

Print Athlete's Name: _____

**TEXAS STORM ATHLETICS COMPETITIVE CHEER TRYOUT
PACKET 2020-2021 - PREP/NOVICE TEAM**

Welcome to the Storm family! We are excited to get the new season started! Here at Texas Storm Athletics it is our goal to develop strong competitive teams with well- rounded athletes. It is our goal that at the end of each season your athlete will understand the true meaning of teamwork. They will have shown compassion and kindness as well as strength and toughness. Above all, they will have learned how to train the best, to be their best, and to beat the best! The staff members of TSA are here to provide the highest quality coaching as well as a positive environment that will encourage athletes to safely push their limits and learn new skills. Through hard work and team effort, our athletes will learn life lessons that will help make them positive, well rounded people!

WHAT IS IN THIS PACKET? This packet is filled with information regarding tryouts, important dates, and expectations of our competitive teams. Please make sure you read through EVERY page and initial/sign where necessary!

Tryout Information Tryouts will be conducted according to skill level. There will be two skill levels: back handsprings and below and tucks and above. The tryout process will be closed to parents so that coaches will be able to do their best to put together the best teams! Our tryout process is designed to be stress free with very little pressure. Everything we do will be in an effort to allow them the freedom to do their very best. Please remember as the coaches are creating teams that there are many puzzle pieces they must take into consideration and sometimes this can be a difficult process. Please know that at the end of this process we will create teams that have the best chance to be competitive and successful together.

**TRYOUT
DATES:**

EVERYONE

:

May 22nd | 5:00pm - 8:00pm

This is an open evaluation to determine your tryout group

GROUP 1:

June 1st | 5:00pm - 7:00pm

June 3rd | 1:00pm - 3:00pm

June 6th | 11:00am - 1:00pm

GROUP 2:

June 1st | 7:00pm - 9:00pm

June 3rd | 3:00pm - 5:00pm

June 6th | 1:00pm - 3:00pm

GROUP 3:

June 2nd | 5:30pm - 6:30pm

GROUP 4:

June 4th | 5:30pm - 6:30pm

**IMPORTANT
DATES:**

Practice starts the week of June 8th

***SUMMER TEAM CAMP AND CHOREOGRAPHY CAMP DATES WILL
BE CONFIRMED AFTER TEAMS ARE MADE***

**GYM CLOSURE
DATES:**

May 28TH

July 4TH

September 23rd

November 21st- 24th

December 21st – December 27th

We will have practice on December 28th, 29th, & 30th

December 31st - January 3rd

Spring Break

Memorial Day

TSA Attendance Policy Attendance is one of the biggest keys to the success of our teams. Your athlete will be required to attend a tumbling class once a week as well as weekly team practices. Also, if your athlete is part of a stunt group they will be required to attend multiple stunt group practices before or after regularly scheduled practices.

EXTRA PRACTICES: Any extra practices that are called by a coach will also be **mandatory** and adhere to the 3 strikes rule. Any extra practices that involve the full team are normally scheduled on the weekends and you will be notified in advance for any of these dates. All of these extra times are included in your monthly tuition and the same attendance policies apply. Every athlete is required to show up on time ready to hit the mat at start time dressed and ready to go. If an athlete misses a mandatory extra practice they will receive a strike and they will also be required to take a private lesson from a team coach to make up the time they missed. Private lessons will be charged at the normal rate of \$30⁰⁰/30 minutes & \$60⁰⁰/hour. Our team's and coaches' time is valuable so not attending a practice at no

extra charge to you will result in having to pay for a private lesson.

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3 STRIKE RULE: We take roll at every practice and will use a 3-strike policy for absences. A strike will fall off after a 90-day period. If your athlete receives 3 strikes they will be placed on probation. While on probation they will not be able to compete. If they receive another strike while on probation they will be removed from the team. It is not fair to the team members who are in attendance everyday ready to work hard if we don't hold a strict attendance policy. Athletes are required to attend practice even if they are "under the weather". They will not be asked to participate beyond their abilities but they need to be there to learn changes and adjustments to the routine. A Doctor's note must be turned into the office upon return to the gym for the 3-strike policy to

not be applied. Please contact your team coach ASAP when your athlete is sick so we can find the best course of action. The same applies to your athlete if they are injured. Mandatory practices will begin at the beginning of August. Keep in mind that, it is **mandatory** that every athlete attend their level **camps** during the summer, this includes their choreography and skill building camps. While we encourage family vacations, we recommend that these be scheduled in June or early July to avoid your athlete getting a strike. Also, if you are planning a vacation, these dates need to be sent to the team mom so she can add them to the calendar and notify the team coaches.

