



Cheer Elite



2026-2027 Information Packet

WELCOME!

Welcome to ACE Cheer Elite! We are proud to be a non-profit, recreational All Star cheer program dedicated to providing athletes with a positive and supportive team environment. Our mission is to build a community-based organization founded on the principles of safety, teamwork, goal setting, and personal skill development. Through training, competitions, and team experiences, athletes gain not only cheerleading skills but also confidence, discipline, leadership, and lasting friendships. At ACE Cheer Elite, we are committed to helping every athlete grow both on and off the mat while fostering a strong sense of community and team spirit.

CHEER PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Uniform (Top and Skirt - New athletes only. Returners will reuse 25-26 season's uniform provided it fits.)
- Shoes
- Practice Wear (2 Uniform sets, sweatshirt and leggings)
- Camp T-shirt
- Team Jersey
- Bows (Camp bow, practice bow and competition bow)
- Makeup Kit
- Choreography
- Music
- Competition Fees
- Facility Fees
- Membership Fees
- Administrative Fees

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

ELITE TRAVEL TEAMS (7-18)

NEW		RETURNER	
Deposit	\$125	Deposit	\$125
Uniform Payment 1	\$200	Uniform Payment 1	N/A
Uniform Payment 2	\$200	Uniform Payment 2	N/A
June	\$275	June	\$260
July	\$275	July	\$260
August	\$275	August	\$260
September	\$275	September	\$260
October	\$275	October	\$260
November	\$275	November	\$260
December	\$275	December	\$260
January	\$275	January	\$260
February	\$275	February	\$260
March	\$275	March	\$260

TINY/MINI/HALF YEAR NON-TRAVEL TEAMS (4-8)

NEW		RETURNER	
Deposit	\$125	Deposit	\$125
Uniform Payment 1	\$150	Uniform Payment 1	N/A
Uniform Payment 2	\$125	Uniform Payment 2	N/A
June	\$150	June	\$140
July	\$150	July	\$140
August	\$150	August	\$140
September	\$150	September	\$140
October	\$150	October	\$140
November	\$150	November	\$140
December	\$150	December	\$140
January	\$150	January	\$140
February	\$150	February	\$140
March	\$150	March	\$140

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Practices are typically scheduled Monday – Friday from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM dependent on the number of teams we have for the season. Each team will practice for 2-3 hours, 2 days per week. Final practice schedules will be distributed last week in August.

IMPORTANT DATES

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Tryouts	6/6 & 6/7/26	Gym
Parent Meeting & Uniform Fittings	7/8/26	Gym
First Day of Practice	7/13/26	Gym
Stunt Camp	TBD (August)	Gym
Choreography	TBD (September)	Gym
Fall Break	10/12-10/16/26	N/A
Picture Day	11/1/26	TBD
Texas Showcase	11/8/26	Conroe
Thanksgiving Break	11/23-11/17/26	N/A
Redline Coastal Clash	12/12/26	Galveston Convention Center, Galveston
Winter Break	12/23-12/27/26	N/A
Redline Houston Money Madness	1/30/27	Fort Bend Epicenter, Rosenberg
Redline H-Town Throwdown	2/27/27	Fort Bend Epicenter, Rosenberg
Deep South Spirit Eras Tour Houston	3/6-3/7/27	Fort Bend Epicenter, Rosenberg
Spring Break	3/15-3/19/27	N/A
The United Cheer Beach Blast	4/11/27	Galveston Convention Center, Galveston
Parent Meeting	4/14/27	TBD
The Open Galveston (Tentative)	5/1-5/2/27	Galveston Convention Center, Galveston
Deep South Spirit Season Finale (Tentative)	5/1-5/2/27	Nashville, TN
The Champion (Tentative – Invitation Only)	5/7/27	Las Vegas, NV
The Pinnacle Championship	5/7-5/9/27	Las Vegas, NV

TRYOUTS

Cheer tryouts will evaluate athletes based on their current skill level and performance ability. Athletes will be assessed on tumbling, stunting, and their ability to learn and perform choreography. Judges and coaches will consider technique, execution, body control, timing, and overall performance during the evaluation process. These assessments help ensure athletes are placed on teams where their skills will contribute to the team's success and allow for continued development.

TEAM PLACEMENTS

Team placements are determined based on an athlete's skill level, age, and overall team readiness. Coaches evaluate each athlete carefully to ensure they are placed on a team where they can contribute to the team's success while continuing to grow and develop their abilities. All placements are made with the best interest of the athlete and the program in mind. All team placement decisions are final.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION

Athletes are placed at a specific level based on the skills and performance they demonstrate during tryouts. To ensure continued growth and team balance, it is expected that each athlete maintains and builds upon that level of performance throughout the season. If an athlete does not consistently practice, apply feedback, or demonstrate the skill level that earned their original placement, they may be moved to a different level that better aligns with their current abilities. This approach supports both the athlete's development and the overall success and safety of the program.

COMMITMENT

Commitment to your athlete's team is taken seriously at ACE Cheer Elite. Practices and competitions are expected to be a top priority, and consistent attendance is required. The organization cannot accommodate ongoing scheduling conflicts with other sports, extracurricular activities, part-time jobs, or similar obligations.

