

## **Our Lady of Lourdes Spirit Squad Contract**

I. **Purpose:** The purpose of this organization is to encourage and to support our school's athletic teams and programs, to encourage athletic fan participation, and to promote a positive school spirit and image throughout our school and community.

### **II. General guidelines**

#### **A. Tryouts**

1. Any female student in 4th, 5th, or 6th grade at OLL who has maintained a C (78) or better average without failing any subject and has maintained a B (86) or better average in conduct as indicated on the report card is eligible to tryout for the OLL Spirit Squad. Members will be chosen by a panel of judges. Candidates will be selected on the last day of tryouts, and each candidate will be judged on her individual performance of material taught during the tryout period.
2. Any student trying out for the Spirit Squad must turn in the permission form signed by her parent. A \$5.00 non refundable tryout fee will also be collected.
3. All members will be required to pay for the necessary uniforms, accessories, and clinics/camps. Parents must review and agree to the ESTIMATED expenses as outlined on the permission form.
4. Any student who has been suspended in the current year is not eligible to tryout.
- 5. Students must also be registered for the upcoming school year.**

**B. Participation:** Individual participation of all members will be based upon the maintenance of academic average, attendance of practices, performance at functions, proper behavior, discipline, and the sponsor's judgement regarding individual preparedness.

#### **1. Grade averages** (from the OLL Handbook)

a. The following criteria will be used in determining non-eligibility of a student to participate/practice in any sport, club, or organization (including Spirit Squad) during any grading period:

"D" or "U" academic average

"U" in any academic subject (math, language, reading, religion, social studies, science, and/or Spanish)

b. Because your child's education is our priority, grade averages will be checked when interims and report cards are issued. It is your child's responsibility to show the Spirit Squad sponsor her report card or interim. This must be done within two school days. Any student who does not meet all requirements (listed above) will be placed on restrictive probation. The student will not be allowed to participate until the next interim or report card, and grades must meet the above criteria.

#### **2. Spirit Squad will be the primary extracurricular activity for each member.**

The sponsor must be informed of any secondary extracurricular activity in which a member chooses to participate. The parent(s) and child will assume responsibility for any schedule conflict that occurs as a result of belonging to another organization or activity.

#### **3. Attendance**

- a. Absence on the last day prior to a performance, without sponsor approval, will result in the member not being allowed to perform.
- b. Except for personal illness, all absences must be approved by a sponsor. All others will

be considered unexcused absences.

c. Two consecutive absences from a practice may result in the member not being able to perform at the next performance.

d. If a member misses a practice for any reason, the member **MUST** either bring a note from home or from the doctor's office to the sponsor explaining the absence, or parents may notify the sponsor via email or text. If a team member is at school, but is not able to attend practice, she must notify the sponsor of that sometime during the school day. Having a team member "pass on the message" will not be accepted.

e. **ALL CLINICS AND CAMPS ARE MANDATORY.** Camp date is TBA.

f. It is always the student's responsibility to be informed of all information and announcements given during missed practices/performances.

g. A member must be present at least half the school day in order to participate in after school activities.

**4. Fundraising:** The Spirit Squad will hold fundraising activities with administrative approval. The proceeds from these activities will be used to offset expenses related to the team. **Team fundraiser participation is mandatory.**

**5. Activities:** The Spirit Squad will perform at pep rallies, home games, and, possibly, some away games. The team is often required to help at Parent Check in Day and Open House. The team may also participate in some Slidell parades. **Parade participation is mandatory.** Parents will chaperone certain events/functions as determined by the sponsor.

#### **6. Practice**

a. During the school year, the Spirit Squad will tentatively practice two to three times a week. Other times and dates will be determined and scheduled by the sponsor.

b. Members will come out on time for practice, dressed in appropriate practice uniforms designated by the sponsor. In cases of extreme weather, other uniforms may be allowed at the sponsor's discretion.

c. There will be **NO** practices without the supervision of the sponsor or designated adult.

d. **This schedule is rigorous and attendance is mandatory.** Every effort should be made to schedule doctor appointments around Spirit Squad. If we are going to be a successful team, all members must be present at practices and performances.

#### **C. Transportation**

1. Parents must be able to provide transportation for their child.

2. It is the parent's responsibility to arrange **PROMPT** transportation to and from all Spirit Squad functions and practices.

3. If a child is left more than 15 minutes after practice or a performance is over, the child will be sent to Aftercare. If After Care isn't available, five demerits will be issued. In any case, children will not be left unattended.

#### **D. Communication**

1. Calendars will be given to all members/parents indicating all times and dates of practices, performances, and events. Due to unforeseen circumstances, revised schedules are occasionally given. Phone calls, texts, and emails may also be used to contact members/parents.

2. Communication with your child is most important. Your child must be picked up within 15 minutes after a game, practice, or activity, or she will be placed in After Care, and a fee will be charged.

**E. Medical:** Every Spirit Squad member must have insurance information on file with the sponsor before attending any function, such as camp. A sports physical must be obtained yearly.

#### **F. Appearance**

1. Uniforms will be clean and neat. They will reflect the age of our students and the purpose of the team as determined by the sponsor.
2. If the weather is too warm for the uniliner, a **racerback bra** must be worn.
3. Only jewelry approved by the sponsor may be worn to any performance.
4. Uniforms will be worn only by team members during sponsored activities. If a member quits or is dismissed from the team, she is not allowed to continue wearing team apparel.
5. Eating and drinking will not be allowed during team activities with the exception of water breaks. **Small, individual, healthy snacks** may be brought from home; these may be eaten **before** practice or a performance. An approved snack list will be issued soon. **NO GUM CHEWING AT ANY TIME.**

**G. Captains:** Captains selection will be made by the sponsor. The number and ranking of captains will also be determined by the sponsor. Captains must be dependable and cooperative, have a good attitude/behavior, and have dance/cheer knowledge and ability. If at any time the sponsor feels that a captain is not fulfilling her obligation, that captain will be asked to step down.

#### **H . Conduct**

1. **To be on the Our Lady of Lourdes Spirit Squad is an honor and a privilege.** A Spirit Squad member represents OLL and therefore must always conduct herself in the best possible manner. The student has committed to the purpose of promoting a positive school spirit and image throughout the school and community, and must always strive to conduct herself in a positive manner. Members must be able to cooperate with each other, the captains, and the sponsors.
2. If a Spirit Squad member receives a grade of 85/C or lower in conduct, she will be placed on restrictive probation from all activities until the next reporting period.
3. Spirit Squad members will not talk or interact with fans, friends, or other squad members, etc. during games and performances. A break will be given for the restroom/concessions. This is the **ONLY** time members may socialize.
4. There will be no food or drink in the bleachers during a game. Team members will be standing in formation at least 10 minutes before a game begins and will remain standing until break time.
5. Any disagreement, conflict, or misunderstanding during games/practices will be addressed by the sponsor and will be discussed at an appropriate time.... **NOT DURING GAMES, PRACTICES, OR IN PUBLIC.**
6. If a member is suspended from school, she will immediately be dismissed from the team. A member who has been dismissed has to sit out one school year before trying out again.