileges. The members of this organization will be selected through a one-day tryout process in which candidates will be asked to perform a cheer and dance that will be taught by active captains. Candidates will also be asked to demonstrate jumps and tumbling (if applicable). Judging will be conducted by adults with experience if available, and/or officers of the squad. Returning members will be required to tryout each year. Membership is year round, and cheerleaders should plan for a commitment to both semesters and the week of Pirate Training the following August (graduated seniors exempt from Pirate Training).

Section 2 – Dues, having been decided on by the club as \$50 per semester, shall be paid by each member. Dues will be collected at the beginning of each semester or according to the member's selected payment plan. Other small expenses will be necessary (i.e., t-shirts, team bonding events, bags, etc.); however, if any of these expenses cannot be made, the member may work something out with the team.

Section 3 – It is the responsibility of the members of the Southwestern University Cheerleaders to wear the uniforms of this organization with pride. It is also the responsibility of the members of this organization to return all of the uniforms at the end of the year in the same condition as they were before use. Uniforms will be reissued to each member at the beginning of the next season. If for any reason, a uniform is unable to be returned or is returned in unusable condition, the member to whom it was loaned shall be responsible for the replacement costs of that uniform.

Section 4 – As a member of this organization, each student is a reflection of the Southwestern University Cheerleaders; therefore, all dress, speech, behavior, and demeanor should be conducted in a respectful, considerate, and tasteful manner. Cheerleaders are expected to refrain from distracting hairstyles, facial piercings, overly obvious body art, and excess, untrimmed facial hair. Game day hair and make-up requirements will be previously determined by the officers and relayed in a timely manner to all members.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1 – The officers of the Southwestern University Cheerleaders shall be as follows: Captain and Co-Captain.

Section 2 – The captain will also serve as secretary for the team. The secretary will keep all records for the team, including roll, demerits and merits. The co-captain will serve as the treasurer, supervising the financial administration of all team revenue. Both officers will collaborate on fundraisers and team building events for the squad.

Section 3 – Elections of officers shall take place yearly during the team's post-season. Any member of the organization is eligible for a position as an officer who (a) is in good academic and disciplinary standing; and (b) has been a member of the organization for at least one full season.

Section 4 – Should a vacancy occur, an emergency meeting will be called and the position will be open to a vote by the team. A new officer will be elected by majority.

Article V – Absences

Excused absences shall include:

- funerals of loved ones, or any other family emergency
- participation in weddings of loved ones
- surgery or hospitalization of any kind
- any contagious illness, with a note from a medical professional
- mandatory class/school events (i.e., tests, fieldtrips, etc.)

One (1) unexcused academic absence (i.e. review session, etc.) will be allowed with prior approval from the coach and will result in one (1) demerit.

One (1) unexcused absence will be allowed for any team member participating in a dress rehearsal (SING, theater, etc.) with prior approval from the coach and will result in one (1) demerit.

One (1) unexcused absence will be allowed for a mandatory Sorority/Fraternity/Club related event and will result in one (1) demerit.

Any other absences will be considered unexcused. Unexcused absences will incur a penalty of three (3) demerits each.

All unexcused game day absences will incur a penalty of six (6) demerits each.

After three (3) total absences, membership will be reviewed by the coach.

Article VI – Tardies

All members of the squad should arrive to practices, games, and events on time. Should a member be tardy to practice, it will result in one (1) demerit. Should a member be tardy to a game or event, it will result in two (2) demerits. Severe tardiness shall result in a meeting with the coach, and possible further disciplinary action.

Article VII – Law Violations

Any member of the Southwestern University Cheerleaders organization must not be in any trouble with the law, excluding minor violations such as traffic tickets, moving violations, and campus tickets. Any other offense will require a meeting with the coach, and be subject to disciplinary action (demerits) and/or removal from the team.

Article VIII – Removal from Team

Section 1 – Should a member of the team be removed (or remove themselves) from the team, they have 72 hours to return all of the items belonging to Southwestern University to a Captain or the coach. Appropriate fees will be charged for any items not returned.

Section 2 – Should a member refuse to pay any outstanding balances, the team will take up the issue with SIRA officials and then the Southwestern business office. No organization dues that have been paid will be returned to the member.

Section 3 – Any member having ten (10) demerits will be removed from the Southwestern University Cheerleading team. Opportunities to earn merits will be provided each semester in order to help members avoid removal from the team.

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Article IV – Officers

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I have read the Southwestern University Cheerleaders constitution and promise to abide by all of the rules and regulations that are hereby specified.

Member's Name (printed)

Member's Signature

Date