

DCA 2017-2018

Cheer Team Information

Tentative Information as of May 1, 2017

TEAMS

Welcome to DCA's cheer program! Kids and parents love our cheer program because of our professional staff, our safe equipment and our "well rounded child approach" to the sports at our gym. The athletes get to compete at the All Star level of cheer without the 52-week commitment, and get to be part of something bigger than themselves, work hard and have fun! We plan to have 3-5 teams that start early December and run through the end of April. In our first season ever, we competed with one team. Since then we have had between 3-6 teams each year. We believe that bigger is not always better for each child. We sometimes recommend tumbling and trampoline team, or our skills Boot Camp to athletes depending on their stage in life.

NO CONFLICT WITH OTHER TEAMS OR SPORTS

We have many very high level athletes that also compete in travel soccer, softball, swimming, lacrosse, cross country, track and basketball. Our "well rounded child approach" provides some assurance that the child will be focused, but not burn out before they get to high school! We 100% support our athletes competing with their local recreational and high school teams and our teams do not conflict with these seasons. This means you can do, for example, your Eagles team all fall, compete at state with them in early December, then compete for DCA after IRCA state. The skills you gain with us, you can transfer to your recreational or high school teams.

HOW DO WE GET EVALUATED & REGISTERED FOR DCA CHEER?

Your child can be evaluated during stunt nights in May, summer and fall. Coaches will be looking at tumbling, jumps, and motions during the individual evaluations with an emphasis on a great attitude and a readiness to be part of something big! After evaluations, you may choose to register for the DCA cheer program by committing early on and have the option to start making payments to lessen the financial burden come December when the first large payment is due, as well as participate in fundraising efforts. Call or email to set up an evaluation.

TEAM PLACEMENTS & TRY OUTS

Our team placements will be the week AFTER IRCA STATE in December, usually the first or second week. Times will be released closer to December along with more details on team announcements, parent meeting dates, and uniform fitting dates. Check back with us on our website and Facebook as we get closer to final try out dates in December.

WANT TO PAY LESS????

As soon as you commit to DCA cheer and pay the initial \$150 commitment, you can participate in the fundraising efforts. All fundraising goes towards your individual fees and is optional. We have seen some families raise over \$500 in a season so it can be done! We will have a fundraiser in the fall and even though you are not practicing with your team yet, all athletes who are committed to our program can participate in fundraising. A second fundraising effort will start in mid to late January with profits going towards your team fees in March and April.

SPRING BREAK

We do not have any competitions planned for the traditional weeks of spring break (end of March/first week of April). However, we will still have practice during the weeks of spring break and those who are in town will work on routine as much as possible plus focus on individual skills.

COMPETITIONS

The majority of our teams will compete at 3-4 competitions during their regular season. At least 3 will be local, Chicago-based competitions and 1 away competition. Competition schedule will be solidified as we get closer to the start of the season but the following are competition weekends we are looking at for now:

February 24/25

March 3/4

March 17/18

April 14/15

UNIFORMS:

We will be using the same uniform from last season. They are always full coverage, since day one. If you are a returning athlete, you can use your same uniform or if you need a new size, you will have the opportunity to sell your old uniform during the uniform exchange program (and new athletes will have the opportunity to buy used uniforms which can save you money on the final cost of the program.) Athletes also receive practice wear, competition and practice bows, a special team t-shirt, make up and shoes as part of their uniform fee. If you have make up from last year, you do not have to purchase this again this season. Warm ups and other apparel are all optional and there will be opportunities to purchase these and other spirit wear items at the beginning of the season.

CHOREOGRAPHY:

Choreography usually happens within the first few weekends of December and starts with a skills camp and then launches into a full weekend of learning skills and learning the entire routine. Due to the nature of our cheer season, we get the entire routine learned in one weekend so as soon as we have the choreography date set, we will announce it so you can save the date!

PRACTICE SCHEDULE- December through the end of April

We will have a better idea of individual team practice times in the fall, but from the past we can tell you that teams will meet 2-3x a week for team practices and then will have a flexible tumbling day as well. Plan on a Saturday practice for one of your days and then one to two other weeknights depending on what team and level you make. Practices typically are 2-2.5 hours each and tumbling is 1.5 hours/day.

PROGRAM PRICES:

The cost for the DCA cheer program ranges in price per team as some teams practice more than others depending on their level. However, the prices you see here are all inclusive of everything from tuition to shoes to competition fees to tumbling classes. You won't be surprised with another bill down the line. We are very upfront with you on all costs as we feel this is a big decision and we want you to know the total prices before you commit. These prices include: competitive uniform, bows, shoes, practice wear and team t-shirt, make up, competition fees, choreography/music, monthly tuition, USASF membership fee and admin fees. Prices for the 2017-2018 season will range from \$850 - roughly \$1950 per athlete. Fall tumbling and stunting classes are not included in this price, as they are tailored to the individual's busy schedule.

Questions? Call DCA at 630-588-9000 or email dcateams@dupagetumbling.com