

*ALIQUIPPA LITTLE QUIP CHEERLEADING
ORGANIZATION*

BY LAWS



Section (1) Organization Operations:

- A. Aliquippa Lil Quips Cheerleading will be governed through the Aliquippa Lil Quips Football Organization
- B. The Cheerleading staff will consist of a Cheerleading Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, Treasurer and Squad Coaches.
- C. Termination of any cheerleading staff or committee will be upon the request of the cheerleading director.
- D. The Cheerleading committee will consist of Squad Coaches and Jr. Coaches.
- E. All staff members will remain in position for (2) years unless a termination request is made by the Cheerleading Director.
- F. Termination of the Cheerleading Director will be upon the Aliquippa Lil Quips Superior Board vote.
- G. Should any staff member, coach, or Jr. Coach decide to relinquish their position, a two (2) week written notice must be given to the Secretary and a replacement shall be selected by the director.
- H. Any breach of confidentiality by any staff, coach, or Jr, coach may result in termination of the current position.
- I. Checking account will be registered with (3) signatures, those being the Cheerleading Director, Assistant Director and the Treasurer. Of which (2) of the signatures will be required for all checks to be valid. The Treasurer must be one of the signatures,
- J. Meetings will be held at the discretion of the Director and/or Little Quips Organization, upon such request. Times and dates will be determined.
- K. A parent/guardian or responsible adult representative (21 years or older) must be present at all mandatory meetings and orientation called by the board, director or coaches.

- L. No coach will discuss any issues/concerns at any game. You will need to schedule a date and time to talk with your child's coach/parent liaison.
- M. Any issues involving a cheerleader must first be discussed with the cheerleader's coach and/or parent liaison for a resolution. If there's no mutual understanding, then the coach will advise you of the proper chain of command. Which is the parent liaison and Board for a vote for resolution.
- N. All unresolved issues/concerns by any parent/guardian, after talking with the coach may request a meeting or a decision to be rendered by the board.

Section (2) Cheerleading Procedures:

- A. Cheerleaders in 1st and 2nd grade will be on the Twerp Squad
- B. Cheerleaders in 3rd and 4th grade will be on the Termite Squad
- C. Cheerleaders in 5th and 6th grade will be on the Mighty Mite Squad

Cheerleading Try-outs:

- A. All parents/guardians must attend orientation to register a child(ren) for try-outs, and attend try-out orientation to fill out all the paperwork before they can be placed on the squad .
- B. Any participant with an "E "in a major subject in the grading period prior to try-outs will not be eligible to try out.
- C. All participants must present a copy of the child's report card before the day of try-outs or the child will be unable to try out.
- D. Professional judges and scorekeeper will be used for try-outs
- E. NO parents will be permitted in the gym during practices or try-outs. Exception is for the mock try-out day
- F. All participants must be on time for practices and try-outs
 - 1. Participants must attend all (3) practices but not mandatory
 - 2. Practice will be from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm unless otherwise scheduled by the director.
 - 3. Parents must be there at least 15 min prior to practice ending to pick up their child.

- G. You will be given designated times for your child's squad for try-outs. If your child arrives once their squad has started they will not be permitted to try-out.
- H. Attire for try-outs will consist of white T-shirts, black or navy blue shorts, white socks and white tennis shoes. NO fingernail polish or jewelry. We recommend no beads and to have the child's hair pulled away from their face.
- I. All participants must reside in the Aliquippa School District to be eligible to try-out.

Fee and Registration:

- A. The Aliquippa Lil Quip Cheerleading registration is \$60 which is **NON-Refundable** after 24 hours of tryouts. There will be \$20 refunded once you have worked (1) compete game in the concession stand.
- B. All monies and registration required are due directly after the squad completes try-outs. Parents have 1 hour to make the payment. Only cash or money orders will be accepted.
- C. All ordered merchandise may be requested to be paid at the time of try-outs. Such as socks, body suits, sweat suits, raincoat, and briefs excluding self-purchase items.
- D. You are responsible for all the sizes chosen on merchandise item(s) ordered. There will be **NO EXCHNAGES OR REFUNDS** on behalf of the Aliquippa Lil Quip Organization or their supplier. Parent/guardian must sign to confirm size requested.
- E. You will be responsible for additional costs such as tennis shoes, camps, and pictures etc. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- F. You will be given your child(s) fundraiser at the time they are chosen for the squad. All the monies must be turned in on or before the designated times scheduled, or all monies paid at try-outs for registration and all merchandise will be forfeited.
- G. All cheerleaders must attend (1) mandatory fitness camp every season at the parents expense.
- H. All cheerleaders will be responsible for at least 3 fundraisers; which may be prepaid upon the board's discretion.
- I. All fundraisers **MUST** be paid on time. Failure to pay **WILL** result in your child being dismissed from the squad

Cheerleading Uniforms:

- A. Parents will be responsible for the cleaning and any damages to the uniform. Should anything such as fading, iron marks, staining, tears, separating seams etc. occur, you are responsible for the full cost for damages or a replacement uniform immediately.
- B. All uniforms must be maintained and kept clean including tennis shoes for games and/or competition; any uniform that is unfit for performance the cheerleader will be unable to participate that day but must remain seated with their coach. .
- C. Each cheerleader must be in a complete uniform including (pom poms, megaphone etc.) before the squad takes the field, or the cheerleader will not be permitted to join the squad until after the 1st quarter of the game.
- D. No cheerleader is permitted to wear any part of their uniform including (sweat suits, socks, tennis shoes, short set etc.) during the season. All cheerleaders must change out of uniform after their game (including hair bow) or disciplinary actions will be taken by the coach.
- E. Uniforms that you have purchased still require you to follow the same rules.

