



## **Allstar Cheerleading 2017 Info Packet**

“At Winnersville Elite Cheer & Dance, our main focus is the proper instruction and training for all cheer and dance students.... Competition is not just about winning trophies, but a chance to teach life lessons about sportsmanship and hard work.”

–Our Mission

Winnersville Elite Cheer & Dance  
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To all Potential All-Stars and Parents:

I would like to welcome you to Winnersville Elite Cheer & Dance. Attached you will find the paperwork that needs to be completed and brought to the gym on or before the day of All-Star Placements. Please carefully review the Placement Packet in the following pages and contact Desiree Hagan if you have any questions. Being an Allstar is a very expensive and time-consuming sport. WE will make every effort to inform you of all possible costs and event dates up front. Each parent needs to seriously consider the time requirements and financial requirements of the sport before making a commitment for their child.

WE take a lot of pride in our staff and program and WE hope you will too. Our teams have won Cheersport Nationals, the nation's largest competition, along with many other National Titles over the years. As our reputation proves, this gym was designed to be an Elite program and therefore our rules may be different than other gyms you may have attended.

Our gym is a 'closed practice' facility, which means that parents and spectators are not allowed in the gym area to watch the practices unless invited in by a coach. There are times when we do allow parents to watch, however this is at the coaches discretion. Please do not ask to go in the gym. By operating as a 'closed practice' facility, the students and coaches are able to stay focused on their tasks and therefore get more out of their time at the gym. The same goes for Placements and Evaluations. No one will be allowed inside the training facility during these times. Coaches will address all families once evaluations have been completed.

During your child's time at our gym, we ask that they give the coaches their undivided attention at all times and the coaches will give them theirs in return. Please have them bring their belongings in a bag that can be put away during their evaluation and future practices. There are hooks on the wall in the gym and lockers available for daily use, to keep these bags off the floor (for safety reasons) and out of the lobby area. We cannot be responsible for anything left unattended in the lobby.

You will be given all the information for the upcoming competition season once all evaluations have been completed and team placements are announced. This will include a payment schedule and outline of all related costs, competition schedule, practice times, and fundraiser opportunities to assist you with the cost for the year. The majority of the fundraisers will be over the summer when the athletes have more free time to participate but these are up to the parents to plan and organize with the approval of our administrator. This will also assist you during the months when the larger payments are due. Please feel free to participate as often as you want.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at: [susan@winnersvilleelite.com](mailto:susan@winnersvilleelite.com). I hope you enjoy your time at our gym.

Susan Colson, Owner

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## FAQ'S:

**1. Q: How much does it cost to be an Allstar Cheerleader?**

**A:** You can expect to pay an average of \$250-\$300/month\* towards your iClassPro account. This includes all tuitions, competition fees, coaches fees, uniform, practice wear, etc. The fees billed each month are not exact each month and will vary. However, they do tend to decrease towards the middle-end of the season.

\*Tiny Teams and Prep Level Teams typically have a lower monthly fee.

**2. Q: Does this amount include travel expenses?**

**A:** No. Each family is required to provide their own transportation to and from events and their own hotel accommodations (if necessary). WE will have group blocks for most competitions and often times, families share rooms to share the cost. Allstar cheer teams typically travel out of town once a month from November/December – April/May and are the responsibility of the family. A two day competition weekend can cost anywhere between \$250-\$500 after hotel, spectator fees, food, etc. This is not to discourage you from participating in allstars but to better prepare you for what to expect.

**3. Q: What if I have two athletes that want to be an allstar?**

**A:** WE have improved our sibling discount for allstars to make it more affordable so that both children can participate if they choose to do so. Tuition is 50% off for the second child and no coach's fees will be billed to their account. Unfortunately, all other expenses are set by outside vendors and cannot be discounted.

**4. Q: Do we have to purchase a new uniform each year?**

**A:** No, unless it is a uniform buying year WE keep the same uniforms for several season. Outgrowing a uniform is the only reason you would need to purchase a new uniform outside of a uniform buying year. The same goes for their warm-up jackets and pants. However, WE do purchase new practice wear each season.

**5. Q: How do you select teams?**

**A:** Teams are selected based on the age and skills of each individual. We select teams to be the most competitive in each level. Sometimes this means putting athletes on teams that have more or less "skill" than the level they are competing in.

**6. Q: When can my child "move up"?**

**A:** An athlete can be moved up or down to a different team based on their individual skills and performance abilities. Teams are based on age and skill levels. Team members will not officially be placed until choreography camp. Any decision to move an athlete after that time is solely at the coach's discretion. Just because your athlete gains skills during the season does not mean that the team is ready to move to the





next level. WE set a standard for our athletes to master every aspect of the sport before changing divisions.

**7. Q: Why did my daughter lose her “spot” in the routine?**

**A:** There are no assigned “spots”. Adjustments are made to routines throughout the year to make it better. We will adjust formations as needed for the flow and choreography of the routine in order to max out the score sheets. If an athlete loses a skill or is not executing it properly the coach has the right to take it out of the choreography. CHANGE IS NORMAL in this sport and you can expect to see many changes throughout the season. Changes are not always performance based and sometimes are made solely for convenience of the choreography.

**8. Q: Can my daughter fly?**

**A:** If the coach feels that your daughter should be a flyer, she will be. There are a lot of factors used to determine who the flyers will be such as: flexibility, steadiness, ability to pull and hold body positions, consistency, height & weight of the flyer, height and strength of the bases, etc. Every person on a team is just as important as another and flyers and bases will be grouped together for the best stunt sequences possible.

**9. Q: Why do some parents bad mouth the coaches, athletes or other teams?**

**A:** We have no idea! Please do not do so yourself. WE pride ourselves on maintaining a high standard of sportsmanship and respect for our peers and will not tolerate any negative behavior.

**10. Q: What if we have a family vacation planned?**

**A:** If you have a vacation already planned prior to placements, WE ask that you include that info in your application. After placements, all mandatory dates are release therefore no exceptions will be made and you are expected to plan around your child’s schedule.

**11. Q: Where will my daughter fit in on a team that has already been established?**

**A:** Teams change each year. However, WE do try to build chemistry among athletes with the same skill set over the years. Rest assured that if your athlete is placed on a team with “athletes that have been together for years” that there is still a spot for them. This industry allows room for athletes to grow without penalizing the team on the scoresheet. (i.e. A team with 20 athletes only needs 15 of them doing the skill to get full credit.)





# Allstar Cheerleading Policies and Expectations

## Our Mission

At Winnersville Elite Cheer & Dance, our main focus is the proper instruction and training for all cheer and dance students. It is so important to teach correct technique, execution, and skills to have a great and successful program. Our goal is to show our dancers and cheerleaders that with hard work, dedication, and passion, you can achieve anything. Not only do WE believe in training successful athletes but, WE also believe in raising their emotional maturity, self-esteem, and self-confidence. It is our mission to teach life lessons that will stay with our athletes long after their athletic career.

## Our Commitment

Winnersville Elite is committed to making your athlete the best they can be. WE reserve the right to place each athlete on the team that will be the best fit for them and the program and will decide what role each person plays on the team. Because WE are committed to training elite athletes, we may request for an athlete to take additional classes if we feel it is necessary.

## Your Commitment

Your commitment to our program each season is not only the athlete's responsibility but the parents' as well. Practices and team functions are not to be used as a punishment at any point. The success of each team depends on its' team members. The team as a whole cannot reach its full potential without every member participating. Once you are placed on a team, you have committed to the season and are not done until the last performance which is *The BIG Show!* Every spot on the team is just as important as the others therefore no individual attitudes will be tolerated.

There is no excuse for being uninformed about events regarding your athlete when the information has been provided to you. Please make sure that you stay up to date on any competitions, extra practices, and events that may come up.

## Your Behavior

Your behavior is a direct reflection of our program. Our athletes are expected to be respectful and courteous to coaches and teammates at all times. Negative comments, facial expressions, looks, gestures, etc. are not acceptable and will be reprimanded appropriately if necessary. WE reserve the right to dismiss any athlete that continues to have behavioral

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problems. Also, WE ask that you maintain a classy and respectable image on social media and represent Winnersville Elite in the best way possible, especially when wearing *WEapparel* or posting videos representing our program.

## Practices

Summer practices require a tumbling class, stunt class, and jump class. All athletes are expected to attend summer classes unless they have notified the coach of a conflict. After choreography, each team will have a minimum of 2 team practices and 1 required tumbling class each week. Additional classes and/or practices may be added at any time during the season at the coaches' discretion.

Practices are closed at all times unless notified otherwise. Parents, siblings, friends, etc. are not allowed in the practice area before or after practices unless invited in by a coach. Please refrain from posting videos that do not show the teams full potential. WE understand that you are very proud of them, just as WE are, but want to ensure that others see their full potential. WE appreciate your cooperation with this as WE believe this allows us to effectively train our athletes. This is not to 'hide' anything from our parents but to eliminate unnecessary distractions. Parent viewing is a privilege and when there is something to show you will be the first to see. If you have any questions or concerns about what you 'heard' at practice please take them directly to the coach. Lobby gossip will not be tolerated.

## Sick Policy

If your athlete is sick please contact your coach immediately. Unless your athlete is contagious or running a fever they will be expected to attend practices. They may bring a pillow and blanket but, if changes are made they will need to be aware of them in order to be prepared once they are healthy again. A doctor's note will be required if anyone is too sick to attend practice. WE ask that you do everything possible to keep your athlete healthy and WE will do the same.

## Competitions

You are required to attend all competitions during the season; no exceptions will be made unless there are extreme circumstances that you have discussed with your coach. Competitions are chosen by the coaches' discretion. They reserve the right to add or remove competitions throughout the year based on what they see as best for the team.

All important information will be sent home at practice as well as emailed. It is your responsibility to make sure that you stay informed throughout the season. If at any time you feel that you may have missed something, please ask.

