



## **WELCOME TO THE EVO FAMILY!**

### **Special Athlete Team**

Thank you for your interest in joining the EVO Athletics All Star Cheerleading Special Athletes Program. We are truly excited for this upcoming season at EVO. We believe in providing the best resources and overall experience for our athletes regardless of age, ability or experience.

EVO's mission is to create a winning program focused on adding value to each individual athlete by teaching skills that will build confidence, self-control and sportsmanship. We recognize competitive cheerleading as a sport and train all our athletes accordingly. It is our expectation that all athletes, parents or responsible guardians understand the commitment that comes with this incredible experience.

~ Jimmy Lassiter & Dustin Edwards, Cheer Program Directors

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

### **GENERAL:**

- Boys & girls
- ALL LEVELS
- Ages 6 and up. No maximum age limit.

### **MANDATORY PAPERWORK:**

- \_\_\_\_ EVO Online Registration (acknowledge liability and policies)
- \_\_\_\_ Birth Certificate COPY (If not already on file) (needed for USASF)
- \_\_\_\_ Insurance Card COPY (If not already on file)
- \_\_\_\_ Parent signed contracts

**MANDATORY PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS:** September 17, 2017 at 3pm

**START DATE:** October 1, 2017 at 3pm

**COST:** Thanks to the your volunteer buddies, the cost is FREE. Cost includes 3 competitions, a bow, uniform & t-shirt.

**PRACTICE TIMES:** Sundays from 5pm-7pm

# COMPETITION INFORMATION

## **POLICY**

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The two practices prior to a competition are MANDATORY in order to compete. It is extremely stressful for all coaches and athletes when someone has to miss. If an athlete is missing a competition, we will plan to schedule additional practice time.

## **SCHEDULE**

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We do not have our competition schedule finalized at this time because the companies have not released their schedules; however, we do have a few important dates for you to be aware of.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE PLANNING YOUR VACATION TRAVEL DATES AROUND THESE COMPETITIONS.

### **ALL OUT NATIONALS**

This competition is held at Gaylord Palm Resorts February 2nd-4th.

### **JAM BASH**

This competition is held at the Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee February 25th.

### **RETURN TO ATLANTIS**

This competition is held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL March 3rd-4th.

# ATTENDANCE POLICIES

You are expected to attend all practices, exhibitions, and competitions as a team. Our routines incorporate every team member. One member's absence has a negative impact on the entire team.

## ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

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Please call EVO at **941-222-0888** for all absences. Follow the instructions to leave a voicemail for Jimmy Lassiter in the cheerleading program. Please include a detailed explanation for why your athlete is missing. Please do not email, text or call any staff to report an absence – every absence needs to be reported thru the voicemail system. If you are unable to commit to our full year attendance policy, your family may need to consider joining our Mid-Season REC team instead – information for this program will be released in the Fall.

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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During the dates below, no practices are mandatory and will NOT count towards your 7 allowed absences during the In-Season Schedule. Depending on the staff schedules, we may still have practices; however, they will not count against you.

- Memorial Day Holiday: May 29th
- 4th of July Break: July 3th – 7th
- Labor Day: September 4th
- Thanksgiving: November 21st - November 26th
- Winter Break: December 21th - January 1st
- MLK Day: January 15th
- President's Day: February 19th
- Spring Break SRQ/BRA: March 26th – 30th



## **RULES & POLICIES GENERAL**

- Only team athletes are permitted into the gym. Family, siblings and friends must watch from the viewing area.
- No food is permitted inside the gym.
- Every child must come to the gym with their own water bottle.
- Everyone must clean up after themselves & throw trash away.
- Be on time!
- Cell phones must be left in team cubbies, turned OFF and may not be checked at any time during practice.
- EVO is not liable for any personal items left in the gym at any time.
- You must check your email frequently to stay informed on any upcoming important information. As well as our Facebook Group: Private EVO Cheer Group Page
- EVO will not approve any privately monogrammed clothing or accessories bearing the gym name or logo. All clothing bearing the gym or team names or logos must be purchased through the gym.
- Parental support plays an extremely important role in the success of your athlete and the team. We hope that you will be involved in the program and spend as much time as possible supporting your child.
- Parents agree NOT to use restriction from practices as a form of punishment for their child.
- Parents are responsible for travel arrangements for their child including transportation and hotel accommodations. All cheerleaders must be in a hotel room with a parent.
- All families are expected to stay at the host hotel and to book rooms by the appropriate deadline.

**Athlete Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## **DRESS CODE POLICY**

- Hair must be worn off the shoulders with bow in and out of the face at practice.
- Nails must be trimmed shorter than fingertips.
- No jewelry. All piercings must be removed for practice & competition. This is Non-negotiable, this is a safety issue! All lost or damaged practice or competition uniform pieces must be replaced.
- If you are late or dressed incorrectly you will jump/condition after practice.
- Low cut black socks are to be worn with the competition uniform.
- Only certain items may be worn at competition – the detail sheet will always specify.
- A gym bag and water bottle should be brought to each practice.
- Conduct & Behavior
- All program members should set a positive example for others to follow.
- Be respectful and courteous to everyone including coaches & teammates at all times.
- Schedule an appointment to speak with a coach or staff member to discuss any issues that arise.
- You are to not make negative facial expressions, talk under your breath, roll your eyes, or make rude gestures of any kind.
- You are to refrain from gossip and negative talk about the staff, cheerleaders, parents, or other programs on any social media website such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Vine, Etc.
- Accept all team placements with true dignity and class.
- Do not post any photos of yourself or others in EVO attire acting in a negative manner that would discredit the gym's reputation.
- Leave your problems at the door. Come to practice with a smile ready to work hard.
- Any prize money earned at competition will be used in the program at the discretion of EVO management & staff.
- Support and congratulate other teams at competition.

**Athlete Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## **EVO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO:**

- Place athletes on the team it feels will best suit them and the program.
- Close the viewing of practices.
- Decide the role and position an athlete will play on their team.
- Request an athlete take additional classes or clinics to improve their skill level.
- Require additional or longer practices if necessary for the team.
- Move, replace, add, suspend or dismiss an athlete from a team or the program at any time during the year based on criteria including: Attendance, Injury, Attitude, Skills, and Finances & Parent Negativity.
- Reevaluate an athlete's position on the team due to the loss of skills that were previously performed at tryouts.

**Athlete Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature and Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## F.A.Q's

- **I already have cheer shoes. Can I remove them from the payment due to save money?** No items can be omitted. New shoes are required for all athletes.
- **What if I attend tryouts but decide I'm not going to take a spot on a team once the rosters are posted?** We create our teams assuming everyone will accept a position on the team. If people choose not to accept a position it can change the way we have put together our teams so we **STRONGLY DISCOURAGE** you from going through the evaluation process unless you are prepared to accept a position on any team we decide you would best serve. However once the rosters are posted if you elect not to accept a position on the team you have been placed on **AND** you notify us of your intentions prior to your first practice, we will refund your tryout payment but not your registration fee.
- **Can I register for a team after tryouts?** We create our teams based on who attends evaluations in May. We cannot guarantee placement on a squad after Tryouts. Generally, there are spots available on most teams and we will place athletes we feel will benefit an already formed team after tryouts, but there is no guarantee of placement after tryouts.
- **How are team placements decided?** We will be evaluating athletes during tryouts. Many factors affect the placement of each cheerleader. Tumbling, stunting, jumps, motions, dance are some of the deciding factors. Additionally, attitude, maturity, past attendance, and history also plays a part in the decision making process. Generally, we prefer to consider first age, second tumbling skills, and third the specific needs of a particular team.
- **What days will my team practice on?** At the "Roster Reveal Night" we will be handing out team calendars. All teams will practice 2 days a week. Tiny, Mini, Youth, and Junior will have the same scheduled days in effect for the entire season unless there are unforeseen circumstances requiring a change. All Senior teams will have **TWO** weekday practices during the Summer schedule - Both days of practice will be between Monday thru Thursday and will be assigned on their monthly calendar. Senior teams will begin the In-Season Schedule on the designated day. At this time, all Senior teams will discontinue one of their weekday practices and add the Sunday practice for the remainder of the season. Exact practice days and times will be released.
- **What Tumbling Skills does my child need to make a specific team?** There is no exact answer to this considering tumble is just one section of the score sheet. We are strict on progression and our progression chart lists the skills that will make your athlete successful based on their tumble skills at the appropriate level.
- **What type of payment is accepted at EVO?** EVO will be on Auto Debit **ONLY** for your monthly tuition for the season. Those not wishing to do auto debit will need to make one annual payment when registering.
- **Can you guarantee I will be a Flyer?** No. You will be placed on a team based upon your overall "fit" for that specific team. Sometimes we train more flyers than we actually need. We will put our best flyers in the air at competition. This is no reflection on your effort. If you will only accept a position on a specific team or you only want to cheer if you can be a flyer, then this is not the right program for you. We want cheerleaders that want to be a part of our **TEAMS** and program.
- **What about Summer Vacations?** We encourage our cheerleaders to take time for their families over the summer. Please refer to the "Important Dates" & "Holiday Schedule" sections in this packet for when we are closed during the summer and school year. We ask our families to try to plan their vacations around these dates. Your tuition will not be pro-rated for any absences. Absences are not permitted or approved during Skills Camp, Choreography Camp, Week before a competition or a Competition itself.

- **What if I want to take the entire summer off?** We will accept athletes on our teams in August, provided that space is available. However, we will fill our teams as quickly as possible and will not hold spots for anyone taking the summer off unless they are making monthly payments. Even if you are going to miss MOST of the summer but will be here SOME dates, it is usually beneficial to pay your monthly fees and try out in May. May through August is an incredible time to increase individual skills, and should not be missed. Additionally, please remember that if you join after tryouts, extra fees apply.
- **Can I be an All Star Cheerleader for EVO and still cheer for my high school team?** Absolutely!!! We encourage the athletes to do both and it proves to make a better cheerleader.
- **Am I required to attend Choreography Camp?** Yes. This is when the team will learn the routine for the competitive season. If you are not able to attend camp for any reason, you will not be choreographed into the routine. The exact times during these dates are TBD but most likely will occur in August.
- **When is my monthly tuition payment due?** If you are not paying in full, your payment will be automatically debited on the 1st of the month for the following month, unless you have come in PRIOR to the 1st and made a payment. Additionally, if your credit card is declined you will be notified. A late fee of \$15 will be charged to the account on the 5th. We have financial responsibilities and depend on your timely payments. We appreciate your planning accordingly.
- **Are Tumbling/Flyers Classes included in my tuition?** There will be classes offered each week for each level tumbling available only to our full season cheerleaders. These classes are included in their tuition and can attend as many classes that are offered each week. The coaches will let the athletes know which one of these classes to attend (including Flyers Class). If the classes start to have very high attendance, then we may require a signup sheet prior to the class. Classes can be cancelled at any time and no prorating will occur.
- Could my actions as a parent affect my athlete's involvement with EVO? Absolutely. We welcome your comments and concerns. We also believe negativity is extremely contagious and ask that you not share negative comments with other families. A positive atmosphere is the best way to achieve our goals. We don't want stage moms, or people that thrive on drama!! If you can't be positive and helpful, please don't sign your child up for cheerleading here at EVO. We want to surround ourselves with happy families!

**We are so excited to have you in our program and look forward to a GREAT season! Please let us know if you have any additional questions!**