

# GOING TO WAR

# IN SEASON 4

The time is here! May 2024-25 will be the beginning of The Wright Competition (TWC) competitive cheer programs  $4^{th}$  season. TWC is a loving home ready to bring in new athletes with open arms. We are honored that you are considering joining us in this incredible moment in All-Star history. This upcoming year will be full of electrifying life and while keeping you on your tumbling toes.

TWC is here to build healthy, happy, and confident athletes. Throughout your tenure with our team we plan to instill life lessons and amazing characteristics such as sportsmanship, teamwork, time management, goal setting, and a passion striving to win. All-Star cheer is an inclusive sport where athletes can grow and find value.

Athletes need a place to feel as though they belong and feel empowered. TWC athletes and their families are invited to be part of the electrifying tradition. We are united for our athletes to challenge limits, beat expectations, and provide a comfortable home.

**TWC** pushes athletes to become the best version of themselves. Athletes will learn competitive cheerleading the "Wright Way", while also given lifelong skills that will help them throughout their lives. Our athletes will only encounter positive and productive surroundings in our family oriented facility. A pat on the back, a high five, and positive reinforcement can go a long way.

This tryout packet will provide important dates, pricing, and other information about our program.

# **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR 2024 TRYOUTS**

We are so grateful for your loyalty to TWC, and being a part of our building phase. We are beyond thrilled to be in our OWN gym space to provide the best experience for your family.

the skills athletes demonstrate at this evaluation to make team placements.

# **Evaluation Process**

The evaluation process is a series of low stress workouts where your athlete will be able showcase their skills. While we do our best to place every athlete on an Elite Team, please understand that not all athletes are ready for the Elite Level. Along with tumbling, jumps, dance and stunt skills, athletes are evaluated on attitude and coachability. We also consider an athlete's age when selecting teams and divisions.

# **Evaluation Clinics**

Athletes have the opportunity to attend our Pre-Evaluation Clinics where they will work with our qualified staff members to learn a short dance and jump combination. Athletes will also work with staff on tumbling and stunting skills. If your athlete is unable to attend the Pre-Evaluation Clinics, please do not worry, they can still attend athlete evaluations and be placed on a team.

## **Athlete Evaluations**

Athlete Evaluations is a time for your athlete to showcase their talents. Our coaching staff will evaluate each athletes' running tumbling and standing tumbling skills. Athletes will also be evaluated on their jumps, the Pre-Evaluation Clinic Dance, and if possible, stunts. We will use

# **Team Placements**

At the end of Athlete Evaluations, athletes will be placed on teams. These decisions are made based on a variety of criteria such as tumbling, jumps, stunting ability, coachability, age, maturity, athlete potential, and team needs. Just because an athlete can perform certain tumbling skills, does not mean they will make a certain level team. We are looking for a mastery of skills so the athlete can safely and successfully perform those skills in a routine. Athlete placement will remain fluid throughout the summer meaning an athlete could be moved up or down a level depending on performance, attitude, and attendance. Team levels will be announced during team placements in August, but will remain fluid leading into choreography. Athletes are always placed in an effort to benefit their personal and athletic growth while making sure they are safe and successful.

intense tryout process to ensure the best of the best make it to their elite teams.

# **ALL-STAR**

#### **ALL STAR NOVICE**

All star Novice is for individuals who are new to All Star but ready for performance-based teams that are evaluated at events. Novice teams focus on strengthening technique and performance skills that help prepare athletes for competitive All Star teams.

#### **ALL STAR PREP**

All Star Prep is an entry level product that is offered as an introduction to traditional all star cheer and is intended to help grow the industry as a whole. The typical all star prep program will provide an opportunity for the incoming athlete to be introduced to and experience all star with limited commitment and exposure.

