

# 2024-2025



## ALL-STAR INFORMATION PACKET



**“Train like a CHAMPION”**

# WELCOME TO ARKANSAS CHEER ACADEMY

Thank you for choosing Arkansas Cheer Academy as your premier All-Star cheerleading program. We are embarking upon our 13<sup>th</sup> competitive season, and we couldn't be more excited! Arkansas Cheer Academy has become one of the most prestigious and successful all-star programs in the state of Arkansas. Diligent work, perseverance, positive reinforcement, and the dedicated families involved with our gym make Arkansas Cheer Academy a great place to enjoy the sport of All-Star cheerleading.



We are proud to share our passion for cheerleading and expertise training with your athlete. Our goal is to teach respect for one another, promote physical fitness, and instill valuable lessons, teamwork, and sportsmanship into each of our athletes. While exceling your athlete in a progression of skills and success is a top priority, our mission at Arkansas Cheer Academy is to aid in molding our athletes into productive members of society as they progress through our program and onto their future endeavors. Our gym strives to create competitive athletes and upstanding individuals alike and we hope that each athlete moves forward in life with the work ethic and self-confidence they have gained by being a part of the Arkansas Cheer Academy Family.

In this packet, you will find all the information needed to become a competitive All-Star cheerleader at Arkansas Cheer Academy. You will be exposed to our tryout procedure and expectations, financial obligations, practice and attendance policy, parent and athlete responsibilities, and other **very important** information that you are **REQUIRED** to know. **Please read through EVERY section entirely and very carefully**, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

# TEAM EVALUATION PROCESS

Thank you for your interest in trying out for an Arkansas Cheer Academy All-Star team! While we take the athlete evaluation process very seriously, we try to make the experience as low-stress as possible. During the **mandatory** clinic session days, the athletes work side-by-side with other athletes in their age and/or experience group. They will be given numerous chances to demonstrate skills that they have already learned. If they would like any tumbling skill assisted, they may ask for a spotter. We will give them plenty of opportunity to warm up and perform the skills until they are comfortable with showcasing their talent. We want the athletes to be relaxed, so the entire process is as much like a regular practice as possible.

## EVALUATION SCHEDULE

<b>TUESDAY MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> INDIVIDUAL SKILLS</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> INDIVIDUAL SKILLS</b>	<b>THURSDAY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> STUNT SESSION</b>
<b>AGES 4-6 4:30-6:00PM</b>	<b>AGES 10-12 4:30-6:30PM</b>	<b>A 4:00-5:30PM</b>
<b>AGES 7-9 6:00-8:00PM</b>	<b>AGES 13 and UP 6:30-8:30PM</b>	<b>B 5:30-7:30PM</b>
		<b>C 7:30-9:30PM</b>

**\*\*AGE AS OF THE DAY YOU ARE ATTENDING THE EVALUATION**

**\*\*4 YR OLD ATHLETES MUST TURN 5 BY DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024.**

\*During the tryout clinic days, athletes will be evaluated on **learning pace and performance of jumps, standing tumbling skills, running tumbling skills, stunting abilities, flexibility, strength, and attention to detail.**

# TEAM EVALUATION PROCEDURE

1. Visit our website at [www.ArkansasCheerAcademy.com](http://www.ArkansasCheerAcademy.com) to complete the **online Tryout Registration Form and submit tryout fee (\$55)**. Athletes will not be allowed to tryout without this online submission form and tryout fee. This fee is nonrefundable.
2. To learn what our program is about, what to expect at tryouts, how teams will be placed this season, receive fundraising opportunities, get questions answered, and MORE – please attend our **Parent/Coaches' Meet & Greet THURSDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> at 6PM**.
3. Athlete will attend the clinic/evaluation day that corresponds with the given chart listed above. Once completing Day 1 of individual skill tryout, athletes will receive a particular stunt session to attend.
4. During the tryout clinic days, athletes will be evaluated on **learning pace and performance of jumps, standing tumbling skills, running tumbling skills, stunting abilities, flexibility, strength, and attention to detail**.
5. Practice Teams and Practice Schedule will be announced by Monday, **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 8PM on our website.
6. ONLINE **Contracts/Commitment Forms** will be available and must be completed on our website(no hard copy). These forms will appear online **AFTER TEAMS ARE REVEALED**.
7. After completing this commitment form online, you will receive an invoice in your email.
8. **This invoice must be paid prior to the first team practice.**
9. Practices will begin on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> for respective teams that practice on these days. (Again, Practice Schedule will be posted with team placements online)

