

FLAMES CHEER

Kalahari 2027 Nationals Parent Packet

SECTION 1 — TRIP AT A GLANCE / WELCOME

Welcome to Nationals Weekend

Flames Cheer is headed to Wisconsin Dells for our January 2027 national competition. This packet is your complete guide to the trip. It will include costs, hotel information, transportation, uniform information, competition details, the weekend schedule, packing information, athlete and parent expectations, safety information, and important deadlines.

Trip at a Glance

Dates: January 15–17, 2027

Days: Friday–Sunday

Location: Kalahari Resorts, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

Competition: Xtreme Spirit Premier National Championship

Hotel Stay: 2 nights

What Families Should Know Now

- Please keep January 15–17 available for the full competition trip.
- Hotel and transportation are separate. Booking a hotel room does not reserve a seat on team transportation.

• Some competition details are not available yet. Information that has not been confirmed will be clearly marked TBD and updated when it is released.

Details Still to Come

- Official competition and performance schedule
- Awards schedule
- Friday team meeting location (meeting time is 6:00 PM)
- Final athlete call times
- Final event-issued weekend schedule and itinerary updates
- Spectator ticket and admission information

Please keep this packet available as you prepare for the trip and during competition weekend. Updated information will be added as it becomes available.

SECTION 2 — HOTEL & ROOM GUIDE

Kalahari Resort Convention Center 1305 Kalahari Drive Wisconsin Dells, WI

Stay: Friday, January 15 through Sunday, January 17, 2027 (2 nights)

Competition Hotel Block

Families should book through the competition hotel block:

<https://book.passkey.com/event/51294922/owner/49796246/home>

Current 2-Night Room Totals

The totals below include the current taxes and resort fees shown through the competition block.



Double Queen

- 2 queen beds
- Up to 4 guests
- **2-night total: \$671.24**

King Living Room Kitchen Suite

- 1 king bed + queen sleeper sofa
- Up to 4 guests
- **2-night total: \$873.28**



2 BD/2 BTH Suite

- 2 bd/ 2 br
- Up to 8 guests
- **2-night total: \$1,434.54**

Hotel Payment Information

- Kalahari is an advance-deposit hotel.
- The first night's room rate is charged to the card used to make the reservation.
- Taxes and the resort fee are charged at check-in.
- The same credit card used for the reservation and a valid photo ID are required at check-in.
- **Kalahari places a \$200 preauthorization hold on the card at check-in for incidentals.**
- Optional add-ons may appear during booking. Families may skip optional upgrades they do not want.

SECTION 3 — TRANSPORTATION

Team Charter Bus



BUS AMENITIES

Wi-Fi • Luggage Storage • Bathroom • Seat Belts • TV Screens • Outlets • Leather Seats • Aux/Bluetooth • PA System • A/C & Heat

Team transportation is optional for families who originally selected "Driving ourselves." A limited number of additional seats are available.

Cost

\$100 per person, round trip.

The \$100 charge applies to every person riding the bus, including athletes, parents, siblings, and coaches.

Friday, January 15, 2027

Pickup: 200 S. 5th Ave., Maywood, IL 60153

Departure: 8-10:00 AM

Estimated arrival at Kalahari: 3:00 PM

Sunday, January 17, 2027

Departure from Kalahari: 7:00 PM

Estimated arrival in Maywood: 11:00 PM

Families Driving Themselves

Families who drive themselves will not be charged a team transportation fee. They must arrive at Kalahari in time for the mandatory Friday team meeting at 6:00 PM. The exact meeting location will be posted in HEJA.

Transportation Payment Deadline

Payment is due as soon as possible, but no later than October 1, 2026.

SECTION 4 — COMPETITION UNIFORM & COST

OFFICIAL COMPETITION UNIFORM

Fundraising may be applied toward the uniform and bow balance



Competition Uniform \$101 per athlete

Competition Bow: \$30 per athlete

Competition Socks: \$4

Team Cheer Shoes: \$40 (optional)

