

# Clifton High School / Clifton Middle School Cheerleader / Mascot - Handbook 2024-2025

## **Cheerleading Principles**

Membership on a cheerleading squad offers a unique opportunity for personal growth, leadership, and involvement in diverse activities. The attitude, dedication, and enthusiasm of the squad members are just as important as the skills involved in cheerleading. Members of the cheerleading squad must be committed to the highest level of athleticism, performance, self-discipline, respect for the school and others, personal exemplary conduct and the performance of all responsibilities related to the pursuit of school spirit and pride. Furthermore, cheerleaders must demonstrate a proven ability to balance academic requirements and demands with extracurricular and personal activities.

## Tryout Qualifications

The cheerleader/mascot candidate must have:

- 70 overall average of 1<sup>st</sup> semester academic courses (ie. Math, English, Social Studies, Science)
- No lower than a grade of 70 in any enrolled course during the current semester – grades for eligibility will be checked on **Tuesday, February 21**
- **Must meet the 90% attendance requirement for 1st semester of the current school year**
- Be enrolled in CISD before the mandatory parent meeting.
- Have no more than 2 discipline referrals during the current school year.
- Have no AEP placements during the current school year.
- Be clear of any school fines (library fines, textbook fines, etc.)

All mandatory meetings and practices must be attended, unless special arrangements are made *prior* to the meeting/practice with the sponsor.

## **Tryouts**

All candidates will learn 1 cheer, 1 sideline and a dance. The cheers and dance will be new to all of the candidates. At the HS and MS level, the 12<sup>th</sup> grade cheerleaders or outside sources will teach the cheers and dance at the practices prior to tryouts.

The dance and sideline will be performed in small groups. The cheer will be performed individually.

All candidates will wear black shorts and a solid white t-shirt, white socks and athletic shoes (white is preferred). Cheer shoes are allowed. Hair is to be pulled away from the face in a ponytail if shoulder length or longer, or worn half up if shorter. Ribbons/Bows are allowed. No jewelry is to be worn. Fingernails should be short and neat. If nail polish is worn, it should be neutral and non distracting.

## **Judging of Candidates**

**CHEERLEADER** - The individual cheer, group cheer, jumps, and dance will be performed for judges only, which usually consist of UCA cheerleaders and/or outside of district cheer sponsors. The judges will evaluate the candidates on spirit, gymnastic skills, jumps, communication skills (voice, facial, confidence, and enthusiasm), motion technique, and their ability to cheer with a group of 2 or more candidates. The judges' score added together will compose 70% of the total score.

Teacher Evaluations will be given to all teachers who have taught the candidate during the current school year. The candidate will be evaluated on ability to get along with others, attitude, cooperation and respect of authority, attendance and punctuality, and dependability. The teacher evaluation scores will be totaled and averaged. This score will compose 30% of the total score.

Squad Determination for the 2024-2025 school year.

**\*Clifton High School Varsity Squad**

Any person going out for Varsity who makes the score of 65 or greater is eligible for the squad. There is no maximum number of cheerleaders but there must be at least 8 cheerleaders.

**\*\*Clifton Middle School Squad**

After all scores are tabulated, the candidates with the highest score, will be selected as cheerleaders for the 2024-2025 school year. There will be 12 Middle School Cheerleaders.

**MASCOT** – Each mascot candidate will perform individually (in mascot uniform) a skit of 3 minutes or less for judges only, which usually consist of UCA cheerleaders and/or outside of district cheer sponsors. The candidate will be scored on crowd appeal (entertainment, crowd involvement), originality and creativity, and body movement (use of entire body, exaggerated movements, walk, personality). No obscene gestures or lewd behavior will be tolerated. The judges' score will compose 70% of the total score.

The mascot will also learn a group cheer and chant to be performed at tryouts.

Teacher Evaluations will be given to all teachers who have taught the candidate during the current school year. The candidate will be evaluated on ability to get along with others, attitude, cooperation and respect of authority, attendance and punctuality, and dependability. The teacher evaluation scores will be totaled and averaged. This score will compose 30% of the total score.