**\*\*Although you participate through the team evaluation process May 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, this does NOT mean you are committing to our program. Your commitment to participate for the 2024-2025 Season will begin when you submit the online contract following evaluations and team reveals. The commitment forms will be available on our website AFTER teams are announced Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Once this form is submitted following team placements and your first tuition payment is complete for June, your commitment will be finalized.**



# TRYOUT ATTIRE

## Girls:

- Solid white tank top or t-shirt
- Navy blue or red athletic spansks/shorts at a tactful length
- Hair in ponytail and pulled back from face with white, red, or navy hair bow

## Boys:

- Solid white t-shirt
- Navy or red athletic shorts

\*Attire must be worn on both clinic days





## 2024-2025 ALL-STAR ELITE COMPETITIVE SKILL REQUIREMENTS

Here at Arkansas Cheer Academy we strive for perfection and do our absolute best to utilize each athlete and their capabilities to their full potential to showcase a routine all members are proud of. If your athlete has the goal of being placed on a specific level team, the following are the requirements set forth by the staff and coaches at Arkansas Cheer Academy to be considered for the respective level.

By following the link here, you will gain an understanding of what the scoresheet expects to contend in a particular level. Our staff takes pride in forming teams and placing athletes in a way that creates potential success for every team member. The scoring system is an ever-evolving rubric and our staff is committed to continued learning of the set forth expectations to reach a competitive stance. Thank you for entrusting our expertise and professionalism of this sport and industry.

<https://openchampionshipseries.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2023-2024-ALL-STAR-ELITE-SCORING-SYSTEM-including-Global-Divisions-1.pdf>

To be considered for elite competing, athletes will be expected to showcase more than one **ELITE level appropriate** individual skill **with mastered technique** to be considered for a particular level. *As always, alongside tumbling skills- precise technique, jumps, past season(s) **work ethic & dedication**, and stunting abilities will be **highly considered** when placing athletes.*

# WHAT TEAMS DO WE OFFER AT ACA?

NEW THIS SEASON! 😊

## PERFORMANCE REC COMPETITIVE TEAMS

These teams will be composed of our families that want less time commitment, less cost, and entry-level competing! Perfect for non-experience, beginner athletes, or athletes that want to compete without the full commitment. These team members will practice only once per week, and will have an OPTIONAL tumbling class. Full uniform will not be required to purchase (a less expensive attire will be chosen for these teams). Performance rec teams WILL be competing against other performance rec teams, however, the scoresheet will not demand as many skills as elite/prep teams. Performance Rec athletes will compete at only 3-4 LOCAL events. Performance Rec will be available for ages 4-14.

## ALL-STAR PREP TEAMS

PREP teams are reserved for athletes ages 4-11 with 1-2 years of competing experience. Prep teams are utilized as stepping into a **NEW, SPECIFIC LEVEL OR DIVISION**. These teams will COMPETE against other PREP teams. Prep teams will attend all events as our elite competitive teams. They will practice at least twice per week, will purchase full uniform, and are REQUIRED to attend an additional tumbling class. As opposed to our rec performance athletes, prep athletes must showcase elite skills at team placements. Prep teams will compete at 6-8 events.

## ALL-STAR ELITE COMPETITIVE TEAMS

ACA will have **All-Star Elite Competitive** teams. These teams will consist of our athletes that have 2+ years of experience competing and have obtained many competitive skills and mastery. Their level will be based on the majority of the team members' skill set and they will compete against other teams of the same level at all events on our final competition schedule. They will practice at least two days per week, will purchase full uniform, and are REQUIRED to attend an additional tumbling class. Elite teams will compete at 6-8 regular season events, with the potential to attend an End-Of-Season bid-invitation event, too.

# 2024-2025 ACA TEAMS

It is unknown at this time exactly what type of teams, levels, and divisions we will perform/compete with for the 202-2025 season. All final decisions will be made based on the outcome of our team placement attendees.

## \*Important information to note:

- Although an athlete may have not competed before; this does not automatically qualify them for rec/prep team only. If they have skills that max out a specific level in skill and execution they may be placed on an elite competitive team.
- In the same token, if an athlete HAS competed before but doesn't technically have competitive skills necessary, they may not be on an elite competitive team this season.
- All decisions are at the discretion of the coaches and will be based on **work ethic** and again, on skill. The coaches are forced to comply with the rules and guidelines set forth by The OPEN Championship Series.



