

2019 - 2020
Prosper Middle School
Spirit Squad
Constitution



Philosophy/Purpose

The PISD Middle School Cheerleaders and Mascots are a select group of individuals who promote school spirit and enthusiasm for all school events. Prosper cheer is considered a sport and, as such, requires the same level of commitment equivalent to any other sport or school activity. You will fully accept responsibility and commitment to your team, your school and your community. Because of these responsibilities, members of the spirit team, which consists of all cheerleaders and mascots will maintain a higher standard of academic achievement and behavior both on and off campus than that of their peers. A Prosper Cheerleader's and Mascot's positive attitude is demonstrated in all areas including academics, athletic events, social festivities, electronic or digital communication, social media, and practices. Cheerleaders and Mascots, have a natural desire for lifelong learning and self-discovery. All Prosper Middle School Cheerleaders and Mascots promise to be committed to Prosper Middle School and abide by all rules designated by the coach/coaches, administration, and Prosper ISD Student Code of Conduct.

The Prosper ISD Middle School Cheerleaders and Mascots will:

1. Develop physical skills and learn about personal conditioning, good health habits, and safety.
2. Develop psychologically through increased self-confidence, self-esteem, and emotional maturity.
3. Develop socially through cooperation, competition, and appropriate standards of behavior.
4. Develop character, leadership, and commitment both personally and within the squads.
5. Develop effective time management strategies.
6. Be Goodwill Ambassadors between Prosper ISD and the Community of Prosper.
7. Promote good relationships with opponent schools.

General Requirements

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

- A. Candidates and their families must agree to and be fully aware of the financial responsibilities of being a spirit team member and meet all financial obligations by the required due date.
- B. Candidates must be willing to give their time to all squad activities throughout the **entire** year. They are expected to be able to publicly demonstrate a skill level suitable for the team position and the timing necessary for group performance. Off the field, they are to enthusiastically support all athletic teams through advertisement, personal attitude, and attendance at events chosen by the coach and/or the principal. *Coaches can extend practice time and require additional practices/performances at any time. (Prior notice may not be given.)*
- C. A student is eligible to tryout for cheerleader or mascot if: 1) at the time of the tryout, the student is enrolled in PISD and is trying out at the school where the student is registered to attend for the next school year. 2) If the student is not currently enrolled in PISD but provides documentation of intent to register with a housing contract within the district and a closing date prior to July practices, the student may tryout at that campus. Candidate must attend all mandatory meetings and/or practices.
- D. Each candidate must try out each year, regardless of whether or not he/she has previously been a cheerleader.
- E. All financial obligations to any Prosper ISD affiliated program must be cleared.
- F. A current physical will be required **prior to tryouts and/or updated by August 1, 2019** in order to perform as a member of the spirit squad. If a current physical is not turned in by that date, the spirit squad member will not be allowed to work out or perform until one is provided. Each missed practice or performance due to not having a physical will be recorded as an unexcused absence with the appropriate consequences as recorded in this Constitution.
- G. The candidate did not quit nor was removed from a cheer squad the current/prior year.
- H. School discipline records will be checked prior to tryouts. The candidates can not try out if he/she has a discipline referral in any of the following offenses the current school year: theft, fighting, drugs, alcohol, vandalism and/or graffiti, or nudity or partial nudity. Students with more than one discipline referral for vaping, smoking, tobacco, insubordination or other ISS related offenses will not be allowed to try out.
- I. The candidate cannot tryout if they have any discipline infractions during the school year in which tryouts occur that resulted in ISS (4 or more days), Out of School suspension, DAEP placement, and/or JJAEP placement.

- J. All candidates who are involved in UIL activities or any other school activities other than cheer (i.e. theatre, choir, speech, one-act play, etc.), must fulfill 80% of spirit squad duties. At the point that the student falls below 80% they will begin receiving unexcused absences for each absence over 80% with the consequences stated in this Constitution including dismissal from the squad after the fifth unexcused absence. Any spirit squad member who is removed from the squad will not be allowed to tryout the following year.