One mascot will be selected for Varsity for the 2024-2025 school year. Therefore, the candidate with the highest scores will be selected. One candidate will be selected as the Middle School mascot. Therefore, the candidate with the highest scores will be selected.

**Mascot Uniform:**

The bear costume used by the mascot is provided by the school. All cleaning of the costume throughout the school year will be the responsibility of the mascot parent or guardian. The mascot is responsible for bringing the mascot suit and props to events.

**Announcement of Tryout Results**

The announcement of the results will be posted at the front doors of the high school following judges' tryouts. Time for results will be announced following the judges' tryouts. Results will be posted by candidate number in chronological order. No names will be listed.

## **Rules and Regulations**

Cheerleaders/Mascot must understand that teamwork and the maintenance of discipline is the key to the success of the spirit program. Cheerleaders/Mascot are to be dedicated to promoting spirit, enthusiasm, and display a positive winning attitude through example. Adherence to the Rules and Regulations is vital to achieving these goals. All members must realize that the manner in which they conduct themselves, in or out of uniform, directly reflects on the entire team and school.

It is recognized that these rules and regulations are necessary to maintain team morale, team and individual discipline, and effective learning. Consistent enforcement of rules and regulations is also necessary to ensure the safety and general well being of each individual cheerleader. Participation in cheerleading is voluntary, not mandatory. It is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked by the school principal or cheer coach/sponsor when a cheerleader violates the rules and regulations.

### **Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC)**

See attachment at the end of the handbook. NOTE: Cheer activities considered “allowable performances/competitions” include pep rallies, games, competitions, spirit week, etc. and are subject to the consequences of ECC violations. Cheer camp and cheer practices are NOT included.

### **Grades**

All team members will be governed by UIL eligibility rules regarding grades. A minimum average of a 70 must be maintained in each class. No failing grades will be permitted in any class. Once a member has been declared ineligible because of grades, he/she may not be reinstated until the last day of the three weeks at 4:00pm.

### **Physical Fitness**

Each team member must realize that a position on the squad will require him/her to make an effort to represent his/her school the best way and will be physically demanding. Each member must realize that a position on the squad requires stretching of many muscles and aerobic exercises. Stretching will be required before every practice or game. All cheer squad members and mascot(s) must have a physical on file with the cheer coach. Cheer team members in athletics can provide a copy of the current physical on file.

### **Conduct**

By being part of the cheerleading squad, you are accepting the fact that your actions are more prominent than those not associated with such an activity. Because of this, exemplary behavior is mandatory at all times, anywhere in the community and at all school functions where you are recognized as a representative of Clifton High School / Clifton Middle School.

- Promoting good sportsmanship by way of example is required at all times. Members must not use foul language at practices, in school, at games, camp, etc.
- Excessive public displays of affection are never considered appropriate, especially in uniform, at games, school events, or in school.
- Cheerleaders/mascot are required to be in accordance with the school dress code, when not in uniform, any time they are participating in or attending an event for Clifton High School / Clifton Middle School.
- Members must cooperate with school administration, all faculty members, game officials, coaches, sponsors, and squad members. Cheerleaders/mascot must display proper behavior in class.

## Unacceptable and Inappropriate Use of Technology Resources

First and foremost, students are encouraged to always exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communications, both within the Clifton community and beyond.

Students who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect on the entire Clifton High School/Clifton Middle School community and, as such, are subject to the same behavioral standards set forth in the athletic code, student behavior expectations, student drug and alcohol policy, and the CHS student handbook.

Students are expected to abide by the following:

- To protect the privacy of Clifton students and faculty, students may not, under any circumstances, create digital video recordings of Clifton community members either on campus or at off-campus Clifton events for online publication or distribution unless you have the consent of those in the school administration for on campus items as well as consent of those in the digital recording.
- Students may not use social media sites to publish disparaging or harassing remarks about Clifton community members, fellow teammates, the coaching staff, faculty, staff, school administrators and athletic or academic contest rivals.
- Students who choose to post editorial content to websites or other forms of online media must ensure that their submission does not reflect poorly upon the school.
- Students may not post inappropriate pictures of themselves or teammates while in uniform, at any school/community function or event, or on any school property.

Failure to abide by this Policy, may result in removal from the team.

Because engaging in this type of behavior can lead to bullying or harassment, as well as possibly impede future endeavors of a student, we encourage you to review with your child <http://beforeyoutext.com>, a state-developed program that addresses the consequences of engaging in inappropriate behavior using technology.

## Attendance

Illness or physical injury that results in a cheerleader/mascot missing practice/game requires a message through Talking Points to the cheer coach/sponsor before the scheduled practice/game.

Absences must be excused by a note from a doctor if you had an appointment or a call from your parent if you are sick. If the illness/injury is severe enough to warrant extended leave from participation, a doctor's note should specify such. A doctor's release will be required when returning to practice after a severe illness/injury.

Missing a scheduled practice prior to a game/pep rally may result in the individual not performing at the game/pep rally, whether excused or unexcused.

Attendance is MANDATORY for all cheer practices the week prior to attending camp. Any absence from these practices (excused or unexcused) will result in one demerit per absence.

There will be MANDATORY practices scheduled at times during school holidays. Missing any of these mandatory practices will result in one demerit per absence. A calendar of scheduled practices will be given when that season's sports calendars are made available.

Any absence from school on the day of a cheer event (other than routine dental/doctor appointments) will result in the squad member not cheering at that event.

Absences due to work schedules are UNEXCUSED. Jobs must work around the cheerleading squad schedule.

The only valid (legitimate) excuse for missing a game/practice is illness/injury or a death/serious illness in the family. After school jobs, babysitting, transportation, and excessive homework are not considered valid excuses for absences. Other absences relating to family obligations must be pre-approved by the cheer coach/sponsor.

Missing practices that have valid excuses can still lead to being removed from a routine position or stunt, due to not physically being available for practice.

Even if the cheerleader/mascot is ill or has an injury, they should (if possible) try to attend practice and watch from the sidelines. If the illness is contagious, please stay home.

**A consequence will be issued for each excused absence. A demerit will be issued for each unexcused absence. See discipline and demerit sections below.**

## **Transportation**

Transportation will be provided by the school to all away games and any other cheerleading related activities.

Cheerleaders and mascot will ride to all cheer events with the squad. Cheerleaders and mascot may be signed out by a parent/legal guardian after the cheer event. Exceptions for leaving with someone other than a parent or legal guardian may be granted with a 24-hour written notice from the parent/ legal guardian. Failure to sign out with the cheer sponsor after the cheer event will result in disciplinary action.

## **Discipline**

CHS/CMS Student Handbook and Athletic Policy discipline will pertain to all squad members as well as the following:

Consequences (10 toe touches or running lines) will be completed at the end of practice or when specified by the sponsor. Accumulation of 3 consequences and/or failure to complete consequences will result in a demerit.

### **Consequences may be given for infractions of the following rules:**

- Excused absence from practice, workday, special event or game
- Fingernails are to be kept short for safety purposes and polish is to be neutral.
- No jewelry is to be worn during practice, pep rallies, and games. This includes belly rings or any other body piercing. This remains in effect when the squad is not in stunt formations.
- During the School Song, every cheerleader/mascot should stand still and sing the song (you must know the words).
- Each cheerleader/mascot will be allowed to take care of personal duties during half time. Every squad member will return to the field at 3 minutes on the clock during football season;
- Every squad member is required to be on time to all practices, games, or any other scheduled event. Tardiness will not be accepted. 1 toe touch will be assigned for each minute that you are late.
- Cell phones must be put away at practices or games.
- Each cheerleader/mascot is required to participate in all group fundraising activities.
- Each cheerleader/mascot must wear specified spirit wear to school on game days and specified uniform at the pep rally and the game. The uniform cannot be worn during classtime.

