

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Your child is a member of the Superstars Cheer Competition Team.

The Competition Cheer Team has established a tradition of excellence, culminating in another successful season this past year. We are excited to continue that tradition again this year. Being a member of the team will provide wonderful opportunities for each student. It will enhance their skills as a performer, in addition to giving them the confidence to perform in public as a member of a team as well as an individual. The structure of the program is designed to improve the abilities of each cheerleader. Included in this letter are some of the guidelines and expectations required of each team member.

Please read the information in this letter carefully to make sure you understand the expectations and responsibilities of all team members! Each student and parent will be asked to sign a contract before September 30th on the expectations spelled out in this letter. By signing, accountability to all rules and regulations is assumed.

CLASSES:

Competition Team members are required to take the following classes at the studio:

1. Cheer Competition Class

-Cheer competition class is the primary class students take to learn cheerleading skills, jumps, cheers and their competition routine for the season. Throughout the season students will work on improving their cheer technique as well as continuing to learn and perfect their routine and performance skills.

2. Tumbling

-Tumbling is a fundamental part of cheerleading. Therefore, competition team members are required to take a tumbling class to focus on these skills. The tumbling class can be taken at the tumbling level of the student. Classes are offered on Monday and Wednesday nights.

COSTUMES:

Members of the competition team will have a cheer uniform. These uniforms will be worn at competitions throughout the season, in addition to extra performances and the recital. The costume fee will cover the cost of the uniforms and any accessories that go with the uniform with the exception of shoes. Please refer to the included fee list for more detailed information on uniforms. In addition, members will be responsible for the costume required for their tumbling class.

WARM-UPS:

Each member of the team has the option to purchase a matching warm-up jacket that may be worn over their uniform at all performances and competitions. The competition jackets for the cheer team are **optional**, but do promote team unity and spirit. The cost for the warm-up jackets is **\$85 plus tax**. We suggest ordering big so that the jackets can be worn for several years.

SHOES:

Members of the team will be required to purchase a pair cheer shoes. Matching shoes make for a unison look on the floor. There are no special requirements for practice shoes and they may be an old pair from a previous year. These shoes will need to be ordered by September 30th and are **\$45 plus tax**.

HAIR & MAKE-UP:

All girls will be required to purchase the **SAME** make-up for competitions. Again, a unison look on the floor is best and when team members have different colors on their face, it breaks up the continuity of the group and overall look of their performance. Colors will be chosen once uniforms are in. As the competition season approaches, you will be given a list of required make-up to purchase on your own from any retailer or department store in the area.

Once again, a unison look during the performance is essential and hair is no exception. Hair style requirements will be handed out with make-up requirements at the arrival of the uniforms.

PRACTICES:

Please make sure you come to all practices in appropriate attire with your hair pulled back. It is also asked that you come to tumbling and cheer practice already stretched out and ready to rehearse. Time is limited and we want to spend as much time on tumbling and cheer instruction. You can stretch at home before coming to the studio or you can arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled class and stretch in the lobby or unoccupied studios. It is crucial that you stretch before class, so please make sure you take the time to do so!

COMPETITIONS:

Each team will compete 4 times throughout the season. Two competitions typically take place in the Des Moines area while two competitions are out-of-state. The out-of-state competitions may take place in Omaha and Minneapolis in order to expose the team to other studios and styles. The group entry fees for each entry at a competition are \$30 per cheer member for **each routine** they enter in the competition.

A schedule of which competitions the team will participate in and their dates has been finalized and can be seen below. The competition schedule will be posted on the competition website and the bulletin board outside Studio C. Most competitions are scheduled for Saturday or Sunday of a given weekend. Please clear your day for the competition. Unfortunately, the competitions will not advise us as to our performances times until a week before each competition. Therefore, it is impossible for us to know when your child will perform - it could be any time!

Below you will find the 2009-2010 cheer competition schedule. Please make sure you block these days in your calendars now. All competitions are **mandatory** for all squad participants. Specific information on each competition will be handed-out as the dates get closer with call times, performance times, and other information.

Sunday, December 6 th :	Winterfest	Ankeny, IA
Sunday, January 24 th :	Spirit of America	Minneapolis, MN
Saturday, January 30 th :	Wacky Jam	Omaha, NE
*February:	Hawkeye Cheer	Iowa City, IA

*Dates for this competition have not been set until Iowa's basketball season is finished scheduling. Tentative dates include the second weekend in February.

Competitions are **MANDATORY!** There will be consequences for any member that does not attend a competition and will be determined at the discretion of the directors. The teams work hard all year for the competition weekends and it is unfair to all team members and their families if any given team member does not participate. Extenuating circumstances that may contribute to missing a competition can be discussed with the directors - however, there is no guarantee that consequences will not be applied.

COMPETITION WEBSITE:

The competition teams at the studio have a website strictly for them: <http://superstarscompetition.com>. This website will be the center for all important information regarding the team. Announcements, schedules, checklists, requirements ... *you name it* ... will be posted to this site. You are **strongly** urged to check this site weekly for updates.

ACCOUNTS:

It's essential that all accounts remain in good standing throughout the year so we can continue to offer this wonderful opportunity to our students. Entry fees will be figured into your tuition. Refer to the attached sheet for information regarding additional fees.

RECITAL:

Members of the team will perform in two recitals.

If you are a returning member of the competition team, thank you for all your hard work last season! You represented the Superstars in such a great way! If you are a new member, WELCOME! Get ready to become an important part in the wonderful tradition of the Superstars Competition Teams!

**We reserve the right to alter or change these rules and guidelines as we see necessary in order to best benefit the studio and the team.*