

Cheercats Tryout Information

Dear Cheercats candidate and parent,

Thank you for your interest in Cheercats squads! We are preparing for 2010-2011 season and anticipating a very exciting year. We look forward to meeting each of you during our tryouts. We want you to know that we are dedicated to giving each cheerleader the ultimate cheerleading experience. We want to help each student set and reach goals, learn the value of commitment and team work and ultimately see their dream become a reality.

We have prepared the following information to help each family understand the commitment level that we expect. Please take the time to thoroughly read over the packet in full. We want you to know what you are “signing up for”. We know that our program is not for everyone, please take the time to discuss the following information with your child prior to tryouts.

The coaching staff’s mission is to offer the best technical training possible. Gymcats teaches kids to be exceptional cheerleaders, but most of all, Gymcats teaches kids to be exceptional people. Focusing on teamwork and integrity and structured safe workouts, Gymcats team members learn how to encourage one another while building their self confidence.

Good luck to each of you and we will see you at tryouts!

What to expect at our Tryouts

Candidates will have an opportunity to show us their best tumbling pass, standing tumbling skills, jumps and jump combinations. They will also perform the chant they learned, show their splits and the kick series they learned during the clinics. The dance is performed to show us their ability to move to music, sharpness in motion technique, timing and showmanship.

Each candidate must wear black or navy shorts, mostly white t-shirt or tank top, tennis shoes. No jewelry and hair must be pulled back from face and if long enough put up in a pony tail. Smiles are a Must!

Tryouts – May 15th—they will be closed to public viewing.

We will post tentative team placements on Friday May 28, 2010 at www.gymcats.com If you are on this list that means you will be competing for the Cheercats All-Stars for the 2010-11 season! Other lists posted will be gold stars and blue stars. If you need more time in classes til you are eligible for a team level, your class level will be emailed to you as a recommendation to participate in until you are ready to tryout again. Cheer teams begin June 1st. If you have changed levels and have paid for term 5 your fees will be prorated accordingly.

Tuition and Expenses

All stars (Senior): \$160/month – practices Mon/Thur 6:30-8:30

Practice wear – approx (\$80)

Camp – approx \$200

Choreography - \$100

Uniform - \$500

Coaches fees –\$370 and 10 points

Travel fees – each competition will have an entry fee and travel expenses. All travel fees are the cheerleaders/parents responsibility.

Gold Stars Team: \$284/term (8 weeks) – practices Mon/Wed 5:15-6:45

Practice wear – approx (\$80)

Uniform - \$175 (shoes, liner and briefs not included)

Coaches fees - \$20 per competition

Competitions will be located in town, so there are no travel fees, but there will be competition entry fees for each competition. We are planning to attend 2 competitions in addition to exhibitions.

Blue Stars Team: \$263/term (8 weeks) – practices Mon/Wed 4:00-5:15

Practice wear – approx (\$80)

Uniform - \$175 (shoes, liner and briefs not included)

This level is planning to participate in exhibitions only.

Mini Stars Team: \$205/term (8 weeks) – practices Tuesday 4:00-4:50, Thurs 5:30-6:20

Practice wear – approx (\$80)

Uniform - \$175 (shoes, liner and briefs not included)

This level is planning to participate in exhibitions only.

Cheercats Rules and Regulations

A. Rules and Regulations

1. No smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages or use of drugs.
2. Challenging the authority of the coach or person in charge, by a student or parent will be automatic dismissal from the team.
3. Abusive behavior, lying or any other negative form of behavior is grounds for dismissal
4. Each member will follow all rules and guidelines given by the coach or person in charge.
5. Any negative behavior towards a Cheercats member or to another gym, via any medium (incl. internet) will result in dismissal from team.

B. Leadership

1. Each member must be aware that no person has a right to be on Cheercats, it is a privilege.
2. Each member must be aware of the responsibilities required and the commitment he or she is making to the team.
3. Each member must be willing to cooperate with and be helpful to the coach or any person in charge.
4. Each member must realize the manner in which they conduct themselves while representing Cheercats or not, directly reflects on the entire squad and coach.
5. Each member will be willing to work hard, take directions and strive for excellence.

C. Expectations

1. Members will set and maintain the highest examples of behavior
2. Members will maintain the proper appearance with no extremes in apparel, hair, make-up, piercing or tattoos. Coach's decision is final
3. Members will be on time and dressed appropriately with hair tied back and proper apparel.
4. Members will do everything in their power to achieve personal and squad goals.
5. Each member is responsible for finding out any missed information.

D. Attendance Gymcats success depends on Attendance. **All practices are mandatory.** There are a few excused practices; they are illness with fever or vomiting. If another sport or work conflicts with practices, the cheerleader must choose which activity they will do; as they cannot do both if there is a schedule conflict. If you have an event at school, you may get permission to miss workout from your coaches **if done so at least 3 days in advance.**

1. All practice sessions are mandatory
2. Members must be on time to practice. Continual tardiness will be grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.
3. If an absence must occur, an absence request must be e-mailed to the head coach tiffany.jolley@gymcats.com at least 3 days in advance.
4. Two unexcused absences will warrant disciplinary action, a third will be grounds for dismissal.
5. Continuous failure to be productive at practice is grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.
6. If you are sick or injured, you must still attend practice (only excused absences are fever or vomiting). You will not be required to participate. You will watch any changes that directly affect you.

E. Competitions

Members are required to attend all competitions. This means through the awards ceremony. If parents are unable to stay for the whole competition, other arrangements must be made so that the member can stay.

F. Safety

1. Jeopardizing the safety of oneself or any other member is grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.
2. There is absolutely no gum, candy, jewelry or food allowed in the gym.
3. Proper apparel includes tennis shoes, athletic socks, tight fitting clothing that doesn't hamper performance and hair pulled neatly back.

G. Parental Obligations

1. Any negative behavior towards a Cheercats member, staff or to another gym, via any medium, will result in dismissal from the team.
2. To make sure your son or daughter is on time and attends all practices and events
3. Parents are to inform the coach if the student is to be late or absent from practice. Never send information through someone else.
4. Parents are to fulfill any financial obligations on time or risk expulsion from our team.
5. Parents are to encourage and support your student to be the best they can be.
6. If parents are unable to stay for the whole competition, other arrangements must be made so that the member can stay for the whole competition.



Tryout attendance Form

Please return form by May 15, 2010

Students Name _____

Age _____ Birth Date _____ Age on June 1, 2010 _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Students Phone _____

Parents Names _____

Primary Email _____

I do ___ do not ___ want my child to be considered for our all-star team if she is eligible.

Rules & Regulations Signature Page

- Section A # 5: I understand that I must treat my teammates like I would like to be treated and that Cheercats does not tolerate any negative actions or behavior towards any of my teammates on any medium including the internet _____ student's initials
- Section C # 2 & 3: I understand that I am representing the Cheercats team and will dress in the appropriate manner including proper attire and hair _____ student's initials
- Section D all #'s: Attendance is very important to the whole squad. The success of the squad depends on everyone's attendance. I understand that it is imperative to attend all practice including if I am sick or injured and that the safety of the other cheerleaders can be compromised if there are inconsistencies in attendance. In the event that I MUST miss practice, I will plan it ahead of time and make arrangements via email with the head coach _____ student's initials _____ parent's initials.
- Section E: I understand that I am expected to attend all competitions and will do everything in my power to be at every competition _____ student's initials _____ parent's initials.
- Section G # 1 & 5: I understand that I play a pivotal role in my child's cheering success and am instrumental in helping shape the attitude of my child and the entire team. I will do my best to encourage good sportsmanship and put sports in a proper perspective _____ parent's initials
- Section G # 3 & 4: I understand that I will make sure my child is on time and attends all practices and events, and that I will ensure that my child informs the coach of any potential misses. I also understand that I must fulfill all financial obligations, for my child to remain on the team. _____ parent's initials

Competitive team agreement 2010-2011

Welcome to Cheercats Competitive Team Program

This agreement must be returned by June 1st, 2010

Introduction/General Information

There is no doubt that joining our team is a significant commitment of time, effort and money. Is it worth it? Most parents say that other than family life, team involvement becomes the most significant event in their child's life. Besides the obvious physical benefits, those children who become involved in team rarely accept negative influences into their life. They learn self-discipline, how to work closely as a member of a team, how to handle themselves in a large variety of situations and how to prioritize and manage their time. It also involves a huge commitment on you and your family's part.

What am I signing up for? Please ask yourself if you are willing to put in the extra time it takes to be a member of a competitive cheerleading team. On top of our regular scheduled practices we may have additional Saturday practices prior to a competition that could conflict with social activities such as holiday parties, dates, religious/youth group activities and dances. Are you willing to miss those activities? Our staff has family and outside lives also and want time out of the gym, however if an extra practice is scheduled then it is for the benefit of the entire team. Please do not waste your coach's/ teammate's time by not attending regular / extra practices. *I understand that 100% attendance is required to all regular & extra practices*, and if I am unable to attend I must give at least 3 days notice to the head coach. _____ *Initial*

In deciding to let your child participate in competitive cheerleading you must read and initial the following items.

- Cheer team is a seasonal commitment. This agreement starts June 1st and ends April 30th. If your child decides to leave Gymcats during the season - there will be no refund for any credit left in your account. Pro-rations are not given for missed practices, vacations, illness, camps, family emergencies or injuries. Your tuition is paid monthly and there are 4 weeks during the year that are not paid for. Because you receive 4 weeks in addition to the 44 weeks you pay for there will be days we cancel practice for holidays or after competitions. There is no refund or credit given for these missed practices

I understand these facts of tuition _____ *Initial*

- Each child's account must be paid in full in order to participate in gym, competitions, or other events - this includes any fees for siblings, competitions, regular gym tuition or any other balance owed. If you are unable to attend competitions because of unpaid account balances, you may be removed from the team. *Initial* _____

- Each parent and child has read the Cheercats rules and regulations and will adhere to the rules outlined in that manual.

