



WFYFL – CHEER SEASON 2017



Hi everyone,

I can't believe it's Cheer Season already! I've missed seeing everyone and I'm looking forward to continuing to be your WFYFL Cheer Director and meeting all the new parents and girls. We've started off this cheer season really well! I'm excited to get started and I know we're going to have a great season.

The Handley High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad did a great job helping us with our Annual Cheer Camp and will be helping us with our spirit day and our competition later in the season. Hopefully we can get some of the Handley cheerleaders to come and help with our practices a little here and there and will be helping us in August to assist us with a Cheer we will be performing during half-time during the first Handley Home Football Game.

Pictures: - will be on August 19, 2017 on either the Festival Field – (Across from our practice field in the field behind the war memorial building) or on our practice field (Amphitheater Field) at 8am. Keep in mind the schedule listed below may change depending on our photo company and last minute arrangements.

8:00am Panthers Cheer	10:00AM Redskins Cheer
8:20am Pee Wee Chargers cheer	10:20am Falcons Cheer
8:40am Pee Wee Broncos Cheer	10:40am Eagles Cheer
9:00am Pee Wee Dolphins Cheer	11:00PM Steelers Cheer
9:20am Pee Wee Jets Cheer	11:20PM Raiders Cheer
9:40am Cowboys Cheer	11:40PM Cowboys A cheer

Little League Night – Millbrook High School – September 8, 2017 – Millbrook has invited all our football players and cheerleaders to come and form a human tunnel for the Millbrook High School football team to run through at the beginning of the game. Please arrive by 6:15pm and check in – the athletic director Mr. Mankins will tell us when to go onto the field and they will announce us. Everyone comes in full cheer uniform.

The Handley home game – September 9th - All Cheer Squads have been invited to cheer at a Handley Home Football Game! Coach Rachel and Coach Ali and the Handley Cheer squad will be working with us to teach us a cheer we can all

perform during halftime. There will be 1 practice at Handley (probably Sept 7th) before the game.

Spirit Sticks - Each team will have the opportunity to make spirit sticks stuffed with candy (preferably no chocolate) wrapped and decorated with their teams colors. We will give these out during games to the Loudest Fans. So... save your empty paper towel/toilet paper rolls.

All squads will have the opportunity during a regular practice day to make the spirit sticks. We are going to do this together as a league so no one gets left out. We will set aside time on the 16th and 17th of August.

It's a lot of fun and it'll be great to do it together. Coaches can coordinate with parents for supplies. If we all pitch in for our squads we should have enough supplies. If we get rained out, I will leave it up to the coaches to make sure there is a time set aside to do them.

Uniform Distribution – I am planning to hand out uniforms around August 16th, and/or August 17th.

Admission passes – with your paid registration for the 2017 Season you will receive 2 game admission passes/WFYFL Membership Cards. These will be given to you prior to the first game. These passes are only honored on the Winchester Park field, Warren County Field and Clarke County Field. These passes will NOT be honored at our games at Handley High School or at Shepherd University when we use their stadiums. In addition, admission passes will NOT be honored for playoff games or Championship Games. The league will not be responsible for lost passes and there will be no replacements issued so do not lose them.

Half-Time Cheers – we do allow music for a routine at half-time during games. I will be checking music beforehand, and the routine when they are ready to make sure they are age appropriate. Please make sure to let me know if you hear or see something you do not approve of. We all need to work together to monitor songs and movements for our little girls.

Program books - We will have a program book that will be available on our game day at Handley High School on August 26th. Make sure you get with your coaches and inform them of incorrect spellings of names so they can pass this info on to me to make sure their names are printed properly.

Handley – games all day – On August 26th we will be at the Handley Bowl ALL DAY. All football teams will play beginning at 8am. Our girls (with the exception of pee wee squads – they only cheer for one game in the middle of the day) will cheer for 2 games that day. One in the morning and one afternoon. Our admission passes DO NOT cover admission for parents and family. Cheerleaders, football players and coaches do not pay to enter.

Concession Stand – We may need a consistent group of volunteers – I will need names of parents interested. If you can help please see me and I will find more information about times and days for you.

Uniformity / squad consistency – Ultimately we would like for all squads to look alike at all times. Please try your best to make sure your daughters follow what the squad is doing. (such as... if one girl wears the undershirt ... All girls should be wearing it, if one girl wears leggings... all girls should wear them, etc.) ... this is not going to be a major issue. In most cases, the easiest color to use for accessories is white. White shoes, hair bows, socks, etc. If you decide as a team to get the same color of something, (i.e. sweatpants, bows) that's great, we will not make anyone sit the bench if they aren't perfect. Let's just do our best to look sharp at game time. This is good practice and preparation for when the girls get older and become part of middle school and high school competition teams.

