

Model City Millionaires Youth Football and Cheer Policies and Procedures

The Model City Millionaires Youth Football and Cheer organization is dedicated to promoting the growth and development of youth athletes in a supportive, structured, and safe environment. Our goal is to develop not only athletic skills but also life skills such as discipline, teamwork, and leadership. These policies and procedures are designed to ensure a positive experience for all participants, coaches, volunteers, and families.

1. Mission Statement

Our mission is to empower young athletes by fostering a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment where they can develop their physical, mental, and social skills through the disciplines of football and cheer. We are committed to promoting teamwork, sportsmanship, and community engagement while instilling a lifelong passion for health, fitness, and personal excellence.

2. Eligibility and Registration

- **Age Requirements:** Players and cheerleaders must meet the age requirements as outlined by the league or governing body. Proof of age (national or state identification) will be required.
- **Registration:** All players and cheerleaders must complete a registration form, submit necessary documents (birth certificate, identification, etc.), and pay applicable fees.

3. Code of Conduct

The success of our program depends on creating a respectful, safe, and positive environment for athletes, coaches, volunteers, and parents or guardians. The following standards of conduct must be adhered to by all involved:

Athletes:

- Show respect to coaches, teammates, referees, and opponents.
- Display good sportsmanship at all times.
- Refrain from using foul language, engaging in physical altercations, or disrespecting coaches, teammates, volunteers, parents, guardians, opponents, etc.

Coaches:

- Lead by example with positive behavior, sportsmanship, and discipline.
- Provide equal opportunity for all athletes.
- Focus on the development of athletes' skills and character.

Parents/Guardians/Volunteers:

- Support the players and coaches in a positive and constructive manner.
- Maintain respect for the coaching staff, referees, other parents, opponents, etc.
- Refrain from yelling at or criticizing players, coaches, or officials during practices and games.

Disciplinary Actions:

- Violations of the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action, including warnings, suspension from games, or removal from the team.

4. Practice and Game Attendance

- **Attendance Policy:** Players and cheerleaders are expected to attend all scheduled practices and games. Attendance at a certain number of practices may be required to participate in games. If a player or cheerleader is unable to attend practice or a game,

parents should notify the coach as early as possible.

- **Punctuality:** Athletes should arrive on time for all scheduled practices and games. Excessive tardiness or absences may result in a reduction of playing time or cheerleading performance opportunities.

5. Equipment

All participants must wear appropriate footwear, athletic gear, and protective equipment such as mouthguards and pads to ensure safety during practices and games.

- **Football Players:**
Players are required to purchase their own personal equipment, including but not limited to:
 - Helmet (must meet safety standards)
 - Shoulder pads
 - Mouthpiece
 - Footwear (football cleats are recommended for proper grip and safety)
 - Athletic gear (jockstrap, compression shorts, etc.)
 - Pads (thigh pads, knee pads, etc.)
 - Additional safety equipment (e.g., chinstrap, gloves) may be recommended by coaches based on position.
- **Cheerleaders:**
Cheerleaders are responsible for purchasing the following personal items:
 - Footwear (cheerleading shoes)
 - Appropriate athletic wear (for practices and events)
 - Safety gear (e.g., knee pads, wrist guards if necessary)
 - Other necessary gear as determined by the coach or program.

6. Safety and Health

- **Concussion Protocol:** All participants must comply with concussion safety protocols. In the event of a suspected concussion, the player will be removed from activity and may only return once cleared by a medical professional.
- **Injury Reporting:** Any injury, no matter how minor, must be reported to the coach immediately. An injury report will be filed, and parents will be notified.
- **First Aid:** Coaches and team parents must have basic first aid knowledge, and a first aid kit should be available at all practices and games.
- **Weather Safety:**
Practice and games will be canceled or rescheduled if conditions (e.g., lightning, extreme heat, etc.) are deemed unsafe.

7. Volunteers

- **Volunteer Requirements:** Volunteers assisting with practices, games, and events must be registered, trained, and must comply with the organization's code of conduct.

8. Parent and Guardian Responsibilities

- **Supportive Environment:** Parents and guardians should maintain a positive attitude and provide encouragement for all participants. Negative behavior, including yelling at players, coaches, or other parents or guardians will not be tolerated.
- **Transportation:** Parents are responsible for transporting their child(ren) to and from practices, games, and events unless otherwise arranged.

Communication: Parents should communicate any concerns or issues with the coach directly

and respectfully. Any concerns regarding the program should first be addressed with the coach, and if needed, elevated to the Board.

9. Financial Policies

- **Registration Fees:** All fees must be paid in full by the deadline specified by the organization. Financial assistance or payment plans may be available upon request.
- **Fundraising:** The organization may host fundraising events throughout the year. Participation in fundraising is encouraged but not mandatory.
- **Refunds:**
Refunds will be issued only under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the board of directors.

10. Conflict Resolution

- **Conflict Process:** Any concerns or conflicts should first be addressed by scheduling a meeting with the coach. If unresolved, a meeting with the board of directors can be arranged.
- **Respectful Dialogue:** All parties involved in conflicts must approach the situation with respect and a willingness to resolve the issue amicably.

11. Seasonal Activities and Events

- **End-of-Season Awards:** At the end of each season, the organization may host an awards ceremony to recognize individual and team achievements.
- **Team Bonding and Social Events:** Additional social events such as picnics, team dinners, or community service activities may be organized throughout the season.

12. Communication

- **Team Communications:** Coaches and team coordinators will use email, text messaging, and/or social media groups to communicate game schedules, changes, and important updates.
- **Organization Communications:** The organization will send out newsletters or official communications with updates, event information, and key announcements.

13. Termination and Dismissal

- **Voluntary Withdrawal:** If a participant chooses to leave the team mid-season, they must inform the coach and complete any necessary paperwork. Registration fees will not be refunded.
- **Dismissal:** A participant may be dismissed from the program for failure to follow the code of conduct, consistent poor attendance, or other behaviors deemed detrimental to the team.

14. Amendments to Policies

- **Policy Changes:** These policies and procedures may be updated or amended by the board of directors. All participants and parents will be notified of any changes.