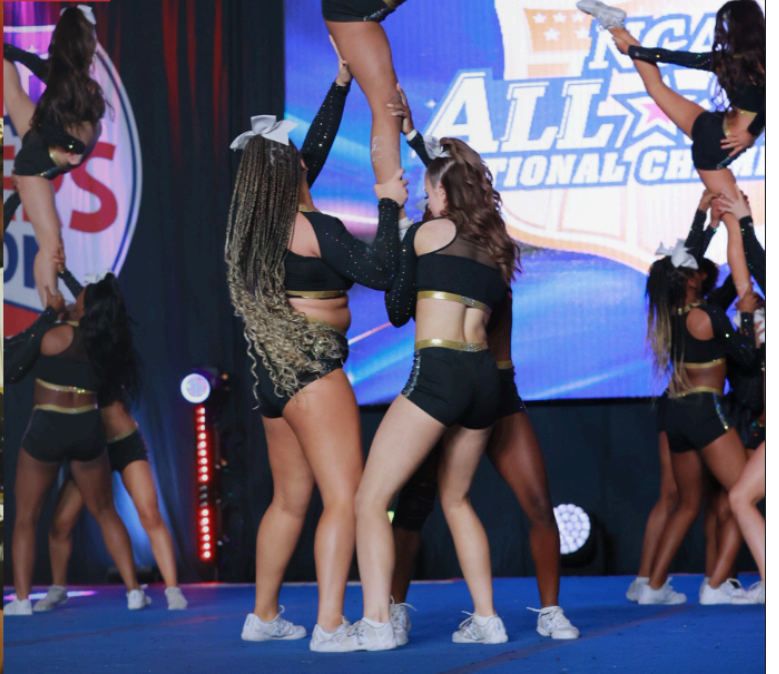




**TOPIC OF DISCUSSION EVALUATION PACKET  
2024-2025**





**ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED REGARDING THE  
UPCOMING SEASON!**

## **WELCOME TO THE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION FAMILY!**

**Thank you for your interest in joining the Topic of Discussion All-Star program, and welcome to SEASON 3! Our organization was founded in 2020, and we have been based at our current location since 2022. We initiated our All-Star program with one team who earned 3rd place out of 68 teams at the D2 Summit in 2023. In our second season, we introduced our first Mini Novice and Youth L1 teams, who both performed exceptionally well at their end of the season events in the D1 division. Our Mini Novice team earned a Superior rating at every competition, including at the NCA National Championship. Our Youth team advanced to finals in one of the most competitive divisions at the Youth Summit and finished 26th out of 65 teams.**

**We take pride in being a small establishment, which allows us to provide individual attention and personalized guidance to our athletes. Our goal is to create a sense of belonging and foster a community where our athletes feel secure and supported. We understand the importance of finding a gym that feels like home, which is why we go the extra mile to ensure our athletes feel valued, understood, and receive the coaching they need to be successful.**

**Cheerleading is more than just a sport to us. We believe it is an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of our athletes, both now and in the future. Our responsibility is not only to train our athletes to be great cheerleaders but to shape them into disciplined, confident, and resilient individuals who will excel beyond the mat.**

**Our staff comprises energetic, knowledgeable, and experienced professionals who are unparalleled in their dedication. With a shared love and passion for the sport, they create an environment that fosters effective communication and exemplary conduct — profoundly influencing the development of our athletes.**

**All of our employees and coaches are USASF credentialed, having undergone thorough background checks and completed abuse prevention education courses, ensuring the safety and well-being of our athletes at all times.**



**Starting a new cheerleading gym is like embarking on a journey of discovery and growth. It's a process of trial and error, where each experience teaches valuable lessons that contribute to building a strong foundation. Developing an effective system takes time, patience, and a willingness to adapt. It's important to remember that the most prominent establishments in our industry didn't achieve their status overnight. They went through the same periods of learning, refining, and evolving to become what they are today.**

**One of the unique challenges we face is uniting athletes from different gyms and backgrounds, each with their own learning and training methods, and then forming competitive teams based on the athletes who attend tryouts. Cultivating a cohesive and supportive environment amidst these differences can be challenging yet rewarding. It requires open communication, understanding, and a shared goal among all parties involved to achieve growth and improvement.**

**We believe that navigating through these complexities and embracing the learning process ultimately leads to the development of a successful and thriving gym community, and we are dedicated to achieving this goal.**