- Language of each squad member is to be polite and respectful at all times
- Social media posts, likes, or comments must reflect positively on all cheer members, our cheer program, and our school. Whether you are in uniform or not, YOU are a representative of Clifton ISD!
- No constant negative comments are to be made at any cheer function, practice, game, etc. towards other squad members or cheer coach/sponsor.
- Each squad member is expected to respect each other, the sponsor and administration. No verbal griping about responsibilities or suggestions of fellow team members, administration or sponsor will not be tolerated

**Demerits**

A demerit will be given for the accumulation of 3 consequences and/or failure to complete consequences. Demerits will be given automatically for the following:

- Unexcused absence from practice, workday, special event or game
- Inappropriate behavior at school or any school sponsored activity as deemed by the administration or sponsor.
- Social Media infractions
- MIP (minor in possession) alcohol, drugs or tobacco citation issued
- AEP placement, which may result in automatic removal from the squad

**1<sup>st</sup> Demerit** - cheerleader/mascot will sit out, in uniform, at the next pep rally. Cheerleader/mascot must attend and sit with the cheer coach/sponsor. During basketball season, the cheerleader/mascot will sit out of the next game, in uniform. The cheerleader/mascot must attend and sit with the cheer coach/sponsor.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Demerit** – cheerleader/mascot will not dress out, sit out of the next pep rally and game. Cheerleader/mascot must attend and sit with the cheer coach/sponsor. During basketball, the cheerleader/mascot will not dress out and sit out of the next game. The cheerleader/mascot must attend and sit with the cheer coach/sponsor.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Demerit** – all previous punishments are repeated, AND the cheerleader/mascot may be temporarily or permanently suspended from the squad, at the discretion of the principal and/or cheer coach/sponsor.

**Demerits are cumulative for the school year.** If a cheerleader/mascot receives 3 demerits or is removed from the squad by the principal/sponsor, **they will be ineligible to try out the following year.**

**Responsibilities of the Cheerleader/Mascot**

After being selected to the 2024-2025 squad, high school responsibilities begin after graduation and continue until the final baseball/softball game of the season. Middle school responsibilities begin and end with the tryout selection. Handbook guidelines for 2024-2025 teams go into effect at the announcement of the new cheer squads. consequences and/or demerits may be issued for violations that occur prior to the following school year and/or during the summer break. Responsibilities and consequences shall remain in effect for current high school squad members until the final baseball/softball game of the season.

If a cheerleader/mascot quits during the school year or is removed by the principal and/or coach/sponsor, he/she will be ineligible to try out the following year. No monetary refunds will be issued.

**Payment Schedule:**

All cheer members and mascot(s) are required to have all fees paid in full on or before **FRIDAY, MAY 19<sup>th</sup>**.  
**\*\*\*\*\* NO EXCEPTIONS**

**Payment Dates: (payments/pay-in-full can be made at anytime before the final due date)**

**Tuesday, March 5th** 1<sup>st</sup> installment due of \$250.00

**Friday, April 19th** 2<sup>nd</sup> Installment

**Friday, May 17th** Balance in full is due

**Fittings for uniforms will be Tuesday, March 5th. Once your student is fitted for their uniform, you will be given a total for the amount due.**

Amounts will vary due to items being purchased by individuals. All payments must be made payable to Clifton Cheerleading. Balance in full may be made prior to the final deadline. *Late payments and/or NSF fees may result in the cheer member being ineligible until payment is made in full.* If payment is returned due to NSF, the cheer member/parent will be responsible for paying the NSF fee.

### **Formations/Stunting**

Cheer sponsor/coach will place squad members in positions to best suit the needs of the cheer team to provide the safest environment for all participating. In stunting, the cheer sponsor and/or coach will determine squad member placement (base, flyer, front spot, back spot). Cheer coach/sponsor also has the right to remove and/or change a member's stunt or cheer position to best fit the overall need of the entire squad.

