



OYTF Athlete Attendance Expectation

Standard Operating Procedure

1. Purpose

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) establishes attendance expectations for all athletes within the OYTF organization. Consistent practice attendance is essential for developing fundamental skills, ensuring athlete safety, and maintaining fairness during weekly competitions.

2. Scope

This SOP applies to all OYTF football and cheer athletes, parents/guardians, head coaches, assistant coaches, and the OYTF Board of Directors.

3. General Expectations

Athletes and parents/guardians must understand that weekly practices are necessary for skill development and safe participation in games. Coaches are responsible for creating a safe, fun, and inclusive environment that supports athlete growth and equitable competition opportunities.

4. Minimum Participation Standards

- **Football:** Each athlete will receive the minimum quality football plays per game as required by the league, provided attendance expectations are met.
- **Cheer:** Athletes will not be restricted from sideline participation at games provided they have learned the required cheers. Participation in halftime performances and/or competitions is dependent upon athlete readiness and the overall safety of all participants, as further outlined below.

5. Attendance Requirement - Football

Regular attendance is essential to team development, safety, & overall success. If an athlete attends less than 50% of scheduled practices during a given week, the Head Coach may request that the athlete not compete in that week's game. The purpose of this guideline is to protect athlete safety and maintain fairness for team members who attended practices.

6. Procedure for Non-Participation - Football

If a Head Coach determines an athlete should not compete due to insufficient attendance:

- Head Coach must notify the Athletic Director, providing detailed justification for the request
- The Athletic Director will review the request and issue a recommendation to the OYTF Board.
- If the recommendation is to restrict participation, the Board must approve the decision.
- Following review, the Head Coach or Athletic Director will inform the athlete and parent/guardian of the final decision.

7. Attendance Requirement - Cheer

Regular attendance is essential to team development, safety, & overall success. The purpose of these guidelines are to protect athlete safety and maintain fairness for team members who attended practices.

- **Sideline/Non-Competition Cheer Teams:** If an athlete attends less than 50% of scheduled practices during a given week, the head coach may request the athlete not participate in the halftime performance for that week's game.
- **Competition Cheer Teams:** Athletes who accumulate four (4) missed practices and/or games without providing at least two (2) weeks' advance notice may be subject to removal from the team without refund.

8. Procedure for Non-Participation or Removal from Team - Cheer

If a head coach determines that an athlete's participation should be impacted due to insufficient attendance:

- Head Coach must notify the Athletic Director, providing detailed justification
- Athletic Director will review the request and act accordingly:
 - If the recommendation is to restrict participation in halftime performance, Athletic Director can approve decision
 - If the recommendation is to remove individual from competition team, Athletic Director must consult with Vice President of Cheer
- The Vice President of Cheer will review the removal request and issue a recommendation to the OYTF Board.
- If the recommendation is to remove an athlete from a team, the Board must approve the decision.

Following the reviews noted above:

- Head Coach is responsible for informing athlete and parent/guardian if the decision restricts participation in halftime performance only
- Athletic Director and/or Vice President of Cheer (along with Head Coach) will inform parent/guardian if the decision is to remove athlete from team

9. Special Considerations

The OYTF Board recognizes that unforeseen circumstances may impact an athlete's ability to attend practices. Each case will be evaluated individually to ensure a fair and thoughtful resolution. The overarching goal is to support athlete development and ensure safe participation in all events.

10. Statement of Commitment

OYTF is committed to providing a positive and safe environment for all athletes. Adherence to this SOP ensures fairness, protects athlete well-being, and promotes a successful and productive season for every participant.