**Rules Governing Cheerleaders/Mascots who participate in
Other School Activities and Cheerleading:**

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

1. In order to perform at pep rallies and games, cheerleaders and mascots must attend practice based on the practice schedule decided upon by coaches. As with all sports, if cheerleaders and/or mascots are unable to attend **all** practices, the coach has the right to exclude the cheerleader/mascot from performing certain skills that could result in injury or performance quality.
2. Cheerleader/Mascot who is unable to attend practices due to additional sport and/or UIL activity will not perform any routine and or stunt that is done at that cheerleading practice at the event in which it is performed (i.e. pep rally or performance).
3. A cheerleader/mascot must be at school the **entire day** of any performance. Exception: a doctor's visit in which an **official DOCTOR'S note MUST** be given to the coach immediately upon return to school. **Cheerleader/mascot CANNOT miss more than one-half of the day in order to perform.**
4. Warming up stunts appropriately is essential to a safe performance; therefore, any Cheerleader/Mascot who cannot be at the assigned location at the assigned time will not be allowed to cheer at that event/game.

Tryout Requirements

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

Before you make the decision to tryout, please carefully consider the following:

Spirit squads involve more time and responsibility than most people realize. You need to be willing to give up a minimum of 6 hours a week starting after tryouts and continuing through the end of school. The demands upon a person's time and energy are great and all members must be able to successfully balance school, spirit duties, homework, jobs, other extra-curricular activities, and their social lives.

Your various commitments must be taken into consideration before you decide to try out.

A. All tryout information will be listed in the Prosper Middle School Spirit Tryouts paperwork.

B. Residency/Enrollment:

A student is eligible to tryout for cheerleader and mascot if: 1) at the time of the tryout, the student is enrolled in PISD and is trying out at the school where the student is registered to attend for the next school year. 2) If the student is not currently enrolled in PISD but provides documentation of intent to register with a housing contract within the district and a closing date prior to the start of the 2018-2019 school year, the student may tryout at that campus. Transfers must provide a letter of intent and provide proof of residency or documentation from Prosper ISD with district approval.

Candidate must attend all mandatory meetings and/or practices.

C. Cheerleaders and Mascots:

1. A spirit tryout form must be completed both online and turned in to the registered **Middle School front office** by the scheduled due date. Forms not turned in by 4:00 pm on the due date to the Prosper Middle School front office will not be accepted.
2. Spirit squad members and parent/guardian must attend a **mandatory** informational meeting prior to tryouts. Failure to attend will result in the candidate not being allowed to tryout unless **prior arrangements** were made for emergent extenuating circumstances or currently living outside of the DFW area.
3. All candidates will attend closed scheduled clinics prior to tryouts. All candidates will be monitored by coaches.
4. All current cheerleaders and mascots must tryout each year regardless of experience on the squad.
5. Candidates will furnish their personal tryout equipment and clothing.

6. During the tryout process, each applicant is required to have a physical on file prior to participating in the training session. If candidate has any injuries, a release from candidate's doctor stating the exact extent of allowed participation must be provided. If you have a physical on file this year from another sport, please provide a copy of it with your tryout packet. Exception, cheerleaders who are currently enrolled in Prosper Middle School Cheer.

D. Character, Citizenship, and Academics

1. The candidate shall have passed all subjects the first semester and the third nine-week grading period. If a candidate is moving from a six-week grading period, they must have passed all classes the third six weeks grading period. If candidate was not passing all subjects, they must have regained eligibility at the three week regain grade check.
2. If elected, eligibility must be maintained. Spirit squad members are under UIL no pass, no play regulations.
3. A candidate cannot have been assigned to Saturday School (discipline) more than one time or been assigned to ISS for 4 or more days for the current school year.
4. Candidates cannot have any assignment to DAEP during the current school year or suspended out of school or expelled.
5. Candidates cannot have been removed from any spirit squad the prior year.

