

TRYOUT INFORMATION

Our competition team tryouts for season 2026/2027 starting on the 17th August are fast approaching.

If your athlete would like to be considered for any of our competition teams - please book them in for their tryout - spaces are limited. We will only be hosting a second round of tryouts in mid-August if there are remaining spaces on teams. Otherwise, these will be our only tryouts for the season.

Please ensure that you book in for the correct tryout - athletes should be booked in according to their age on the day of the tryout. If your athlete would like to compete in cheer and dance - please ensure they are booked in for both sets of tryouts.

Parents should ensure that their athlete arrives for tryouts on time and neatly presented - hair tied back, no jewellery on, black shorts & DMC t-shirt, or plain black t-shirt/top for new recruits. Please note that athletes trying out for the cheer team will require cheerleading trainers (please see website information page for more info) and dancers should have jazz shoes (colour not important for tryouts).

If your athlete is keen to tryout and not able to attend, you should still book them in for their relevant tryout spot (spaces are based on team spots we have available) and send a video submission tryout before the tryout date. Please note that videos sent without a tryout booking slot will not be considered. Please see info for video submission tryouts below.

If you have any questions about tryouts or our competition teams, just let me know!

CHEERLEADING

When booking your athlete in for this season's tryouts - please select the highest level that you would like your athlete to be considered for. Please consider time and financial commitment required for each team before making your decision.

Your athlete will be offered a place in our Novice/Prep/Elite/Worlds teams based on what will be the best pathway forward for them at this time. This is not solely due to ability - factors such as experience, commitment, maturity, and coachability all contribute to this decision. Please note that the coaches' decision is final. We are happy to offer feedback regarding decision making, but we will not engage with any disagreements or demands regarding team placements.

Novice - This team is ideal for beginners, or as an introduction to competitive cheerleading with less financial and time commitment required. Athletes will attend 2 events and have a simpler, more cost effective competition uniform. Competition costs for this team will be approx. £150 (not including term fees or uniform).

Prep - This team is intermediate level and requires a significant commitment to the team, excellent attendance, and a disciplined approach. Athletes in this team will attend 3 events per season and will require our prep uniform and competition tracksuit. Competition costs for this team will be approx. £200 (not including term fees, uniform, or tracksuit).

Elite - This team is advanced and exclusively for highly committed and disciplined athletes who are willing to devote a significant amount of time and energy to their training, both at class and at home. 100% attendance is required, with the only exception being illness. Athletes who will be taking holidays during term time or missing classes for other reasons will not be suitable for this team. Athletes in this team will attend 3 competitions and participate in 2 virtual competitions as well. Elite athletes will require the same competition uniform and tracksuit as the prep teams. Competition costs for this team will be approx. £250 (not including terms fees, uniform, or tracksuit).

Worlds Replacements/Alternates - Our Worlds team will be travelling to the Allstar World Championships in Florida, in April 2027. We will be looking for a group of athletes to act as Replacements/Alternates for this team. Alternates will be members of the Elite Cheerleading team above, and also train with our Worlds team. Please read the additional information on this below before selecting this option. Athletes who have missed more than 3 training sessions this season will not be considered for a Worlds replacement/alternate role.

DANCE

Prep Dance - These teams are suitable for beginner - intermediate level dancers and require significant commitment to the team, excellent attendance, and a disciplined approach. Athletes in this team will attend 3 events per season and will require pom leggings (as an add on to the cheer uniform), competition tracksuit and a budget hip-hop costume (if that option is offered/selected). Competition costs for this team will be approx. £200-£275 (not including term fees or uniform).

Worlds Replacements/Alternates - Our Worlds Dance team will be travelling to the Allstar World Championships in Florida, in April 2027. We will be looking for a group of athletes to act as Replacements/Alternates for this team. These athletes will be members of the other dance team(s) above, and also train with our Worlds team. Please read the additional information on this below before selecting this option. Athletes who have missed more than 3 training sessions this season will not be considered for a Worlds replacement/alternate role.

Costs

Please note that all costs given in this information pack are estimates based on previous seasons, they are not finalised amounts. If your athlete joins both a cheer & dance team, this will increase the competition costs, but they won't be double, as there are discounts for athletes entering multiple divisions at events.

Term fees - these are the fees you pay for your athlete to attend classes each week (competitive or recreational). These fees are completely unrelated to competitions.

