

12 KEY PLAYS TO BE THE BEST CHEER LEADER

Presented by Jan Spence ©

CHEER
ON YOUR TEAM!

1. **Sticky Note Sneak Play** – Hide a sticky note with a word of encouragement somewhere on the recipient’s desk – in a drawer, filing cabinet, under the printer lid, or even on the computer monitor. You’re sure to have a loyal fan with this little surprise!
2. **Candy Bar Quarterback Draw** – Find out your recipient’s favorite candy bar (or drink) and show up first thing in the morning with this little pick-me-up, especially after a tough game. The personal knowledge of knowing their fave brings real connection and will make you stand out from the crowd.
3. **Ice Cream Blitz** – Who is not a fan of ice cream? A cooler full of everyone’s favorite frosty treats will help melt away even the toughest of days. Reward your team with this surprise break or show up at your favorite customer’s office on a Friday afternoon for a big win.
4. **The Audible** – It just doesn’t get any better than taking the time to look someone in the eye, say their name and genuinely say “Thank you,” “I believe in you,” “I’m so proud of you,” or “Really great job with the way you handled XYZ!” Use this play often to let your teammates know that they matter.
5. **The Lunch Reverse** – When’s the last time you took your staff to lunch? Or ordered pizza for the office at that hot prospect? Sometimes getting away from the work environment and having one-on-one time to bond as teammates is the only way to connect during the hectic day-to-day.
6. **Applaud Key Plays** – Recognize and reward awesome behavior quickly and publicly. Having a fun idol or trophy that passes around the office for great performance builds a little friendly competition for staff to excel in their roles. Who gets the Heisman to proudly display at their desk next week?
7. **The Huddle** – Make time in staff or customer meetings for personal sharing. Remember they are people with emotions, challenges, families, and lives outside of work. Find out more about what makes them tick so you can make a deeper connection with those you serve.
8. **Sideline Chat** – Make note of personal things about your staff or customers. Be intentional about asking, calling, or texting to ask about other things that aren’t just work related. Questions like “How’s the little league team doing?” or “How’d your uncle’s surgery go?” go a long way in showing people you care about them as a person more than just work.
9. **Hand Written Note Hike** – An old reliable play that never gets stale. A handwritten “thank you” or “thinking of you” note received in the mail is a cherished gem these days. It only takes a minute and a stamp, but this play goes long in making you memorable to the recipient.
10. **Pom Pom Props** - Acknowledging and recognizing milestones can go a long way in making someone’s day. Whether it’s a birthday, a work anniversary, a promotion or other professional accomplishment, hearing the words “Happy Birthday” or “Congrats” are sure to spread a spirit of positivity in your office and those of your customers.
11. **Rookie Orientation** - It’s never easy being the “newbie” at work. Imagine their first impression when they show up at the office to a “Welcome” banner with their name on it! Take them to lunch or ask them to join you for a cup of coffee and introduce them to other employees.
12. **Bonus! Be the 12th Man** – Look for opportunities to cheer everyone on! Hold the door open for others; restock the drinks in the breakroom fridge; smile and say “Good day” to everyone you pass; use the cashier or server’s name when you thank them for their service.