

**Bylaws of
Greenwood Pittbull Cheer
Amended and restated as of April 1, 2024**

Article I- Name and Location

The name of this organization shall be Greenwood Pittbull Cheer and shall be located in the town of Greenwood, Arkansas.

Article II- Objective

The objective of this organization is: To instill in the participants of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer program, the life-long principles of good citizenship, sportsmanship, teamwork, dedication, superior work effort and knowledge in the fundamentals of the sport of cheerleading. It is the purpose of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer program to teach the participating youths, physical fitness, mental discipline, and teamwork as it pertains to cheerleading, and to develop among the participants a winning attitude, scholarship, and sportsmanship which will be carried both on and off the field of play.

Article III- Board of Directors

A. Composition of the Board of Directors (Board/BOD)

1. The Board may be comprised of four (4) positions which may include, but is not limited to: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer or combinations of said positions until revised annually. Additionally, the BOD may include additional members at-large, such as, Media Coordinator, Fundraiser Coordinator, Event Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator.
2. Board members absent from two (2) Board meetings, including special meetings, may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the other Board Members. If an excuse is presented by the Board member in question and found to be valid by a majority vote of the remaining Board, no action will need to be taken.
3. Any Board member can also be a Coach. However, board membership does not guarantee coaching participation for those interested.
4. Any Board member who is expelled from the Board shall not ever be able to return as a Board member.
5. The President must have at least two (2) consecutive years' involvement with the organization, one (1) of which must be served as a Board member.

B. Functions/Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

1. Rules/Regulations of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer will include:
 - a. Coach's conduct
 - b. Parent conduct
 - c. Cheerleader conduct and eligibility
 - d. Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures
 - e. Uphold the rules prescribed by the League in which Greenwood Pittbull Cheer participates.
 - f. Expenditure of funds

- g. A board member will be at home games.
2. A majority vote of the Board shall be required for, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Expenditure of funds that are not within the normal expenditures of each season such as, but not limited to, uniforms, concession, party repayment, select program sponsorships and typical functioning costs.
 - b. Selection of fundraising events.
 - c. Any changes to the board or program as a whole.
 - d. Publicity and advertising for registrations and other activities.
 - e. Determination of registration fees.
3. All Board members will be at the first meeting at the beginning of each year to determine their eligibility. Any Board member that wishes to vacate their position at any time must submit a signed statement to the Board. Candidates for open or vacant Board positions may be nominated and voted upon by the Board at its discretion at any time.
4. The Board members shall be voted on by a majority vote, based upon their character, adherence to organizational objectives, and ability to perform their required duties. Additionally, qualified candidates will be required to complete an interview process with the current board members.
5. Any Board member demonstrating conduct deemed to be unfitting of a Board member as determined by his/her fellow Board members shall be removed from office, by a majority vote of the Board members, exclusive of the Board member in question. The removed individual shall be notified in writing.

Article IV- Meetings

1. Regular meetings shall be held a minimum of three (3) times per year. The board shall meet at least once in February, July, and October. The July meeting is designated as the "Annual Meeting". The first thirty (30) minutes of the annual meeting will be open to the public. At its discretion the board can elect to extend the open period. If an individual wishes to address the Board or add an item to the agenda, then he/she must notify a Board member at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. The individual must also specify the topic of discussion at that time. The addition of the agenda item shall be at the discretion of the Board.
2. Meetings will be presided over by the President. In his/her absence, the Vice President will assume the duties.
3. Special meetings may be recommended by any board member with a majority vote of all members of the Board. The vote shall be recorded in the minutes of this special meeting.
4. In all matters not covered by the Bylaws of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program, a special meeting can be called to consider said matter. The Board then can call a majority vote to add or change such matters if necessary for the functioning of the Program prior to the new year for amending.
5. Two-thirds of members of the board shall be considered a quorum and must be present to conduct a vote.

6. Voting:
 - a. Voting shall be restricted to members of the Board.
 - b. Each person, meeting the above requirements for voting rights, has one (1) vote.
 - c. In the event of a matter that needs immediate board approval, group message voting will be used to vote.
 - d. Unless detailed otherwise, Board motions shall be approved by a majority vote at a meeting where a quorum of Board members are present.
 - e. Special voting can take place on group message for minor daily occurrences as the season progresses by a majority vote.
 - f. Any presenter of motion/idea for vote will not vote.

Article V- Duties of Officers

1. The President shall:
 - a. Administrate the Board
 - b. Conduct all meetings according to the Bylaws of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program
 - c. Act as league representative to the appropriate governing league.
 - d. Bring to the league all necessary correspondence.
 - e. Act in the capacity of spokesperson between Greenwood Pittbull Football and Cheer and the league if needed.
 - f. File and have on hand at all times original registrations and rule forms with the parent signatures and provide a copy to each head coach.
 - g. Complete background checks of all coaches.
2. The Vice President shall:
 - a. Administrate the Board in the absence of the President.
 - b. Prepare all paperwork and submit to the league in the absence of the President.
 - c. Act in the capacity as a league representative to the appropriate governing league in the absence of the President.
 - d. In the absence of the President and/or the person designated by the Board, attend all league meetings and report back information to the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Board.
 - e. Assist the President in bringing all necessary correspondence to the league.
 - f. Assist the President in the capacity of spokesperson between Football and Cheer and the league.
 - g. Assist the President in the execution of his/her duties and in the Presidents absence, perform the duties of the President.
3. The Secretary shall:
 - a. Record and maintain all minutes of each meeting and e-mail copies of minutes to all board members on request.
 - b. Minutes are to be recorded within one week following the meeting.
 - c. Make all Board members aware of the meetings by group message prior to the meeting.
 - d. Collect and maintain contact information to include addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, participant and parent names and emergency contact for the coaches.
 - e. Be custodian of the official records and minutes.

4. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. Be responsible for the timely depositing and distribution of all funds.
 - b. Maintain an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures.
 - c. Submit an annual statement at the first meeting each year.
 - d. Preparation and filing of all organization tax documents.
 - e. Be responsible for transitioning all books and records to the incoming Treasurer.

5. The Event, Fundraising, Media and Volunteer Coordinators will assist all Board members and each other in the planning and execution of all events and all matters associated with Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program until further defined.

Article VI – Committees

The Board of Directors of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program will appoint all committees and committee chairpersons as deemed necessary. The Board of Directors of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program may dissolve any such committee, or remove its chairperson, at any time.

Article VII - Team Organization

1. The Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program may consist of at least one squad per color of football team per grade. Each squad has a number of participants determined by the Board of Directors and dependent on number of registrants. Each squad is grade based and not age based. Cheerleaders must cheer for their respective grade.

2. The team colors may consist of navy, gray and white, or other colors designated by the Board of Directors.

Article VIII- Boys and Girls participation

1. Qualifications for cheerleaders will comply with the league/conference in which the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer participates.
2. Any cheerleader not complying with the qualifications, rules, or guidelines will be susceptible to removal from the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program.
3. Any cheerleader found to be in violation of the participant contract may be removed from the program upon a finding by the board.

Article IX- Coaching Staff

1. Coaching privileges will be extended by invitation. All those interested in coaching cheerleading will be required to complete a background check and potentially participate in an interview process.
2. Applicants should be able to demonstrate the ability of properly coaching youth and promoting the growth and development of participants. Some knowledge is required of cheerleading or tumbling respectfully to ensure the safety of the participants.
3. The minimum number of coaches to be present at each cheerleading practice or game shall be two (2) adults. If a coach is not available, then the Team Mom or Student Coach may fill the secondary position with prior notification to the Board.
4. Final approval of coaching volunteers will be a Board decision.
5. Coaches must demonstrate a positive attitude when dealing with their players,

- parents, and fellow coaches. Sportsmanship must be demonstrated at all times.
6. All coaches have weekly practice and announce the schedule to the team as soon as possible and are responsible for submitting fundraisers to the Board in a timely manner for approval.
 7. All coaches and team moms must be "Coach Safely/USA Football" certified and filed with the Board by July 1st each year of eligibility.
 8. Violation of the Coaches Code of Conduct is grounds for suspension and/or termination from coaching privileges, which will be determined by the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer board.
 9. If a coach's conduct or performance is deemed inappropriate or unbecoming, a coach may be asked to leave a practice, game, or event by a Board member(s). This matter will be brought before the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting or a special Board meeting to address the matter.
 10. If a coaches' conduct or performance is deemed detrimental to Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program, he/she may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board present at the special meeting when said ability or performance is brought to question. This special meeting must be held before the next event the coach would be expected at and a minimum of 3 board members and coach(es) must attend. Failure by a coach to attend the special meeting will be grounds for immediate removal.
 11. Coaches meetings are mandatory each year and required attendance by at least one (1) of the two (2) coaches per squad. If a squad has no representation without prior Board approval, then that squad is subject to any changes the Board deems necessary.

Article X- Rules of the Program

1. If the boys play, we cheer!!!
2. Any weather-related issues will be handled with the coach as needed.
3. No sideline music is allowed at any venue.
4. No artificial noise makers will be allowed at any venue.
5. No one allowed on the track/field except coaches and cheerleaders. Unless team moms fill in as coach for that game.
6. Tents are not allowed on the track/field area. They can be outside the fence or at the top of the bleachers.
7. NO COOLERS allowed unless it is the team water cooler.
8. No game passes of any kind are allowed.
9. High school free entry is only allowed with the designated shirt being worn by the cheerleader at entry. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!
10. Uniforms are not allowed to be worn at school per Greenwood Schools.
11. All orders must be ordered through Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program.

Article XI- Registration

1. The Board, at the February meeting, shall determine the registration fee for the upcoming season's registration.
2. The Board sets the dates of registration.
3. All registration forms must be filled out completely with payment in full and any documents required by the Board or league, before a child will be able to participate in any function with the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program, including but not limited to practice, games or events.
4. Any cheerleader who leaves/quits the program prior to completion of the season will not be entitled to a refund. It is the discretion of the President and or Board to allow

- the return of any cheerleader to any squad.
5. There will be no refunds of registration fees at any time.
 6. The board will consider financial assistance for participants in part or full based on a review of individual's hardship and/or need. Any child whose parent cannot meet part/or all the fees may be considered for assistance. Payment plans can be arranged upon request and any monetary assistance is dependent on availability.

Article XII- Uniforms and Practice Wear

1. Uniforms are decided by the Board and are mandatory to participate in Greenwood Pittbulls Cheer Program.
2. Uniforms are considered anything that is worn on the sideline at the games and the entire team must match unless a special occasion happens during season which could be but not limited to Holidays or Events.
3. Any part of the uniform that is not the regular uniform will be a majority vote of the team. These items could be but not limited to, Breast cancer awareness items/colors, Halloween costumes or other specialty items.
4. Practice wear is mandatory for the safety of the cheerleaders and is a Board decision. Practice wear is a tshirt, athletic shorts, tennis shoes/cheer shoes, no jewelry and hair must be pulled back.

Article XIII - Playing Schedule and Tournaments/Playoffs

1. The league in which the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program participates will regulate the schedule of regular season games and post-season games.
2. All open dates and post-season (other than playoff and championship) games shall be at the discretion of the Board.

Article XIV- Financial Policy

1. The Board shall be responsible for the funds of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program.
2. It shall be the Board policy to place all funds in a checking account for payment of program debts.
3. All contributions and/or solicitations shall be for the sole benefit of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program as a whole. The Board will direct all solicitation of funds specifically for each event. All funds are to be presented and accounted for to the Board/Treasurer at the completion of each event. Failure to account for and present all funds to the Board/Treasurer could result in criminal charges.
7. No part of the funds or assets of Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program shall be distributed to its members or board except as in accordance with Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program bylaws.
8. There shall be no fundraising for a specific purpose or event without prior approval of a majority vote of the board. Any unauthorized fundraising will be brought before the board and may result in disciplinary action from the Board.

Article XV- Amending the Bylaws

The Bylaws will be proposed and reviewed annually and voted on by the first meeting. The Bylaws may be amended or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote of a quorum of Board members. Notice of the changes must be updated by the opening of Registration each year.

Article XVI – Grievance Procedures

Please reference Appendix A for grievance procedures.

Article XVII- Greenwood Pittbull Cheer falls under the umbrella of Greenwood Pittbulls Football and anyone associated with Cheer will abide by their rules and guidelines in addition to ours at any time.

***ANYONE THAT DOES NOT WISH TO ABIDE BY THESE RULES AND GUIDELINES CHEER AT THEIR OWN RISK AND CANNOT FIND FAULT WITH GREENWOOD PITTBULL CHEER OR ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH OUR PROGRAM AND CAN BE DISMISSED FROM THE PROGRAM.**

Appendix

Appendix A

Code of Conduct

Permission Form

Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures

Rules

GREENWOOD PITTBULL CHEER

"Scholars – Athletes - Champions"

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer program is a privilege and not a right. Greenwood Pittbull Cheer has an expectation of good sportsmanship and citizenship. All coaches, players, and parents are required to sign a contract regarding his/her conduct during the season and admission of receiving all by laws and rules. Please carefully read and sign the following:

Parent Contract

I agree to support the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program and its representatives with the overriding goal of teaching good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-discipline to the children of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program. I will refrain from engaging in any behavior in person or on social media that is not in the best interest of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer program. Such behavior includes but is not limited to:

- a) Instructing/criticizing players or coaches on or off the field.
- b) Using loud, derogatory, obscene, foul or threatening language
- c) Acting in any threatening, intimidating, or abusive manner.
- d) I will refrain from arguing with referees, program parents and fans, opposing players, opposing coaches, and opposing parents and fans.
- e) I will refrain from using any alcohol or drugs at any Greenwood Pittbull Cheer event.
- f) I will respect all facilities and equipment made available so my child may practice and attend games or events.
- g) I understand that not following these rules, or displaying disrespectful behavior, can result in my being asked to leave the practice, game, or event and/or not be allowed to attend future practices, games, or program events. Such disciplinary actions may be taken by the Board or a designated board member.
- h) 1st offense of removal from any practice, game or event: your child will be asked to go with you but then can return to regularly scheduled events that week.
- i) 2nd offense same as above but child will not be allowed to participate in any activity.
- j) 3rd offense: offender will be asked to not return to any program event for the remainder of the year, in addition to the possibility of the child not being allowed to return at the Boards discretion.

*This contract covers anyone that attends any practice, game or event with or for the registered cheerleader. Including but not limited to any relative, friend or other guest.

I have carefully read the above and agree.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

Greenwood Pittbull Cheer does not limit participation in its activities on the basis race, color, creed, national origin, gender or religious preference.

GREENWOOD PITTBULL CHEER

“Scholars – Athletes - Champions”

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program is a privilege and not a right. Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program has an expectation of good sportsmanship. As part of this effort, we require all coaches and parents/guardians to sign a contract regarding their conduct during the season. Please carefully read and sign the following:

As a coach of a Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program, I understand the position of trust and responsibility that I have accepted. I understand that my actions must be above reproach. I agree to the following:

1. I will behave as a positive role model for all program participants.
2. I will encourage my players at every opportunity and refrain from using negative coaching tactics.
3. I will address all referees, program parents and fans, opposing players, opposing coaches, and opposing parents and fans in a respectful manner as a representative of Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program.
4. I will encourage players to develop good sportsmanship, teamwork and self-discipline whether the team wins or loses.
5. I will know and play by the rules of our League.
6. I will read and support the parent's conduct contract.
7. I will instill in all players a desire to improve as athletes of the program.
8. I will provide an opportunity for all players to participate in accordance with program and league requirements.
9. I will communicate with the parents of my players to help them understand the philosophy of Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program and my team in particular, and to gain their cooperation in dealing with any behavioral problems that arise.
10. I will refrain from arguing or criticizing any other coach in the presence of any player or parent.

I understand that any disrespectful or unsportsmanlike behavior on my part, or my (in any way) demonstrating conduct/behavior deemed to be unfitting of my position can lead to my suspension or removal from my coaching duties. I understand that in these circumstances, the Board, or designated board member may take any action that they feel is justified.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coach Name

Greenwood Pittbull Cheer does not limit participation in its activities on the basis race, color, creed, national origin, gender or religious preference.

Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program

“Scholars – Athletes - Champions”

DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

I. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

All participants in Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program including players/cheerleaders, coaches, and parents are required to sign Code of Conduct documents. Each such document states that the program’s Board or designated Board Member has the right to take any disciplinary action that they feel is justified if the player/cheerleader, coach, or parent behaves in a disrespectful or unsportsmanlike manner, or in any manner that is contrary to the best interests of Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program.

Such discipline may include suspension or removal from a team of players/cheerleaders or coaches. Discipline of parents may include the removal from a program event of a parent with the possibility of the barring of such parent from all future program events including, but not limited to, practices, games, other competitions and other program events.

Depending upon the severity of the breach of conduct, notification of disciplinary actions may be verbal or written. Documentation of all disciplinary action shall be maintained in the program’s records.

Please note that Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program understands that other fans (family members, friends, etc.) may also attend program events. Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program reserves the right to ask any spectator that behaves in an unacceptable manner to leave an event and may ask that such spectator does not attend any future program events.

II. GRIEVANCES

If a parent or coach has an issue with another parent or coach, Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program expects the individuals to:

1. **Walk away for 24 hours.** This is in hopes that all involved parties can calm down enough to attempt to resolve the situation with a calm and respectful conversation. (If an issue exists between players/cheerleaders, the parents of the players/cheerleaders and coaches should attempt to resolve the situation with calm and respectful conversation. **In no case should a parent discuss an issue directly with a player/cheerleader that is not their child.**)
2. Request a meeting with your coach and attempt a calm and respectful conversation.
3. If the issue is still not resolved, the aggrieved individual may contact the Board to request assistance with resolution of the issue. Any such grievance shall be filed in writing and shall include a clear description of the issue or issues. The Board member will contact the rest of the Board and after discussing the situation the Board will appoint someone to contact relevant parties and attempt to resolve the issue. The Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Board expects grievances to be filed only in the most extreme circumstances.
4. After meeting with all relevant parties, the Board shall render a decision as quickly as possible on the grievance. In all cases, the decision of the Board is final.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program

"Scholars - Athletes - Champions"

RULES and PERMISSIONS

_____ has my permission to participate in the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program. I realize that this activity involves the potential for injuries, and I/we WILL NOT hold liable any member, coach, representative, or sponsor of the Greenwood Pittbull Cheer Program. I give my permission for medical attention to be given to my child in case of emergency situations.

As a parent/guardian I am aware of my child's commitment and responsibilities as a Pittbull Cheerleader. I am aware of the time involved and I agree to the following:

- My child will attend all practices/games/events designated by my coach/team and will be on time. I understand that consistently missing practice/games can lead to not performing at half time.
- My child will be in proper practice attire or complete uniform designated by my coach/team at their respective times.
- Transportation and Promptness is my responsibility for my child for any practice/game/event OR the arrangements for them PRIOR to said event.
- I understand that my child is my responsibility, and a responsible adult will accompany them at all times unless otherwise noted by your coach. (ex. Closed practice)
- I understand that in addition to the required items to cheer, uniform, bow, poms, bloomers, no show socks, & white tennis shoes, my child may be asked to purchase other items. These items may include but not limited to, bag/backpack, pink gear/ Halloween costume, custom bow, megaphone, etc.
- Practice wear must be school appropriate and consist of t-shirt, sports bra, shorts, socks and tennis shoes. Hair must be pulled away from the face. NO JEWELRY!
- My child's uniform must be clean and free from rips, tears and stains. No jewelry other than stud earrings are allowed! No fake fingernails or colored nail polish/hair will be allowed.
- I understand that fundraising or sponsorships could be asked of my child or team to provide for extra materials that may be needed or wanted as the season progresses.
- I understand my team could participate in other events that are not affiliated with Pittbulls. These events will need prior approval from the Board and will be a team decision. These events could be but not limited to parades, tailgates, fundraisers, clinics, /and performances.
- If my child is late or going to miss entirely, I understand it is my responsibility to notify the coach(es) immediately regardless of the reason of absence or tardiness. I also understand that if this is a consistent issue that it could result in the disciplinary action of, but not limited to, not performing at halftime for 1 game or until material is learned, not performing at all for 1 game or until material is learned, removal from the team.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____