Absences are prohibited during the 10-day period leading up to a competition. Coaches may schedule additional practices the week before a competition at their discretion. While advance notice will be provided whenever possible, athletes are expected to keep their schedules clear and attend all practices in full.

PRACTICE ATTIRE

- Practice Uniform – All athletes are required to wear the designated practice attire as scheduled. Any practice clothing that is lost, misplaced, or damaged must be replaced at the athlete's expense.
- Jewelry – Jewelry is not permitted during practices. Permanent jewelry is also not allowed. All jewelry must be completely removed for competitions, and covering jewelry with tape or a bandage is not permitted.

ATTENDANCE

- School Events – School-related events that directly impact a grade will be considered excused absences if at least 48 hours' notice is provided. School extracurricular activities such as dances will be considered unexcused absences.
- Vacations / Planned Absences – Vacations or other planned absences must be submitted for approval at the time of registration. Any absence for any reason during the week leading up to a competition may result in the athlete sitting out of the competition or dismissal from the team.
- Illness / Injury – Parents must notify the head coach at least 2 hours before practice if an athlete is ill and unable to attend. Illnesses requiring more than one day of absence must be accompanied by a doctor's note. If an athlete is injured or placed on modified activity, a doctor's note outlining specific restrictions and a return-to-activity date must

be provided. During any restricted or modified activity period, the athlete is still expected to attend practice in uniform until cleared to fully participate. All head injuries require written medical clearance from a doctor before the athlete may return to activity.

CONDUCT

- Concern/Incident Policy – If you have a concern regarding a person, incident, or policy, you must first address the issue directly with your athlete’s Head Coach. If the concern is serious or cannot be resolved with the Head Coach, you may then contact the Cheer Director for further assistance. It is never acceptable to approach or confront another athlete or parent directly. Doing so may result in disciplinary action.
- Behavior – Athletes are expected to represent the organization in a positive and respectful manner at all times. Athletes must show respect toward coaches, teammates, parents, and other teams. Disrespectful behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Cell Phone Policy – Athletes must place their cell phones in the designated container before practice begins. Phones may only be retrieved after practice has concluded, unless otherwise permitted by a coach.
- Parents – Parents and family members are expected to follow the same standards of conduct as athletes at all practices, competitions, and team events.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

- Conduct – Posting negative comments about the organization, coaches, or fellow athletes on social media or any public platform is not permitted. Athletes and families are expected to represent the program in a positive and respectful manner at all times.
- Posting of Routines – Posting videos or photos of team routines, stunts, choreography, or formations on social media is prohibited until after the final competition of the season. Violations of this policy will result in one warning. Failure to remove the content or repeated violations may result in disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the team.

MERIT/DEMERIT SYSTEM

Our cheer team uses a merit and demerit system to encourage positive behavior, accountability, and teamwork. Athletes earn merits for demonstrating leadership, consistent effort, punctuality, good sportsmanship, and supporting teammates. Demerits may be assigned for issues such as tardiness, missed practices, poor conduct, or failure to follow team expectations. This system helps maintain a respectful, disciplined environment while recognizing athletes who consistently represent the team in a positive way. Accumulated merits may lead to rewards or recognition, while repeated demerits may result in corrective actions.

COOLING OFF PERIOD

To promote thoughtful communication and a respectful team environment, a 24-hour cooling-off period is required before any athlete or parent may formally quit the team or submit a complaint regarding a person, policy, or incident within the organization. This time allows emotions to settle and encourages constructive, solution-focused dialogue. After the 24-hour period has passed, concerns should be directed to the Head Coach, who will address the matter in a timely and appropriate manner. This policy helps ensure that all issues are handled fairly, professionally, and with the best interests of the team in mind.

BILLING POLICY

All ACE Cheer Elite accounts must have a credit card on file. Monthly dues may be paid by cash only if received at least 2 days prior to the due date. ACE Cheer Elite cannot be responsible for charges incurred by auto-draft if payment is not made within this 2-day window.

- All credit card charges will include a 4% service fee.
- There is a \$25 NSF fee for any declined auto-draft payments.
- A \$30 late fee will be added to accounts after the 5th of the month.

If an account becomes delinquent, the athlete will be required to sit out of practices and competitions until the balance is brought current. Accounts more than 14 days past due may result in dismissal from the team, with no refund of money paid or issuance of any equipment not yet received.

Any dispute or reversal of payments made via bank transfer or payment app will result in a fee equal to twice the amount of the transfer and/or immediate dismissal from the team. Any billing errors should be reported to the organization President immediately.

FUNDRAISING

- Group Fundraising – As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we rely on fundraising efforts and sponsorships to support our operational expenses and provide additional opportunities and resources for our athletes. These efforts play a critical role in helping us minimize costs and avoid passing additional financial burdens on to our families. Participation in group fundraising initiatives is required, with a buyout option available for those who prefer not to participate. Individual fundraising opportunities, however, are entirely optional and offer families the chance to further offset their own expenses if they choose. Your support in these efforts helps sustain and strengthen our program for all participants.
- Individual Fundraising – Individual fundraising with ACE Cheer Elite is a privilege, not a right, and may be granted or revoked at any time. If fundraising privileges are revoked, parents remain responsible for paying any remaining balance. Funds raised may only be transferred between siblings living in the same household. If an athlete leaves or is removed from the program, any raised funds will first be applied to their outstanding balance before being eligible for transfer to another sibling. Funds that cannot be transferred to a qualified sibling will be donated back to the program.

REFUND AND CANCELLATIONS

Competitive cheerleading is a significant commitment, and athletes are expected to remain with the organization for the entire season. If an athlete is removed or chooses to leave the program for any reason, all fees paid are non-refundable. Additionally, any team equipment or items that have not yet been issued will be forfeited.

TRAVEL EXPECTATIONS

Participation in the ACE Cheer Elite Travel Team requires attendance at all scheduled competitions. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring their athlete arrives on time and in the designated attire, remains at the competition as directed, and does not leave early or miss awards ceremonies.

Parents are also responsible for all travel arrangements and must book accommodations at designated facilities on the required dates by the stated deadlines. In some cases, this may involve booking as part of an official reservation block.

For long-distance competitions (defined as 60+ miles from gym location), athletes must arrive on the date and time specified by the organization. Parents will be asked to provide confirmation of lodging at the required hotel (if directed) by the specified dates. Athletes may not stay at alternative hotels or locations when specific lodging requirements have been designated, regardless of cost.

RENTAL/LOANED EQUIPMENT POLICY

All loaned or rented equipment remains the property of ACE Cheer Elite. Upon distribution of equipment, a hold check in the amount of the full replacement value will be required. This check will be held by the organization until the equipment is returned in good condition. If the equipment is returned damaged or in unacceptable condition, the hold check may be cashed to cover the replacement cost.

Upon receiving equipment, parents are responsible for inspecting the items and reporting any preexisting damage or defects to the organization president for proper documentation. Acceptance of the equipment indicates agreement that it will be used, cleaned, and maintained properly and with care. Misuse of equipment may result in revocation of equipment privileges, responsibility for replacement costs, and/or dismissal from the team.

COMMUNICATION

- Band – Team communication and announcements will be managed through the Band app (BAND). All families are required to download the app, create a profile, and enable notifications to stay informed about important updates, schedules, and team information. Before posting questions, please be courteous and check the Band page to see if the information has already been shared. The Band chat feature is intended for team-related communication only and should not be used to discuss personal situations, share opinions, post complaints, or address individual concerns. Misuse of the chat feature may result in the revocation of posting privileges.
- Point of Contact – The head coach of your athlete’s team will serve as the primary point of contact for attendance notifications, questions, and any concerns. All communication should be directed to the head coach and should not be relayed through assistant coaches, other parents, or athletes. This helps ensure clear, consistent, and accurate communication.

NON-COMPETE POLICY

- Tumbling at other gyms - Our athletes represent ACE Cheer Elite both inside and outside the gym. To ensure athlete safety, proper training progression, and team commitment, athletes may not tumble, train, or participate in classes, teams, or private lessons at other cheer gyms without prior approval from ACE Cheer Elite. Training at multiple gyms can create conflicts in technique, safety standards, and team expectations. Any outside cheer or tumbling activity must be disclosed and approved by gym leadership in advance. Failure to obtain approval may result in disciplinary action.
- Recruiting for other teams - All athletes, coaches, and parents are expected to support a positive and respectful team environment at **ACE Cheer Elite**. Recruiting or attempting to recruit athletes for other cheer teams or gyms is strictly prohibited. This includes encouraging athletes to leave the program, promoting other programs to team members, or using team relationships to influence athletes to join another gym. Our focus is on building loyalty, trust, and a strong community within ACE Cheer Elite. Any form of recruiting that undermines the integrity of the program may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program.

SAFETY/GYM ACCESS POLICY

Certified Coaches, Athletes and pre-authorized guests are allowed in the mat area. Parents, family and siblings should remain in the lobby/viewing area while practice is in session.

ATHLETE ID VERIFICATION

Athlete ID Verification – All athletes are required to complete ID verification. This may require submitting copies of a birth certificate, state ID, or passport. The cost for ID verification is already included in the Cheer Package fees.

PROPRIETARY RIGHTS AND “ACE CHEER ELITE” BRAND POLICY

The ACE Cheer Elite name, logos, and branding are the property of the program and may not be used to create merchandise, apparel, promotional items, or publications without prior written consent from ACE Cheer Elite. This includes items such as custom team gear, spirit wear, social media graphics, flyers, or fundraising materials. To ensure brand consistency and protect the organization’s identity, families must obtain approval before producing or distributing any items that use the ACE Cheer Elite name or logo. Unauthorized use may require the removal or discontinuation of the items.

“I have read, understand and agree to the policies and procedures explained in the ACE Cheer Elite 2026-27 Information Packet and have been provided with a copy for reference.”

Parent Signature:

Printed Name:

Date:

Athlete Signature:

Printed Name:

Date: