

VRHS Basketball Cheer Demerit System

In order to keep disciplinary actions consistent for everyone we have the following demerit system. Demerits will be distributed accordingly for **any** behavior that the coaches feel is unacceptable. Please note that we may add or remove penalties throughout the year as necessary, but written notice will be given if a change is made. All merits and/or demerits will be recorded and dated in a notebook and logged digitally. The following is a list of conduct unbecoming a cheerleader and the penalty assessed for each violation.

<u>CONDUCT AND APPEARANCE</u>	<u>DEMERITS ISSUED</u>
*Wearing jewelry at games or practice	1
*Inappropriate dress (ex... dirty shoes, colored socks)	1
*Having fingernails not-conducive to athletic participation	1
*Chewing gum or eating at undesignated times	1
*Incorrect uniform for a game	1
*Insufficient apparel for practice/class (ex. forgetting shoes or shorts)	1
*Wearing uniform in improper places/letting non-cheerleaders wear uniform	2
*Display of physical affection in uniform (PDA)	2
*Unsportsmanlike conduct	2
*Talking to friends during practice or games without a coaches' approval	2
*Using cell phone at practice/during activity without a coaches' approval	2
*Using inappropriate language during games	3
*Showing disrespect to coach or squad member	3
*Inappropriate material posted on Social Media depending on content)	3 (or suspension)
*Being assigned ISS or Saturday school.Academic Dishonesty	3
*Fighting with a team member (in the event that two or more cheerleaders have a dispute that interrupts the productivity and cohesiveness of the team and the problem cannot be resolved, both team members will be removed from the squad.)	5 and/or removal
*Possession or use of tobacco and/or a vaping device	10
*In-school infraction causing ISS	10
*In-school infraction causing suspension from school	15
*Illegal substance	15
<u>PRACTICE AND PARTICIPATION</u>	
*Not dressing up for Homecoming/Spirit Days/Game Days	3
*Late/unsatisfactory fulfillment of duties	2
*Failure to participate fully at a game/practice/or other cheer event	2
*Excessive talking while cheering	2

*Not standing to attention during National Anthem	1
*Being late after half time	2
*Not cooperating with coaches/captains/squad	3
*Not following GHSA Spirit Guidelines/unsportsmanship conduct	3
*Not fulfilling duties as captain	Removal as captain

Attendance

***Note:** Excused absences include illness (must be absent for the entire school day) and attending another school-sponsored event (field trips, participation in other athletic contests, etc.). The cheerleader must produce a note from a parent, doctor, or school activity sponsor the following school day for the absence to be counted as excused. Injury or illness that will require a cheerleader to miss 2 or more consecutive events requires a doctor's excuse. Lack of participation in 2 or more consecutive events without a doctor's excuse will be considered an unexcused absence.*

*Unexcused absence from practice or a game	5
*Failure to communicate tardiness to game or practice	2
*Late to a home game or late for away departure time	2
*Late to practice	1
*Leaving early from a game without permission or not staying to clean up	2

GRADES AND CLASS

ATTENDANCE

*Failing at Progress Reports	1
*Failing for a Grading Period	5
*Using cheering as an excuse for tardiness/absence	2
*Truancy	2
*Not attending school on game day	Benched for the 1st & 2nd quarter.

Consequences

- **Accumulation of 3 demerits will result in a call to the cheerleader's guardian as a warning.**
- **Accumulation of 5 demerits will result in the cheerleader being suspended for one or more quarter of a game (The head coach will determine which game the cheerleader will be suspended for). The cheerleader may still dress in uniform and will be required to attend all home and away functions and sit with the coach during her game suspension.**
- **Accumulation of 10 demerits will result in the cheerleader being suspended for two games. During her suspension the cheerleader may not dress in uniform,**

participate in any in-school cheerleader related activities (pep assemblies,parades, etc.), or travel to away contests with the squad.

- **Accumulation of 15 demerits will result in automatic removal from the squad.**

MERITS

Cheerleaders, may make up demerits by earning MERITS. Only 5 merits can be earned per semester. *MERITS can be earned by doing any of the following:*

- attending another practice (not required) to help another squad or coaches
- helping to teach new material and help out
- make additional locker signs for high school OR for the middle school cheerleaders
- volunteer to assist with a home sporting event that you are not cheering for
- work with a cheer coach or in the athletic department helping out
- other activities as given by cheer coach

In order to get credit for the MERITS, the coach (es) need verification that you completed the task the day after the service has been completed. If it is not a task the coach (es) are involved in, a note/email/documentation is needed from the person in charge to explain that you completed the task. Merits may not be used for the demerits in bold.

2020-2021 Villa Rica High School Basketball Cheer

PARENT/STUDENT CHEERLEADING AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned parent/guardian agree and hereby consent to my child's participation on the VRHS Varsity or Junior Basketball cheerleading program. I understand there are financial obligations involved. I have read the Villa High School Cheerleading Cheer Expectations and Demerit System and accept these guidelines. I understand that failure to follow the cheerleading expectations can result in benching and/or dismissal from the team.

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Date _____

I have read and understand the rules and expectations governing a VRHS Basketball Cheerleader. I will meet these expectations to the best of my ability. I understand that I may be removed from the squad if I do not maintain the high standards expected of a squad member. I understand that cheerleading is a major personal commitment of my non-academic time and cannot be placed secondary to other non-academic activities.

Student name (print) _____

Student signature _____

Date _____