Procedures for Tryouts (Auditions)

- A. Philosophy: It is the belief of PISD that every candidate should have the opportunity to try out for cheerleader or mascot, if all requirements have been met. Through this selection process, each candidate will mathematically have the opportunity to be selected.
- B. Students desiring to tryout must pick up a tryout packet **and read** the spirit constitution **online**. ***It is the candidate's responsibility to read all provided information.***
- C. Students desiring to try out must return the signed permission page (included in the Prosper Middle School Spirit Packet paperwork) and other required forms to the **Prosper Middle School front office** by the designated deadline. **(Parent/Guardian and or candidate must personally turn in the form to the Prosper Middle School front office.)**
- D. Coaches will hold a mandatory parent meeting to go over the tryout guidelines and Spirit Constitution as approved by the principal. Parents and students must sign that they understand and will follow all rules.

Selection Process for Cheerleaders and Mascots

- A. All candidates will try out before a panel of judges who have been selected by the district.
- B. Candidates will only be judged specifically for the skills performed on the tryout day. To provide equity in scoring, candidates may not receive credit in areas they cannot perform.
- C. The middle school squad will consist of members from both 7th and 8th grade. The squad will be decided by rank order from a natural break.
- D. Students trying out must wear black shorts, white t-shirt, white sports bra, cheer shoes, hair up, clear nail polish and no jewelry. (No attire may be worn that indicates past cheerleading experience.)
- E. All candidates for mascot will follow the same procedures as outlined in the spirit tryouts, using the "PISD Middle School Mascot Judges Form." (See Spirit tryout paperwork.) Mascots will follow the same requirements and scoring procedures. Mascots will be SCORE driven, not grade level driven.

Judge Selection for Cheerleader and Mascot

There will be a minimum of three judges, from outside Prosper ISD and who are neither related to, teaching, or coaching any student trying out.

Scoring for Cheerleader and Mascot

- A. "Prosper Middle School Cheerleader Tryout Score Sheet" or "Prosper Middle School Mascot Tryout Score Sheet" will be used. (See Spirit tryout paperwork.) The building principal or a designee will make arrangements for the judges.
 - B. Candidates will only be judged for exactly the skills performed on the tryout day. To provide equity in scoring, candidates may not receive credit in areas they cannot perform.
 - C. In order for averaging to be considered for calculation purposes, the student must have participated in at least 80% of the tryout process.
 - D. All cheerleader and mascot candidates must tryout before a panel of judges for technical ranking. The ranking will be based on the cumulative scores given by the judges.
 - E. After adding all the judges' scores, the totals of those scores are divided by the number of judges. These averages will be used to assign rank, i.e., first, second, third, etc.
 - F. An administrator will recalculate the scores/ranks, and sign off on the judge's sheet.
 - G. Parents can be shown a copy of the judge's scores for their child only. Ranks will not be given.
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RESULTS OF TRYOUTS

Tryout results may not be appealed beyond the campus level.

Physicals

All candidates who make the spirit squad must have an updated physical on file by **August 1, 2019**. Prosper Athletics require a new physical every year and must be dated between March and August of that participating year.

Attendance Responsibilities

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

- A. Cheerleaders/Mascots on all teams will attend an instructional summer camp at a time selected by the coach; failure to attend without prior approval from the cheerleading coach and principal will result in immediate removal from the squad. Vacations, mission trips, work, and/or non-emergency conditions will not be considered as an excuse to not attend summer camp.
- B. Being a good student in all areas of the classroom including attendance is important for a Prosper Cheer Squad Member. Our attendance at a performance should only happen if we are in attendance at school so as to emphasize that cheer is not more important than school. Therefore, cheer members will not be allowed to cheer/perform unless they are in attendance all day or ½ of the day if the other ½ is excused by a **Doctor's note** (provide a copy for the school and a copy for coach) turned in the day of the absence/performance to the front office upon their return to school or if the other ½ is a school related absence. Squad members who do not or cannot cheer due to an **unexcused absence** at school will receive an unexcused absence for the performance they miss as a result.
- C. Cheerleaders and mascots will attend all scheduled practices in **proper workout attire**, school games in required uniform, pep rallies in required uniform, playoff games in required uniform, and any other scheduled events or activities as scheduled by the cheer coach(s) including practices and performances. Coaches **can** extend practice time and require additional practices/performances at any time. The **Fifth (5) UNEXCUSED** absence from one or a combination of the aforementioned activities will result in immediate removal from the squad. **A written note or text is required for ALL excused absences (a minimum of 24 hours prior to absence)**. If a cheerleader and mascot is absent from school the entire day for an excusable reason or he/she goes home for an excusable reason (**cheerleader MUST check out through the office**) as specified in this document, they will be excused from the performance on that day.