Games - Please arrive ready to go - use the bathroom and eat prior to this time. Game times will be 5:30 and 6:45. We are still not sure about later games.

Practices: - All squads are to practice at the same times and in the determined location. We have to practice in the same location. Our practice schedule will be as follows:

Aug 1st thru Aug 3rd – 5:45-7:30pm

Aug 7th thru Aug 9th – 5:45-7:30pm (Aug 10th – 5:45-7pm)

Aug 14th thru Aug 17th – 5:45-7:00pm

Aug 21st thru Aug 24th – 5:45-7:00pm

Aug 28th thru Aug 31st - 5:45-7:00pm

Please arrive with hair in a ponytail, and appropriate practice clothes, NO flip flops, gum, jewelry or long fingernails. Please use the restroom prior to practice (we will have group breaks during practice) Please bring a bottle of water with you as well.

SpiritFest Showcase – We will have our 3rd Spiritfest Cheer Showcase on **September 23rd**. We will invite squads from Warren County and Clarke County as well as James Wood, Sherando, Millbrook, Handley and Daniel Morgan. This is our cheer fun day. ALL squads – Even our Pee Wee's - get a chance to show off for the crowd. They will take turns performing a routine for the crowd. – This does NOT have to be the routine they plan to perform at competition. There will be raffles, door prizes and all squads will receive an award. If you have any ideas for prizes or can help with donations from any of our local businesses, we welcome your help. Concessions will be open and there will be a DJ.

WFYFL Cash Party – We will have our very first WFYFL Cash Party on **October 7th** tentatively. Tickets will be \$40 each and will go on sale soon. We always need volunteers to help coordinate events so if you are interested please let me know. We need all parents to chip in and help sell tickets so we can make this event a success. There will be great food, music, prizes, tip jars and so much more... Please show your support. More information will be available soon.

World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser – This year we will be selling chocolate bars for our League Fundraiser. The bars will sell for \$2 each – we will have some boxes of chocolate and order forms for everyone. Please all try to fill one whole sheet with orders or ask for a whole box of candy to sell on site. We will have awesome prizes for our top sellers so get out there and sell sell sell.

Competition – October 21, 2017 - We have an end of season competition each year. It is squad against squad with the winning squad and the 2nd place squads holding the trophies until the next year. This will be WFYFL's 6th competition. We are still working on getting into other competitions in the future so we're hoping to have a lot of fun. The squads will be judged on presentation, cheer, stunt and dance. There will be more information as soon as it becomes available. Our Pee Wee Squads do not compete – We do ask that they attend to be supportive of the league.

End of Season Banquets – Last year we had a Cheerleading banquet for all our girls in addition to the team banquets the football teams were doing. It went really well and we would like to do that again this year. If you would like to help with planning, finding a venue, setting up donations, preparing food, organizing awards for the girls, decorating, etc. etc., WE NEED YOU.

Reminder - If you are getting involved with football team banquets - cheer coaches should coordinate with football coaches and this should be a team activity - both football and cheer together.

Trophies & Ribbons - Trophies will cost approximately \$10-\$15 each. Coaches collect the money from the parents and I will help you order them.

Powderpuff Football – We had such a GREAT time the last 2 seasons, we're going to do it again this year. Near the end of the season we will be taking sign-ups for our mini PowerPuff Girls league. This will consist of a few weeks of 2 nights a week practice then a Saturday (maybe 2 of games) We will do a round robin playoff and the winner gets to keep the trophy for a year. The cost of this will be \$10 per girl to cover the use of the lights for practices (since at that time it will be off season).

Christmas Parade 2017 – The Parade will be on November 27th (Monday) and we are all marching. The football players can march with us too. So spread the word and mark your calendars. After the parade the girls can follow Santa to the Loudoun Street mall with their families and watch the tree lighting ceremony and enjoy some treats. It's a lot of fun. We all wear team colors – use battery powered lights and bring poms. We'll put a few cheers together and have a great time.

Issues/Questions – If any issues or questions arise, please contact me.... My number is: 540-539-4994. I will help in any way I can.

I'm looking forward to this season, and above all else, let's all remember... cheerleading is supposed to be fun and it's all about the kids... so let's enjoy!

Melissa Elliott
WFYFL Cheer Director