



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

2019-2020 PROGRAM INFORMATION



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TEAM INFORMATION

USASF AGE RANGE (Age as of August 31, 2019)

Tiny Novice	3 to 6 years old
Mini	5 to 8 years old
Youth	5 to 11 years old
Junior	8 to 14 years old
Senior	11 to 18 years old
Senior (Worlds)	13 to 18 years old

IASF AGE RANGE (Age during 2020)

Junior International	10 to 16 years old
Senior International	14 to 18 years old

TUMBLING SKILLS BY LEVEL

STANDING TUMBLING

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6
REQUIRED	Forward Roll	Standing BHS	Standing 3 BHS	Standing Tuck	Jump to Tuck	Jump to Tuck
REQUIRED	Back Bend	Back Walkover BHS	Jump 2 BHS	Standing BHS Tuck	Standing 2 BHS to Layout	Standing 2 BHS to Full
RECOMMENDED	Back Walkover	T-Jump BHS	BHS Step Out	Toe BHS Tuck	Standing Whip	Standing Full
OPTIONAL	Backward Roll	BHS Step Out	BHS Toe Touch BHS	2 BHS to Tuck	Standing Pass to Whip-Tuck	Standing Whip Pass to Full

RUNNING TUMBLING

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5	LEVEL 6
REQUIRED	Cartwheel	Round Off BHS	Round Off BHS Tuck	Round Off BHS Layout	Round Off BHS Full	Specialty Pass to Full
RECOMMENDED	Round Off Rebound	Front Walkover Round Off BHS	Aerial	Whip Pass to Layout	Specialty Pass to Full	Round Off BHS Whip-Full
OPTIONAL	Front Walkover	Front Handspring	Punch Front	Punch Front Pass to Layout	Arabian	Round Off BHS Double

CROSSOVER ATHLETES

Athletes may be asked to participate on two teams. Crossover athletes are typically used to fill specific roles that are open on teams. If your athlete is asked to crossover to a second team and you accept spots on both teams, you are obligated to pay the additional fees (practice wear, choreography/music, competition fees, etc.) associated with crossing over. Crossovers may not be finalized until shortly before choreography.

TEAM PLACEMENT

Preliminary teams will be announced after the second day of the evaluation process. Team placement is up to the discretion of the Team Illinois staff. In order to put the best product on the floor, teams of 22 will be made up of 5-6 flyers, 10-11 bases and 5 back bases. Sometimes an athlete may not meet the minimum tumbling requirement to make a certain team. If an athlete possesses other skills that would fill a certain role on a team, we will consider placing that athlete on a team. Exceptions to tumbling requirements can be made by the staff if the athlete excels in other areas such as jump technique, choreography, performance & stunting technique.

No athlete has an absolute guarantee of a roster spot on any particular team. The coaching staff reserves the right, at any time, without notice, to change the rosters of the teams by adding, rearranging, or removing athletes to/from teams for a performance, practice or the entire program. We attempt to make roster changes as infrequent as possible and with as much warning as possible. Athletes may be removed from a team or our program at any time for reasons which may include, but are not limited to: attitude problems, absences and/or tardiness, lack of improvement, lack of financial responsibility, personality conflicts between athletes, coaches, parents or anyone else involved in our program. There will be NO REFUNDS in the event of removal from a team.



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

NOVICE CHEER • Non-Travel All Star Cheer

Level 1 (ages 5-8)

Our NOVICE program is an introduction to competitive cheer for athletes ages 5-8 years old. Athletes will learn new skills and perfect a routine that will be showcased at USASF sanctioned events. The novice division is scored by judges for feedback but teams are not ranked for placements.

FULL SEASON • MINI TEAM

- PRACTICES** One 1 hour practice per week (September - March)
- TUMBLING** Classes available
- COMPETITIONS** 4-5 local competitions & performances

PROGRAM COSTS & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Below you will find the costs associated with the Novice program and the payment schedule for the 2019-2020 season. These costs are approximate and subject to change.

Monthly Tuition (<i>\$75/month Sept-Mar</i>)	\$525	Jun 10th - Aug 31st	Registration Fees
Gym Fee	\$125	Sept 1st	Tuition & USASF
USASF Membership Fee	\$30	Sept 15th	Uniform Rental & Warm Up
Choreography/Music Fee	\$125	Oct 1st	Tuition & Coaching
Coaching Fee	\$50	Oct 15th	Accessories & Choreo/Music Balance
Competition Fees (<i>approx.</i>)	\$500	Nov 1st	Tuition
Competition Uniform Rental	\$100	Nov 15th	Comp Fee #1
Practice Wear Fee	\$75	Dec 1st	Tuition
Warm Up Jacket (<i>New Members Only</i>)	\$130	Dec 15th	Comp Fee #2
Competition Make Up (<i>New Members Only</i>)	\$30	Jan 1st	Tuition
Competition Bow & Hair Scrunchie	\$35	Jan 15th	Comp Fee #3
Sponsorship T-Shirt	\$25	Feb 1st	Tuition
Total Full Season Cost	\$1,750	Mar 1st	Tuition