Section (3) Cheerleading Guidelines and Practice Procedures:

- A. All cheerleaders must attend scheduled practices; any cheerleader who misses 2 or more unexcused practices in the same week without a valid excuse will not be permitted to cheer the first half of their game and must sit with their coach.
- B. All cheerleaders must be on time for practices; any cheerleader who arrives after practice has started will receive a warning the first time; the 2nd time within the same practice week will result in the demerit policy action.
- C. All cheerleaders must come to practice dressed in the appropriate practice clothes and tennis shoes; (shorts, sweats and always tennis shoes no sandals, flip flops or jeans) If the cheerleader is not dressed accordingly they will not be permitted to practice and it will be marked as a missed practice.

- D. All cheerleaders should bring water bottles to practice and games during the summer months due to weather conditions. It is also the parent/guardian responsibility to provide water for the games. Each team has designated person per week that will provide the half time treats.
- E. During the school year practice will be held no more than 3 times per week (5:00 to no later than 7:00pm) unless deemed necessary by the cheerleading director.
- F. Any cheerleader who misses mandatory practice (day to be determined by the coach) without a valid excuse will be rendered ineligible to cheer for the upcoming game.
- G. Any cheerleader who misses mandatory competition practices without a valid excuse the coach will render a decision as to their eligibility to participate in the competition.
- H. NO parents will be allowed to disrupt any practices; any parent who does; will be asked to leave and appropriate action will be followed up with the cheerleading director and the board. Any parent who is disrespectful, slander or cause any disruptive behavior to or towards the organization and/or staff will cause their child to be removed from the organization and may be unable to participate in the future upon staff review and vote.
- I. Twerp/Termite cheerleaders must be dropped off and picked up by a responsible adult. The parent/guardian must make sure a coach or staff is there before they leave or pick up their child. Mighty Mites may be dropped off or walk to and from practice at the parent's discretion without supervision.
- I. All parents/guardians picking up their child must be there at least 15 minutes early; any parent who is 15 minutes late without letting their coach or director know will result in their child being taken to the local police department to wait for your arrival.
- J. Any cheerleader participating in any other activities during the cheerleading season must notify their coach if it may interfere with practice and/or game times.
- K. If a cheerleader misses more than 5 unexcused practices during the summer session they will automatically be suspended from 1 game.
- L. If a cheerleader misses 3 or more games, they will be removed from the squad with **NO REFUNDS.**

- M. If a cheerleader quits before the completion of the season including all playoff and championship games, they will not be honored at the annual banquet, and they will become ineligible for try-outs the next season.
- N. Any cheerleader who has been suspended will not be allowed to attend any practices the days they are suspended, and will not be allowed to cheer at the next game; followed up by accrual of the demerit system.
- O. Mighty Mite cheerleaders must cheer **two (2) years** on the Mighty Mite squad in order to receive a senior jacket from the cheerleading organization.

Game Conditions and Rules:

- A. All cheerleaders must arrive 30 minutes before the scheduled game time unless otherwise advised by their coach. NO cheerleader will be permitted to cheer once the game has started until the start of the next quarter.
- B. A paramedic with communication (radio) will be at all games and will be the responsibility of the hosting team organization.
- C. Staff, coaches, Jr. Coaches and cheerleaders are the only ones permitted on the field during games; any parent on the field without permission will be escorted out of the game and disciplinary actions will follow.
- D. NO objects shall be thrown on the field during the game. NO lewd behavior, foul language, from the stands or physical confrontations directed toward our coaching staff, cheerleaders, director or staff members will be tolerated. You will be immediately ejected from the stadium with appropriate legal action to follow. This will also result in disciplinary action by the board and your child will be removed from the squad and ineligible to try out the following season.
- E. Should there be a cancellation of any game, after the hosting team notifies the organization, all coaches will then notify all cheerleaders.
- F. Good sportsmanship, respect and conduct shall be shown by our coaching staff, cheerleaders, and parents at all times toward any opponent, visitor, and/or all referees. We do not only represent Aliquippa Little Quips Organization but our School District and the City of Aliquippa.

Alcohol, Drugs, and Smoking:

- A. No alcoholic beverages and/or drugs of any kind shall be consumed at any game, practice, or on surrounding school grounds at any time by anyone.
- B. No coach, director, or cheerleader should come to practice, or games intoxicated and/or have any illegal drugs.
- C. Aliquippa School District is a smoke free environment so please refrain from smoking on school grounds.

Situations Not Covered Under By-Laws:

- A. Should a situation arise that is not covered by the By- Laws, the cheerleading director along with the board will review and render a decision in a timely manner.**

PURPOSE:

These By-Laws are set up to eliminate any misunderstandings by our board, staff, coaches, parents, and cheerleaders. To allow our organization to run with order and discipline for the safety of all cheerleaders, staff and coaches; allowing us the ability to make this a positive and respectable organization.