### **Mascot**

The mascot is expected to stay in the mascot uniform from the beginning to the conclusion of the cheer event subject to change based on weather. The mascot will be allowed to have a break. ~~When not in the mascot uniform, the mascot will sit with the cheer sponsor.~~ **Mascots will not cheer with the squad when not in the mascot suit. \*\*\* Recommend removing**

### **Camp**

Each cheerleader/mascot is required to attend summer cheer camp. Every squad member will be required to stay the entire session (including nights). Camp fees are paid by the cheerleader/mascot. **CAMP WILL BE JULY 23- JULY 26 AT GREAT WOLF LODGE IN GRAPEVINE, TEXAS.**

Each cheerleader/mascot is required to attend all practices the week prior to attending camp. Any absence from these practices (excused or unexcused) will result in one demerit per absence. (See Discipline Section)

Electronic devices may be brought to camp and checked in with the coach/sponsor. Squad members will have a daily designated time to use electronic devices. All other times and any other use are prohibited.

Each cheerleader/mascot is required to learn all camp cheers, chants and dances.

### **Signs**

Each cheerleader/mascot will be responsible for making locker signs, hall signs, and run-through signs during summer workdays.

## **Community Projects and Fundraisers**

Attendance and participation in community events/projects are required. The events/projects (parades, etc) that the squad will attend are at the discretion of the cheer coach/sponsor.

Junior Cheerleader Camp may be held during the summer. All Varsity squad members are required to attend.

Fundraisers to benefit the team will require **all** cheerleaders/mascot to participate.

Fundraisers for individual uniform and camp expenses will not be required participation. Profit from the spring semester fundraiser earned by each cheerleader/mascot will be applied to his/her individual uniform/camp balance.

## **Practice**

All scheduled practice sessions are required for all squad members. Practice times will be set when the squad is determined. Sunday afternoon and Wednesday and/or Thursday evening practices may be required at times. Additional practice days will be added for the high school squad after football season to prepare for the UIL State Spirit Championship competition. Cheerleaders/mascot are to report to practice in proper attire with all necessary equipment.

Each squad member is required to meet during the summer to prepare signs, decorate for the beginning of school, practice cheers, chants, and dances for the coming year. consequences will be issued for excused absences. Demerits will be issued for unexcused absences. (See Discipline Section)

Each squad member is expected to be on time to all practices and stay until practice is completed and released by the sponsor.

Each squad member is expected to respect the leadership of the cheer coach/sponsor and/or cheerleader captain and follow instructions during practice.

Cell phones must be turned off during practice.

## **Games**

### *Varsity:*

Each cheerleader/mascot is required to attend all varsity football games and all boys and girls varsity basketball home district games.

High school cheerleaders/mascots should be prepared to attend all playoff games of varsity football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball as the opportunity arises. High school cheerleaders/mascot will compete in a Fall competition as well as the UIL State Spirit Competition in January. The middle school cheerleaders may have an opportunity to compete at a competition in December.

### *Middle School:*

Each cheerleader is required to attend all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade football games. Attendance may be required at other seasonal activities determined by the cheer coach/sponsor.

For all away games, a parent is required to sign-out their student at the end of the last game with the sponsor. Failure to do so will result in a consequence/demerit.

*For All Squads:*

A consequence will be given for an excused absence, demerit for unexcused.

High School / Middle School cheerleaders/mascot are required to ride in school sponsored vehicles to away games. (See Transportation section)

## **Pep Rallies**

Each Varsity cheerleader/mascot will be given an opponent/date for the football season by the cheer sponsor. The cheer coach/sponsor will plan the Homecoming pep rallies. Middle School cheerleaders are assigned games by the sponsor. Each cheerleader/mascot is to have a theme (Swat the Bumblebees, Lasso the Longhorns, etc) for the pep rally skit and prepare an outline of cheers, skit, speaker, and band music. These outlines will be prepared during the summer practices. Pep rally planning sheets are due to the cheer coach/sponsor prior to the first week of school. If the cheerleaders choose a dress up theme for the pep rally, they are expected to dress up for the theme. Each cheerleader/mascot is expected to know every cheer, chant and/or dance for each week's pep rally. **Not being able to demonstrate competency in any of these areas is sufficient grounds for a consequence/demerit and/or the cheerleader/mascot being required to sit out during the pep rally, at the sponsors' discretion.**

All music for dance routines must come from a UCA/NCA/ACA source or get administrative approval at least 3 weeks prior to performance.