#### **ALL STAR ELITE**

All Star Elite was designed to push athletes to their highest level. Many programs will require at least a year of experience on a prep team before they will allow you to switch to elite. Programs will also usually put athletes through a more

#### WHAT IS D2?

- D2 is a program with less than 125 athletes
- D1 is a program with more than 125 athletes
- \* All Star Elite is the pinnacle of our sport. This program is designed to fully immerse athletes into the world of All Star Cheerleading. Elite teams require a higher time, financial, and travel commitment. These teams are primarily for athletes with prior All Star Prep or All Star Elite experience.

# **STOMP & SHAKE**

The history of "Stomp & Shake" dates back to the early 1940's and was created by 2 neighboring states: Virginia & North Carolina. Popularized by HBCU's, Stomp & Shake cheerleading incorporates rhythmic words, use of beats made by stomping, clapping, & snapping, a variety of head motions, hip hop & jazz dance, stunts, tumbling, big, sharp, and precise arm motions, constant movement changes in formation, tone, and facial expressions. When put together right, all of these elements showcase a team's ability, skill, & technique which allows the crowd to understand and witness what teams are capable of and how their particular style is done. Crowds across the

nation in particular, the southeast region, love to see teams perform the Stomp & Shake style. It brings a different and exciting energy that most aren't used to seeing. This style is known to be performed by amateur leagues, middle schools, high schools, and collegiate teams. In the past decade, Stomp & Shake cheerleading has gained traction outside of schools and the emergence of All-Star Stomp & Shake cheerleading teams have been on the rise.

We at TWC are PROUD to offer the one and ONLY competitive All-Star Stomp & Shake cheerleading program in the Washington, DC area! Our program boasts teams of the Youth (8-11), Junior (11-14), Senior (14-18) & Collegiate/Open (18-24) levels!

# TEAM PLACEMENTS

After the final session of tryouts, staff will assemble team rosters for the upcoming season. There are many technicalities that are considered with placing athletes and forming teams. Tumbling skills, age, stunts, jumps, experience, etc. will generally get equal consideration for athletes' final team placements. After rosters are set, athletes (or parents) are contacted to inform them of team placement.

We offer different try out sessions. If the sessions don't work for you, there is also an option to register for a private tryout. Email us at wrightcompetition@gmail.com

# PRACTICES / ATTENDANCE

Teams will typically practice two days a week. Please note that September through May, extra practices may be added to a team's regular schedule. Practice times should be consistent once set and will only be changed under special circumstances. Extra practices may be scheduled during important times of the season. These practices are typically scheduled in advance, and all athletes are expected to attend.

# FIRST PRACTICES

Monday, June 10th

# **Parent Meeting**

We will cover the gym policies, financial obligations, and other important program information. At least one parent per family, both new and returning, must attend a parent meeting prior to their athlete's participation in the program.

Birth year 2017-2021 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm Birth year 2010-2016 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm Birth year 06 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm

# Season 4 Evaluations

# **STOMP N SHAKE**

Thursday, May 2nd

Ages 11-14 | 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Friday, May 3rd

Ages 14 -17 | 6:00pm - 8:00pm

# **ALL-STAR**

# Saturday, May 4th

Birth year 2017-2021 | 11:00am - 12:00pm Birth year 2010-2016 | 12:30pm - 2:30pm Birth year 06 | 3:00pm - 6:00pm

# Season 4 Makeup Evaluation Day

## Sunday, May 5th

ALLSTAR:

# **Open Evaluation Day**

# Saturday, May 11th

#### ALLSTAR:

Birth year 2017-2021 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm Birth year 2010-2016 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm Birth year 06 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm

#### STOMP N SHAKE:

Ages 11+ | 5:30pm - 7:30pm

## Call Backs

#### Sunday, May 11th

## ALLSTAR:

Prep/Level 1 | 11:00am - 12:00pm Level 2 | 11:00am - 12:00pm Level 3-4 | 12:30pm - 2:00pm Birth year 06 | Level 5-6 |

#### Attire:

- Black Shorts
- Black, Green, Gray or White Top
- Athletic Soft Sole Sneakers

# NO Jewelry

# REGISTER ONLINE

#### www.thewrightcompetition.com

Competitive cheer, while not as costly as some youth activities, can still be expensive. Before considering TWC or any program, please consider the financial commitment involved. TWC has the finest staff and is moving into our own gym this season in the District of Columbia. As a result, our fees are still much lower than many programs. However, factoring competition entry fees, summer activities, and other expenses that are typically charged separately at many other gyms, you may end up spending more at some other programs. Although others may advertise lower rates, TWC's overall value per dollar is highly competitive.

