



2026 RFH AYC Competition Attendance Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Attendance Policy is to ensure athlete safety, fairness, consistency, and competitive readiness within the RFH AYC Cheer Program. Regular attendance is essential for skill development, stunt safety, choreography execution, and overall team success. This policy applies to all athletes participating on an RFH AYC **competition cheer team**.

II. Attendance Requirement

All athletes are expected to attend **all scheduled practices, choreography sessions, team meetings, and competitions** as outlined by the coaching staff and program administration.

Failure to meet attendance expectations may impact an athlete's role, participation, or eligibility as outlined in this policy.

III. Unexcused Absences

Each athlete is permitted a maximum of **three (3) unexcused absences** during the cheer season.

Exceeding three (3) unexcused absences may result in one or more of the following actions, at the discretion of the coaching staff and program administration:

- Removal from stunts, tumbling passes, formations, or choreography
- Reduced participation in performances or competitions
- Ineligibility to compete at scheduled competitions
- Removal from the competition team

IV. Excused Absences

The following are considered **excused absences**, provided proper documentation is submitted:

- Illness or injury **with a doctor's note**
- Medical emergencies
- School-mandated academic or testing requirements (with advance notice)

Documentation must be submitted to the coaching staff in a timely manner. Absences without documentation will be considered unexcused.

V. Blackout Weeks (Mandatory Attendance Periods)

Due to competition preparation, routine finalization, and safety considerations, the following dates are designated as **Blackout Weeks**:

- **September 28 - October 4 (Competition Review /Jackson 10/3 / 10/4)**
- **October 12 – October 16 (Jersey Shore Competition Oct 17/18)**
- **November 2 – November 6 (Big East Regionals Nov 7/8)**
- **November 30 – December 3 (Nationals Orlando FL Dec 3-6)**

During Blackout Weeks:

- **No travel or planned absences are permitted**
- Absences will **not be excused** for vacations, holidays, or personal events
- Only documented medical illness or emergency will be considered excused

Absences during these periods may result in immediate loss of competitive placement or eligibility. If you plan to travel during these weeks, competition cheer may not be the right team for your athlete. Please talk to a coach.

VI. Absence Notification

Parents/guardians must notify the coaching staff of any anticipated absence **as early as possible**. Timely communication regarding absences is expected. Absences without prior notification may be reviewed by the coaching staff when evaluating attendance and participation.

VII. Coach and Program Authority

In accordance with AYC bylaws and RFH AYC program standards:

- Coaches retain full discretion to determine athlete placement, participation level, and competition eligibility based on attendance and preparedness.
- Program administrators reserve the right to enforce this policy to ensure athlete safety, competitive integrity, and fairness across the team.
- Decisions made under this policy are final.

The RFH AYC Cheer Program recognizes the importance of family time for athletes and coaches. However, in order to maintain fairness and competitive integrity, the coaching staff may adjust routine placement and participation based on attendance and commitment to team activities.

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment & Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the RFH AYC Cheer Program Competition Team Attendance Policy. I understand that failure to adhere to this policy may result in consequences affecting my child's participation, role, or eligibility to compete.

I further acknowledge that attendance requirements are essential for athlete safety and team success and that coaches and program administrators retain discretion in enforcing this policy in accordance with AYC bylaws.

Athlete Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