YEARLY TUITION DISCOUNT

Novice athletes have the option to pay for the yearly tuition costs in full at registration and receive a 10% discount.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$75.00 \times 7 \text{ months} = \$525.00 \text{ yearly tuition} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad 10\% \text{ discount} = \$52.50
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\$525.00 \text{ yearly tuition} - \$52.50 (10\% \text{ discount}) = \mathbf{\$472.50 \text{ yearly tuition w/discount}}$$

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Additional expenses can include, but are not limited to: shoes, team specific apparel, team gifts, hotel/travel accommodations, etc.



PREP CHEER • Non-Travel All Star Cheer

Levels 1.1 - 2.1 - 2.2 - 3.1 - 3.2 (ages 7-18)

Our PREP program is geared toward athletes who are interested in competitive cheer but may have other commitments that prevent them from committing to our elite travel cheer program. This program is designed for athletes who are looking for the competitive cheer experience while giving them an opportunity to grow and perfect skills.

PARTIAL SEASON • YOUTH - SENIOR TEAMS

PRACTICES	One 2 hour practice per week (September - March)
TUMBLING	Classes available
COMPETITIONS	3-4 local competitions & performances
POST SEASON	US Finals

PROGRAM COSTS & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Below you will find the costs associated with the Prep program and the payment schedule for the 2019-2020 season. These costs are approximate and subject to change.

Monthly Tuition (\$100/month)	\$700	Jun 11th - Aug 31st	Registration Fees
Gym Fee	\$125	Sept 1st	Tuition & USASF
USASF Membership Fee	\$30	Oct 1st	Tuition
Choreography/Music Fee	\$250	Nov 1st	Tuition
Coaching Fee	\$75	Dec 1st	Tuition
Competition Fees (approx.)	\$500	Jan 1st	Tuition
Competition Uniform	\$250	Feb 1st	Tuition
Practice Wear Fee	\$75	Mar 1st	Tuition
Warm Up Jacket (optional)	\$130	Apr 1st	Post Season Tuition
Backpack (optional)	\$100		
Competition Make Up (New Members Only)	\$30		
Competition Bow(s)	\$30		
Sponsorship/Team T-Shirt	\$25		
Total Partial Season Cost	\$2,320		

POST SEASON COSTS	
Prep teams will be attending the US Finals if a paid bid is earned. Families will incur the costs listed below associated with the bid.	
April Tuition	\$50
Coaches Fee	\$25
US Finals Processing	\$100 (per team)

YEARLY TUITION DISCOUNT

Prep program athletes have the option to pay for the yearly tuition costs in full at registration and receive a 10% discount.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$100.00 \times 7 \text{ months} = \$700.00 \text{ yearly tuition} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad 10\% \text{ discount} = \$70.00 \\
 & \$700.00 \text{ yearly tuition} - \$70.00 (10\% \text{ discount}) = \mathbf{\$630.00 \text{ yearly tuition w/discount}}
 \end{aligned}$$

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Additional expenses can include, but are not limited to: shoes, team specific apparel, team gifts, hotel/travel accommodations, etc.



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

PREP CHEER • Limited-Travel All Star Cheer

Levels 1.1 - 2.1 - 2.2 - 3.1 - 3.2 (ages 7-18)

Our PREP program is geared toward athletes who are interested in competitive cheer but may have other commitments that prevent them from committing to our elite travel cheer program. This program is designed for athletes who are looking for the competitive cheer experience while giving them an opportunity to grow and perfect skills.

FULL SEASON • MINI - SENIOR TEAMS

PRACTICES	Two 1.5 hour practices per week (July - March)
TUMBLING	1 hour per week included in tuition (September - March)
COMPETITIONS	5-6 local competitions & performances 1 travel competition (possible)
POST SEASON	US Finals

CHOREOGRAPHY DATES

Routine Choreography	August 4th - 7th
Dance Choreography	September 5th - 13th
Choreography Revamp	December 15th - 20th

PROGRAM COSTS & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Below you will find the costs associated with the Prep program and the payment schedule for the 2019-2020 season. These costs are approximate and subject to change.