We have a comprehensive monthly price that covers most of the expenses throughout the year. During the 2024-25 season, there will be 11 monthly charges beginning June 2024 through April 2025. The first month's tuition will be charged on or around Monday, June 1st. For the remaining months, tuition is payable on the 1st of each month. We host fundraisers throughout the season to help families offset the tuition payments. However, It is the responsibility of the cheerleader and parents to fundraise and or pay all fees on time, or late fees will be incurred. This monthly fee covers tuition and most other

expenses and does not fluctuate from month to month. Tuition does NOT change based on the number or length of practices in any particular month. There may be some months with significantly different total practice times (higher or lower) than typical. This will NOT affect the monthly tuition rate.

#### **TRYOUT FEES**

Early Registration (1/22/2023-3/29)

\$75 per athlete

On Time Registration (4/1/2024-4/30)

\$85 per athlete

Late Registration (5/1/2024-6/1/2024)

\$100 per athlete

#### **TUITION**

#### **All-Star Teams**

- Half Season Teams
  - July January \$100 monthly
  - January May \$100 monthly
- Exhibition Teams
  - \$185 monthly
- Novice
  - \$200 monthly
- Prep
  - \$230 monthly
- Elite

o \$250 monthly

## Stomp N Shake

- Full Season
  - o \$170 monthly

#### **Dance**

- Full Season
  - \$175 monthly

## OTHER COSTS (estimates)

USASF Membership Fee \$49 (due to USASF)

If an extra competition is added and exceeds the budgeted amount included in the monthly tuition rate, an extra fee may be incurred. (likely under \$300)

Teams earning bids to end-of-season competitions (Regional Summit, The Summit, Worlds, etc.) will potentially incur an additional registration fee

crossover fee (if applicable), shoes, makeup, and travel lodging expenses\*\*

\*\*Certain competition companies have implemented a "stay-to-play" policy, which requires all athletes and coaches to reserve rooms through a travel agency of the company's choice. When required to do so, we will make best efforts to reserve blocks at moderately-priced hotels.

#### Competitions

Competitions are the main part of an all star cheerleading season. Competitions are mandatory, if missing due to sickness you will need to provide a doctor's note. When one cheerleader misses a competition, for any reason, the routine has to be changed which hurts the entire team. No refunds will be given if you miss a competition for any reason, including sickness. Please consider this when making the commitment to TWC. Competition dates will be given out during summer bootcamp. The week of competition we will provide compete times. Most companies do not provide that schedule until the week of. Therefore, we are not able to pass on the information until then.

# Choreography

Teams' days and times will be sent as soon as they are finalized. Choreography is generally a two-day process that can last approximately 8-10

hours. Breaks will be provided assuming the athletes move through the content quickly enough. Choreographers tend to move quickly and can be intense, so make sure your athlete is well-rested and ready to work! Some of our younger, lower-level teams will receive in-house choreography. Inhouse choreography, done by members of our staff, is used for teams that are better served by a choreography process that does not demand mastery of a routine in just a handful of hours over two days. In-house choreography takes place over a greater number of days for fewer hours at once so that athletes

have increased time to work on a smaller amount of material to aid memory and mastery.