- D. Cheerleaders and Mascots and will arrive 30 minutes prior to pre-game activities at the designated meeting area, return **two** minutes prior to the start of the next half (football) and **one** minute prior to the start of the next half (basketball), and will remain for the duration of the activity. All cheerleaders and mascots must stay until all equipment is secured and put away contributing with such.

If a cheerleader or mascot arrives late and/or leaves early without coach approval or has any unexcused absence (see below):

*** ATTENDANCE OFFENSES**

First Offense: The spirit team member will receive a written warning.

Second Offense: The spirit team member will sit out the first quarter/period of the game and receive an unexcused absence. (If they leave early, they will sit out the first quarter/period of the next similar performance or at coaches' discretion.)

Third Offense: The spirit team member will sit out the first half of the game and receive an unexcused absence. (If they leave early, they will sit out the first half of the next similar performance or at coaches' discretion.)

Fourth Offense: The spirit team member will not cheer for that performance, will sit by the coach, and will have it counted as an unexcused absence.

FIFTH Offense: The spirit team member will be removed from the squad.

- E. In order for an absence to be considered approved, it must be cleared by the coach **PRIOR** to that event, unless there are extenuating circumstances such as a death in the immediate family. *Written notices MUST be provided for all absences in order for them to be excused.*

Excused: Illness with a note excusable by Prosper Middle School standards, death in the immediate family, religious holidays, University Interscholastic League (UIL) game/match/performance (game/match/performance only, not practice), or school related meetings (with coaches approval) are considered excused. Absences related to UIL game conflicts, UIL game/match/performance, and school meetings must be brought to the coaches' attention ***five days*** prior to said absence. (Squad members must still complete 80% of their required spirit squad duties.)

Unexcused: Work, vacation, appointments, events, private practices, outside competition team practices/events, non-UIL involvement, non-UIL or school associated meetings, etc.

Conduct Responsibilities

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

- A. Cheerleaders and Mascots are expected to behave in a manner that is becoming to the individual, as well as the organization they represent. They understand that either in or out of uniform they represent both the team and Prosper Middle School and should act accordingly in maintaining a higher standard of conduct. Cheerleaders and Mascots will abide by school codes of conduct both in and out of uniform, both at and away from school. Any question of appropriateness will be determined by the principal, principal's designee, and/or cheer coach.
- B. Cheerleaders and Mascots will be courteous and respectful to their teammates, captains, coaches, teachers and other school personnel, classmates, peers (both in and out of Prosper), and all school/district administrators at all times including through written, verbal, non verbal, electronic or digital communication, and social media.
- C. During a game performance, each individual squad member will constantly display good sportsmanship throughout the entire performance in regards to respect for themselves, other teams, and the viewing audience. During a game performance, a cheerleader and mascot will not sit in the stands or leave the squad without direct permission from the coach.
- D. Cheerleaders and Mascots must "refrain from taunting, bragging, or suggestive expressions or gestures as well as discrimination of any nature". This includes electronic or digital communication and/or social media. Part of the UIL Spirit Guidelines expects cheerleaders to be ambassadors for their school demonstrating both good character and sportsmanship.
- E. Cheerleaders and Mascots are expected to carry squad equipment, set up performance area, stretch, and warm-up stunts prior to all activities.
- F. Cheerleaders and Mascots are expected to follow the team captain's directives for that week including line-up, performance, cheers, chants, and any additional requests made by the coach.
- G. Cheerleaders and Mascots will not eat food, candy, or chew gum while performing or practicing.
- H. Cheerleaders and Mascots will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times including exhibiting a positive attitude during performances and practices.
- I. Cheerleaders and Mascots will refrain from public displays of affection while in or out of uniform.
- J. Cheerleaders and Mascots cannot be in possession or use drugs, alcohol, a vape device, eliquid, or tobacco on or off campus. Evidence of this violation may result in immediate removal from the squad.
- K. After tryouts, **if elected**, the spirit squad member is considered part of the new school year spirit squad; therefore, infractions that occur after tryouts then become a part of the new school year. Spirit squad members may be placed on probation, receive a written warning, removed temporarily, or removed permanently.