Monthly Tuition (\$100/month)	\$900	Jun 11th/ Jun 12th	Registration Fees
Gym Fee	\$125	Jul 1st	Tuition
USASF Membership Fee	\$30	Aug 1st	Tuition & USASF
Choreography/Music Fee	\$300	Sept 1st	Tuition & Coaching
Coaching Fee	\$100	Oct 1st	Tuition
Competition Fees (approx.)	\$750	Nov 1st	Tuition
Competition Uniform	\$500	Dec 1st	Tuition
Practice Wear Fee	\$125	Jan 1st	Tuition
Warm Up Jacket (New Members Only)	\$130	Feb 1st	Tuition
Backpack (New Members Only)	\$100	Mar 1st	Tuition
Competition Make Up (New Members Only)	\$30	Apr 1st	Post Season Tuition
Competition Bow(s)	\$50		
Sponsorship/Team T-Shirt	\$50		
Total Full Season Cost	\$3,190		

POST SEASON COSTS

Prep teams will be attending the US Finals if a paid bid is earned. Families will incur the costs listed below associated with bid.

April Tuition	\$50
Coaches Fee	\$25
US Finals Processing	\$100 (per team)

YEARLY TUITION DISCOUNT

Prep program athletes have the option to pay for the yearly tuition costs in full at registration and receive a 10% discount.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$100.00 \times 9 \text{ months} = \$900.00 \text{ yearly tuition} \\
 & \quad 10\% \text{ discount} = \$90.00 \\
 & \$900.00 \text{ yearly tuition} - \$90.00 (10\% \text{ discount}) = \mathbf{\$810.00 \text{ yearly tuition w/discount}}
 \end{aligned}$$

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Additional expenses can include, but are not limited to: shoes, team specific apparel, team gifts, hotel/travel accommodations, etc.



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

ELITE CHEER • Travel All Star Cheer

Levels 1 - 2 - 3 - 4.2 - 4 - 5 - 6 (ages 6-18)

Our ELITE program is geared toward athletes who are committed to performing at the highest level of competitive cheer within their specific level. This program requires a demanding practice schedule and a significant financial obligation. Athletes in our elite program will be held to high standards and expected to be fully committed to their competitive team(s).

FULL SEASON • YOUTH - SENIOR TEAMS

PRACTICES	Two 2 hour practices per week (June - March)
TUMBLING	1 hour team tumbling per week (September - March)
FLYER TRAINING	Flyers are required to attend additional training
COMPETITIONS	6-7 local competitions & performances 2-3 travel competition
POST SEASON	US Finals, The Summit & Worlds

CHOREOGRAPHY DATES

Technique Week	July 15th - 19th
Stunt Choreography	August 4th - 7th
Routine Choreography	Sept 5th - 13th
Dance Choreography	October 17th - 19th
Choreography Revamp	December 15th - 20th

PROGRAM COSTS & PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Below you will find the costs associated with the Elite program and the payment schedule for the 2019-2020 season. These costs are approximate and subject to change.

Monthly Tuition (<i>\$150/month</i>)	\$1,500	Jun 11th/ Jun 12th	Registration Fees
Gym Fee	\$125	Jul 1st	Tuition
USASF Membership Fee	\$30	Aug 1st	Tuition & USASF
Choreography/Music Fee	\$500	Sept 1st	Tuition & Coaching
Coaching Fee	\$125	Oct 1st	Tuition
Competition Fees (<i>approx.</i>)	\$1,300	Nov 1st	Tuition
Nationals Fee (Cheersport/NCA Only)	\$75	Dec 1st	Tuition
Competition Uniform	\$600	Jan 1st	Tuition
Team Uniform Bra Rental	\$50	Feb 1st	Tuition & NtIs Fee
Practice Wear Fee	\$125	Mar 1st	Tuition
Warm Up Jacket (<i>New Members Only</i>)	\$130	Apr 1st	Post Season Tuition
Backpack (<i>New Members Only</i>)	\$100		
Competition Make Up (<i>New Members Only</i>)	\$35		
Competition Bows	\$50		
Sponsorship/Team T-Shirt	\$50		
Total Full Season Cost	\$4,795		

POST SEASON COSTS

Elite teams will be attending the US Finals (paid bid) and/or the Summit (at-large/paid bid) if bids are earned. Families will incur the costs listed below associated with the bids.

US Finals		Summit	
April Tuition	\$50	April Tuition	\$150
Coaches Fee	\$25	Coaches Fee	\$125
Processing	\$100 (per team)	Apparel Fee	\$75
		Varsity Package	\$600-\$1,000

YEARLY TUITION DISCOUNT

Elite program athletes have the option to pay for the yearly tuition costs in full at registration and receive a 10% discount.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$150.00 \times 10 \text{ months} = \$1,500.00 \text{ yearly tuition} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad 10\% \text{ discount} = \$150.00 \\
 & \$1,500.00 \text{ yearly tuition} - \$150.00 (10\% \text{ discount}) = \mathbf{\$1,350.00 \text{ yearly tuition w/discount}}
 \end{aligned}$$

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Additional expenses can include, but are not limited to: shoes, team specific apparel, team gifts, hotel/travel accommodations, etc.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

We understand that competitive cheerleading can be very costly, so we at Team Illinois will do our best to make it as affordable as possible for all of our families. Participation in the Team Illinois program means you will incur the costs outlined throughout this packet.

Team Illinois Cheer. accepts checks, cash and credit cards. Please make sure you always receive a receipt when paying with cash. If your credit card is declined or checking/savings returns NSF, you will incur a service fee of \$25.00.

Everyone will provide a credit card number to have on file at the gym. If at any point you fail to make the required payments to Team Illinois Cheer we reserve the right to charge the credit card for your amount owed. Credit card on file must have an expiration date after 05/20.

Payments that are two months past due can result in DISMISSAL from the program. A courtesy reminder will be sent home if payments become over due.

We do understand that all families have financial issues at one time or another. If one does arise, please contact us to inform us of your situation. Communication is the key. If we are not aware there is a problem, we cannot help you.

REFUNDS

There are NO refunds or credits on competitions, choreography, tuition, uniforms, accessories, etc. due to injuries, illness, removal from the team or choosing not to participate in our program. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Monthly tuition is a reflection of yearly costs. Therefore there will be NO REFUNDS or PARTIAL MONTHLY CREDITS if you choose not to continue to participate, are removed from a team, or join the program mid-month. There will be no refunds or credits given for short months (i.e. Gym Breaks, etc.). You can expect to have a small number of practices to be cancelled due to holidays, competitions, inclement weather and gym closings. Please understand there will be extra practices throughout the season that make up for any missed practices. There will be no prorating tuition for any reason. We reserve the right to withhold any uniform, clothing, accessories with the Team Illinois name or logo due to removal from team or choosing not to participate in the program.

MONTHLY TUITION

Tuition is due on the first of every month. If payments are not made on the due date you will have a five day grace period. On the 6th day your credit card WILL be charged and you will incur a \$10.00 late fee. It is important that our customers pay in a timely manner. We, too, have financial obligations, and rely on tuition payments in order to meet them.

Sibling Discount: The oldest child in a family will pay full tuition. Each additional family member will receive a \$25.00 per month discount.

YEARLY TUITION DISCOUNTS

Families have the option to pay for yearly tuition in full at registration & receive a 10% discount. If you choose to pay this in full, it is not refundable due to injuries, illness, removal from the program or choosing not to participate in the program.

TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS

Tuition is due on the first of every month. If payments are not made on the due date you will have a five day grace period. On the 6th day your credit card WILL be charged with a \$10.00 late fee. Cash and checks will be accepted. There will be two payment options for monthly tuition.

Option 1:

- Tuition will be paid by cash or check on the first day of the month.
- Each athlete is required to have a credit card on file as well. If your check returns NSF, Team Illinois will automatically use the credit card on file & add a \$25.00 service fee. If payment is not received by the first of the month you will have a five day grace period. On the 6th day your credit card WILL be charged & you will incur a \$10.00 late fee.

Option 2:

- Tuition will be charged automatically to your credit card on file on the first of the month.
- There will be a 3% service and handling fee on tuition for this option.
- Each athlete is required to keep a second credit card on file as well. If your preferred credit card returns NSF or invalid, Team Illinois will automatically use the second credit card on file.

ANNUAL GYM FEE

An annual gym fee is due once an athlete has accepted their position in the Team Illinois program. The gym fee includes: gym registration fees, insurance and free open gyms throughout the 2019-2020 season. Please note if you have more than one athlete in the program you only pay the registration fee for one athlete.

USASF ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP FEE

An annual USASF Athlete Membership fee for all athletes will begin August 1, 2019.

PRACTICE WEAR FEE

Each Team Illinois athlete is required to pay a practice wear fee. Our team members are required to wear a specific practice outfit to each practice to help our coaching staff find imperfections or problems in the routines, as well as creating a team atmosphere. Crossover athletes will incur an additional fee for any team specific practice wear for their second team.

CHOREOGRAPHY AND MUSIC FEE

Attendance at choreography is MANDATORY. No refunds or credits will be given. No partial choreography fees will be allowed. **If a member joins after choreography has taken place, they are still required to pay in full for choreography; no exceptions.** Crossover athletes will pay an additional choreography/music fee for their second team.

COACHING FEE

The coaching fee helps cover the annual costs associated with coaches' travel & accommodations. Additional coaches fees will apply for "bid" competitions.

NATIONALS FEE

The nationals fee will cover the costs associated with the Cheersport/NCA trips. Van/bus rental for team transportation and gym rental for team practices will be covered with this fee.