If an athlete is not placed on one of our Rec, Prep or Elite competitive teams based on the minor chance that there are not enough relatively matched athletes to create a team for them, other options such as tumbling sessions will be offered to them. This instruction will provide an athlete with an experience of learning and obtaining fundamental skills to successfully prepare them for future competing!



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO NOTE REGARDING ATHLETE TEAM PLACEMENT:**

- There may be an athlete on a team that can tumble at a different level than others. We try to match up the levels of the athletes the best we can. Please keep in mind that you are signing up for a “competitive cheerleading” team, not a “tumbling” team.
- It is crucial to understand that a tumbling pass is not the most important part of a routine, please review the master scoresheet given above to realize all other elements required.
- It is nearly impossible to have a full team of equally matched athletes. Some will be better in tumbling, some better in stunting, etc. Every athlete is on the team for a reason. Please trust the staff.
- Please remember that just because your athlete has the required tumbling for a level does not automatically place them on a team of that level. Athletes must also be able to stunt and **perform** at that level.
- Your athlete’s mastery of a specific tumbling or stunt skill is decided by ACA qualified staff. We are experienced in knowing whether or not your child has **mastered** a specific skill. We value safety first!



- Your athlete **will not** perform a skill that he/she has not **MASTERED**.
- **MASTERED** skills are being defined by the ACA staff as: **The ability to perform a skill with PRECISE TECHNIQUE 10/10 times in a ROUTINE SETTING (CONFIDENTLY PERFORMING, stunting, & jumping in a fast-paced, intricately flowing 2.5 minute routine that demands stamina)**
- **Each athlete is equally important to his/her team/routine.** We do not emphasize one position over the other. The base is just as important as the top person. Formations are created to ease the flow of the routine- NOT to showcase any one person. The coaches have the final say on an athlete’s formation spot on the floor. This is determined by a number of factors, none of which will ever include favoritism or parent request.



- **POSITIONS AND ROUTINE ROLES WILL CHANGE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.** Progression occurs, injuries happen, team numbers change, etc. **An athlete is committing to the TEAM and ROUTINE, not to a particular role or position.**
- We at ACA strive for all of our members to be team players and wish the best for all athletes as a whole, as this is crucial for team success.

# PRACTICE AND ATTENDANCE POLICIES

## PRACTICE

Please understand we are building CHAMPIONSHIP teams. Please also understand this is a financial investment for EVERY ATHLETE AND FAMILY INVOLVED. If any team member disrespects their teammates, coaches, or facility by continuous **tardiness, lack of desire, or commitment**, the Arkansas Cheer Academy staff reserves the right to implement disciplinary actions. Every practice is **MANDATORY. ALL TEAM MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL PRACTICES AND COMPETITIONS.**



The practice season will begin June 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2024. Practices for the teams are as follows:

<b>REC PERFORMANCE</b>	ONE 2-Hour practice per week June-April	OPTIONAL additional 1 Hr tumbling class
<b>PREP TEAM</b>	Two 1.5/2-Hour practices per week June-April	Mandatory additional 1 Hr tumbling class
<b>ELITE TEAM</b>	Two 2/2.5-Hour practices per week June-April	Mandatory additional 1 Hr tumbling class

# ADDITIONAL TIME COMMITMENTS

- POTENTIAL OR CHOREOGRAPHED **FLYERS** WILL POTENTIALLY BE REQUIRED TO ARRIVE 20 MINUTES PRIOR OR AFTER PRACTICE FOR **FLEXIBILITY TRAINING**. This will depend on the practice schedule. **Flyer positions will not be kept without commitment to any required training.**
- **Additional weekend (SUNDAY) practices WILL be added October-January for prep/elite teams. A total of 3-6 practices per team.**
- **EXPECT A POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PRACTICE DURING EVERY COMPETITION WEEK in addition to your regular practice schedule if needed.**
- **If a particular weekday practice happens to lack several athlete participation, the staff reserves the right to reschedule this practice to a Sunday any given week to avoid unproductivity.**
- **In addition to your mandatory tumbling class, an OPTIONAL added tumbling class is INCLUDED in tuition price if desired.**





# ATTENDANCE/ABSENCE POLICY



We understand there are circumstances that may be unavoidable, but please keep in mind this is a TEAM sport. **Attendance at practice is essential to the success of the team.** Every member has a specified function, and one absence could disrupt the effectiveness of practice, and in turn the success of the season. Below are a few guidelines regarding Arkansas Cheer Academy's attendance and absence policy for 2024-2025:

1. **The following are EXCUSED absences that will NOT count as an absence:**
  - a. Valid known family emergency or death in the family
  - b. School function(not sport) that results in a grade- must provide school note
  - c. Severe illness is only excused with a doctor's note. If your child has a non-contagious illness, he/she is still required to be at practice to watch or minimally participate.
2. **The following are examples of UNEXCUSED absences and will be deducted from your allotted amount of absences mentioned below:**
  - a. Vacations, birthday parties, weddings, anniversary parties, etc.
  - b. Activities including but not limited to: dance, volleyball, softball, track, basketball, school cheer, band, etc. If a conflict with outside sports, games, or activities is going to be something an athlete is unable to collaborate on both ends, the athlete MUST CHOOSE before committing to our program. **We expect your position on your competitive team to take PRIORITY to all other activities. Again, MULTIPLE FAMILIES ARE FINANCIALLY INVESTED AND COMMITTED TO THE TEAM.**

**\*SCHOOL CHEER/SCHOOL SPORT:** It will be **REQUIRED** to submit school schedule ahead of time, and as stated, it will be **REQUIRED** that you collaborate to miss partial school games/practices at times.

**Please understand up front that if you are choosing to participate in other functions that interfere with your participation in comparison to other fully-committed ACA athletes, your ACA routine positions WILL BE affected.**

3. Each athlete is allowed **three UNEXCUSED** absences **June-August** and **three UNEXCUSED** absences **September-April**.
4. A combination of 3 of the following instances will result in **one UNEXCUSED** absence: **any tardiness of more than 15 minutes or if leaving early for more than this amount of time.**
5. There will be **NO** absences or tardiness allowed during **COMPETITION WEEK**. No exceptions AT ALL. There will be no exceptions to school sports on these weeks.
6. Competitions are held on Saturdays, Sundays, and sometimes Fridays. Our competition season begins in January and ends in April/May. **Any athlete with a regularly scheduled weekend activity should reconsider participating in our program.**
7. In the case that your athlete will be absent from any practice, **an absent request form found on our website MUST be turned in at least 1 week in advance with proper documentation (teacher's note, etc.).**
8. In the case of emergency or illness, please notify a coach immediately and provide documentation of a doctor's note.
9. **If an athlete/family cannot adhere to all previously mentioned practice requirements, please do not commit for the 2024-2025 season. If an athlete does commit and does not adhere to the attendance policy, they will be removed from the team, NO EXCEPTIONS- NONE- all athletes are replaceable.**

**AT ACA, OUR STAFF MEMBERS DO NOT PARTIALLY COMMIT TO BEING PRESENT AND COACHING THEIR TEAMS, AND WE DO NOT WISH TO WORK WITH ATHLETES THAT INTEND TO NOT FULLY COMMIT TO THEIR COACHES/TEAM**

**OUR GOAL IS TO BE AS SUCCESSFUL EACH SEASON AS POSSIBLE, AND WITHOUT FULL COMMITMENT IT IS SIMPLY IMPOSSIBLE**

**YOUR FULL COMMITMENT IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH THE EXPERIENCE THEY DESERVE**



## SUMMER

The summer months of June-August will be used as a time for athletes to establish stunt groups, work similar style of technique, gain routine positions, improve endurance, and learn choreography. We know families use the summer as a time for relaxing and enjoying other activities such as vacations, camps, etc. but practice is still mandatory during these months. If you know you will be missing practice due to a vacation, please fill out an absence request form and notify the coaching staff in advance. Each athlete will be allowed THREE unexcused summer practices.



## INJURY

Unfortunately, injuries can occur in this sport. In the event that an injury happens, the athlete is still expected to attend practice and every other commitment to the program (including competitions). All injuries must be documented with a doctor's note. The athlete will not be able to return to the team until he/she has healed 100% and can perform the necessary skills in the routine. If an injury occurs, there is a possibility the athlete's position in the routine could be changed upon returning.

## PRACTICE ATTIRE

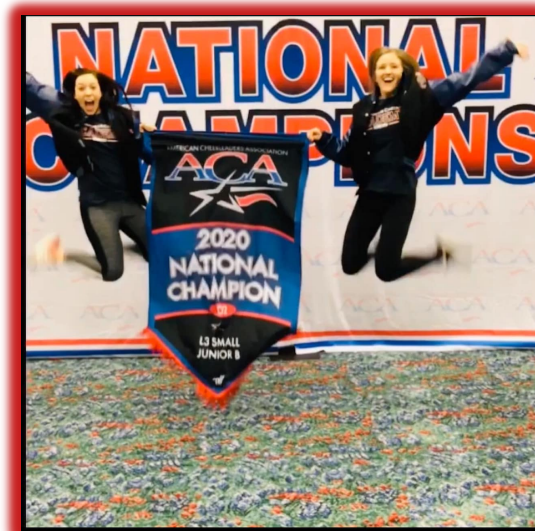
Athletes must have their **hair up**, practice uniform on, and shoes on **by the specified time**. Practice wear/uniform fittings will be during the month of June. Once practice wear is received, every athlete will be required to wear the assigned outfit to every practice. In the event that you lose an article of clothing, you will be required to purchase a new one.



## PRACTICE VIEWING ROOM

All-Star practices are CLOSED. Parents are not allowed in training space unless invited by the coach to show new skills and team improvements. The practice may be viewed only from the gym lobby TV screen. As competitions approach, athlete's will perform their routine for parents.

Please remember that the all-stars are not the only individuals in the gym during practice times. There are prospective all-stars and recreational/tumbling class parents in the viewing room as well. We would like the atmosphere to remain positive for everyone. You as a parent reflect Arkansas Cheer Academy at all times, and we want to make this experience fun and positive for all involved.



Unsupervised athlete siblings will not be tolerated. If you must bring your other children into the lobby area during your athlete's practice time, they must be fully supervised. Children must respect our place of business and their behavior is expected to be monitored. If your child is not of proper age- you MUST assist them in the restroom. ACA is not a daycare and is not responsible for unattended children. In the event that you or they are not adhering to these guidelines, you and your child will not have access to the lobby area.



# FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

All Star cheer can be an expensive sport. The staff at ACA has done everything possible in order to decrease/remove your out-of-pocket costs so that you can afford to give your child the opportunity to participate in the program.



**We give all of our pricing upfront so you know what the financial commitment is before you sign your athlete up.** We offer **several fundraising opportunities** that can help to offset the cost if you choose to participate in them. If interested, fundraising opportunities will be discussed in depth during the Parent/Coaches' Meet & Greet, before committing to our program. Regardless if you participate in fundraising, **we expect all fees to be paid on time based on our payment schedule.**

Our prices include everything necessary to compete with the exception of travel costs. Our teams do travel to a number of out-of-town competitions. Athletes will travel with their family to these competitions and overnight stay is required for some events. There is normally a block of rooms secured at a hotel under "Arkansas Cheer Academy" and parents will book their own rooms within this block.

Families also have the option to choose where they would like to stay and are not required to be at the same location as the team.

Payments to your Kids Club account are heavier in the first 7 months (June-December) of the season as practice wear, uniform, choreo/music is ordered at this time and all vendor fees have to be paid out in advance.

The following cost expectations have been carefully put together based upon years of previous loyalty and is an **estimate** of costs for the 2024-2025 season.

## MONTHLY TUITION POLICIES

Monthly gym membership tuition payment is **completely separate** from the ACA Kids Club (competition expenses account) and will be setup on automatic billing/recurring system from the **credit/debit** of your choice. It is important that the accounts connected to the card used are **active and have sufficient funds**. We do our part in giving you and your child a quality service. We ask that you do your part in making our partnership successful. Please understand that the monthly tuition is not dependent on a certain number of practices or hours in the gym. Extra practices may be called or certain practices may be cancelled at the coaches' discretion.

- **Initial invoice will be sent to your email upon your submission of commitment online forms. The payment used on the initial invoice will remain the same payment method (card) for the remainder of your season. Tuition payment will reoccur on the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month through April 2025(unless your team competes through May, then your account will be drafted for a pro-rated amount on May 5th).**
- **Your first tuition/registration payment for the month of June will, as stated before, be paid via the invoice you receive in your email following your commitment form submission. You might receive TWO separate invoices, one for yearly registration, one for June tuition and recurring tuition. BOTH must be paid prior to the first team practice.**
- **All tuition fees must be current before an athlete may practice, compete, or collect any practice wear, uniform, or other items.**
- An athlete's weekly training/practice hours, additional Sunday practice hours, **MANDATORY additional tumbling** class, and optional additional tumbling class is included in your monthly tuition fee.

## MONTHLY TUITION

<b>PERFORMANCE REC MEMBERS</b>	\$115
<b>PREP TEAM MEMBERS</b>	\$150
<b>FIRST YEAR ELITE MEMBERS</b>	\$175
<b>SECOND &amp; THIRD YEAR ELITE MEMBERS (consecutive)</b>	\$170
<b>FOURTH-SIXTH YEAR ELITE MEMBERS (consecutive)</b>	\$160
<b>SEVENTH-TWELVETH YEAR ELITE MEMBERS (consecutive)</b>	\$155
<b>SIBLING RATE (two athletes)</b>	\$295
<b>SIBLING RATE (three athletes)</b>	\$385

**Yearly Gym Registration/Insurance Fee: \$40**  
**(will be included on initial invoice provided in your email after submitting online commitment forms)**

# ACA KIDS CLUB

Each athlete will obtain an **ACA Kids Club Account** which will hold ALL payments except tuition. All of your fundraising profits will accumulate in this account. You will have a personal Google Sheets link to access your Kids Club statement anytime you wish. This statement will show you each deposit and withdrawal that has been made for the following:

- Competition Registration Fees
- Uniform
- Practice wear
- Choreography/Music Fee
- Competition Member Fee
- Coaches' Fees/Travel



## **Kid's Club Payments will be accepted in the following forms:**

- Fundraiser profit
- Cash
- Check payable to ACA Kid's Club
- PayPal **"send to a friend"** to [ACAKidsclub@cox.net](mailto:ACAKidsclub@cox.net)

**ESTIMATED**  
**KIDS CLUB PAYMENT SCHEDULE**  
**REC PERFORMANCE MEMBERS**

<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>Accumulated Deposits</b>
Practice Wear Partial Choreo/Music Fee Partial Uniform Payment	\$250	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	\$250
Partial Choreo/Music Fee Competition Member Fee Partial Competition Fees	\$200	August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	\$450
Partial Uniform Payment Partial Competition Fees	\$200	October 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$650
Partial Competition Fees	\$200	December 13 <sup>th</sup>	\$850
Final Competition Fees	\$200	February 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>\$1,050</b>

**PREP & ELITE MEMBERS**

<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>Accumulated Deposits</b>
Partial Uniform Payment Practice Wear Partial Choreo/Music Fee	\$500	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	\$500
Partial Choreo/Music Fee Competition Member Fee Partial Competition Fees	\$450	August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	\$950
Partial Uniform Payment Partial Competition Fees	\$450	October 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,400
Partial Competition Fees	\$400	December 13 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,800
Final Competition Fees	\$300	February 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>\$2,100</b>

- \***Warm-up attire and backpacks** will also be offered, but are an **OPTIONAL purchase**.
- \***Cheer shoes** are NOT included in uniform price. Solid white cheer shoes (brand/type of your choice) must be purchased.
- \***THESE ITEMS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE PAYMENT PLAN.**



ALL MEMBERS will provide either a DEBIT or CREDIT CARD on file for your Kid's Club account. All members will complete a **Kid's Club Payment Intent Form** (part of your commitment online forms) that will specify whether you plan to FULLY engage in fundraising(cover all Kid's Club expenses via fundraising), partially engage, or not at all(pay all Kid's Club payments out-of-pocket). **DISCLAIMER: It is not ideal or preferred that the card on file have to be charged.** Please make arrangements to have payments complete by other means on specified due dates above.

**If you are participating in FUNDRAISERS that can cover ALL of your season costs,** this card on file will **not** be charged for the full amount listed on the Kid's Club payment schedule. If you have accumulated the necessary funds into your Kids Club account via fundraisers or personal cash/check/PayPal deposits prior to the Kid's Club payment due dates(ideal), again, your card will **not** be charged. If you have accumulated PARTIAL payment by the given due dates, the remainder of the payment will be the only amount charged to the card on file on the due date. **\*There will be a 4% cc fee added when using your debit/credit card on file. Please plan to make payment arrangements so this card does not have to be used.**



**EXAMPLE:** If you had a Kids Club payment due on June 21<sup>st</sup> for \$500 and you had been fundraising and earned \$300 towards your account already, only \$200 would AUTOMATICALLY CHARGE to the debit/credit card on file on June 21<sup>st</sup> to ensure your total \$500 payment. If you had also, along with your \$300 from fundraising, made a personal payment to your Kids Club via cash or check BEFORE June 21<sup>st</sup> for say, \$100, then the amount that would charge to your card on that upcoming due date would be only \$100, equaling your \$500 total amount due for June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**To be clear,** all Kids Club payments **can be covered with provided fundraising,** personal deposits, or will otherwise be charged to your card on file on the specified due dates. **If you do not want your Kids Club payment to be charged to this card,** it is crucial that you have made other means of depositing into your account **PRIOR** to the listed due date(s).

**If your card on file is deemed inactive for any reason and your athlete does not have the required amount in their Kids Club by the dates listed on the payment schedule, they will not participate in practice and will not be choreographed into the routine. If payments are not up to date following choreography, your athlete will be replaced.**

At the conclusion of the season, if additional funds are in your KC account, you may withdraw from your account if you do not plan to return. If you plan to compete with ACA in the future, you may fundraise/deposit more than the below payment schedule requires. This will rollover and ensure that your athlete is funded for future seasons.

## **END-OF-THE-YEAR EVENTS**

The AllStar World Championship is NOT accounted for in the payment schedule above. If a bid is received to compete at one of this invitation-only event, additional funds will need to be fundraised and will include the competition entry fee, coaches' fee, and travel. More details provided below on this event.



## **REFUNDS**

If you quit or are removed from the program by Arkansas Cheer Academy, you **will not receive a refund of any kind**. This includes any prepaid amounts to ACA Kids Club or fundraised profits. Your tuition payment will continue to be drafted July 2024-April 2025 regardless of your departure, or you may choose to pay an in-full, up front cancellation fee of \$550. ACA must be able to fund a replacement for your athlete as we choose our team numbers based on your athlete having a position.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT



**\*EXCESSIVE SPIRIT IS EXPECTED**

We would not have the amount of success we have today if it were not for the dedicated and supportive parents. We want every parent to feel comfortable and informed about his/her child, therefore; we make every effort to keep the lines of communication open. **It is the parents' responsibility to know what is going on with the program at all times.**

E-mail and Band is our primary source of communication so please make sure to check it **daily**. Methods we use to communicate important information are:

**E-Mail, Band App, Text Message, Website**



## IMPORTANT DATES

### GYM CLOSINGS

<b>Summer Break:</b>	July 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<b>Labor Day:</b>	Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024
<b>Fall Break:</b>	October 28 <sup>th</sup> - Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> 2024
<b>Thanksgiving:</b>	Nov 27-28 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<b>Christmas:</b>	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 – Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025 (practices will resume Thurs, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> )
<b>Spring Break:</b>	March 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2025 (Will correspond with Fort Smith school district)



## MANDATORY CHOREOGRAPHY DATES:

**Tentatively July 20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**



## COMPETITIONS

ACA participates in local, regional, and national events throughout the year. Competition provides our program with the opportunity to showcase our talent and compete with other programs. We encourage family and friends of the participants of our program to attend these competitions to show support for all of our teams. Each member of each team is **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to be present at all of the performances made by our program.

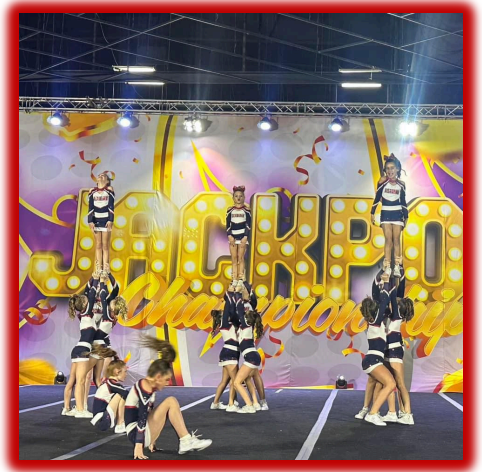
## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Our competition dates will be on select weekends during the months of **January-April 2025**. **ACA will attend SIX or SEVEN regular season events for the 2024-2025 Season. No more than 3 of these events will be a 2-Day event.** You will receive a tentative schedule when practices begin and a final competition schedule by the end of September. This schedule will include a breakdown of estimated costs per competition. (which is already included in your Kids Club payment plan)



The competition schedule may be altered at the discretion of the coaches and event companies. We will choose **6 or 7 regional competitions** for convenience and affordability. However, national events will demand further travel distance. All elite competitive teams have the potential to receive an AllStar World Championship bid in Orlando, FL May 2025. This event will be mandatory if the decision to go is made by the coaches.

If you are new to our sport, we encourage you to research the end of the season events to gain as much knowledge possible on what to expect. It can be a lot to understand when it comes to qualifying events, bids, etc. We will gladly answer any questions you might have, as it can seem overwhelming at first.





## **SAMPLE OF PAST SEASON COMP SCHEDULE**

# **FINAL COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

**1/13/24**

**Celebrity  
Championships**  
Fort Smith, AR

**1/27/24**

**Bravo Spirit  
Jackpot Championship**  
Durant, OK

**2/3/24**

**Redline  
Arkansas Classic**  
Hot Springs, AR

**2/17-18/24**

**Rockstar  
Cheer-A-Palooza**  
Tulsa, OK

**3/1-3/24**

**Gold Rush  
Super Nationals**  
Frisco, TX

**4/6-7/24**

**The Open**  
St. Louis, MO

**4/18-21/24**

**All-Star  
World Championship**  
Orlando, FL

# SPORTSMANSHIP



Sportsmanship and team unity are extremely important parts of our organization. We ask that our members be courteous and friendly to all teams and athletes. Do not speak negatively about any team, program, score, decision, or placement. This includes both

verbally and on the internet; both inside and outside of cheerleading. We wish to promote a healthy learning environment and would like for our program to display the values we hold high. We strive to teach our athletes sportsmanship and respect.



Anyone who behaves or speaks in an inappropriate manner in regards to these rules, immediately subjects him/herself to the possibility of dismissal from the program (parents included).



# GENERAL RULES

The gym is a place of business and we expect it to be respected as such. Children of all ages and/or athletes are NEVER to be left unattended. They must be accompanied by a parent or in class. Do NOT drop your child off before their given practice time.

**During any scheduled practice, competition, or event, athletes are expected to abide by the following:**

- No jewelry (Includes jewelry that is not exposed)
- Hair must be up and out of your face
- Shoes must be worn at all times (bring cheer shoes with you; do not put them on until inside)
- Appropriate attire must be worn at all times (must follow designated practice wear if given)
- At competition, skirts and tops stay completely on until after awards.
- No Gum
- Cell phones must remain silenced during practice
- Fingernails must be trimmed and filed
- You are only allowed to practice on equipment while a coach is present
- Use or possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco is prohibited (will result in immediate dismissal from the team)
- Absolutely no public displays of affection while in uniform
- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated
- Swearing and inappropriate posts on social media are not permitted and will be grounds for dismissal depending on severity and the number of occurrences.

## UPHOLDING A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

It is our mission to offer your child the most positive experience of his/her lifetime. You can assist us in making this experience positive by genuinely supporting our efforts both inside and outside of the gym. Negative communication to your child, other athletes, parents, or coaches about themselves or the ACA program WILL NOT be tolerated. If you have a concern, you must set up a meeting with one or all of your child's coaches. It is detrimental to team chemistry if you show your child that you do not trust the ACA staff. Your child will be given specific criteria of expectations during practice and competitions. They will not be allowed to disrespect their coaches or teammates at any time. This sport requires us all to work as a TEAM. We encourage you to support your child, the team, and the gym in a positive manner. Thank you for entrusting your child to us. We are dedicated to using all that we have to assist your child in reaching his/her fullest potential. We hope that you both gain an exceptionally positive experience through the competitive aspect of all-star cheer.

**THANK YOU for joining the ACA ALL STAR FAMILY!**

# ACA KID'S CLUB PAYMENT INTENT FORM

ATHLETE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ATHLETE BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ TEAM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the option that most closely applies to your intentions of making scheduled Kid's Club Payments:

- I intend to participate fully in fundraising and rely solely on this option to complete my Kid's Club Payment Schedule.
- I intend to participate partially in fundraising opportunities and will also make personal deposits (cash/check/PayPal) to cover additional funds needed.
- I intend to participate in a combination of fundraising, making personal deposits, AND will expect any additional amount needed on specified due dates to be charged to my debit/credit card on file (with 4% fee).
- I intend for my debit/credit card on file to be used fully for EVERY scheduled Kid's Club payment, with the 4% fee.

Additional Notes/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**REGARDLESS OF THE OPTION SELECTED ABOVE, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DEBIT/CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR KID'S CLUB ATHLETE FILE.**

NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_ CARD EXPIRATION M/YR: \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-DIGIT CVC \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

CARD TYPE (please circle one): CREDIT or DEBIT

**ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY AND SECURELY CONFIDENTIAL**

PLEASE SIGN HERE TO CONFIRM YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE USE OF THIS CARD AS MEANS TO COMPLETE YOUR 24-25 ACA KIDS CLUB PAYMENT SCHEDULE

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_