



2024-2025

PARENT & ATHLETE

CHEER HANDBOOK/ CONTRACT

Wildcats Cheer and Athletics, LLC

wildcats@wildcatsri.com

WELCOME TO WILDCATS CHEER AND ATHLETICS!!

We are so happy to share our love for cheer and athletics with you and the community. Our mission is to create a supportive and empowering environment where every athlete can thrive and reach their full potential. Our coaches will emphasize the importance of overall cheer skills, safety, conditioning, tumbling, stunting, and above all, respect for others while enjoying the thrill of this sport. Most importantly, we focus on the athletes having fun. All athletes and teams are important to us, from our cheer/tumbling classes to our competing teams!

Along with our loyal staff, Wildcats Cheer and Athletics (WCA), has worked hard to make everyone feel welcome and a part of the Wildcats family! We make it our mission to get to know each athlete and parent; help them set and reach goals, teach the value of commitment, dedication, and teamwork, and ultimately help each athlete see their dreams become a reality. Although our goal is to make each team competitive, we strongly encourage our Wildcats athletes to learn lifelong lessons in dedication, pride, teamwork, time management, and helping others.

We pride ourselves in promoting balancing your athlete's education in conjunction with this sport.

If you find any questions that may not be directly answered or have further concerns, please reach out to the gym directly at 401-291-8690 or the gym's email wildcats@wildcatsri.com. Wildcats Cheer and Athletics is under the direct supervision of Gym Manager Katherine Bond and Gym Owner Katelyn Mayberry. Once again, WELCOME to the Wildcats Cheer and Athletics it will be a life-changing experience!!

Wildcats Cheer and Athletics ATHLETE & PARENT

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

As stated above, the following applies to every Wildcat's Family member.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

We hold high expectations for our WCA athletes to be well-mannered as they represent our gym at any event or competition. Any negative behavior towards other teams, teammates, and coaching staff may result in immediate removal from the program. Here at WCA, we want an approach that encourages a positive mindset, promotes strong teamwork skills, and celebrates their hard work and accomplishments throughout our entire season.

- Be modest when successful and be gracious regardless of placement.
- Members of all teams are to show respect for the coaches, fellow teammates, other WCA athletes, parents, judges, officials, and spectators from opposing organizations.
 - o This includes but is not limited to sitting outside the practice facility.
 - o Disrespectful attitude, back-talking, and any form of ill-mannered behavior towards coaches and other athletes is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
 - o In the spirit of good sportsmanship and all-around team morale, we encourage that any questions, comments, or concerns be brought to management directly.
- Exhibit good sportsmanship at the gym as well as during and after all competitions.
- Encourage my child to abide by the rules and respect all other teammates, athletes, coaches, judges, officials & other parents.

All unmannerly conduct will be handled directly by the head coach and athlete. Any escalated issues will result in a parent-athlete conversation.

GYM AND PRACTICE:

1. Athletes will NOT be allowed phones during practice/class. Phones must be left in the cubby area. If you need to contact your athlete you can call the gym phone.
2. Throughout the season we may call CLOSED PRACTICES. This is for the optimal athlete focus and participation.
3. Respect the privilege of the use of our facility. All cheerleading equipment is for the progression of skills and will be used by all athletes and coaches appropriately. NO PARENTS ARE ALLOWED ON ANY CHEER FLOORS OR EQUIPMENT. Siblings are not allowed to wander or be left unsupervised.
4. If you are running late to practice for ANY reason, you must call/text to inform your coach
5. No food, gum, candy, or drinks are permitted in the gym area. Only water & Gatorade are allowed. Snacks and drinks are to be maintained in the waiting/cubby area.
6. The use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and abusive language is prohibited. This behavior will result in IMMEDIATE dismissal from the WCA program. No excuses or exceptions.

ABSENCES:

1. Absences will be reviewed on an individual basis.
2. Anything beyond 3 unexcused absences is highly unacceptable.
 - a. Excessive absences may be grounds for:
 - i. Change or replacement in competition team routines
 - ii. Withholding items or services
 - iii. Dismissal from the program

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

1. Include but not limited to:

- a. Death in the family
- b. School-related function that reflects a grade, coaches and front staff must know at minimum 2-3 weeks before any function to plan accordingly.
- c. Jobs:
 - i. Handled on an individual basis
- d. A contagious illness with a doctor's note

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

1. Include but not limited to:

- a. Sickness, without a doctor's note
- b. Going to another athletic or team practice
- c. Going on vacation or a special event

COMPETITIONS:

1. Parents, relatives, friends, and athletes are never allowed to speak to, call, text, or e-mail competition officials/ judges for any reason. All competition communication will be dealt with directly through gym management and coaches.

2. All competitions are MANDATORY. You are financially responsible for every competition on the schedule. Fundraising will be available when necessary.

3. Athletes and Parents MUST remain respectful and remember they will be representing Wildcats Cheer and Athletics.

4. All competitions are subject to change, not all teams will attend the same competitions.

5. All competitions are MANDATORY for all competing athletes.

6. Competition fees vary according to team, level, and Competition Company.

7. All competition fees MUST be paid in advance and promptly upon the due date.

8. When ALL athletes arrive at the competition venue, they must be in full uniform according to what the coach advises:

a. BE ON TIME!!

b. Uniform Top and Bottom

c. Designated Cheer Shoes/no-show socks

d. Designated colored backpack

e. Designated Hair and Makeup

f. NO jewelry

i. NO nail polish allowed

ii. NO gum

iii. NO unnatural hair colors

9. Athletes must remain in full competition uniform with competition shirt over uniform throughout the competition (Different shoes, boots, different colored hoodies, and different warm-ups, are NOT allowed.)

10. Once athletes have checked in with their team coach, no parents are allowed in warm-up areas.

FUNDRAISERS:

1. Fundraisers are designed to help with the cost of WCA fees. FUNDRAISER monies can be used for merchandise, apparel, choreography, competition fees, or private lessons. EXCLUDING TUITION.
2. You may carry over credits to the next season, however, if you quit or take a break, YOU WILL FOREFEIT ANY AND ALL CREDITS.
3. There is a CASH-only policy for any fundraisers.
5. Due dates are important in receiving items promptly.

SOCIAL NETWORKS:

1. No athlete or parent may post inappropriate/ negative messages on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, or any other social media platform, website, and/or message board about WCA, another program, or an individual. Any posting of this nature will result in immediate dismissal from the program or team.
2. No WCA team videos and/or music are allowed to be posted on YouTube or any other website without permission. Including live videos. Violation of this rule or the theft of music is grounds for immediate dismissal. We strongly encourage our parent(s)/spectators to have their phones down and hands up to enjoy a visual performance of their athlete.

COMMUNICATION:

1. We will be sending messages via text, team apps, and emails to keep the lines of communication open with all parents and athletes. Please make sure all your contact information is always current.
 - a. Weekly: practice schedules and attire.
 - b. Monthly: due dates, calendars, newsletters, and invoices.

2. Team app notifications MUST be left on at all times for any changes and/or reminders.
3. Team apps, group chats, or message boards are used for information ONLY. Any complaints, concerns, or questions should be addressed to the front desk PRIVATLEY!!

WCA APPAREL:

1. Each athlete must purchase competition uniforms. Warm-ups and practice uniforms are purchase optional.
 - a. Competition uniforms are MANDATORY.
 - b. Practice bows are MANDATORY and can be purchased through the front desk.
 - c. Cheer Shoes:
 - i. White ONLY for competition
 - ii. White or black for practice
 - d. Cheer Backpack:
 - i. Solid black, black glitter, or WCA backpack.
2. Practice wear including practice bow, correct shoes, and hair is required and must be worn on the correct day for each athlete. FAILURE TO WEAR CORRECT PRACTICE WEAR WILL RESULT IN EXTRA CONDITIONING!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. EVERY parent and athlete must complete and initial both the WCA handbook and contract before the first practice.
2. If a competition is canceled by WCA, we will decide to replace it with a comparable event if able to and adjust fees accordingly.

3. If a competition company cancels, it will get replaced and money will roll over.
4. TENTATIVE COMPETITION SCHEDULES AND FEE DUE DATES WILL BE GIVEN ONCE DATES ARE POSTED BY EACH CHEERLEADING COMPANY.
5. WCA logo, name, and team names are NOT to be reprinted on any apparel or other items for distribution or sale.
6. WCA management has the right to dismiss your athlete from the Wildcats Cheer and Athletics program for any of the following reasons (not limited to):
 - a. Inappropriate behavior
 - i. This includes behavior from both the athlete and the parents or family of said athlete.
 - b. Excessive absences
 - c. A pattern of tardiness
 - d. Not showing up for a competition
 - e. Delinquent payments

ATHLETE DROP OFF/PICK UP:

1. Athletes can be dropped off 10-15 minutes before class time. Athletes are NOT allowed on equipment until their class has started. They will only be allowed to stretch on designated areas. Practice starts promptly.
2. Early drop-off or late pick-up will result in a \$10.00 fee. If any athlete is dropped off or picked up over 30 minutes you will be charged an additional \$25.00.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

1. Parents are to fulfill their financial obligations on time.
2. There is a strict NO REFUND policy.
3. There is a \$35.00 decline fee.
4. Extra payments such as uniforms, competitions, bows etc. can be paid in cash or through any form of payment offered.
6. NO PAYMENT DATES WILL BE EXTENDED OR CHANGED.
7. If you are DELINQUENT 10 days of tuition, choreography, uniforms or competition payments your son/daughter will sit out of practice until you are up to date. (Keep in mind late fees will be added and you will still be responsible for all payments.)

PAYMENTS:

1. It is your responsibility to make all payments on time.
2. All payments are NON-REFUNDABLE.
3. Late fees are acquired after the following posted due dates
 - a. \$10.00 on the 18th
 - b. \$25.00 on the 20th
4. Any fee reminders via email or by phone are a courtesy and are not required by gym management.

