

The Academy 2011-2012



Team Placement Information



Be a Part of the BEST!!!



★ Team Placement Packet

★ PLACEMENTS - MAY 28th

★ Levels 4 & 5, 9:30—12:00

★ Levels 1, 2, 3—12:30—3:00

- ★ Please attend the session of the highest level team you are interested in being considered for.
- ★ If you cannot attend placements on the 28th, please contact the gym at 570-487-1935 to schedule a private placement.
- ★ We STRONGLY encourage everyone to place now, even if you are unable to attend the summer practices. We will be actively filling the teams through the summer months, as well as choreographing ALL routines. You can reserve your spot on a team and participate in choreography if you place now. We will still allow for placements in September and later, however, if the team you were looking to be on is filled at that time, you will be given a spot on another team where available.

★ Parent Information & Welcome Meetings:

★ May 27th, 6:00—7:00

★ Open Gym and Placement Practice:

★ These practices will be for working any tumbling, stunting or toss skills that you would like to show at placements. A short choreographed sequence of motions, jumps, and tumbling will be taught.

★ May 24th, 6:00—8:00

★ May 25th, 6:00—8:00

★ May 27th, 5:00—7:30

★ Other Important Summer Dates:

★ **Choreography Camps: Please Note: These are Tentative Dates**

★ **Senior Teams (Level 3, 4, 5): July 30th—August 7th**

★ **Other Level 2 and 3 Teams: August 8th—12th**

★ **Woodward Camp: June 19th—25th**

★ **Guest Instructor Tumbling Clinics—TBD More info to come!!**

★ **Get Ready For Another Amazing Year!!!**



Team Placements and Divisions

Age Brackets

In order to avoid eligibility changing throughout the year, an industry wide cut off date is determined. **August 31, 2011** will determine an athlete's "competition age" for the entire season.

Tiny—Ages 3-5

Mini—Ages 8 and younger

Youth—Ages 11 and younger

Junior—Ages 14 and younger

Senior—Ages 18 and younger

Levels

There are five different levels offered in all-star cheerleading. The "level" refers to the type of stunts, pyramids, tumbling and tosses that a team can safely perform. Athletes with similar level abilities are usually placed together to form a team that will have at least 85% of the members of that team performing skills equivalent to the level they are competing at.

Therefore, through our placement process, each athlete will be leveled according to their ability in categories listed later in this packet. Similarly leveled athletes with similar abilities will comprise each team.

THE ACADEMY is always working hard to form the best, most well-rounded teams. To give each team a strong competitive advantage, the majority of team members (85% or more) must have the hardest skill required in each level. If the majority of the team members do not have the required level skills, then that team will compete at a lower all-star level.

Cheerleaders must have competition ready skills before moving to the next level. Cheerleaders may be working on new skills, but may not be placed in the corresponding level at placements. ONLY skills that have been completely mastered will be considered during the placement process. If a cheerleader learns a new skill and improves, there will be an opportunity for them to be re-leveled later in the summer. If a cheerleader performs required skills at evaluations, but then loses skills due to lack of attention, or attitude, they may be reassigned to a lower level.

Evaluation Information

Dress code: shorts, t-shirt, cheerleading sneakers. Hair is to be worn up in a pony, and no jewelry/piercings allowed.



Evaluation Procedure

1. Fill out the appropriate forms and bring them with you (see checklist in packet) to your evaluation.
2. Attend the scheduled evaluation, or contact the gym for a private placement session.
3. Relax....it will be fun!! No stress allowed at our evaluations.

What to Expect at Evaluations

Remember there is a place for **everyone**—NO tumbling, NO Stunting or Toss Experience Required. All athletes will be leveled according to USASF criteria for all-star levels and athlete credentialing. For more information on the USASF and all-star cheer levels, please visit www.USASF.net.

Tumbling:

There is no minimum skill needed for placements. Please do not let the lack of a skill prevent you from attending evaluations.

Everyone will have an opportunity to demonstrate their best running tumbling pass and standing tumbling skill. These skills will be evaluated without a spot on the spring floor. We will watch a skill on the tumble trak, but will not evaluate a skill performed there. Examples of skill levels:

Level 1—Back Walkover, Front Walkover, Round-off

Level 2—Front Handspring, Standing Back Handspring (BHS),
Round-off Back Handspring

Level 3—Double Standing BHS, Round-off Handspring Tuck, Punch Front

Level 4—Standing Tuck, Round-off Handspring Layout

Level 5—Toe Touch Back Tuck, BHS to Full Twist, Round-off Handspring Full Twist

Stunting:

Level 1—Prep Cradle, Liberty below prep level.

Level 2—Extension Cradle, Liberty or variation at prep level.

Level 3—Extension full down, Liberty or variation at extended level.

Level 4—Prep double down, Liberty or variation with a full down dismount.

Level 5—Liberty double down.

Tosses:

Level 1—N/A

Level 2—Straight ride basket toss.

Level 3—Toe touch or turbo (full twist) basket toss.

Level 4—Kick full basket toss.

Level 5—Kick double full basket toss.



Cheer Technique and Presentation:

We will also teach and evaluate cheer jumps and motions. A short motion sequence to music will be taught to each cheerleader. This will help us evaluate each cheerleader's sharpness in motion technique, timing, and showmanship.

Team Placement

During the placement process, all athletes will simply be leveled in the following areas: Stunting, Tumbling, and Tosses. The levels each athlete will be assessed at will correspond to the industry cheer levels which we will compete at as set by the USASF (United States All Star Federation.) When placing athletes, we will be base our decisions on ability first and then age. Teams may or may not be structured the same as they were in the past. Our decisions will be based on the athletes currently in the program and their current skills.

There may be cheerleaders on any given team that tumble at a different level than the rest of their teammates. We try to match up the athletes by level as best we can, but please remember that stunting, pyramids, jumps, dance, motions, and age are huge factors as well. It is simply not feasible (or desirable) for every team to have 20-30 exactly matched cheerleaders. Some will be stronger tumblers than other. Some will help us out with stunts more than others. Every cheerleader is on a team for a reason—please trust your staff. This season we are working harder than ever to encourage every cheerleader to improve their skills, even if it means working on skills that are above what is allowed in routines at their team's current level.

IMPORTANT– PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY:

Please note that no cheerleader has an absolute guarantee of a spot on a particular team, no matter which team the were on, or double teamed to, the previous year. The coaching staff will take many things into consideration this year, **including past commitment levels, whether or not the athlete missed, came late or left practices early for other activities. A team cannot progress unless everyone is committed.** The coaching staff reserves the right, at any time, without notice, to change the rosters of the teams by adding, rearranging, or removing cheerleaders to/from teams for a performance or practice. Cheerleaders may be removed from our program at any time for reasons which include but are not limited to: poor sportsmanship, attitude problems, absences and/or tardiness, lack of improvement, lack of financial responsibility, and conflicts between cheerleaders, coaches, parents, or anyone else involved in our program or any other all-star programs. **There will be no refunds of tuition given in the event of removal from a team.**

Please review the handbook for all THE ACADEMY guidelines and policies.



Double Teamers/Crossovers

Double Teamers, also referred to as crossovers, are athletes that commit to and compete on more than one team.

If you are interested in being considered for double teaming, please note this on your Placement Consent Form found in this packet.

Rules for Double Teaming:

- Double teamers are selected after you are assigned your team through the placement process.
- Double teamers are selected on an 'as needed' basis.
- If you doubled teamed to a higher level team the previous year, you may or may not be allowed to double team "up" for the new season. We are sometimes able to give athletes the opportunity to double team to a higher level, but every year, as enrollment changes and abilities change, there may or may not be a spot to allow your athlete the same opportunity.
- You must be able to uphold ALL commits to the multiple teams you are assigned to, including but not limited to practice schedule, competition schedule, additional tuition, additional competition fees, etc.
- If for some reason, you cannot continue to be on more than one team, then you must forfeit your position on the teams to are double teaming to and remain on the team you were originally placed.

Double Team/Crossover Tuition:

Additional monthly tuition per team—\$30.00

Please follow monthly tuition policy for paying your double team tuition fee and competition fee policy for double team competition fees.

Summer Practice Schedule (June—August)

Will be determined once teams have been set. Please check the Members Area of the website for this information, or contact the gym at 570-487-1935.

What you'll need to bring with you!

Placement Check List:

Be sure to review the **2011-2012 Program Handbook!**

Please note: ALL previous accounts must be brought current in order to participate in Team Placements.

- REGISTRATION FORM (In Program Handbook)**
- MEDICAL RELEASE (In Program Handbook)**
- ATHLETE VACATION/CONFLICT FORM (In Program Handbook)**
- VIDEO/PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE FORM (In Program Handbook)**
- PAYMENT POLICY AGREEMENT (In Program Handbook)**
- PLACEMENT CONSENT FORM (In Team Placement Packet)**
- \$75 REGISTRATION FEE**
- HEALTH INSURANCE CARDS**

Please provide a copy of your athlete's Health Insurance Card at placements—a copy of the card will be kept on file.

GET READY FOR AN AMAZING YEAR!!!!





Placement Consent Form

I, _____ as parent/guardian of _____
agree to the terms set forth in the handbook for the season 2011 - 2012. I wish for my
child to be considered for:

(Please check all the teams that you wish to be considered for:)

- Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4
- Level 5
- Yes, I would like to double-team this year. (You
must be able to uphold the commitment of both teams
you are assigned to.) **Double-teamers will be selected
ONLY on an "as needed" basis.**

By signing this form, I understand and agree to uphold my obligations of participation in the program.

Parent Signature: _____

Childs Name: _____

Date: _____