Pep rallies are normally held on Friday for High School & Thursday for Middle School during football season. Homecoming requires more participation from each squad member. Spirit week will be planned by the cheer squad and approved by the principal. The community pep rally is usually held Wednesday evening to include more community involvement. The High School homecoming pep rally on Friday is school wide and is usually held in the morning. The Middle School Cheerleaders will participate with the Varsity squad in the Homecoming Community and Friday pep rallies.

All High School cheerleaders should be prepared to plan and cheer for other pep rallies to include basketball, softball/baseball, spring sports, and any playoff pep rally and/or send-off allowed.

Pep rallies are to be focused on generating spirit among the athletes, students, and fans. Each cheerleader/mascot is expected to do their part in reaching this goal. The athletes, students, and fans will follow your example. Be enthused, excited and confident.

## **Uniform/Camp Attire**

Cheerleader uniform/camp attire will be purchased by each member. The actual cost of the uniform/camp attire depends on the selection by each squad/sponsor. Selection of the uniform/camp attire will be determined by the cheer coach/sponsor for Middle School. At the Varsity level, squad members may have the opportunity to help select uniform/camp attire.

All uniforms must be approved by the administration.

Colors of uniform must be in keeping with the school colors.

The school provides the mascot uniform. Care and cleaning of the uniform is the responsibility of the person selected as mascot. **(See MASCOT FEE) on the previous page.**

Uniforms and camp attire will not be issued until full payment has been received. Each cheerleader and mascot must have her uniform, camp clothes, and camp cost paid in full before the end of school.

Squad members not returning the next year have the option to sell their uniforms as long as the uniform style is not changing, and the uniform is free from stains and/or odors. Uniforms must be in excellent condition for resell. Price shall be negotiated by the two direct parties. Clifton Cheerleading, its sponsors, and Clifton ISD are not responsible for uniforms that are resold, including payment date and/or available funds.

**Cheer Evaluations-** Cheerleaders will be required to learn all designated cheers, there will be a cheer evaluation the week before the first game. Cheerleaders are required to master all cheers during this evaluation. If there is a cheerleader who has not mastered 80 percent of the cheers they will not be allowed to cheer at a football game until the 80% mastery is achieved.

### **Lettering – High School Only**

To letter in cheerleading and receive a letter jacket from the district, the cheerleader must be on the Varsity squad for 2 years and have received no more than 2 demerits per year.

### **Spirit and Attitude**

Promote good sportsmanship by encouraging Clifton teams, rather than tearing down the opposing team and/or officials. Be aware of crowd situations and be willing to influence a positive shift in the crowd's attitude.

All performances should be taken seriously, whether it is pep rallies or games. Mistakes are not humorous. Your performance quality is important to the audience, whether it seems that way or not. You will receive as much respect as you demand by your own attitude.

Do not talk outside the squad about other cheerleaders/mascot or conflicts within the squad. If you have a problem with someone, go directly to him/her and/or the cheer coach/sponsor.

Do not get upset or discouraged and stop cheering due to fans not yelling with you. Your job is to continue cheering and supporting your team, whether winning or losing. If you give up, the fans will definitely give up on you. Win or lose, be proud that you have done a good job.

The entire town of Clifton is watching you, from small preschool girls to fellow classmates, in your every move at school, games, AND in your personal life.

Do not take this responsibility lightly. **Be proud of what and who you are.**

### **Extracurricular Code of Conduct Attachment:**

Participation in Clifton High School Extracurricular Activities is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the behavior expectations set forth in the Clifton High School Extracurricular Code of Conduct ("ECC") exceed the behavior expectations set forth in the Student Code of Conduct ("SCC").

Clifton High School Extracurricular participants must act with PRIDE and DIGNITY at all times. The purpose of this ECC is to establish regulations and procedures to work with violations that occur ON OR OFF SCHOOL GROUNDS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CALENDAR YEAR to deal with Extracurricular Participants who commit violations in a fair and timely manner. The code is designed to discourage inappropriate behaviors, encourage extracurricular students to make choices that ensure their health and safety, and provide appropriate consequences for students who violate the code.

- Students who choose to participate in extracurricular activities are role models and exemplary behavior is expected of them **at all times.**

- The Coach/Director has the right to set high standards for and to impose consequences on those students who choose to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Each extracurricular activity may have specific conduct expectations in addition to the expectations outlined in the ECC. The expectations in each program will be developed and approved by the Coach/Director and Athletic Director.
- The ECC does not limit or restrict the authority of the Coach, Director, or school administrator from imposing other consequences in addition to the penalties set forth below, i.e., extra practice, and/or conditioning can be added to any consequence imposed.
- Discipline imposed under the SCC shall not affect any consequences imposed under the ECC.
- **Serious** behavior violations may result in removal from the extracurricular program.

### **Participant Responsibilities**

Extracurricular participants have the responsibility to:

- Always remember they are representatives of their school, family and community - they must make a constant effort to project a positive, respectful image.
- Always be considerate of those around them and actively avoid situations that may reflect poorly on themselves and/or Clifton High School.
- Exhibit proper behavior - failure to do so will result in discipline in accordance with the Clifton ISD Code of Conduct.
- Adhere to the specified guidelines and rules of their chosen activities.
- Adhere to the specified guidelines and rules of the SCC.

### **Academics**

Participants of any UIL activity must meet the minimum grade standards of the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and the Texas Education Agency.

1. At the beginning of each school year UIL eligibility is determined by state graduation credits earned during the previous school year(s). Each student must earn a minimum of 5 state graduation credits in the previous school year.
2. Each student participating in a UIL activity must be passing “all subjects” with at least a 70 average at the end of each six weeks grading period. If a student is ineligible for 2 consecutive grading periods he/she will no longer be allowed to participate in athletics until full eligibility is regained (a report card is issued with passing grades, not a 3 week progress report).

### **Tobacco, Alcohol and Illegal Drugs**

#### **Tobacco**

*The following rules apply to all Clifton High School Extracurricular students at all times during the calendar year.*

- No smoking or use of any tobacco products OR of electronic cigarettes.

Offenses will be handled in the following manner:

- Parent notification by the Coach/Director
- Extra conditioning or practice as determined by the Coach/Director

#### **Alcohol and Illegal Drugs**

*The following rules apply to all Clifton High School Extracurricular students at all times during the calendar year.*

- Students shall not illegally consume, use, possess or disseminate alcohol and/or other illegal drugs in any form, at any time or place, shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities, in addition to any disciplinary consequences required by law.

Offenses will be handled in the following manner:

First Offense:

- Parent notification by the Coach/Director
- The student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities for 10 percent of UIL allowable number of contests in his/her current or next sport/activity season.

Second Offense:

- Parent notification by the Coach/Director
- The student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities for 50 percent of UIL allowable number of contests in his/her current or next sport/activity season.

### **Alcohol and Illegal Drugs (continued)**

*The following rules apply to all Clifton High School Extracurricular students at all times during the calendar year.*

Third Offense:

- Parent notification by the Coach/Director
- The student shall be excluded from participating in extracurricular activities for the remainder of his/her school career.

Note: To calculate the suspension, a percentage of the number of games/activities/events allowed by the UIL will be applied. For example, if a student is suspended for 10% of the basketball season, the suspension would be for 2.5 games, as the UIL allows 25 games for basketball if no tournaments are played. If the activity is not a UIL event, the percentage will be calculated based on the number of events for that particular activity. For example, if the student participates in activities related to Future Farmers of America (FFA) wool judging, the percentage would be calculated based on the number of wool judging events available to the student.

If the offense occurs during the off-season then the suspension will begin the Monday preceding the first competition or performance.