**We prioritize the dedication and commitment of our athletes and parents for our success. Our goal this season is to build highly competitive teams. We invite self-motivated and determined athletes to join our program. We value unwavering commitment and encourage athletes who embrace the process, excel in overcoming adversity, and are committed to reaching their full potential to join our family. If there's any doubt about commitment, we advise against joining our program. This season, we are committed to building strong teams with dedicated athletes.**

# EVALUATION PROCESS

**Please go to the following link to register for tryouts:**

**[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0WuAhAt3ks7kkfl11FiwDnWnYWkYWuXS05eQyXGgSBBtNPA/viewform?usp=sf link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0WuAhAt3ks7kkfl11FiwDnWnYWkYWuXS05eQyXGgSBBtNPA/viewform?usp=sf_link)**

**All athletes will be evaluated based on their individual skills and their ability to base or fly. Our tryout process is designed to be relaxed, and we strive to provide a stress-free environment. We evaluate athletes privately or in small groups of three and encourage them to retry any skills they are not satisfied with during their tryout. Once evaluations are complete, we begin the process of assembling rosters and building teams. The selection of teams is a very meticulous and often complicated process. We consider many key elements in our decisions and aim to choose a well-rounded variety of individuals for each team. Please note that tryouts are closed, and all video submissions must be sent in before May 19th. Parents will be informed of the results on or before Monday, May 21st.**

**Team practices will begin Wednesday, May 22nd. (Practice Wear Fitting)**

**Mandatory Parent Meeting: Wednesday, May 22nd | 6:00PM**

**For questions regarding evaluations, please email: [info@topicofdiscussionssports.com](mailto:info@topicofdiscussionssports.com)**

**For questions regarding finances, please email: [jessica@topicofdiscussionssports.com](mailto:jessica@topicofdiscussionssports.com)**

**For questions regarding any of our programs please email:  
[lauren@topicofdiscussionssports.com](mailto:lauren@topicofdiscussionssports.com)**

**If you need to reach us quickly, please call: (713)-853-5703**

**If an athlete cannot attend one of the tryout sessions, they will have the opportunity to register for a private tryout.**

**In the unlikely event that an athlete is not offered a position on a team, the entire tryout fee will be refunded. If an athlete would like to be considered for a flyer position, they must attend the flyer tryout session.**

# EVALUATION DATES

Interviews will take place on May 17th, and public evaluations will be held on May 18th and 19th. Before the tryout process begins, all athletes and their parents/guardians must participate in an interview.

## FRIDAY, MAY 17TH:

### INTERVIEWS

4:00PM-9:00PM | ZOOM

## SATURDAY, MAY 18TH:

### JUNIOR + SENIOR (ELITE)

2:00PM-4:00PM | Junior (2009-2016)

4:00PM-6:00PM | Senior (6/01/05-2012)

## SUNDAY, MAY 19TH:

### NOVICE, PREP, YOUTH

2:00PM-3:00PM | Novice, Prep (2015-2021)

3:00PM - 4:00PM | Elite Level 1 | Youth (2012-2017)

**\*IF YOUR ATHLETE WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED AS A FLYER, THEY MUST ATTEND THE FOLLOWING SESSION.**

## FLYER EVALUATION:

### SATURDAY, MAY 18TH

12:00PM-2:00PM

## PARENT MEETING + PRACTICE WEAR FITTING:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND | 6:00PM

# EVALUATION FEES

<b>RETURNING ATHLETE</b>	<b>\$65</b>
<b>NEW ATHLETE</b>	<b>\$75</b>
<b>FLYER TRYOUT</b>	<b>\$75</b>

## ELITE:

**Elite teams are composed of individuals with extensive training in cheerleading and a high level of technical expertise. These teams consist of athletes who are well-prepared to deliver exceptional performances at the most competitive levels.**

## PREP:

**Prep teams offer an opportunity for individuals with limited tumbling skills to enhance their technique and performance abilities within a competitive team setting. Compared to Elite teams, Prep teams usually demand less time and financial commitment.**

## NOVICE:

**Novice teams are tailored for individuals who are new to the All-Star scene but are prepared for performance-oriented teams that undergo evaluations at events. These teams emphasize the development of technical skills and performance abilities, serving as a training ground for athletes aiming to join competitive All-Star teams.**

# SKILL REQUIREMENTS

**Athletes must have perfect technical mastery of the elite skills within the skill grid. Perfect technique will be strictly enforced across all levels.**

**If you need clarification on your level, please ask directly before tryouts.**

## SKILL GRID

**TUMBLING DEFINITIONS:**

**FWO: FRONT WALKOVER**

**BWO: BACK WALKOVER**

**CW: CARTWHEEL**

**RO: ROUND OFF**

**BHS: BACK HANDSPRING**

**PF: PUNCH FRONT**

**FH: FRONT HANDSPRING**



	<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>LEVEL 2 (4.2)</b>
<b>STANDARD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FORWARD ROLL</li> <li>● STRADDLE ROLL</li> <li>● PUSHUP TO BACKBEND</li> <li>● BACKWARD ROLL</li> <li>● HANDSTAND</li> <li>● BACKBEND KICK OVER</li> <li>● STANDING BACKBEND</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BHS</li> <li>● BHS STEP OUT</li> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BHS</li> <li>● ROUND OFF (RO) - BHS</li> </ul>
<b>ADVANCED STANDING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BWO</li> <li>● BWO - BACKWARDS ROLL - BWO</li> <li>● BACK EXTENSION ROLL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BWO - BHS</li> <li>● BWO - BHS STEP OUT</li> <li>● BHS STEP OUT - BWO</li> <li>● VALDEZ - BWO - BHS</li> </ul>
<b>ADVANCED RUNNING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ROUND OFF</li> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BWO/BWO SWITCH LEG</li> <li>● FWO/FWO SERIES</li> <li>● HANDSTAND FORWARD ROLL CARTWHEEL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ROUND OFF - BHS STEP OUT</li> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BHS STEP OUT</li> <li>● FRONT HANDSPRING</li> <li>● FWO - FRONT HANDSPRING</li> </ul>
<b>ELITE STANDING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BWO SERIES</li> <li>● BWO SWITCH LEG</li> <li>● BACK EXT. ROLL - BWO</li> <li>● VALDEZ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BWO - BHS STEP OUT - BWO</li> <li>● BWO SWITCH LEG - BHS</li> <li>● BHS STEP OUT - BWO - BHS</li> <li>● VALDEZ - BHS/BHS STEP OUT</li> <li>● BACK EXTENSION ROLL - BHS/BHS STEP OUT</li> </ul>
<b>ELITE RUNNING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BWO SERIES</li> <li>● FWO - CARTWHEEL/ROUND OFF</li> <li>● FWO - CARTWHEEL - BWO/BWO SERIES</li> <li>● FWO - CARTWHEEL - BWO SWITCH LEG</li> <li>● HANDSTAND FORWARD ROLL CARTWHEEL - BWO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SERIES FRONT HANDSPRINGS</li> <li>● BOUNDER/FLYSPRING</li> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BHS SERIES</li> <li>● RO - BHS SERIES</li> <li>● FWO - RO - BHS/BHS SERIES</li> <li>● CARTWHEEL - BHS STEP OUT - BWO - BHS/BHS SERIES</li> </ul>



	<b>LEVEL 3</b>	<b>LEVEL 4</b>
<b>ADVANCED STANDING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BWO - BHS SERIES</li> <li>● BHS - BHS - BHS OR MORE</li> <li>● JUMP - BHS SERIES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BHS SERIES - TUCK</li> <li>● BACK TUCK</li> <li>● BWO - TUCK</li> <li>● BACK EXTENSION ROLL - TUCK</li> <li>● VALDEZ - TUCK</li> </ul>
<b>ADVANCED RUNNING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PUNCH FRONT</li> <li>● ROUND OFF - BHS SERIES - TUCK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PF - PF</li> <li>● PF STEP OUT - AERIAL</li> <li>● RO - BHS SERIES - LAYOUT</li> <li>● RO - ONODI - TUCK</li> <li>● PF STEP OUT - RO -TUCK</li> <li>● AERIAL - TUCK/LAYOUT/LAYOUT STEP OUT</li> <li>● FWO - AERIAL - TUCK</li> <li>● RO - WHIP/TUCK - TUCK</li> <li>● FRONT AERIAL - RO - WHIP - TUCK</li> <li>● FWO - RO - WHIP/ TUCK - TUCK</li> <li>● PF STEP OUT - RO - WHIP/TUCK - TUCK</li> <li>● FH - PF STEP OUT - RO - TUCK</li> </ul>
<b>ELITE STANDING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BHS/BHS SERIES - JUMP - BHS/BHS SERIES</li> <li>● JUMP - BHS - JUMP - BHS</li> <li>● BHS STEP OUT - BHS SERIES</li> <li>● BHS STEP OUT - BWO - BHS SERIES</li> <li>● BWO - BHS - JUMP - BHS/BHS SERIES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BHS/BHS STEP OUT - TUCK</li> <li>● JUMP - BHS SERIES - TUCK</li> <li>● JUMP - BHS - TUCK</li> </ul>
<b>ELITE RUNNING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FWO - AERIAL</li> <li>● BOUNDER/FLYSPRING - AERIAL</li> <li>● ROUND OFF - BHS - TUCK</li> <li>● RO - BHS STEP OUT - ½ TURN - RO - TUCK</li> <li>● FWO - RO - TUCK</li> <li>● BOUNDER/FLYSPRING - RO - TUCK</li> <li>● FRONT HANDSPRING - PUNCHFRONT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FH - PF STEP OUT - RO - WHIP/TUCK -TUCK</li> <li>● RO - BHS - LAYOUT/LAYOUT STEP OUT/X-OUT/SWITCH LEG</li> <li>● RO - ONODI - LAYOUT</li> <li>● FWO - RO - LAYOUT</li> <li>● FRONT AERIAL - RO - WHIP - LAYOUT</li> <li>● PF STEP OUT - RO - LAYOUT</li> <li>● RO - WHIP/TUCK - LAYOUT</li> <li>● FWO - RO - WHIP/TUCK - LAYOUT</li> <li>● PF STEP OUT - RO -WHIP/TUCK - LAYOUT</li> <li>● FH - PF STEP OUT - RO - LAYOUT</li> <li>● FH - PF STEP OUT - RO - WHIP/TUCK - LAYOUT</li> </ul>

**FLYERS PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST HAVE STRONG FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH LEGS, BOTH LEG VARIATION TICS, BOTH LEG BODY POSITIONS, AND SPINNING VARIATIONS.**

**YOU MUST MEET ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED A FLYER.**

# PROGRAM FEES

**The cost of competitive cheerleading, while less expensive than some other youth activities, can still be costly. In an effort to help reduce costs, we give our parents the option of joining the booster club at the beginning of the season. The booster club holds the responsibility of raising funds and locating potential sponsorships for the All-Star program. While this will help to cut down on costs, we still suggest that you consider the financial commitment involved before considering Topic of Discussion or any competitive All-Star program. NOTE: For your athlete to benefit from the booster club funding, you must be an active member of the program. Joining the booster club is free and there is no obligation to do so.**

**There will be 12 monthly charges beginning May 22nd, 2024, through May 15th, 2025. Tuition is due on the 15th of each month for the remaining months. (June tuition is due on June 15th.) The monthly tuition fee covers unlimited team training, unlimited tumbling classes, and competition fees. Monthly tuition is a fixed expense that does not change from month to month.**

**We offer a sibling tuition discount for having multiple athletes enrolled in the All-Star program. To have this discount applied to your account, please reach out to our finance manager.**

**12 Monthly payments include:**

- Unlimited Team Training (\$200 monthly)**
- Unlimited All-Star Tumbling Classes (\$100 monthly)**
- Competition/Event Registration Fees (\$110 monthly - \$1320 yearly (7/8 events))**

**Previously our competition fees were distributed across three separate payments in September, October, and November, alongside the monthly tuition fee. In our updated approach, we have transitioned to a year long payment schedule, offering a more structured and manageable payment plan for our families.**

## MONTHLY TUITION

<b>ELITE LEVELS (YOUTH, JUNIOR, SENIOR)</b>	<b>\$410</b>
---	--------------

# ADDITIONAL FEES

<b>ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>DUE: 6/1</b>
<b>PRACTICE WEAR</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>DUE: 6/1</b>
<b>SKILLS CAMP (4 DAYS)</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>WARM-UP JACKET (IF APPLICABLE)</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>BACKPACK (IF APPLICABLE)</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>NEW UNIFORM (IF APPLICABLE)   SENIOR</b>	<b>\$600-\$750 (MALE) \$525</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>NEW UNIFORM (IF APPLICABLE)   JUNIOR</b>	<b>\$575 (MALE) \$450</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>NEW UNIFORM (IF APPLICABLE)   YOUTH</b>	<b>\$450 (MALE) \$400</b>	<b>DUE: 7/1</b>
<b>MUSIC/CHOREOGRAPHY</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>DUE: 8/1</b>
<b>UNIFORM BOW</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>DUE: 9/1</b>
<b>COACHES FEE</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>DUE: 11/1</b>

**Potential Summit fees may include but are not limited to: event registration, sports bra, t-shirt, and coaches travel fee.**

**All athletes will receive a classic logo tee with their annual registration fee.**

**Existing athletes do not have to pay the Annual Registration Fee, if the fee has already been paid.**

# COMPETITION SCHEDULE

**The following is a list of tentative events for the upcoming season. We may attend events that are not listed. Spring events may be added if deemed necessary. A final schedule will be provided on or before August 1st. All outstanding balances must be paid before the 2025 NCA Allstar Nationals.**

**(1) American Cheer Power - Houston, TX | 12/8**

**(2) Encore - Houston, TX | 12/13-12/15**

**(3) ACA - Ft Worth, TX | 1/11-1/12**

**(4) Mardi Gras - New Orleans, LA | 1/18-1/19**

**(5) Spirit Sports - Palm Springs, CA | 2/1-2/2**

**(6) NCA - Dallas, TX | 2/28-3/2**

## **END OF SEASON EVENTS:**

**Youth Summit - Tampa, FL | 4/24-4/25**

**The Summit - Orlando, FL | 5/2-5/4**

## **HOTEL REQUIREMENTS:**

**Out of state competitions will require all parents/athletes to book hotels through TTS (Team Travel Source). This requires athletes to stay at specific hotels that work closely with the event producers. While we do not exactly agree with the housing requirements, failure to comply will result in our team(s) being disqualified.**



# CALENDAR/SUMMER SCHEDULE

**Our All-Star program runs for a full 12 months. We begin practicing in May 2024 and continue through the beginning of May 2025. Athletes are expected to attend all practices and competitions. We understand many are involved in various extracurricular activities; however, we cannot make exceptions for excessive schedule conflicts. There will only be two practices a week in the months of June and July. Beginning August 1st, we will practice 3 days a week regularly. Practices will be 4-6 hours during the week and approximately 2.5-3 hours on the weekend. All teams typically practice 3 times a week from August - May. We expect 100% commitment and attendance from all athletes across all levels. This will allow practices to run productively, and keep extra practices to a minimum.**

**Practice times will remain consistent throughout the season and only change under special circumstances. NOTE: During the competition season, additional practices may be added to the calendar. If this occurs, parents will receive notice in advance. All athletes are expected to attend any extra practices added to the calendar.**

**The following dates are available for holidays and vacations throughout the 2024-2025 calendar year.**

**May 24th-May 27th | Memorial Day**

**July 1st-July 7th | Fourth of July**

**August 31st-September 2nd | Labor Day Weekend**

**October 31st | Halloween (NO TEAM PRACTICES)**

**November 25th-November 30th | Thanksgiving Break (MANDATORY PRACTICE: DECEMBER 1st)**

**December 22nd - January 3rd | Winter Holiday (MANDATORY PRACTICE: January 4th + 5th)**

**March 8th-March 16th | Spring Break**

**April 20th | Easter (MANDATORY PRACTICE: April 21st)**

## **SKILLS CAMP:**

- **JUNE 8TH - (TIMES TBA)**
- **JUNE 22ND - (TIMES TBA)**
- **JULY 13TH - (TIMES TBA)**
- **JULY 27TH - (TIMES TBA)**

**UNIFORM FITTING: 6/8 | CHOREOGRAPHY: (TBA) | TENTATIVELY JULY | \*PRACTICE WEAR FITTING 5/22**

**Skills camp and choreography are both mandatory. Choreography dates will be confirmed once teams have been finalized.**

# ABSENCE POLICY

**Athletes can take up to 4 absences for family vacations from May to August. These absences must be submitted at least two weeks in advance and can be taken in conjunction with any of the listed dates.**

**After July 31st, the only excused absences are school related that result in a grade. All other absences are not excused. Excessive school functions that require absences will not be allowed. Each athlete is limited to 3 absences, including competitive school cheer, choreography, practices, competitions, and any other extracurricular activities. Additional absences will jeopardize an athlete's placement on their respective team.**

**Absences are NOT permitted the week of a competition. Unexcused absences may result in the athlete being moved to an alternate position or removed from an upcoming performance at the staff's discretion.**

**All athletes must submit an Absence Request Form at least 2 weeks before the absence. Please do not email the absence request forms. These forms are required for all absences, so please ensure you submit your request in advance. Please note that submitting a form does not automatically excuse the absence. All absences must be approved. We will verify with the school administration and teaching staff if we suspect dishonesty. Be prepared to provide documentation from a teacher or instructor. Falsifying a request will result in immediate removal.**