I understand that if any member of my family does not adhere to the rules outlined in that manual that my child may be removed from the team without a refund of fees *Initial* _____

All members of my family understand the financial burden associated with competitive cheerleading, have read the examples listed below and understand and can afford the costs associated with my child's cheerleading *Initial* _____ *I have read the fee information and realize these are yearly estimates only!*

Fee Information (yearly estimates only)

	Senior All stars	Gold stars Team	Blue Stars Team	Mini Stars Team
Competition entry fees	\$400	\$150	0	\$0
Coaches fees	\$370(+10 pts)	\$20 per comp.	0	\$0
tuition for the year (paid by the term or monthly depending on level)*	\$1760	\$1704	\$1578	\$1230
Annual Registration*	\$50	\$40	\$40	\$40
Est. Travel (cheerleader only)	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
choreography/music	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Camp	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0
Practice wear	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
Uniform	\$500	\$150	\$150	\$150
Total	\$3960	\$2164	\$1848	\$1500

* these items are already paid for being a student at Gymcats.

We expect all of the cheerleaders on team to participate in all scheduled competitions. We would like to have all competitive cheerleaders on our auto-pay program, so that when competition fees are due and travel fees due, we can charge them automatically. This helps us to arrange the least expensive transportation costs and makes sure our entire squad will be at every competition on time and ready.

If you would like to have automatic payments made on meet entry fees please check here _____ and give this information to the front desk.

Because attending competitions is so important, we will have a 100% attendance policy to all competitions. If a schedule conflicts with another activity then you will not be allowed to remain on the team (head coach's discretion).

Our team success depends on all members showing up to practice and attending all competitions. If you do have an issue with a particular competition that you cannot get resolved, please come to the head coach only and discuss the options available to you and the team.

I understand the policy regarding competition and practice attendance and will adhere to them to the best of my ability Initial_____

Coaches Fees

- Competitive cheerleading has additional costs involved with it that are associated exclusively with Cheercats' teams- these are paid through coaches' fees. These costs include but are not limited to, coaches' certifications, coaches session fees, coaches missed work hours, travel expenses, team functions, and team entry fees.

I understand that I am joining the 10-11 season and that if my child drops out mid season I will not receive a refund of any coaches fees. _____ Initial

- All-stars only.* You have the option of paying a smaller amount and doing a certain number of "points" of work during the season or paying a larger chunk of coaches fees and not working any points. See below for points and payments due:
- Gold and Blue stars only.* You are not required to work points. Each competition will have a \$20 coaches fee associated with it.

Please pick one option:

I will be working off my points _____ Initial (if working off points, I agree to meet the requirements in other team fundraising events)

OR

I do not wish to work off my points and will pay double coaches fees _____ Initial See non-working payment schedule.

Work Credit/Points (all-stars only)

Each year in addition to the coaches fees and the tuition, there are work credits that must be earned (unless you have chosen to pay the non-working coaches fee amounts- see above). The number of points must be earned in full by the March 2011 or the balance will be owed in cash.

The work credit points necessary for this year can be earned in many different ways. Work at any of these events: Gymcats Invitational (Sep. '10), December events (Dec. '10), Vegas Cup (Feb. '11), Spring Festival (June '10)

Work can include: Set up or tear down of any event, Session work (admission, concession, awards, flashers etc., and Support work (organizing, decorating, hospitality, pick ups and delivery, transportation, food or gift donations, program assembly)

Food donations, sponsor donations or supply donations (there are a lot of needs throughout a year)

Points given will be posted on the sign up sheets which are posted 2-3 weeks before the scheduled event.

- Helping with any event Gymcats hosts, cheerleading, dance or gymnastics - including physical work in setting up or tearing down an event, or working sessions at any of our events or getting donations.

If you are not willing to work events hosted by Gymcats this year then your coaches fees are doubled Whether you decide to work or pay, all coaches expenses will be paid for throughout the year, 2. All cheerleaders are included in the team Holiday party.

I understand the way the points work and have read the above guidelines. _____ Initial

Payment and work credit				
	# points	Sept. 1 st	October 1st	TOTAL
All-star team	10	\$ 185.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 300.00
Non-working	# points	August 1st	Sept. 1st	TOTAL
All-star team All gold stars pay \$20/competition and 0 points. Blue stars & mini's have no points or competitions.	0	370.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 740.00

____ I have read the rules and policies and the rest of the packet in its entirety.

____ I have read and agree with the attendance expectations policy.

____ I have read and agree that I will attend all competitions.

____ I have read and understand the financial plan for the 2010-11 season

The following must be returned to the front desk. As of June 1st your child will not be allowed to come to practice until this document is returned.

I have read and understand how the competitive season, coaches fees, work points, and competition fees for the 2010-11 season works. I understand that my child may be withheld from practice, competitions or performances if my coaches fees, gym fees including those of siblings, or any other balances are due on my account without a refund of any fees.

Child (ren)'s Name(s): _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____