Practice

- A. All spirit squad members must be ON TIME to all scheduled cheerleading practices. Spirit squad members will not arrive late to practice or leave early from practice without prior written permission from their coach or said tardy or early departure will be considered an unexcused absence and consequences applied accordingly.
- B. Spirit squad members cannot miss the last practice before a game, pep rally or other event without prior approval or the member will not be allowed to participate in the next game, pep rally, and/or event. All team members must exhibit quality performance readiness during practices in order to perform.
- C. A cheerleader/mascot will attend and participate in all spirit squad activities throughout the season or will receive the consequences previously published in the cheer constitution for unexcused absences.
- D. All spirit squad members will attend all practices and work out. This includes running, stunting, conditioning, and other forms of physical activity. **Cheer is a team sport in which all members must give 100% in every class, practice, and performance in order to exhibit the quality of performance expected of a PISD Middle School Spirit Squad Member. All team members are expected to participate fully. During cheer class and practice, each student will give 100% effort or the student will sit out and receive consequences through school discipline, during class, and/or through the Constitution.** If a spirit squad member becomes injured, they must notify the cheer coach and provide a note to be excused from participation. A spirit squad member cannot be released except by the trainers and a doctor when applicable.
- E. All spirit squad members are not to leave the workout location or general vicinity of the coach without direct permission or direction. Spirit squad members who leave without permission may be put on a discipline management plan, given a written warning, and disciplined just like any other sport in addition to any discipline according to this Constitution. ***A combination of three written warnings, with regard to any disciplinary action, will result in immediate removal from the spirit squad.***
- F. **ATTIRE:** Spirit squad members must bring necessary materials to practice including appropriate workout clothes, hair secured out of eyes and off shoulders, jewelry removed and cheer shoes to all practices. This does not include those clothes worn to school. Any spirit squad member that does not have workout clothes will have the following disciplinary actions:

Conduct Offenses:

First Offense: spirit squad member will be issued a written warning.

Second Offense: spirit squad member will be written up and the spirit squad member will receive an ***unexcused absence***.

Third Offense: spirit squad member will be written up and the spirit squad member will be benched one period of the next performance and receive an ***unexcused absence***.

Fourth Offense: spirit squad member will be required to perform additional conditioning, parent will be notified, and spirit squad member will be benched the next performance and receive an ***unexcused absence***.

Fifth Offense: spirit squad member will be ***removed*** from the squad due to unexcused absences. (Refer to unexcused absences.)

Uniform and Appearance

- A. Personally purchased uniforms must fit appropriately or cheerleader will be required to purchase a replacement piece. Replacement costs, damage, or excess wear will be the financial responsibility of the cheerleader/mascot. It is the cheerleader's responsibility to notify the coach of any damage.
- B. The length and style of the cheerleading uniform will be selected by the coaches with approval of the principal.
- C. The uniform is only to be worn in conjunction with school events where the entire squad is present.
 - 1. Spirit squad members must keep the uniform clean for every performance. If a spirit squad member comes to an event with a dirty uniform, the squad member will not be allowed to cheer and an unexcused absence will be assigned with corresponding consequences.
 - 2. Spirit squad members will not wear any part of the uniform to a non-cheerleader function.
 - 3. Spirit squad members will not lend out uniforms to someone who is not a spirit squad member without the approval of the coach.
 - 4. Cheerleaders **MUST** wear the uniform in its entirety at all times. i.e. Cheerleaders cannot wear the uniform top without the skirt on and zipped.
 - 5. No cheerleader/mascot uniform may be altered without coach approval.
 - 6. Cheerleaders/Mascots are responsible for damage to or loss of any part of a uniform. Cheerleaders/Mascots will be responsible for the replacement of the uniform or repair costs.
- D. **Hair** will be worn **securely out of the face and OFF of the shoulders** at ALL times in a location determined by the coach (this includes practice and performances). If the hair falls down during a performance, the cheerleader will be required to put it back up immediately. During performances, cheerleaders will wear required ribbon in their hair in order to complete the look of the uniform and provide unity in appearance.
- E. **No jewelry** will be worn during practices, performances, or pictures without the approval of the coach.
- F. **Nails** must have clear nail polish or French manicures. **If candidate chooses a nude color, then the coaches have the right to determine if it is appropriate. If the "nude" color is determined inappropriate, then the cheerleader will not be allowed to perform, will receive a written or verbal notice of improper attire, and will be counted as an ATTIRE offense. (See ATTIRE section for offense repercussions.)**

Discipline:

Any spirit squad member that accumulates **three** written warnings with regard to: ***behavior or conduct, dress code violations, failure to follow a coaches' directive and/or other violations of the Students Code of Conduct or Cheerleading Constitution (with the exception of electronic or digital communication and/or social media, see below):***

Written Warning Procedures:

- a. **FIRST VIOLATION:** written notice will be signed by student, and spirit team member will be benched for one performance.
- b. **SECOND VIOLATION:** parents will be notified, written notice will be signed by parent and student, and spirit squad member will be benched for two performances.
- c. **THIRD VIOLATION:** results in the student's removal from the squad for the remainder of the school year. *A spirit squad member that quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the squad for the following year without approval from both the coach and principal.*

Electronic or Digital Communication and/or Social Media Procedures

Cheer Squad members should conduct themselves appropriately via any and all electronic or digital communication and/or social media including but not limited to:

- Not posting, texting, tweeting, snapchatting, (any electronic or digital communication) etc. inappropriate pictures or videos including, but not limited to, those with nudity or partial nudity, inappropriate language and/or gestures, taunting, or suggestive expressions, racial comments, sexually oriented comments/pictures, bullying or other harassing comments, smoking, vaping, fighting, vandalism, graffiti, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, etc.
 - a. **FIRST VIOLATION:** parents will be notified, written notice will be signed by parent and student, and spirit team member will be benched **OR REMOVED** from squad based on the severity of the offense. **Immediate removal will result from photographs containing nudity or partial nudity, racial comments, bullying, drugs, or alcohol .**
 - b. **SECOND VIOLATION:** results in the student's immediate removal from the squad for the remainder of the school year. *A spirit squad member that quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the squad for the following year without approval from both the coach and principal.*

PISD Code of Conduct

As with any sport, coaches and/or administration maintain the right to determine all aspects of the cheer program. This includes but is not limited to, 1) participation, 2) performance quality, 3) squad placement in routine, 4) discipline and any other aspects of the cheer program.

Involvement in extracurricular activities is a privilege, and with that privilege is responsibility. Participants are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary fashion that will be a source of pride to both the school district and community. At Prosper ISD, we encourage student involvement in extracurricular activities and we expect them to abide by these policies in exchange for the lifelong benefits gained through this involvement.

All spirit team members MUST follow Prosper ISD Student Code of Conduct and Prosper Middle School Handbook. Both documents can be found on the Prosper ISD website. Spirit team members, who are disciplined through either the Student Code of Conduct or Prosper Middle School Handbook, will receive additional consequences within practice. Consequences include, but not limited to cardiovascular conditioning, additional duties, and/or after school spirit squad detention as well as any consequence assigned as per the Cheer Constitution.

Prosper Middle School Discipline

- A. Spirit team members will maintain proper behavior at all times as designated by the Cheer Coach. This includes classroom performance and behavior, appearances, spirit squad practices, and performances.
 - 1. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for discipline techniques.
 - 2. Additional discipline can include cardiovascular conditioning, additional duties, and/or after school spirit detention as well as any consequence assigned as per the Cheer Constitution.
- B. A spirit team member who quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the squad the following year without approval from both the coach and principal.

In School Suspension (ISS) or Saturday School (discipline)

First Offense – Spirit team member will be benched for the next performance.

Second Offense – Spirit team member will be dismissed from the squad.

Out of School Suspension

First Offense – Spirit team member will immediately be suspended from the squad for two weeks, pending investigation. At the completion of the investigation, a spirit team member: a) be removed immediately, or b) returned to the squad based upon the outcome of the investigation.

Second Offense – Spirit team member will be immediately removed from the squad.

Alternative Education Program

Any spirit squad member who is moved to an alternative educational setting will be immediately removed from the squad.

Undesirable Conduct and Probation

Spirit team members will be expected to engage in appropriate behavior at all times. Consequences for undesirable behavior are outlined in this constitution and the PISD Middle School Student Code of Conduct. Acknowledgement and acceptance of these rules and consequences are designated by the spirit team members and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s).

SPIRIT TEAM PROBATION

GRADE PROBATION

For grade probation, University Interscholastic League policies will be enforced with the addition of **ALL** classes (AP, Pre-AP, Dual Credit, and regular) must maintain a 70 or above average in order to participate. A UIL loss of eligibility can occur at 6 week, 9 week, 18 week, and 27 week periods. UIL eligibility will be determined by the Prosper Middle School grade report generated by the registrar's office. This report cannot be overturned unless the teacher in whose class the spirit squad member failed fills out an educator error report. Any spirit squad member who has **lost eligibility in two different grading periods** in the same year will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year. **A squad member who has lost eligibility and then fails to regain eligibility at the next grade reporting period for regaining eligibility will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the year.** Any spirit squad member who has been removed will not be allowed to tryout the following year.

- A. A student whose recorded grade average in any course is lower than a 70 at the end of a UIL grading period (6 week, 9 week, 18 week, and 27 week) will be suspended from competition or performance. A suspension continues for at least three weeks and is not removed during the school year until the student is passing **all subjects** taken. This suspension shall become effective seven calendar days after the last day of the grading period during which the grade lower than 70 is earned. UIL eligibility calendar will be available upon request at the beginning of the school year.
- B. A student who regains eligibility at the end of a three-week grading period shall not become eligible until the end of the school day seven calendar days later.
- C. Students on academic probation must continue to attend classes and participate in all practices, but must sit out of all performances and games.
- D. If an average **below 70 exists for two loss of eligibility periods or if the student fails to regain eligibility in the next reporting period after losing eligibility in the prior reporting period** in the same course or in different courses during the school year, the student will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year and will be ineligible to tryout for the squad the following year.

CONDUCT and/or GRADE PROBATION

Spirit team members on conduct and/or grade probation will attend and participate in all practices, but may not perform at any contest, game, activity, or pep rally. Spirit team members will not wear any uniforms and will not be allowed to attend/participate with the team at games.

Grounds for Dismissal

All rules become enforceable the day the cheerleader/mascot is selected and remain in effect until the end of the school year for which the student is chosen to serve. (A cheerleader/mascot that quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the squad for the following year without approval from both the coach and principal.)

A spirit team member will be automatically dismissed from the squad for the following reasons:

1. Any member who is expelled from school or placed in the Alternative Education program will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
2. Any member who is placed in In School Suspension one or more days (ISS) or Saturday School (discipline) for a **second** time will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
3. Any member who is assigned Out of School suspension (OSS) be suspended for two weeks pending investigation. (see page 11)
4. Any spirit team member that accumulates any combination of **5 unexcused absences** from team practices, games, pep rallies, or other scheduled events will be immediately removed from the cheerleading squad for the remainder of the school year.
5. Any spirit squad member that accumulates **three** written warnings with regard to: *behavior or conduct, practice, dress code violations, failure to follow a coaches' directive and/or other violations of the Students Code of Conduct or Cheerleading Constitution.*
6. Any spirit squad member that has **two** electronic or digital communication and/or social media infractions. **(Unless spirit team member was removed immediately.)**
7. Any violation of the PISD Student Code of Conduct that requires dismissal from the team or activity group.

All students must abide by the PISD Student Code of Conduct as stated in the Prosper ISD Student Handbook. All spirit squad members are eligible to drug testing at any time. Failing a drug test will result in consequences according to the PISD Athletic Code.