Payment deadline: November 1, 2026

SECTION 5 — WEEKEND ITINERARY

FRIDAY — TRAVEL + TEAM ARRIVAL DAY

9:30 AM — Athlete/Family Bus Check-In Begins

9:30–10:00 AM — Luggage Loading + Attendance

10:00 AM — Bus Departs Maywood

10:00 AM–12:00 PM — Travel

12:00–12:30 PM — Lunch on the Bus

12:30–2:30 PM — Continue Travel

2:30 PM — Begin Arrival Prep

3:00–5:00 PM — Arrival + Hotel Check-In

5/6:00 PM — Mandatory Flames Team Meeting

9:00 PM — Lights Out

SATURDAY — COMPETITION DAY 1

5:45–6:00 AM — Wake Up

6:00–7:00 AM — Breakfast

7:00–8:00 AM — Hair + Makeup

8:30 AM — Coaches Take Over

9:00 AM — Official Warm-Up

6:00PM — Awards/ Activities

9:00 PM — Lights Out

SUNDAY — COMPETITION DAY 2

5:45–6:00 AM — Wake Up

6:00–7:00 AM — Breakfast

7:00–8:00 AM — Hair + Makeup

8:30 AM — Coaches Take Over

9:00 AM — Official Warm-Up

4:00PM — Awards/ Activities

7:00PM— Depart Wisconsin Dells

11:00PM— Return to Maywood

SECTION 6 — COMPETITION-DAY EXPECTATIONS

Nationals weekend includes more than 1000 athletes, parents, siblings, coaches, and supporters moving through the same resort and competition space. Clear, consistent expectations will help our entire group stay organized while still allowing every family to enjoy the weekend. These expectations apply throughout competition-related activities and may be adjusted if the official event schedule requires it.

OUR APPROACH

The goal is not to control every part of the weekend. The goal is to make sure athletes are prepared, coaches can coach, parents know what is expected, and every Flames team receives the same level of support. Competition responsibilities come first during assigned team time; family time begins once an athlete has been released by the coaching staff.

1. **Be Ready & On Time**

Athletes should arrive fully dressed, prepared, fed, hydrated, and ready to go at the announced call time.

2. **Stay With Your Team**

Once athletes are in team time, they should remain with coaches until officially released. Parents should not pull athletes away for food, photos, shopping, or waterpark activities.

3. **Follow Coach Direction**

Coaches will manage warm-up, lineups, stunt groups, routine corrections, performance preparation, and team movement throughout the venue.

4. **Check Team Communication**

Schedules may change. Parents should keep phones available and follow the most recent Flames update throughout the weekend.

5. **Protect Athlete Health & Safety**

Athletes should immediately report pain, illness, injury, or other concerns. No tumbling or stunting in hotel rooms, hallways, or public resort areas.

6. **Support the Entire Flames Program**

When schedules allow, families are encouraged to support all Flames teams during performances and awards—not only their own athlete's team.

7. **Show Good Sportsmanship**

Respect athletes, coaches, judges, staff, spectators, and other programs. Avoid negative comments, comparisons, arguments, or blaming after performances.

8. **Be Mindful of Group Timing**

We are traveling with more than 100 people. One late athlete or family can affect warm-up, transportation, photos, meals, and team schedules.

9. **Let Athletes Process Their Performance**

After competing, focus on effort, teamwork, preparation, and composure. Coaches will handle routine feedback and corrections.

10. **Wait for Official Release**

A performance ending does not mean the athlete is finished for the day. Athletes may still have photos, awards, meetings, or other team responsibilities.

SECTION 7 — KALAHARI & FREE-TIME RULES

Competition Comes First

Athletes must be available for all Flames activities, including team meetings, call times, warm-ups, performances, awards, photos, and any other required team activities. Families should not make plans during required team time.

When an Athlete Is Released, It's Family/Waterpark Time

Once a coach officially releases an athlete, families are free to enjoy Kalahari until the athlete's next required team time. This may include the waterpark, restaurants, arcade, shopping, relaxing in the room, or other resort activities.

Parents should always check HEJA before beginning an activity to make sure there have been no schedule changes.

Athletes should:

- Be completely finished with team responsibilities before entering the waterpark.
- Leave enough time to shower, dry off, redo hair if necessary, eat, and get dressed before the next team activity.
- Avoid exhausting themselves immediately before competing.
- Stay hydrated throughout the weekend.
- **Never miss or arrive late to a team activity because of the waterpark.**

Supervision

Parents and guardians are responsible for supervising their own athletes during family free time.

Athletes traveling without a parent may not roam Kalahari alone. They will remain with their assigned parent/chaperone, approved group, or buddy during free time and waterpark activities.

Hotel & Resort Behavior

Flames athletes are representing the program throughout the entire weekend—even when they are not in uniform. Athletes should be respectful of other guests and resort staff. Running through hallways, excessive noise, horseplay, knocking on doors, entering rooms without permission, or disruptive behavior in common areas is not allowed..

No Cheer Skills Around the Resort

No stunting, tumbling, jumping, or practicing routines in hotel rooms, hallways, elevators, the lobby, pool areas, or other public resort spaces. Cheer skills should only be performed in approved competition or practice areas under coach supervision.

Before Going Anywhere, Remember:

Check HEJA → Know your next call time → Stay reachable → Be back early.

SECTION 8 — ATHLETES TRAVELING WITHOUT A PARENT

Hotel

Do not book the athlete a separate hotel room. The two solo athletes will room together with one approved Flames parent/chaperone and that parent's athlete. Parents will receive the parent/chaperone and room information before the trip.

Transportation

Solo athletes will travel on the team charter bus to and from Kalahari unless Flames approves another arrangement in advance.

Required Fundraising

Athletes attending without their parent or guardian will have a required fundraising amount to help cover lodging and travel expenses. The exact amount will be calculated after the final solo-athlete count and room assignments are confirmed so families are not charged an arbitrary amount.

Solo Athlete Weekend Plan

- Recommended meal allowance: \$75–\$100 for the weekend, unless Flames later confirms that specific meals are provided.
- Recommended personal spending money: \$40–\$75, separate from meal money.
- **Solo athletes may not roam the resort alone. A buddy system and adult supervision will be required during free time and waterpark activities.**
- Medication must be provided in its original labeled container with written parent/guardian instructions. A designated adult will be responsible for medication handling.
- The assigned chaperone will provide the parent/guardian at least one check-in each day and will contact them promptly for illness, injury, behavioral concerns, or significant schedule changes.
- A solo athlete may not leave Kalahari with another family or adult without advance parent/guardian permission.
- At the end of the trip, the athlete will only be released to the parent/guardian or an adult authorized by the parent/guardian in advance.

Still to Be Confirmed

- Name of the approved parent/chaperone, accompanying athlete, and final room number/location
- Exact required fundraising amount and deadline
- Any meals provided by Flames

A signed Solo Athlete Travel Authorization Form will be required before departure and will cover chaperoning, transportation, room assignment, emergency contacts, medication information, waterpark/swimming permission, and authorized pickup/release.

SECTION 9 — SAFETY & EMERGENCY PLAN

EMERGENCY CONTACT ORDER

For an immediate or life-threatening emergency, call 911 first.

Kalahari Wisconsin Dells: 608-254-5466 or 1-877-525-2427

Kalahari Guest Services Text Line: 608-640-3060

Ion Emergency Contact: Coach Acarria

Ignite Emergency Contact: Coach Asia

Inferno Emergency Contact: Coach Ciara

Official Flames Communication: HEJA

FLAMES HOME BASE / REUNIFICATION POINT

Flames will establish one designated team meeting and reunification location inside the resort. The exact location will be posted in HEJA and reviewed during the mandatory Friday 6:00 PM team meeting.

IF AN ATHLETE BECOMES SEPARATED

Athletes should not continue walking around the resort looking for the team.

- 1. STOP — Stay in a safe, visible, public location.**
- 2. FIND STAFF — Approach a uniformed Kalahari employee, lifeguard, security/guest-services employee, or competition staff member.**
- 3. CALL YOUR ADULT — Call or text a parent, coach, or assigned chaperone if able.**
- 4. STAY PUT — Remain with staff or at the agreed location until reunited.**

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATHLETE?

During family/free time, the parent or guardian traveling with the athlete is responsible for supervision.

During official Flames team time—including meetings, warm-up, competition preparation, performances, photos, awards, and other required team activities—athletes remain with their assigned coaches until officially released.

Parents should not remove an athlete from team time without speaking directly with the coach responsible for that athlete.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY OR INJURY

Athletes should immediately report pain, illness, injury, dizziness, difficulty breathing, allergic reactions, or any other health concern to a parent, coach, or chaperone.

For a serious or potentially life-threatening emergency—including difficulty breathing, loss of consciousness, severe allergic reaction, or suspected serious head/neck injury—call 911 immediately. Do not wait for a coach or parent to arrive before requesting emergency help when the situation is clearly urgent.

WATERPARK SAFETY

No athlete should enter the waterpark without the adult responsible for her knowing she is there. Families must follow all posted Kalahari waterpark rules and lifeguard instructions.

If an athlete becomes separated inside the waterpark, she should not leave the waterpark to search the resort. She should immediately approach the nearest lifeguard or Kalahari employee and follow the separated-athlete procedure above.

FIRE ALARM / RESORT EVACUATION

If an alarm sounds or Kalahari orders an evacuation, follow Kalahari staff and emergency personnel first. Do not delay evacuation to gather luggage, uniforms, or personal belongings.

During family time, parents keep their own athletes with them. During team time, coaches/chaperones keep their assigned athletes together. Once everyone is in the safe location directed by emergency personnel, Flames will conduct a team-by-team athlete count.

Families should not leave the property independently after an evacuation without communicating with Flames so an athlete or family is not mistakenly considered missing.

SEVERE WINTER WEATHER / TRAVEL EMERGENCY

January weather may affect travel. Any Flames transportation changes will be communicated through HEJA. Families driving themselves should communicate significant delays or changes to Flames rather than simply changing plans without notice.

Every athlete should travel with a winter coat and appropriate cold-weather clothing even though most of the weekend is expected to be indoors.

ATHLETE IDENTIFICATION

Each athlete should have their identification on their person at all times.

FRIDAY SAFETY CHECK

At the mandatory Friday 6:00 PM team meeting, Flames will review the team meeting/reunification point, emergency contacts, HEJA communication, supervision handoffs, solo-athlete chaperones, separated-athlete procedure, waterpark expectations, and the next morning's team schedule.

THE FOUR STEPS EVERY ATHLETE SHOULD KNOW

STOP → FIND STAFF → CALL YOUR ADULT → STAY PUT.