



HANDBOOK

Welcome to the Rival Family!

We are entering our 6th season and are so excited that you have chosen to join our growing family. Rival has quickly earned a reputation of providing a positive and uplifting atmosphere for athletes of all ages. The value of commitment, hard work, leadership and teamwork are all attributes we strive to instill into each and every one of our athletes. Our mission is to better our youth not only physically and mentally, but spiritually as well. God has great things in store for Rival this season and we are truly blessed to have you along for the ride!

COMMITMENT

Being a part of the Rival competitive program requires serious commitment. Our success is greatly determined by our participant's attendance as well as our family's ability to meet the financial commitment required by the sport. Anyone wishing to join the Rival competitive program should carefully consider all requirements before making the decision to commit.

Competitive athletes typically practice 4-5 hours/week. On occasion, especially during competition season (August-April), athletes can potentially practice up to 8 hours/week. All of our practices are mandatory and there are very few exceptions to this policy. Athletes are expected to attend all practices, maintain and improve their skills, and demonstrate the ability to work with others in a positive and healthy way. Families are expected to meet all of their financial obligations in accordance with our payment schedule.



Please take into consideration all extracurricular activities, academic obligations and financial requirements before committing to our competitive program.

TRYOUT PROCESS

We try to make the try out process as laid back as possible. Athletes will demonstrate their best running and standing tumbling passes **WITHOUT** a spot, as well as their jumps. Flyers will be asked to pull body positions and may even be placed in the air. Athletes that require spotting will have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills with a coach near the end of the process.

Groups will be posted on the website, www.rivalcheer.com by the end of the night. There will be a mandatory Parent Meeting on Sunday, May 6th at 3:00 in the gym. Practices will begin the week of May 7th.



WHAT TO BRING TO TRYOUTS:

- Tryout Fee (\$30 for veterans, \$45 for new)
- Athlete Tryout Form
- Acceptance of Policies & Procedures
- Credit Card Authorization Form
- Waiver (if not already on file)
- Copy of Birth Certificate (if not already on file)

TRYOUT SESSIONS

Please attend the appropriate session based on athlete age at the time of tryouts.

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Ages 5-10 — 1:00

Ages 11-14 — 2:30

Ages 15+ — 4:00

Tryouts are closed! All spectators must wait outside. The process doesn't take too long and athletes will be dismissed upon completion of their evaluation.

TEAM PLACEMENT

In order to make the best teams possible, the formation of teams will happen in 3 phases over the summer.

PHASE I- Preliminary Teams: We will begin working with our Preliminary teams in May. Please expect change and movement throughout the months of May, June and July. As we get to know the athletes and see teams work together, we will make any changes necessary to create strong, cohesive teams.

PHASE II- Level Teams: Athletes will be placed on teams and work together to determine if these will be the “best” fit for them and the team. Expect movement, we are looking for “competition ready” skills.

PHASE III- Final Teams: Our teams will be determined before we do our choreography camps (We reserve the right to move athletes at any point).

In order to be the most competitive, we have to “max out” the score sheet. Athletes must have competition ready skills before moving to the next level. Current skills, potential and age will be taken into consideration. Athletes will be placed on a team under a contingency. To retain their spot they must continue to meet the minimum



skill requirements. If an athlete learns skills and improves during the preliminary team placement period, they MAY have the opportunity to move to the next level. We cannot guarantee this however.

Please know that tumbling is important; however, just because an athlete can perform a certain tumbling skill does not guarantee a spot on a specific team. There are many things we look at when forming teams. Athleticism, attitude, work ethic, stunting ability and potential are just a few factors we consider when forming teams. Trust the Rival staff to make the best decision for your athlete and for the program.

ATTENDANCE

As previously mentioned, attendance is crucial to our success. Competitive cheerleading is a team sport, and even one athlete missing a practice will greatly hinder the team's productivity.

Athletes are allowed to miss up to 4 summer practices. During competition season, athletes are allowed only 2 unexcused absences before action is taken.

The following are examples of excused absences: Graded school functions, and death in immediate family.

Unexcused absences would include:

Optional school functions and other school related events (dances, banquets, studying for exams/homework). Church, including youth nights, birthdays, family functions, reunions and immediate/extended family birthdays would be considered unexcused.

All athletes must attend the mandatory choreography camp. Failure to do so will result in automatic removal from team. Date & details will be released at parent meeting.

Sick Policy:



Athletes **MUST** attend practice when sick. They will not be required to participate but must be present. Doctors note detailing illness, length of treatment and recovery must be provided. Extended illnesses like Mono or Strep throat could jeopardize an athlete's placement.

Any athlete that misses a practice the week of a competition will immediately be placed on alternate status and our staff will evaluate their continued participation.

The best way to avoid an athlete being placed on alternate status or dismissed from the program is to communicate. All pre-planned family Vacations, school cheer schedules and holiday trips need to be provided to the staff months in advance. Below you will find a list of holidays and gym closings recognized by Rival Cheer.

- Spring Break
- Easter
- Memorial Day
- Summer Break
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas
- New Years Da



OTHER IMPORTANT INFO

- Fees for Season 6 will be drafted on May 1st. After team announcements on April 22nd, you will have until April 30th to notify us should you decide not to commit. If we do not hear from you, your card will be debited for May fees with only a 50% refund available.
- Athletes will be moved around ALL summer long until we form the perfect teams. Athletes can move within levels, or to higher or lower levels.
- The Season Calendar will be released at the Parent Meeting. This will include gym closings for breaks/holidays, practice times/days, and mandatory choreography camp.

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please take a moment and read carefully to ensure that you fully understand the time and financial commitment required for Rival. You will need to initial each section and sign at the bottom of the page.

____ I understand that I will forfeit any monies paid if I choose to leave a team or are asked to leave the program. I also understand that I am entering into the Rival program of my own free will.

____ You must advise your coach in advance if your child will be arriving late or leaving early from practices.

____ If a student is injured or sick and not contagious, they are required to attend practice, not participate. Rival athletes are required to attend all practices. If habitual absences occur; athletes may be removed from the team without notice and no refund will be provided. Also, please note that if an athlete misses practices the week prior to a performance, regional or local competition and, two weeks prior to a national competition it is at the discretion of Rival and its coaches whether or not they perform.

____ An excused absence is limited to mandatory school functions for a grade, school cheerleading, death in the family or contagious illness. All regional and national championships are mandatory for all team members. Missing practice for any other reason other than the four listed previously will also result in an UNEXCUSED absence. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ♦ Too much home work / studying (please plan ahead)
- ♦ Don't have a ride (again, please plan ahead)
- ♦ Work

____ Rival athletes are required to attend all competitions. Everyone will receive a competition schedule and if you cannot attend the competitions, then you should not join the team.

____ Tuition does not pay for the right to perform. Individuals must meet the skill level requirements. Failure to pay tuition will result in an athlete sitting out of practice.

____ It is understood that Rival reserves the right to move your child to another team during the season and/or dismiss an athlete from any practice or remove them from a team if their behavior is deemed inappropriate. In the instance that an athlete quits or gets dismissed from a team, a \$200 cancellation fee will be processed immediately.

____ Please be aware that inappropriate displays of behavior from parents can also result in removal of athletes from teams. This applies in all situations. Such situations include, but are not limited to: practices, performances and competitions.

I, _____ (parent), understand, accept and agree to all of the terms and conditions within the Rival Cheer Handbook.

Signature _____ Date _____

ATHLETE TRYOUT FORM

PLEASE ATTACH PHOTO TO TOP RIGHT HAND CORNER (NEW ATHLETES ONLY)

NAME: _____

AGE AS OF 08/31/18: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

FOR RIVAL USE ONLY

RUNNING TUMBLING LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 5

STANDING TUMBLING LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 5

JUMPS: 1 2 3 4 5

FLYER BASE

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

TINY MINI YOUTH JUNIOR SENIOR

OFFICE USE ONLY
Class/Day/Time: _____

Rival Cheer Registration

Customer Information

Mother: _____ Father: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Mom Cell: _____ Dad Cell: _____
Email Address: _____
Emergency Contact Name: _____
Emergency Contact Number: _____

Student Information

Student 1:
Student Name: _____
DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Student 2:
Student Name: _____
DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Acknowledgment of Risk and Waiver of Liability

As Legal guardian of _____, I hereby consent to the aforementioned person participating in Rival Cheer Academy's programs. I recognize that potentially severe injuries can occur in any activity involving heights or motion, including gymnastics and related activities including trampoline, tumble-trak, climbing, standing, running or tumbling. I understand that it is the expressed intent of rival cheer Academy to provide for the safety and protection of my child. In consideration for allowing my child to use these facilities, I hereby forever release Rival Cheer Academy, its officers, employees, teachers, coaches and owners from all liability for any and all damages and injuries suffered by my child while under the instruction, supervision, or control of Rival Cheer Academy.
As legal guardian of the aforementioned person, I hereby agree to individually provide for the possible future medical expenses which may be incurred by my child as a result of any injury sustained while training, competing, or performing for Rival Cheer Academy, and I agree not to bring legal action against Rival Cheer Academy.
In case of an emergency, I authorize Rival Cheer Academy staff to administer first aid to my child and/or take my child to a physician or hospital for further treatment.
This acknowledgment of risk and waiver of liability, having been read thoroughly and understood completely, is signed voluntarily estimates content. and intent.

Parent or Legal Guardian's Consent: _____

Date: _____

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

_____ CREDIT CARD NUMBER	
_____ PARENT NAME	_____ EXP. DATE
_____ ATHLETE NAME	_____ CVC CODE
_____ ZIP CODE	

By signing below, I give permission to Rival Cheer Academy to charge my credit/debit card to cover all required fees

Signature

Date

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL