



MCCA Parent Agreement & Supporting Your Cheerleader 2025

I WILL REPRESENT MCCA IN THE MOST RESPECTFUL AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER.

I WILL ALWAYS SPEAK POSITIVE OF THE MCCA COACHES, JUNIOR COACHES, AND ATHLETES.

I WILL TRUST THE COACHES TO PLACE MY CHILD WHERE THEY SEE FIT.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MCCA BOARD HAS THE ATHLETES BEST INTERESTS AT HEART.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING MY CHILD TO ALL PRACTICES AND COMPETITIONS. IF I AM UNABLE THAN I WILL MAKE ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COMPETITIVE CHEER MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL EXPENSES THROUGHOUT THE SEASON AND I AGREE TO PAY THEM.

I UNDERSTAND THAT MY BEHAVIOR PLAYS A ROLE IN MY CHILD'S SUCCESS AND I PROMISE TO SET A POSITIVE EXAMPLE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT PRACTICES ARE CRITICAL TO THE TEAM'S SUCCESS AND THAT I DO NEED TO GET TO PRACTICES ON TIME.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ALL COMMUNICATION NEEDS TO TAKE PLACE ON THE BAND APP.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT ARE MADE ON THE BAND APP. I UNDERSTAND THAT I NEED TO RESPOND, COMMENT, OR LIKE POSTS FROM OUR COACHES.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF MY CHILD'S ATTENDANCE BECOMES ACCESSIVE AND DISRUPTS THE TEAM, THEN THERE WILL BE DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COACHES WILL BE ADDING ON PRACTICES AS THEY SEE FIT AND I WILL BE FLEXIBLE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I WILL SPEAK TO MY ATHLETE ABOUT BEHAVIOR AND PROFESSIONALISM AT EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS. ATHLETES NEED TO REPRESENT MCCA IN THE MOST PROFESSIONAL MANNER. ALL ATHLETES NEED TO BEHAVE PROPERLY, KEEP PROFANITY TO A MINIMUM, AND ACT PROFESSIONAL AT ALL TIMES.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ALL FEES PAID TO MCCA ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AFTER REGISTRATION.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF AN ATHLETE WANTS TO LEAVE THE PROGRAM AFTER REGISTRATION THAT THERE IS NO OPTION FOR A REFUND, REIMBURSEMENT, OR ANY TYPE OF PAYBACK.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I AM MAKING PAYMENT PLANS OR ARRANGEMENTS AND MY ATHLETE DECIDES TO LEAVE THE PROGRAM THAT I AM STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE REST OF MY BALANCE. I UNDERSTAND THAT I CANNOT CANCEL ANY CHECKS, ASK FOR A REFUND, REIMBURSEMENT, OR ANY TYPE OF PAYBACK.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF AN ACCIDENT OCCURS DURING PRACTICE, AT AN EVENT, IN THE PARKING LOT, OR AT A COMPETITION THAT MCCA IS NOT HELD LIABLE TO ANY PERSONAL INJURIES, SELF DAMAGES, EQUITABLE RELIEF, OR WRONGFUL DEATH. MCCA CAN NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR ANY FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, CLAIMS, OR LAWSUITS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT SIGNING MY CHILD UP TO DO COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING IS OPTIONAL AND I UNDERSTAND THE DANGERS INVOLVED.

I UNDERSTAND THAT MCCA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURIES, ACCIDENTS, OR DAMAGES, THAT MAY OCCUR DURING PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING ACTIVITIES. PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR GUARDIANS ACKNOWLEDGE THE INHERITE RISKS OF CHEERLEADING AND AGREE TO ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS AND SAFETY.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHEERLEADER DURING THE CHEER SEASON

Being a competitive cheer parent can be both exciting and challenging. It's important to recognize that the role involves more than just showing up at competitions. Parents play a vital role in supporting their athlete and the cheer program. Here's a breakdown of typical responsibilities:

1. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Tuition/Fees:** Competitive cheer often involves substantial costs, including tuition for the program, uniforms, shoes, practice gear, and competition fees.
- **Fundraising:** Many cheer programs host fundraising events or require parents to participate in raising money for the team. As a parent, you might need to help organize or contribute.
- **Travel Costs:** For away competitions, travel costs (transportation, lodging, meals) can add up. Parents often share travel logistics and costs for these events.

2. TRANSPORTATION

- **Practice and Competition Travel:** You may need to provide transportation to and from practices, competitions, or other team events. It's also important to coordinate rides for athletes who may not drive themselves.
- **Carpooling:** Coordinating with other parents for carpooling can reduce the burden of transportation, especially if the events or practices are far from home.

3. TIME COMMITMENT

- **Practice Attendance:** Cheerleaders often have several practices each week, and parents should ensure their child gets to those on time and is prepared.
- **Competitions:** Competitions often involve long days and sometimes travel. Parents should be ready to spend significant time at these events, supporting their athletes.
- **Volunteering:** Many cheer programs ask parents to volunteer in various capacities, whether it's helping at competitions, managing team communications, or assisting with team events.

4. EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

- **Encouragement:** Cheerleading can be physically and mentally demanding. As a parent, your support, encouragement, and positivity will help your athlete push through tough times.
- **Handling Setbacks:** Injuries, missed stunts, or not winning can be tough. Parents need to help their kids navigate disappointment and celebrate their successes, big or small.
- **Stress Management:** The pressure to perform can be stressful for athletes. Being an emotional rock and offering a sense of stability will help them manage that pressure.

5. TEAM INVOLVEMENT

- **Communication with Coaches and Staff:** Parents should keep open lines of communication with coaches, but always be respectful and mindful of boundaries. Listening to updates about team performance, changes in practice schedules, and health/safety protocols is key.
- **Team Spirit:** Parents contribute to team morale by cheering at events, wearing team colors or apparel, and showing support for the team as a whole.
- **Respect for Team Dynamics:** Competitive cheer involves teamwork. Encouraging your child to get along with teammates and participate in team bonding is essential. Fostering an environment of mutual respect helps the team perform well.

6. HEALTH & SAFETY

- **Physical Preparation:** Cheerleaders need to stay in good physical condition, so helping your athlete with nutrition, exercise, and rest is key.
- **Injury Prevention:** Cheerleading involves stunts and acrobatics, which can lead to injuries. Parents should be aware of safety protocols and ensure their child is receiving appropriate training to reduce the risk.
- **Post-Competition Care:** After a competition or intense practice, be aware of your child's recovery needs—this might include ice baths, stretching, or just adequate downtime.

7. NAVIGATING THE COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT

- **Understanding the Sport:** Familiarize yourself with the competitive cheer landscape, including how scoring works, what judges look for, and the overall expectations for your child's level of competition. The more you understand, the better you can support your athlete.

- **Managing Expectations:** It's important to keep realistic expectations, both for your child and for the team. Competitive cheerleading can be tough, and not every competition will result in a win. Help your child embrace the process and growth, not just the outcome.

8. SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAM

- **Participation in Team Events:** Cheer teams often hold banquets, team-building activities, or social events. Parents should be involved in these events to build a sense of community and foster a positive atmosphere for all athletes.
- **Program Advocacy:** Support your cheer program by promoting it within your community. This could involve helping recruit new members or spreading the word about fundraisers and events.

9. KEEPING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

- **Sportsmanship:** Cheerleading, like any sport, has its ups and downs. Maintain a positive attitude even when things aren't going well, both at home and at competitions. Model good sportsmanship for your child by cheering for all teams and respecting the judges, coaches, and other parents.
- **Balancing Life:** Competitive cheer can sometimes feel all-consuming. As a parent, helping your child maintain balance between cheer and other aspects of their life (school, friendships, downtime) is important for their overall well-being.

10. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PARENTS

- **Parent Community:** Becoming part of the cheer family can offer valuable social support. Connect with other parents, share insights, and help each other navigate the ups and downs of competitive cheer.
- **Respecting Boundaries:** Be mindful of the lines between supporting your child and getting too involved in team politics. Encouraging your child to solve their own issues with teammates and coaches, for example, can help them grow as athletes and people.

In summary, being a competitive cheer parent requires active involvement, financial commitment, emotional support, and the ability to maintain a balanced perspective. Your role is crucial in helping your child thrive in both cheerleading and life outside of the sport.

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Athlete's Printed Name: _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____