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Athlete Practice Policies All athletes are expected to be at practice ready to warm up at start time. This means dressed from bow to toe and on the mat! All athletes must be wearing the correct practice bow and uniform including white or no-show socks, and NO jewelry in order to be considered "bow to toe" ready. Athletes nails must be kept short and smooth for the safety of flyers and bases. There are NO cell phones during practice they can be left in the "phone basket" or with parents. Athletes are not to be chewing gum and there is no food or drink allowed on the mat. There is a designated area for team athletes to store their things and a designated area for water breaks during practice. It is important that the coaches and athletes use as much time as possible during practice so they can be productive and this can only be accomplished with as little interruption as possible. If an athlete forgets any piece of their uniform, they will be required to condition after practice. If an athlete is late they will be required to stay after practice to condition as well. If an athlete is continuously tardy they will receive a strike towards their attendance policy. If an athlete or group of athletes is struggling with a skill or a portion of the routine it may be required that they take some private lessons or attend extra classes. If this is not adhered to the athlete may be moved to a different spot on their team or a different team all together. Please remember that this decision will be made with the best interest of the team in mind.

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Parent/Spectator Practice Policies At TSA, we have closed team practices. This means that parents will not be permitted inside the gym during their child's scheduled team practice until the last 30 minutes of practice. We will have various open practices throughout the season that will be chosen at the coaches' discretion. You will be notified of these dates in advance to plan accordingly. This is in the best interest of the athlete, as we find that athletes perform to their best ability when their parent or guardian is not present.

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Communication Your first line of contact for any questions will be your assigned team mom. After tryouts, the team moms will be assigned and everyone given their contact information. Any questions regarding practices times, competition times, attire, makeup, and general issues should be directed to the **team mom**. Any questions regarding your athletes progress or individual issues need to go to their team coach directly. Questions and concerns regarding finances need to go to the owner, Alanna. We use the GroupMe app for quick updates and reminders for events, schedules, and communication between parents. It is up to **YOU** to make sure you are receiving the appropriate information and schedules. Please feel comfortable to be able to ask questions, but please make sure all questions are directed to the appropriate person.

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TSA Code of Conduct Whether at home, school, the gym or a competition, we are always representatives of TSA: athletes, parents, coaches and owners! We are all individually part of a large team, and our success will be determined by the strength of that team and our willingness to support one another and hold each other accountable. That being said, it is the expectation of TSA that all members of the TSA family treat everyone with respect and positivity. There is to be no negative commentary about other athletes or their families in our gym at **ANY** time; this includes social media! Please understand that this is a zero- tolerance policy and is grounds for immediate removal if not adhered to. Our team athletes are an example to everyone else in the gym at all times, they are expected to show what it looks like to be part of our team and TSA family. This includes treating each other with respect and team spirit. They will talk kindly and respectfully to one another without attitudes, no eye rolling and absolutely **NO BLAMING** one another! They are also expected to treat their coaches and any other personnel brought in to work with them with the utmost respect at **ALL** times! Good discipline is important to a team working well together which translates to success on the floor and in life! If there is an issue with an athlete or a coach please bring it to the attention of the owner ASAP. As the owner, I do not want these issues to take away from valuable practice time or create tensions on the team. No matter the size of the issue, it will not

go away until resolved between all parties, so please don't let things weigh on your shoulders or take the point of view that you don't want to "waste" anyone's time. Most of the time these issues are quickly and easily resolved if addressed right away! If for any reason these policies are not adhered to during practice your athlete will be required to stay after practice for conditioning.

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Athlete Initial: _____

More Important Info Spirit Gear: Any spirit gear that is purchased beyond what is provided MUST be purchased through the gym pro shop. It is important that we look like a team as well as act like a team, and the pro shop

has plenty of great options! **Routines:** Any videos of our routines/choreography may not be posted on any social media! Being that we are in a competitive sport we don't want there to be a way for other gyms to see what we're doing throughout the season! You may video for private use and we encourage you to use video as a learning tool for your athlete. **Gym time:** Any tumbling and/or stunting done in the gym must be done so with supervision by a COACH! All athletes will only be allowed on the floor during their class/practice times or during a private lesson. They may be on the floor if they are stretching prior to practice. **Team Levels:** Coaches may change a team and/or athlete's level as they see fit to the benefit of the team as a whole.

Nationals Season: Be aware that Nationals season, the months of January and February, are high intensity. We will more than likely call *extra practices* and be working extremely hard.

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Financial Obligation

Tryout fee: \$50 due before tryouts begin on May 15th. There will be a \$10 discount to anyone turning in their completed packet and paying their tryout fee by May 1st. There will also be a \$10 discount for anyone who refers a friend and they pay their tryout fee.

Full year team monthly payment breakdown:

- Down-payment of \$400 due by June 10th

(If your down-payment is not paid by June 10th, your child will NOT start practice with the rest of the team & your child's uniform will NOT be ordered)

- Total monthly payment of \$281/month July 2020-May 2021

All monthly payments are due by the first of each month with a grace period until the 5th. After the 5th there will be a late fee of \$10/per day. If your account is not paid by the 10th your account will be frozen and your athlete will not be able to participate until your account is caught up. If your account is frozen more than twice you will be asked to pay the remainder of the season in full in order for your athlete to continue on team. Please contact the office if you need to make an arrangement regarding your payment. Refunds will NOT be given as costs are paid for ahead of time. If you choose to leave your team all monies paid will be forfeited.

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The breakdown of What Your Monthly Fee of \$281 Pays

For: - Competition bow - 1 practice uniform (sports bra, shorts, & practice bow) - Competition registration fees - Choreography fees - Music fees - Summer camp fees - Training and Certification for the coaches - Tryout Tank - Extra Tank throughout the year - Return visits throughout the season from choreographer - Up to 2 practices per week - One tumble class per week - Extra practices - Stunt practices - Jersey - Team bonding activities - T-shirts throughout the year

Coaches Fees The fees for the coaches to travel to competitions are not included in the above pricing. Since these fees are split up among all the athletes on teams attending competitions, we don't want to over or under charge families. These fees will be figured up once we know how many team members we have and we will notify you of that amount. This fee covers the cost for all of our team coaches to travel to all competitions including hotel, meals, and fuel. This will be added to your account and can be paid in monthly payments between July-February.

What's Left? Uniforms are the responsibility of the parent to order and purchase. Your athletes will be professionally sized and a link to order online will be provided to you. This cost is approximately \$385 (brand new) buying a uniform from a former athlete for a cheaper price is a possibility. All uniforms must be ordered by July 15th in order to ensure on time delivery for everyone. Team orders will NOT be held due to a late order from an athlete. If your athletes uniform is not ordered on time you run the risk of having to compete the first competition in practice wear! All travel fees for athletes and families are the parent's responsibility and not included in your team fee. Most of our competitions are "Stay to play", which means that we are required to stay at the specific locations that are reserved by the competition company. 100% compliance to this policy is required for our teams to be able to compete, therefore we will give you a few different options of hotels that are reserved within the housing block, that way you can choose what level of stay you would like.

Parents are responsible for providing cheer shoes. These must be all white standard cheer shoes, varsity & Nfinity are the most popular choices. When picking shoes please keep in mind if your athlete is a flyer there are lighter more flexible options that are preferable. If you have any questions about what you should purchase please ask a coach!

Parents are responsible for registering you athlete on USASF.net. There is a \$30 fee and you will also need to upload a picture of the athletes' birth certificate. **This cannot be done before August 1st!** The new Season will begin on August 1st and the online system will not allow you to register until that date. **You will be required to have your athlete registered online by September 1st, 2020!** Anyone who does not register with UFASF will NOT be allowed to compete.

Competition Schedule *(schedule is subject to change)*

ACP - Halloween Holiday Classic - San Antonio | 10/17/2020

ACP - Christmas Open Championship - San Antonio | 12/13/2020

Cheer America - Tx State Championship - San Antonio | January (exact date TBA)

ACP - Southern Nationals - San Antonio | 2/6/2021

Fun Cheer Nationals - San Antonio | 3/6/2021 - 3/7/2021

CheerSport - San Marcos | 4/11/2021

****The exact competition name dates and location will go out on a calendar by the end of summer, this is just for preliminary information. Make sure to add these dates to your calendar. Attending all competitions is MANDATORY**

****By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to all the information presented to me in this informational packet.**

Date:

Parent Signature:

Athlete Name:

Contact information:

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