COMPETITION FEES

In addition to the monthly tuition fees, all competition fees are the responsibility of each athlete's family. Once the final competition schedule has been confirmed, the competition fees will be divided into five payments. If competition fees are not paid on time the staff reserves the right to remove your athlete from the routine until payment is received. Crossover athletes will incur additional competition fees.

UNIFORMS AND ACCESSORIES

Each member is responsible for incurring the cost of your uniform and required accessories depending on which program (novice - prep - elite) your athlete is a member of. The items listed below are traditionally included in the mandatory accessories for the season.

- Competition Uniform
- Warm Up Jacket (*New Members Only*)
- Backpack (*New Members Only*)
- Competition Make Up (*New Members Only*)
- Competition Hair Bows
- Sponsorship/Team T-Shirts



POST SEASON BID EVENTS

We will attend the US Finals with teams (prep - elite) who receive a paid bid and The Summit with teams (elite) who receive a paid or at-large bid. Once the bid is obtained an email will be sent out to the parents with information regarding the event. If an athlete cannot attend a replacement will be placed in the routine approximately one month in advance. Families will incur additional costs associated with accepting the bid.

US FINALS

April Tuition

Coaches Fee

Processing Fee (*will be divided evenly among the team*)

THE SUMMIT

April Tuition

Coaches Fee

Summit Apparel Fee

Athlete Travel Package

Airfare/Travel Expenses

ATTENDANCE

Accepting your spot in the Team Illinois program means that it is your obligation to attend ALL practices. When one member of a team is absent, it can keep a whole team from achieving their goals at that practice. If you do not get it right at practice, it is unlikely that it will go right at competition. We are willing to work around conflicts if they are brought to our attention before the calendar has been released for the month.

IMPORTANT: The staff has family and outside lives as well. If extra practices are scheduled, they are for the benefit of the team and a coach deems it necessary for that team's confidence and success. The Team Illinois staff is committed to your kids!

SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Our elite teams (and select prep teams) will have two days of team practice during the summer practice schedule. This schedule will run from June to the middle of August.

We use the summer to get ahead of our competition! Many athletes get stronger and advance their skills during the summer months. Practices are mandatory. We do want each family to enjoy their vacation time. Please take the following steps to notify your coach about your family vacation:

1. Fill out a conflict & absence notification form and turn into the front desk ONE MONTH prior to vacation.
2. Remind your coach or the director ONE WEEK prior to vacation.
3. Contact the gym to see what was accomplished at practice and learn any material you may have missed.

Our summer practice policy is; IF YOU ARE IN TOWN, WE NEED YOU AT PRACTICE. In the summer we do not have any team practices on the weekend to allow for our families to have the weekends to themselves.

COMPETITIVE SEASON PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Our elite teams (and select prep teams) competitive season schedule will start mid-August and run through the end of March. Each team will have two days of team practice during the competitive practice schedule.

Please notify us of obligations that your child may have and on what days during the school year by filling out the conflict & absence notification form (page 17) at registration. We will do our best to schedule practices according to the team's availability. However we have 125+ athletes in our program and cannot guarantee anything. Please be aware you may need to make adjustments to your schedule. The competitive season practice schedule will be available at the end of July.

We will do our best to work with any other extracurricular activity your athlete may be involved in. However, if your extracurricular coach refuses to work with our mandatory practices and competitions, you will have to choose which activity you will continue.

INJURY & ILLNESS POLICY

All injuries that require your athlete to not participate in practice will require a doctor's note. Athletes will still be required to attend practice and observe even though they cannot participate. All athletes returning from injury will be required to have a doctor's note to release them into practice or competition.

All illnesses that require your athlete to not participate in practice will require a doctor's note/note from the parent. Athletes will still be required to attend practice and observe even though they cannot participate. This can be overridden if the child is highly contagious.

ABSENCES

Team Illinois is a competitive program and we hope team members are aware of the importance of attending practice. We understand all families have conflicts from time to time. Please let us know in advance. Excessive tardiness or absence will result in dismissal from the competitive program.

Once our competitive season starts each athlete is only allowed ONE absence a month. Choose your absence wisely. We suggest you don't miss practice unless it is an emergency. There may be a time when you have to miss! If more than that occurs within a month your spot in the routine will be re-evaluated for the upcoming competitions.

Practice two weeks prior to competition cannot be missed for any reason. If your athlete does not participate in practice the last practice(s) before competition, they will not be allowed to compete at that competition. Please note that creating a WINNING routine is a process. It is of the utmost importance to have your athlete present.

Athletes may miss other important events at school or with friends and family to be a part of Team Illinois. Practice calendars are given out in advance so that athletes and families are aware of the practice schedule, and arrangements can be made to have your athlete at practice. Please communicate with us about anything that may interfere with your athlete's practice. If your athlete is going to be absent, regardless of the reason, you must contact the gym two hours prior to practice time via telephone. *If you are aware of a conflict in advance, please do not wait until the day of to inform us.*

COMPETITION ATTENDANCE

As a member of the Team Illinois program, you are obligated to attend competitions both locally and out of town. There are no exceptions, attendance is mandatory. It is the team member's responsibility to adhere to the competition schedule, even if it changes throughout the season. Information will be given to our athletes in a timely manner. It is the parent and athlete's responsibility to report to their team parent/coaches at the designated meeting locations on time and dressed in the proper attire.

If a competition is missed for any reason and a replacement needs to be put in, it is up to the coaches discretion if or when the athlete will be allowed to return to the routine.

IMPORTANT: If your athlete misses a Summit Bid competition for any reason and a replacement is put in, your athlete is NOT guaranteed their position on the team for the Summit. It is up to the coaches discretion on whether the replacement athlete or your athlete will compete with the team at the Summit.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is very important in maintaining a strong program. We will do our best at Team Illinois to keep you informed in a timely manner. All problems and concerns should be addressed before or after practice, never during.

E-mail is our main source of communication, however there is a mailbox system at the gym for the athletes and parents to use at every practice. It is the parent and athlete's responsibility to know what is going on with your team at all times. **CHECK YOUR MAILBOXES, AND E-MAILS REGULARLY.**



MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

GYM CLOSINGS

The following are dates when the gym will be closed. Please try and schedule family vacations at this time.

SUMMER BREAK

Friday, June 28th through Sunday, July 7th - Team practices resume Monday, July 8th

LABOR DAY

Friday, August 30th through Monday, September 2nd - Team practices resume Tuesday, September 3rd

THANKSGIVING

Wednesday, November 27th through Friday, November 29th - Team practices will resume Saturday, November 30th

WINTER BREAK

Sunday, December 22nd through Friday, January 3rd - Team practices will resume Saturday, January 4th

SPRING BREAK

As of right now, we WILL be practicing during all of the local school's scheduled spring breaks. Until the competition schedule is finalized - please do not make any spring break plans.

CHOREOGRAPHY

All music, cheers, dances, stunts and any choreography or ideas that are presented to the athletes during practices are to remain confidential and should not be discussed, taught or given to others outside of our program. An athlete may not use any Team Illinois material for their school team or other teams they may help coach.

No one is allowed to post Team Illinois music, choreography, routines, stunts, etc on any websites. This includes, but is not limited to "Instagram", "Facebook", "Twitter", "Snapchat" or "You Tube".

All decisions on the choreography of the routine are made in the best interest of the TEAM. No putting or questioning of the staff's decisions will be tolerated.

TRADEMARK AND LOGO REGULATIONS

The name "Team Illinois Cheer", team names and the star logos are the property of Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. and are protected under law. Permission is required before anyone may produce or sell any product that uses or displays our name or logo. All sales involving Team Illinois merchandise must go through Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. No one can produce ANYTHING with the words "Team Illinois Cheer", "TI Cheer" or the logo without Katie Sack's written permission. All items produced displaying team names must also be approved by Katie Sack. Furthermore, once permission is granted, all final designs must be approved before they can be produced. Any violation of this may result in dismissal of athletes from the Team Illinois Cheer program.

TEAM ILLINOIS BOOSTER CLUB

The Team Illinois Booster Club is a separate 501(c)3 organization that works independently with Team Illinois Cheer. It is governed by its own By-Laws and elected Executive Board. Membership in the Booster Club is optional and not required to participate in Team Illinois Cheer. The Team Illinois Booster Club was designed for the purpose of fundraising for the families of Team Illinois Cheer. It was established to help families subsidize the cost of competition fees and nationals through various fundraising efforts.

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Booster Club scholarship program is available to current graduating seniors who participate on a full season elite team with Team Illinois Cheer. Eligible athletes must be registered by the first day of practice in June. If there are no graduating seniors at the time of registration the scholarship program funds may be transferred to the following season. For any question or clarifications, contact the Booster Club Executive Board.

TEAM ILLINOIS SPONSORSHIP

Team Illinois provides a sponsorship t-shirt program for our elite teams (and select prep teams) to help offset costs. It is encouraged that every athlete obtains one sponsorship to cover the cost of the t-shirt. More information will be available during the summer months.

RULES & REGULATIONS

PRACTICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Team practices are very structured. In order to have the most efficient practice the following expectations have been established:

- All practices are mandatory. All absences, excused or unexcused, can potentially alter the athlete's role on their respective team.
- Please arrive 10 minutes prior to your practice time to put on your shoes, go to the bathroom, etc.
- No cell phones during practice. All athletes will need to silence your phone so it does not ring in the middle of practice.
- No excessive jewelry. Coaches reserve the right to ask athletes to remove their jewelry during practice. Coaches will not be responsible for jewelry handed to them or left in the gym.
- Practice wear must be worn on the specified days. Hair must always be worn in a HIGH ponytail with the proper bow. Videos & photos for social media will be taken at practice most times without warning.
- During practice athletes' opinions do not count. Team and routine decisions are left to the discretion of the coaches. Challenging the authority of the coach or person in charge by an athlete or parent can result in an automatic dismissal from the team. All problems and concerns should be addressed in a proper manner at an appropriate time and place. Please address the director/coach before or after practice, never during.
- Temper tantrums, outbursts, poor attitude, profanity, disrespect to others and excessive talking will not be tolerated.
- Gossiping about other team members is not allowed. Leave any differences you may have at the door. DO NOT bring them into the gym.
- During practice times only athletes and coaches will be allowed in the practice area.
- Team Illinois reserves the right to close any practice without prior notice. Closed practices mean that the curtains will be closed and parents/siblings will not be able to watch.

GYM RULES

- Only athletes and coaches are allowed in the practice area.
- No excessive jewelry. Coaches reserve the right to ask athletes to remove their jewelry during practice. Coaches will not be responsible for jewelry handed to them or left in the gym.
- Gossiping about other team members is not allowed.
- Cell phones must be turned on silent while in the gym.
- It is the athlete's responsibility to keep track of their own belongings in their cube. Team Illinois is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- No athlete is allowed on the gym equipment without coaches permission and supervision.
- No tumbling or stunting without coaches permission and supervision.

VIEWING AREA RULES

- No profanity or abusive language.
- Gossiping about other team members is not allowed.
- Parents are responsible to keep any siblings or friends in the parent viewing area at all times.
- Athletes and parents are expected to keep the viewing area/athlete room clean.
- Parents are not allowed to interrupt practice to speak to any team member or coach while practice is in session. This includes banging on the windows, entering the gym, etc.
- Complaining about your athlete's coach or any other gym matter in the viewing area is prohibited. Negative discussion about any athlete in the viewing area is prohibited. Parents deserve the right to watch their children without listening to the above. If this becomes a problem, you will be asked to leave.
- Parents who are overly negative or distracting will be asked to leave the parent viewing area and/or have their athlete permanently removed from our program. Occasionally some parents seem to enjoy spreading negativity and spite. Complaining to other parents does nothing but make other people miserable.

TEAM ILLINOIS ATHLETE GUIDELINES

Any infractions of the rules below will be handled in the following manner:

First offense – meeting with coaching staff, athlete, and parent

Second offense – will result in dismissal from the program

Rules and Regulations:

- No smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages, use of drugs or stealing.
- No challenging the authority of the coach or person in charge, by athlete or parent.
- No abusive behavior, lying or any other negative form of behavior.
- No negative behavior towards a Team Illinois member or to another gym via any medium (i.e. internet).
- No inappropriate pictures or language to be used on the internet (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.).

Leadership:

- Each athlete must be aware that no person has a right to be on Team Illinois, it is a privilege.
- Each athlete and parent must be aware of the responsibilities required and the commitment they are making to the TEAM and the program.
- Each athlete must realize the manner in which they conduct themselves while representing Team Illinois or not, directly reflects on the entire team and coach.
- Each athlete must be willing to work hard, take direction and strive for excellence.

Expectations:

- Athletes will set and maintain the highest examples of behavior in and out of the gym.
- Athletes will maintain the proper appearance with no extremes in apparel, hair, make-up, piercings or tattoos. This includes pink, purple or any un-natural hair color. The coaching staff's decision is final.
- Athletes will be ON TIME to ALL events.
- Athletes will do everything in their power to achieve personal and team goals.
- **Athletes are required to maintain the skills displayed at tryouts. Athletes make teams based on skills and performance. We have the right to move athletes around if they do not maintain their skills.**

Safety:

- Jeopardizing the safety of oneself or any other athlete is grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.
- Competitive cheerleading is a very strenuous sport. All of the athletes are expected to be in top physical condition. This includes flexibility, strength and endurance.

TEAM ILLINOIS PARENT OBLIGATIONS AND GUIDELINES

- Any negative behavior towards a Team Illinois athlete, the Team Illinois program, Team Illinois staff member or another gym, via any medium, can result in dismissal of your athlete from the program.
- Parents are to make sure their athlete is on time and attends all practices, events, and competitions.
- Parents are to inform the gym via phone AND email if the athlete is to be late or absent from practice at least two hours prior to practice time.
- Parents are to fulfill all financial obligations on time.
- Parents are to encourage and support your athlete to be the best they can be.
- Parents should not question the coaches' decision about the routine or practices. All problems and concerns should be addressed before or after practice, never during.
- It is the parent (athlete's) responsibility to know what is going on with your team at all times. CHECK YOUR MAILBOXES REGULARLY.
- Parents need to understand that cheerleading is a highly dangerous and competitive sport. The stunts and tumbling your athletes will be performing could lead to injuries. We as coaches will do our best to prevent any injuries from happening, however we cannot prevent everything.
- Parents are expected to set an example to not only their own athletes, but to all of our team members. Please make sure that your actions do not interfere with the responsibilities that you have as a representative of Team Illinois. We would not want to remove any athlete from our program because of the actions of their parents. We appreciate your support.
- We are a family at Team Illinois. Parents are asked to take the time to support not only their own athlete's team, but all of our teams at competitions.



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

COMMITMENT FORM

I have received a copy of the Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. Program Information for the 2019-2020 season. I have read, with my athlete, the information provided in the handbook and agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations of Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. I also accept the time commitment of practice, choreography, and competitions for the 2019-2020 season. In addition, I am aware of the financial responsibility that is a part of competitive cheerleading. I understand that if for any reason I remove my athlete from the program and/or my athlete is dismissed from the program there are no refunds for any financial payments. I understand that if at any time my actions conflict with the expectations of Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. it could result in removal from the program.

Parent/Guardian must **initial** each. Please read & initial the following important policies.

_____ I have read the packet in its entirety.

_____ I have read and agree with the financial plan for the 2019-2020 season. I agree to the payment option below:

_____ Payment Option #1 (cash/check) _____ Payment Option #2 (credit card)

_____ I have read and agree with the attendance expectations and policies.

_____ I have read and will abide by the rules and regulations set forth by Team Illinois Cheer, Inc.

_____ I understand that all fees are non-refundable due to injuries, illness, removal from the team or choosing not to participate.

_____ I understand that Team Illinois reserves the right to withhold any uniform, clothing, accessories with the Team Illinois name or logo due to removal from team or choosing not to participate in the program.

_____ I understand that I may communicate with coaches by email or by the gym phone.

_____ I understand that my athlete may be moved to a different team throughout the season.

_____ I understand that my athlete must maintain the skills displayed at evaluations or adjustments may be made to my child's team placement.

_____ I understand that Team Illinois retains the right to move, replace, add, suspend or even dismiss my athlete for a period of time or indefinitely from a team or the program based on, but limited to the following; attendance, finances, conduct, skills and parent conflicts.

_____ I understand if my athlete misses a Summit Bid competition, for any reason, and a replacement is put in, my athlete is not guaranteed their position on the team for the Summit.

Athlete Name

Athlete Signature

Parent Signature



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Everyone will provide a credit card number to have on file at the gym. If at any point you fail to make the required payments to Team Illinois Cheer, Inc. we reserve the right to charge the credit card for your amount owed.

If your check returns NSF or payment is not received by the first of the month, Team Illinois will automatically use the credit card on file and add a \$25.00 service fee for any NSF checks.

If your preferred credit card returns NSF or invalid, Team Illinois will automatically use the second credit card on file.

There will be a 3% service and handling fee on tuition for credit card transactions.

Credit card on file must have an expiration date after 05/20.

Everyone must fill out the information below:

Card #1:

Type of Card: Visa Mastercard American Express Discover Other: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ 3 digit code: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name (as it appears on the card): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Card #2 (only needed if you choose Payment Option 2):

Type of Card: Visa Mastercard American Express Discover Other: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ 3 digit code: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name (as it appears on the card): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



TEAM ILLINOIS CHEER

CONFLICT/ABSENCE NOTIFICATION FORM

Athlete Name: _____ Team: _____

Parent Cell: _____ Parent Email: _____

COMPETITIVE SEASON CONFLICTS

Please list any conflicts or special requests for practice during the competitive season (mid-August 2019 through May 2020) that you are aware of. Please be as specific as possible with days/times and reasons.

Please Note: We try our best to work around as many conflicts as possible while making the competitive season practice schedule. Listing your special requests/conflicts below is extremely helpful but does not guarantee we will work around them. We may not be able to accommodate everyone and you may need to make adjustments to your schedule.

VACATIONS/ABSENCES

Please include any vacations/absences you already have pre-planned for the entire year (June 2019 - May 2020). This should include any vacations, trips, camps, etc. that have been scheduled.

Please Note: Make sure you review the technique week, choreography dates, gym breaks & the tentative competition schedule so you are aware of what dates are mandatory & cannot be missed.

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

Dates Absent: _____ to _____ Return to Practice Date: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please provide us with the following information for your athlete & their school district dates for the upcoming season.

First Day of School (Fall of '19): _____

Winter Break: _____ to _____

Spring Break: _____ to _____