

# DCA 2018-2019

## Cheer Team Information

*Tentative Information as of October 4th, 2018*

### **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?**

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 TRYOUTS, PLACEMENTS & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:**

Monday & Tuesday December 10th & 11th - Team Try Outs & Team Placements (times TBA)  
Wednesday December 12th - Team Announcements  
Thursday December 13th - Parent Meeting, 7pm  
Friday December 14th - shoe and uniform fitting  
Saturday & Sunday December 15th & 16th - skills camp (times TBA)

### **WANT TO PAY LESS????**

As soon as you commit to DCA cheer and 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. Doing our Power Tumbling team? Siblings both interested in DCA cheer? Contact us for those discounts!

## **SPRING BREAK**

We do not have any competitions planned for the traditional weeks of spring break. However, we will still have practice during the weeks of spring break and those who are in town will work on the 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 2 will be local, Chicago-based competitions and 1-2 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:

March 9th and 10th: Elite National Championship- Chicago

March 17th: Indy Championship- Indianapolis, IN

April 6th and 7th: Chicago Battle Royal- Chicago

April 27th: Elite National Championship- New Orleans\*

*Plus our in-house showcase on April 13th*

## **\*WHY NEW ORLEANS?**

We are very excited to be bringing some of our teams to New Orleans this cheer season! Competing out of state offers our athletes an AMAZING opportunity that they will not get to do with their recreational teams or high school team. Out of state travel is pretty commonplace with Allstar teams and one of the perks. For most of our athletes who go from their recreational team to high school cheer, will never get the chance to compete at a competition like this so we felt it was something we had to offer! Being able to compete out of state gives teams an opportunity to compete against teams they would not normally be exposed to, gives athletes and parents a chance to bond (teams do bond the best when traveling together), and will create memories that you will get to take with you for your whole cheer career. Although there are travel expenses associated with out of town travel competitions, we do believe the benefits out way the cost.

*ROAD TRIP ANYONE????* Although most people will fly to New Orleans, consider driving if you want to save on airfare. It's only a 13 hour drive and in the past we have had several families choose to caravan down to Louisiana for the long weekend.

**For all PREP teams:** Prep teams are still Allstar teams but have a reduced competition routine of two minutes (as opposed to 2 minutes 30 seconds) and without the stress of having to do baskets. This provides more time to work difficult stunts and perfect motions and jumps to achieve the best outcome! Prep teams are perfect for the shorter season and still very competitive. Prep teams will still have the opportunity to practice basket tosses; they just will not be included in the competition routine. Competitions our prep teams will compete at:

March 9 and 10th: Elite National Championship- Chicago

March 17th: Indy Championship - Indianapolis

April 6th and 7th: Chicago Battle Royal- Chicago

*Plus our in-house showcase on April 13th*

## **UNIFORMS:**

We will be getting new uniforms this year!! They will be full midriff coverage (as they have always been since we started doing cheer 10 years ago before it was an USASF rule). 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:**

The season will kick off with a skill camp weekend on December 14-16th. Exact days and times will be announced at a later date. Choreography will happen on a weekend mid January. 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 November, 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 2018-2019 season will range from \$2155 (prep teams) - roughly \$2305 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](mailto:dcateams@dupagetumbling.com)**