

**The Master's Cheerleading Association
2006-2007 All-Star Cheerleading Program
Information Packet and Squad Contract**

Introduction

Goals

Eligibility and Requirements

Parent Responsibilities

Tuition

Uniforms

Annual Fundraiser

Rules of the Gym

Practice Information

Competitions

Removal from the Squad

Squad Contract

Introduction

The Master's Cheerleading Association (MCA) is a division of The Master's School of Gymnastics. The MCA All-Star Squads are designed to offer not only an opportunity to girls who would like the experience of competitive cheerleading, but also an opportunity to develop individual skills to prepare for school cheerleading. This packet is designed to inform the parents and participants of the requirements for squad eligibility as well as the commitment involved.

Goals

- To keep a steady stream of talented athletes flowing into the local schools' cheer programs
- To continuously improve on the five basic principles of cheerleading: cheer execution, jumps, tumbling, building, and dance
- To fully develop each individual's cheering ability through motivation, proper instruction, and safety

Eligibility and Requirements

Eligibility

- Students who will be in the 4th through 9th grade in the Fall of 2006
- Return the attached agreement ***signed by both the student and parent***
- **Any student on a local school cheerleading squad OR another competitive cheerleading squad is INELIGIBLE to participate in our All-Star Program.**

Requirements

- All squad members must participate in all squad activities, which include, but are not limited to, regular and additional practices, all scheduled competitions, and local parades or exhibitions.
- All squad members must maintain a grade point average of C or better. It is the responsibility of the parents to inform the coaching staff if their child is having difficulties in this area. Failure to meet this requirement will result in probation and possible suspension from the squad.
- Strenuous exercise and long practices are sometimes necessary, especially during the competition season. Each member must develop and maintain a high degree of physical fitness in order to perform the required skills. Any member who fails to meet this requirement as determined by the coaching staff will be dismissed from the squad.

Parent Responsibilities

- Check the MCA bulletin board and your child's folder often for updated information.
- **Please stay off of the floor! Remember that parents or siblings of squad members are never allowed in the gym area, on the trampolines, or on other gymnastics equipment.**
- If you have questions about billing, please call the office and speak with Heather. Coaches will NOT be allowed to answer billing questions.

Tuition

Your MCA tuition consists of 4 separate payments. If any portion of your fees become past due, your child's participation in practice and/or competitions may be suspended until fees are paid.

1. \$150 non-refundable commitment fee
 - a. This fee is returned to you IF your child competes with the squad through the official end of the squad season AND your account with The Master's is paid in full.
 - b. This fee is NOT returned if you withdraw from the squad for any reason prior to the official end of the squad season.
 - c. If this fee is paid prior to May 31, 2006, your child is eligible for a free MCA jacket.
 - d. This fee MUST be paid prior to MCA camp, the last week in July, for your child to continue with the MCA squad in August.
2. \$350 competition fees
 - a. All payments are non-refundable and do NOT include any necessary travel expenses for your child and/or your family to competitions.
 - b. The fees are payable in one lump sum at any point PRIOR to MCA camp the last week in July - OR -
 - c. The fees are payable in monthly installments of \$35 from May to February - OR -
 - d. The fees are payable in one sum of \$105 (for May, June and July) and then in monthly installments of \$35 from August to February.
3. Monthly tuition
 - a. All payments are nonrefundable and are due by the 10th of the month or a \$15 late fee will be assessed to the account.
 - b. Monthly tuition for May, June and July is \$72.50.
 - c. Monthly tuition for August to February is \$102.00.
 - d. Your \$35 in competition fees can be included in your tuition check for a total of \$107.50 for May to July and \$137 for August to February. This is how your monthly statements from The Master's will list your tuition.
 - e. Monthly tuition is based on a 4 week month. Some months you will receive more practices and some less but tuition is the same regardless.
 - f. If your child wishes to take an additional weekly tumbling class, the class rate is adjusted to just \$28.50 per month. These classes can be scheduled directly with the office.
4. Annual membership fee
 - a. A \$30 annual membership fee is due with your August tuition. This fee is due once per year for each family, regardless of how many students/classes your family attends.

Uniforms

- Squad members must purchase all parts of the MCA uniform. The uniform will be yours to keep at the conclusion of the competition season.
- MCA coaches will make all uniform decisions. All payments for uniforms will be due to the uniform supplier (Ex. Varsity). The Master's will not handle uniform payments or cover any uniform costs.
- **Parents are 100% responsible for the uniform costs.** These costs are in addition to the monthly tuition fees. An ESTIMATE of uniform fees is between

\$175 and \$200, depending on which items are needed. Please remember this is only an estimate, and the cost could be higher.

Annual Fundraiser

Each year, squad members can participate in the MCA fundraiser to assist in covering the cost of their fees. The fundraisers vary from year to year and will be open to those who wish to participate. All money raised by you during the fundraiser can be used to offset any of your fees.

Rules of the Gym

In order to maintain a safe and educational environment, these rules ***must be followed at all times***. Anyone who chooses to disobey these rules and class guidelines may suffer consequences ranging in severity from conditioning to suspension from the squad or gym.

- MCA practice clothing or cheer related clothing must be worn during practice times. No blue jeans or tight fitting clothing will be allowed.
- Students must wear their hair pulled-back and out of their face at all time.
- No jewelry is allowed in class. Be sure to remove all rings, earrings, bracelets, and necklaces before class starts. MCA is not responsible for lost or misplaced items in the gym so please leave your jewelry at home.
- No cell phones, candy, food, or drinks are allowed outside of the lobby area.
- Trampolines and all other equipment are **OFF-LIMITS** at all times without a coach's supervision.
- No students are permitted to enter the preschool area at any time.
- ***NO STUDENTS, PARENTS, OR SIBLINGS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE GYM AREA OR ON THE TRAMPOLINES, EITHER PRIOR TO CLASS STARTING OR AFTER CLASS HAS BEEN DISMISSED. PARENTS AND SIBLINGS ARE NEVER ALLOWED IN THE GYM AREA, ON THE TRAMPOLINES, OR ON OTHER GYMNASSTICS EQUIPMENT.***
- Students are not allowed in the offices or other non-essential areas of the building.
- Leaving the gym premises for any reason is not permitted until the coaches dismiss the class.
- Always listen quietly and politely when the instructor is speaking and promptly follow directions.
- Do not attempt new or un-mastered skills without assistance from the coaching staff.
- Students are not allowed to spot other students.
- No horseplay or other unsafe behavior will be tolerated.
- Always inform the coaching staff of any injuries incurred before or during your time in the gym.
- It is important to remain attentive during class; therefore, sitting down between activities is not allowed.
- Inappropriate language **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED** by the MCA staff. If such language is used, the participant will be sent home for the day and a discussion with the parents will be necessary before the participant is allowed to return to practice.

Practice Information

Regularly Scheduled Practices

- May to July – Tuesday 6:00pm to 8:00pm

- August to February – TBA

General Practice Information

- Practices begin the week of May 2nd. **All practices are mandatory.** During the summer months, coaches will be more lenient about missing practices for family vacations. However, abusing this guideline may result in suspension from competition and/or dismissal from the squad. If a practice has to be missed, the squad member must notify the coaches at least **two weeks** in advance for it to be excused. Consequences for unexcused absences include, but are not limited to: conditioning, suspension from competition and/or exhibitions, and dismissal from the squad.
- Camp week is tentatively the week of July 24-27 and is **MANDATORY**. The girls will start learning the competition routine during this week. A general schedule for that week will be handed out at practice at a later date.
- All cheerleaders must have an MCA folder or binder to keep calendars, blank notebook paper, a pen or pencil, and any other handouts given at practice. **BRING THIS FOLDER TO EVERY PRACTICE.**
- ***If a cheerleader misses a practice, it is her responsibility to check with another squad member or a coach to see if there were any notes or handouts given at the missed practice.***
- It is important to understand that attendance at practices by the full squad is imperative for the learning and improvement of the squad. If one participant is missing from practice, the effectiveness of that practice diminishes. The attendance requirements established by MCA are designed to improve the squad and keep the participants safe. Failure to maintain these requirements may result in suspension from competition or dismissal from the squad.
- In addition to the regularly scheduled practices, the MCA coaches reserve the right to call additional practices after school, during the summer, on weekends, and/or over holidays. If these practices are designated as mandatory, the girls are required to attend.
- The coaches may also schedule optional practices. These practices will be designed to focus on certain skills (such as tumbling) and will not be mandatory. Please make sure that you know which practices are optional and which are mandatory.
- Note that ALL regularly scheduled practices are a requirement to maintain a position on the squad. If a regularly scheduled practice has to be missed, an excused absence may be granted by the head coach, ONLY if a written notice is provided at least two weeks in advance. Please note that excused absences close to competition dates may not be granted. Although this allows a certain amount of flexibility in our practice schedule, repeated abuse of this may also result in suspension or dismissal from the squad.
- Purple tickets will be issued to deserving squad members throughout the season as determined by the coaches. Tickets may be awarded based on two categories: Most Attentive and Best Example. These tickets allow the squad member to attend a FREE extra tumbling class with one of our qualified instructors (usually Bob, Ryan, or Matt). Each class will usually be on a Saturday morning or afternoon, and will last for 1 ½ hours. The staff will schedule at least one extra tumbling class per month. Squad members may redeem any unused purple tickets (**signed by a coach**) at any class they choose during the **current** MCA season. ***Squad members must sign up in the office and turn in a signed purple ticket in order to participate in the extra tumbling class.***

Competitions

- All squad members are required to attend all scheduled competitions and exhibitions. Some competitions take place over holidays or during school breaks and may last several days. Most of the competitions will require out-of-town traveling – some overnight – with additional expenses.
- All overnight travel expenses are the responsibility of the parents. Note that these costs are in addition to the monthly tuition fees and uniform fees.
- Some of the competitions may have 2-day events with the squad performing on both Saturday and Sunday.
- A list of competitions will be provided to the parents at a later date. Competitions will run from October 2006 through February 2007.

Removal from the Squad

- If your child does not complete the full competition season, for any reason, your \$150 commitment fee will NOT be refunded.
- All parents of squad members must give a 30-day written notice of intent to withdraw before leaving the squad or you will be charged for the next month's tuition.
- If a squad member forfeits her position on the squad for any reason, either by choice or by request, she may not rejoin the squad during the same competitive season.
- Removal from the squad for inappropriate behavior and/or attitude issues will be determined by the coaching staff.

Squad Contract

Any changes or exceptions to the ruling in this contract will be decided by the coaching staff with consideration for the well-being of the squad.

I have read the constitution and agree to abide by it. I realize that failure to uphold my responsibility and obligations may jeopardize my position on the MCA All-Star squad:

Parent's Signature _____

Squad Member's Signature _____

Date _____