Comp fees - these are the costs involved in entering competitions including event producers fees, extra competition practice fees, and coaches travel expenses for attending events. Comp fees are payable with an up-front non-refundable deposit and then a monthly Direct Debit to spread the cost.

Uniforms - Our novice uniform will cost no more than £75. Our prep/elite competition uniform is around £165 for the full outfit & bow. Our pom dance leggings are around £60 and these are added to the cheer uniform. A hip-hop outfit is around £30. Team tracksuits are required for all competition athletes (except novice) and are around £110 new. There are often second-hand tracksuits and uniforms available to buy on the DMC parents' Facebook page.

Competition Dates

We will likely be attending 2 events in March and 1 event in May. However, this is subject to change.

Term Dates

Classes will run on the following dates:

17th August 2026 - 9th October 2026

26th October 2026 - 15th December 2026

6th January 2027 - 5th February 2027

15th February 2027 - 1st April 2027

19th April 2027 - 25th June 2027

If you currently have a holiday booked that will mean your athlete will miss training sessions within these term dates, you must notify us of this **before** tryouts - failure to do so may impact your athletes team placement mid-season (especially if they are on prep or elite teams).

Worlds Replacements/Alternates Additional Information

Replacements - these athletes will take the place of any current team members who are unable to travel to Worlds. Replacements must have complete availability from Monday 5th April - Monday 19th April for additional training and the trip to Worlds. Athletes must be completely committed and have perfect attendance unless ill. Worlds athletes must also be available and willing to participate in fundraising activities and able to commit to the financial costs of the trip.

Alternates - these athletes will take the place of any current team member in the event that they are unable to attend and compete at Worlds due to injury or illness. Please note that alternates will not travel to Florida unless there is a requirement for them to do so. Alternates must be completely committed and be willing to undertake the additional training and responsibilities of a Worlds alternate. They must also be available Monday 5th April - Monday 19th April for the trip to Florida if required and parents must be able to meet the financial costs of the trip.

Alternates must be on the Elite team and will also attend weekly training alongside our Worlds team at a reduced rate of £25 per month. This amount is reduced due to the variances of training they will receive - some weeks, the alternates will be fully involved in all aspects of training, other weeks they will have less to do - this is reflective in the significantly reduced training contribution. This is an opportunity for these selected athletes to gain additional training at Elite/Worlds level and to gain further preparation towards their own goals.

All athletes who are offered a spot on our Worlds teams - including replacements/alternates - will receive a detailed information pack with costs, trip information etc. when it becomes available. We are still waiting for block schedule information and flights to be released before we can send this information out. Athletes will not be expected to be fully committed until this information is available. However, if you have any other questions relating to the Worlds teams that you would like to know before tryouts, just let me know.

Video Submission Tryout

If your athlete wants to be considered for a spot on any of our competition teams for next season, but is unavailable to attend the tryout date - they can submit a video submission instead. The video should start with your athlete introducing themselves - full name, DOB & current team/level. The video should include front & side views of the following skills:

CHEER	DANCE
Right leg splits	Right leg splits
Left leg splits	Left leg splits
Box splits/Straddle stretch	Box splits/Straddle stretch
Bridge	Bridge
Forward roll	Single pirouette
Cartwheel	Double pirouette
Any other tumblers your athlete can confidently perform	Any leap - split, switch, cat, turning, calypso etc.
Toe touch jump	Straight kick on both left and right leg
Pike or herkie jump	C-jump

CHEER	DANCE
Floor lib	Toe touch jump
Floor arabesque	2X8 Pom dance (can be existing choreo)
Floor scale	2X8 Hip-Hop dance (can be existing choreo)
Any other flyer skills your athlete can confidently perform	2x8 Jazz/Lyrical/Kick choreo (can be existing choreo)
2X8 of cheer dance (can be existing choreo)	Any other dance skills your athlete would like to show - jackhammer, kip-up, firebird, fouettes, throw & catch scorpion etc.
Any other skills your athlete would like to show - FWO, BWO, valdez, BWO switch, handstand FR, scorpion, B&A, additional jumps etc.	

Athletes should only show elements they already know how to do and can execute confidently. If your athlete is unsure about any elements, they are welcome to miss them out.

After Tryouts

Athlete placement emails with details of what to do next will be sent out the week following tryouts. I'll aim to get these out as soon as possible, but there will be a lot to get through, so please be patient.

Thanks for taking the time to read this information, I realise it's a lot, but I just want you to be informed so that you can make the best decision for your athlete.

As always, if you have any questions - just let me know.

Thanks, Karen