#### **Policies and Expectations**

Attendance Policy

Given the collaborative nature of cheerleading, if even one athlete is missing, the entire team is compromised—stunts can't go up, formations are off, and the productivity of practice is severely compromised. Therefore, in fairness to the

entire team, we will allow and excuse absences only under the following Circumstances:

- 1. A required school activity that results in a grade (outdoor ed, for example). This does not include a heavy homework load, or studying for an exam we expect all athletes to manage their time as necessary to fulfill their obligations to both schoolwork and cheerleading on a daily basis. Nor does it include, for example, the talent show, a play, a dance, or any other school activity that is Optional.
- 2. Serious illness that is highly contagious and virulent, and/or vomiting. Headaches, stomach aches, colds, etc., are NOT considered a serious illness and are not reasons for absences. Similarly, if your child is injured, he/she must still attend practice if only to watch.
- 3. A religious observance involving the athlete or her/his immediate family. This does not extend to observances for

extended family or friends.

In fairness to the team, compliance with this policy is required. If your child has unexcused absences, she/he may not be allowed to compete with her/his team at the next competition or may be dismissed from the program.

While we recognize that your child cheers or dances for fun, please remember that we are a competitive, not a recreational, program. If you or your child cannot make the requisite time commitment or comply with our attendance policy, you should reconsider your participation in our program.

# **Extra Practice Policy**

While our goal is always to ensure each team utilizes practices to their fullest potential, there are occasionally times when a team will need to be brought in for extra practice prior to competition. These additional practices will always be scheduled with as much advance notice as possible. Just like regularly scheduled practices, these extra practices are mandatory.

#### Late Policy

Athletes must arrive at practice on time. While there is no gym-wide policy regarding handling tardiness, each coach will implement a consequence for athletes who arrive late. In previous years, coaches have implemented consequences such as tumbling skills or exercises per minute. Coaches will send out an

email prior to the first practice covering their individual policies.

#### **Social Media Policy**

All parents and athletes reflect TWC and, as such, must represent the gym in a manner consistent with our principles. To maintain our desired reputation, all parents and athletes must refrain from the following:

- Speaking on behalf of TWC
- Implying organization endorsement of personal views
- Disclosing organization information
- Engaging in negative conversations about athletes (TWC or outside athletes) and parents
- Acting in a way that undermines the reputation or integrity of TWC, or brings discredit upon the organization.

#### Logo, Image, and Likeness

Members are prohibited from commercializing or reproducing TWC's logo without prior approval of the owner.

#### **Competition Expectations**

Competition days are always exciting, but they are also demanding and come with a strict set of expectations that are implemented to help the day run as seamlessly as possible. We want our athletes to have the best possible competitive experiences and that begins with families complying with the protocols we have put in place that minimize competition-day stress and help set the teams up for maximum success.

Once a competition company has sent out its

final schedules, we will send an email that includes each team's arrival time, performance time, and awards time. Our expectation is that all parents read their email thoroughly with the following points in mind:

- Arrival arrival times are mandatory! Athletes are to be in the arena, at our designated meet spot, with a coach by arrival time. Please take into account potential traffic, parking difficulties, and trouble navigating the arena when planning your competition day schedule.
- **Appearance** We will circulate pictures of our expected look. Please practice (makeup) prior to competition day to ensure uniformity.
- Behavior athletes and parents are representatives of our program, particularly when in uniform or TWC gear, and must behave in an appropriate manner.
- Awards awards are mandatory. Athletes must be competition ready— including lipstick and shoes—when we attend award ceremonies.

Competition days are long and draining, but please remember staff members routinely show up earlier and stay later as they have numerous teams and responsibilities. We will never ask you to do something we are not already doing!

## **Fundraising**

We know that cheerleading can be an expensive sport! In an effort to help offset costs and make the program more accessible to a greater number of people, we offer fundraising opportunities throughout the year (additional fundraisers

may be added). Proceeds from your fundraising efforts go directly to your personal account and may be used for the program cost of your choice.

- Double Good Popcorn 50% profit
- Charleston Gift Wrapping (**NEW**) 40% profit
- Scratch Off 100% profit etc.