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## Quitting/Dismissal from a Team

If you are dismissed from a team or choose to quit during the season, all monies paid will be forfeited and you will be responsible for paying all remaining fees. This includes but is not limited to tuition, competition fees, etc. Any outstanding fees will automatically be drafted each month and collective action will be taken on all uncollected balances. WE ask that you do not make the decision to *join OR quit* lightly. All fees are based on the number of athletes on a team so **if you quit, you will still be required to pay all billed and unbilled amounts.**

## Hotel & Travel

Most competitions are 'Stay to Play' competitions and require certain hotels if overnight travel is required. You will be provided with a hotel packet that includes booking instructions for all competitions. All travel expenses are the responsibility of the parent/guardian and are not included in tuition.

## Outside Activities

School sports are not discouraged if you are on an allstar team. However, WE do ask that your team at Winnersville Elite remains your top priority. Only competition cheer or dance teams with the schools will be considered potential reasons to be excused from allstar practices.

## End of the Year Performance & Banquet

All allstar members are required to participate in our end of the year performance, *The BIG Show!* Once a date is set you will be notified.

WE also love to celebrate the year's achievements with a banquet and hope that you will attend. Banquet fees are not included in tuition and will be billed accordingly.

## Financial Commitment

Once your athlete has been placed on a team you are committing to a full season of required fees. These fees include but are not limited to the following:

- Tuition
- Competition Fees
- USASF Membership Fees
- Uniform
- Warm-Ups
- Practice Wear
- Competition Bow
- Choreography Camp
- Music Fees
- Coach's Fees

\*Shoes are to be purchased on your own. WE prefer the Nfinity brand.

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## Loyalty Program

WE now offer Loyalty Program for all of our athletes that choose to be a part of our competitive programs. This incentive-based program came about as a way for Winnersville Elite to give back to our customers that remain loyal to the program year after year. Each year an athlete is a member of one of our competitive programs they will receive \$10.00 off of their monthly tuition.\*

Ex: After year one on a cheer or dance team at Winnersville Elite the returning athlete would receive a tuition discount of \$10/month. After year 5, the returning athlete would receive a tuition discount of \$50/month.

As an additional way to earn tuition credit, any athlete that *refers someone else* to a competition program at Winnersville Elite will have their evaluation fee credited back to their account. This credit then will be applied towards tuition.

\*Base fee of \$50/month tuition. No discounts will be given below the base fee.

## Sponsorships

Winnersville Elite does not offer in house sponsorships towards our allstar programs simply because with 200+ athletes that is unfortunately not an option. However, WE do have sponsorship forms for anyone who would like to find outside sponsorships. This is a great way to help offset the expenses of being on an allstar cheerleading team or a member of WEDC. If you would like a sponsorship form or have additional questions please email us at [administrator@winnersvilleelite.com](mailto:administrator@winnersvilleelite.com) or pick one up at the front desk.

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## 2016 Evaluation Dates:

May 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Infor Meeting      6:00pm  
May 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015              4:00pm-7:00pm

Evaluations will be held throughout the week on a one-on-one basis. You only have to come one day for the duration of your evaluation. Please sign up for an evaluation time at the front desk. \*You will not have to stay for the entire time allotted.

## Evaluation Fees:

Paid On or Before May 1<sup>st</sup> – \$50 \$25 for second child.  
Paid After May 1<sup>st</sup> – \$75 \$35 for second child.  
Returning Allstars – \$25 Second child is free.

The evaluation fee includes a program t-shirt. This fee is not a part of your regular allstar billing cycle and will not be applied towards any additional fees.

## How Will Allstar Athletes Be Evaluated?

Allstar athletes will be evaluated based on their skills as listed above and will be placed on teams for further evaluation over the duration of the summer. It is important that the athlete attends all summer practices and continues progressing skills, as these practices will be the deciding factor for final team placements prior to choreography. Initial team placements will be announced immediately following allstar placements. All team placements are at the discretion of our coaching staff but are ultimately up to the head coach for each program. However, if an athlete works hard throughout the summer to obtain new skills, that athlete may earn the right to be moved up. Again, any decisions regarding changes in team placement will be at the discretion of the coaches and their decision will be final.

### The coaching staff will evaluate each cheerleader on the following criteria\*:

- Age (starting at age 3)
- Skill Level
- Tumbling Technique
- Jump Technique
- Stunting Ability (flyer, base, back-spot)
- Willingness to accept change and instruction
- Overall attitude and attendance from the past season, if applicable

\*The age of the competitor as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 will be the age used for competition purposes throughout the 2017-2018 season for all *allstar cheerleading* divisions.

\*Please note that all age and skill are welcomed for team placements.

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## Things to do **BEFORE** placements:

- Pay Evaluation Fee
- Turn In Placement Packet
- Birth Certificate (New Members Only)
- iClass Pro Account
- Accept Online Policies

\*\*Please note that all athletes that are evaluated will be placed on a team unless there is not a team for their age/skill. If this situation arises, the evaluation fee will be fully refunded and accommodations will be made.

**This packet is intended to prepare you in advance for what you are committing to. It may seem overwhelming seeing it all on paper so please talk to a coach if you have any questions prior to placements.**

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