TUITION:

1. All tuition payments will be withdrawn through our website.
2. Declined transactions will receive a \$35.00 insufficient fund fee.

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:

1. Failure to meet the deadline for payments, and lack of reasonable & fair communication regarding payments or delinquent accounts will result in one or all of the following:

- a. Withholding services (Sitting out of practice, private lessons or other classes etc.)
- b. Withholding purchased items (uniforms, practice wear, warm-ups, etc.)
- c. Replacing or moving the athlete in routines
- d. Dismissal from the program

QUITTING OR DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM:

1. If your athlete quits or is dismissed from the program, a \$100.00 dismissal fee will be charged for breach of contract.

2. You will still be held responsible for all subsequent tuition payments.

3. You will forfeit any money, services, and items previously paid to WCA.

a. THIS INCLUDES:

- i. Paid private lessons, other paid WCA classes (Jump or Flying Class), tumbling, competition team practices, choreography practices, camps, open gym, etc.
- ii. Uniforms, practice wear, bows, shoes, shirts, makeup, etc.
- iii. All items that may have been paid in full but have not been physically handed to the athlete or parent yet. (Additional merchandise varies to include hoodies, headbands, beanies, etc.)

Gym Closures

- Mother's Day: May 8th
- Memorial Day Weekend: May 28th – May 30th
- Father's Day: June 19th
- Independence Day: July 4th
- Labor Day Weekend: September 3rd – September 5th
- Halloween: October 31st
- Thanksgiving: November: 24th – 25th
- Christmas: December 23rd – 26th
- New Years: December 30th – January 1st



Wildcats Cheer and Athletics
HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND
ATHLETE AND PARENT CONTRACT

ATHLETE:

As an athlete of the Wildcats Cheer and Athletics, LLC (WCA), I am expected to follow the rules of the program and remain in good standing with my fellow teammates, coaches, and staff. I have read and understand all the terms in the code of conduct and agree to abide by them. I have received and read the WCA Handbook. I fully understand this document is a contract between the WCA and myself.

Athlete's Signature: _____ Date _____

Athlete's Name Printed: _____ Date _____

PARENT:

I recognize that parents are the most important role models for their children and that athletics help achieve a sense of teamwork, self-worth, and sportsmanship. I encourage my child to abide by the rules and respect the rights of others. I understand that it is important to enforce the rules of the Wildcats Cheer and Athletics, LLC (WCA), respect the sport of cheerleading & not criticize the judges' decisions during or after a competition. I understand that I must remain in good standing financially. I understand that the WCA has a strict NO REFUNDS policy. I have read and understand all the terms in the code of conduct and agree to abide by them. I have received and read the WCA Handbook. I fully understand this document is a contract between the WCA and me.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent's Name Printed: _____ Date _____



Athletes and Parents: To run a successful program, expectations must always be followed and met during the season. THIS IS A COMMITMENT!! If at any time any of these rules are broken, it will result in dismissal from Wildcats Cheer and Athletics, LLC.

Athletes and parents, please initial by each rule acknowledging that you have fully read and understand each line.

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Athletes are required to commit to a 1/2 year of competitive cheer and will not quit on their teammates unless injured.

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Athletes are required to attend ALL competitions and showcases/events during the year.

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Athletes are required to attend ALL practices and extra practices.

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Only 3 unexcused absences will be given with proper notice to their coach in a timely fashion.

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School functions for a grade are an excused absence. It is the parent/child's responsibility to let WCA know in advance.

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Athletes and parents are expected to present themselves with a positive attitude to training and towards the WCA Program.

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Athletes and parents must respect all coaches/staff of Wildcats Cheer and Athletics.

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If a problem arises, the situation will need to be handled at an appropriate time by setting up a meeting with WCA manager.

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Athletes and parents must arrive at all competitions on time.

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Athletes must be in FULL UNIFORM for competitions/showcases.

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Athletes and parents are responsible for checking the website, social media, and messaging system for all updates.

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Athletes are required to wear the proper practice clothes and shoes to each practice.

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Choreography and music learned at WCA are the property of WCA and may not be used, distributed, or taught to outsiders.

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WCA owners must approve all designs bearing the WCA name and logo, and may NOT be sold independently.

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Athletes and parents will be required to give written consent from doctors for illnesses, sicknesses, or injuries.

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Athletes and parents: If you are removed from a squad or leave Wildcats Cheer and Athletics for any reason during your contracted season, you will forfeit all funds that have been paid already to Wildcats Cheer and Athletics as well as pay a penalty of **\$100**.

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Tuition for the remaining months will be drafted until your contract is up.

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Parents must contact their athletes' coach if their athlete is sick or will miss practice.

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The athlete and parent will ALWAYS be a positive representative of Wildcats Cheer and Athletics, trash talk, gossip, and negativity will not be tolerated.

Being part of the Wildcats Cheer and Athletics family is a privilege and should be treated as such. We want to welcome you into our family!!

Athlete's Signature: _____ Date _____

Athlete's Name Printed: _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent's Name Printed: _____ Date _____

