

South Lyon Panthers Attendance Policy

Football and Cheer are team sports, and the "team" relies on everyone's participation to be successful. It is important for everyone to be on time for every practice and game. Players need to be DRESSED and READY at least 5 minutes before practice begins. We know however that there are times when it is unavoidable to miss a practice or a game. If this happens you must contact the Unit Director ahead of time. We also know that some schools get out later than others. If this is the case for you there will be some latitude but please let the Unit Director know ahead of time. As with most sports it is important for players to get as much practice time in to prepare them for the games. As you know, each player will receive a minimum of 6 plays per half every game. While this is the standard, we will have an attendance policy that supersedes the 6-play rule. This is to prepare kids for the game during the week, prevent injuries, and to ensure our kids are being treated fairly. While in the beginning of the season we will practice up to 5 days a week, we will be moving to 3 days after the first game.

The following policy will be in effect up to the first game of the season.

A player/cheerleader is considered absent if:

1. They miss an entire day of practice.
2. They miss more than half a practice on any given day.
3. They are more than 20 minutes late to practice twice within a week.

A player will not be allowed to participate in contact activity until they have had six (6) hours of non-padded instruction followed by four (4) hours of non-contact padded instruction. If a player misses any of the first 10 hours of practice, they will have to make that practice up during practice time and will be behind because of this.

Playing time for a player will be adjusted as follows for being absent before the first game is played.

1. If a player is determined to have 2 absences before the first game is played they will not be allowed to play the first quarter. Football Players will forfeit 3 of their 6 plays during the first half of the first game.
2. If a player is determined to have 3 absences before the first game is played they will not play in the first half of the first game. Football players will forfeit their 6 plays that half.
3. If a player is determined to have 4 absences before the first game is played they will not play the entire first game.

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The following attendance policy will go into effect the week following our first game.

In order to participate in a Panthers Practice or Contest, the athlete must be in attendance the entire school day of the practice or contest. Exceptions would be such things as prearranged medical or dental appointments, scheduled court appearances, death in the family or funeral attendance. These must be cleared with the Coach/Unit Director in advance. Last minute or day-of doctor, dentist, orthodontist, etc. appointments must be accompanied by a doctor's note in order to participate that afternoon. Any athlete, who is suspended, (either out of school or in-school suspension) for violation of the school policies and regulations, **WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATION IN CONTESTS OR PRACTICES** on the day that the suspension is served. Failure to attend a practice or competition without a valid excuse, (as outlined above) may result in loss of participation as outlined below.

A player/cheerleader is considered absent if:

1. They miss an entire day of practice.
2. They miss more than half a practice on any given day.
3. They are more than 20 minutes late to practice twice within a week.

Playing time for a Football player will be adjusted as follows for being absent:

1. Missing practices for religious or school obligations would be an example of an excused absence. To qualify, for an excused absence the parent must notify the Unit Director in advance of the child missing practice. Players who have an injury should still attend practice if possible. There may still be parts of practice they can observe or participate in. Injured players who are at practice will not miss playing time.
2. If a player is determined to have 1 absence within a week – they will not be allowed to play the first quarter. Football will forfeit 3 of their 6 plays during the first half.
3. If a player is determined to have 2 absences within a week- they will not play in the first half. Football will forfeit their 6 plays that half.
4. If a player is determined to have 3 absences within a week, they will not play the entire game.

If there are a number of kids that will miss a quarter of play, the coach may select a different quarter than the first quarter in order to field a team.

Cheering time for a Cheerleader will be adjusted as follows for being absent:

1. Missing practices for religious or school obligations would be an example of an excused absence. To qualify, for an excused absence the parent must notify the Unit Director in advance of the child missing practice. Cheerleaders who have an injury should still attend practice if possible. There may still be parts of practice they can observe or participate in. Injured players who are at practice will not miss playing time.
2. If a cheerleader is determined to have 1 absence within a week, they will be required to attend the game dressed but will not cheer in the first quarter of the game.

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3. If a cheerleader is determined to have 2 absences within a week, will result in sitting out for the first half of the game.
4. If a cheerleader is determined to have 3 absences within a week, will result in attending the game dressed but not cheering for the entire game.
5. If a cheerleader has 5 absences by the start of October, they will be asked to “tryout” for competition. They may also be removed from any stunt groups at the discretion of the coaches and commissioner. Any subsequent absences could result in them not being a part of competition as it would be too late in the season to “tryout” for competition.

Excused absences are expected to be rare but are sometimes unavoidable. If you are going to miss a game: you must give the Head Coach and Unit Director one weeks 'notice except in the case of EMERGENCY or ILLNESS. Any planned absences must be in writing (email is fine).