

PLEASE READ AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS.

**Port Townsend High School
CHEERLEADING INHERENT RISK FORM**

Port Townsend High School strives to protect each student from possible injury while engaging in school activities. The guidelines and/or practices identified below have been established for this activity in order to protect the student and others from injury and/or illness. Participants and their parents should recognize that conditioning, nutrition, proper techniques, safety procedures, and well-fitting equipment are important aspects of this training program. Each participant is expected to follow the directions/standards of the coach and must understand that failure to follow such directions or adhere to standards may place the participant at risk.

Travel to and from off-campus facilities shall be in accordance with the directions of the activity coach.

Guidelines are as follows:

1. Make certain that you wear all equipment that is issued by the coach. Advise the coach of any poor-fitted or defective equipment
2. Advise the coach if you are ill or have any prolonged symptoms of illness.
3. Advise the coach if you have been injured.
4. Engage in warm-up activities prior to strenuous participation.
5. Be alert for any physical hazards in the locker room or in or around the participation area. Advise coach of any hazard.
6. Practice stunts prior to the event that you will perform in. Stunts can be very dangerous if not spotted correctly.
7. Lead cheers at the appropriate time so you will be aware of ball and players' positioning to prevent possible injury.
8. Be aware of supervisory staff of both teams and where they can be located so they may be contacted in case of an emergency or an undesirable crowd control situation.

I am aware that cheerleading is a **HIGH-RISK SPORT** and that practicing or competing in cheerleading will be a dangerous activity involving **MANY RISKS OF INJURY**. I understand that the dangers and risks of practicing and competing in cheerleading include, but are not limited to, death, serious neck and spinal injuries which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, blindness, serious injury to virtually all internal organs, serious injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligament, muscles, tendons and other aspects of my body, general health and well-being. I understand that the dangers and risk of practicing or competing in cheerleading may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of my future abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational activities and generally to enjoy life.

We agree that neither the school district or the staff of the school district, nor the student organization of the school district shall in any way be held liable for any accident or injury in anyway received on account of or while engaged in any athletic activity sponsored by the district. We further agree that neither the district nor any of the staff or student organizations shall be responsible for the payment of any bills rendered for medical services as a result of such accidents or injuries. We also acknowledge that it is our responsibility to provide for any medical, disability or other insurance to mitigate any costs that may be unfortunately incurred as a result of participation in this activity.