**Excessive absences that involve school cheer may result in removal from our program.**

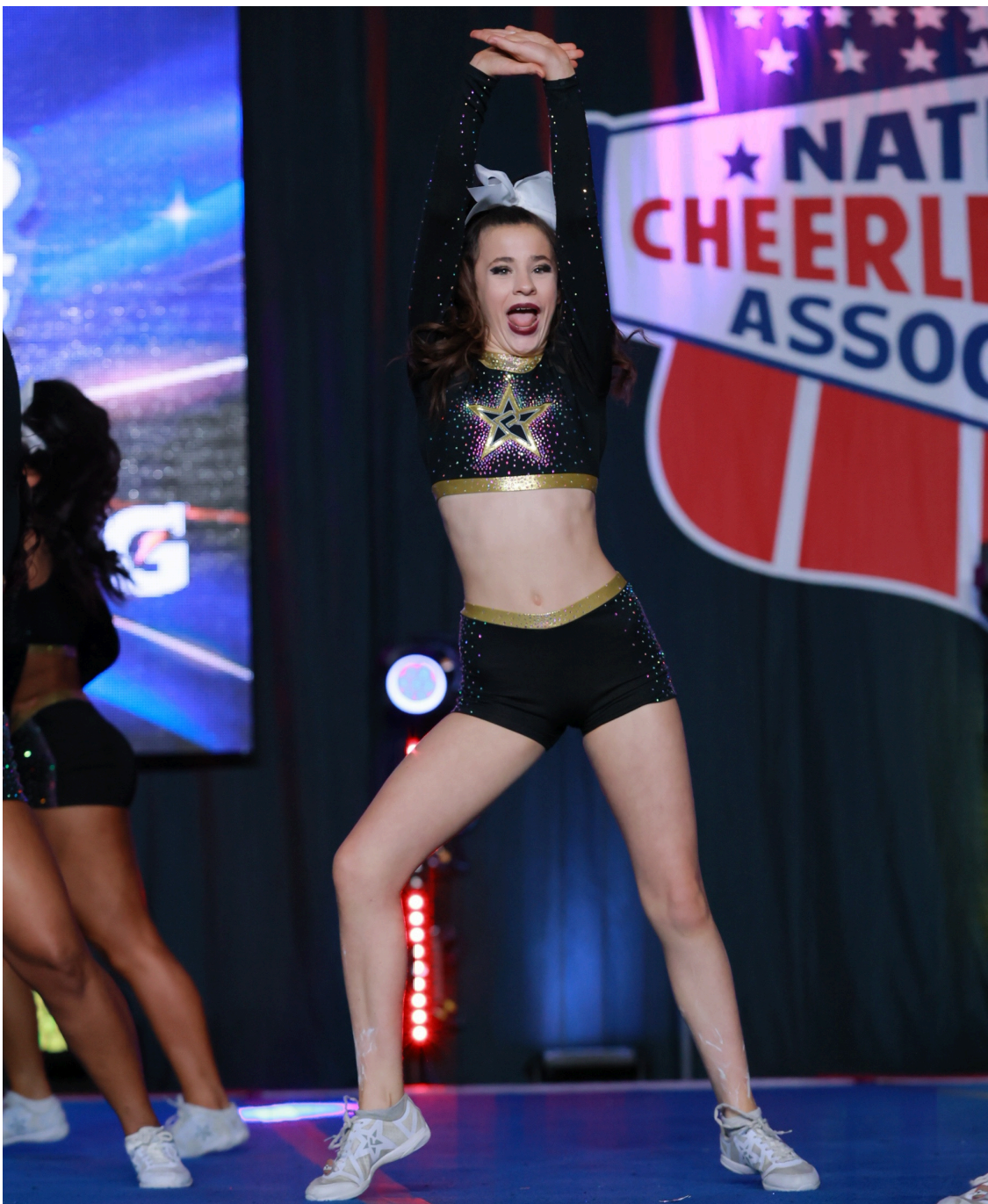
# TRAVEL/AIR FARE

**Air travel is mandatory for the following events: Spirit Sports, Youth Summit, and The Summit.**

**Athletes are required to arrive one day prior to prelims and may depart early morning following the event. ALL athletes must attend all practices and showcases listed within the calendar the week of the competition. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**If you choose to book your travel outside of the guidelines provided, you will be required to change your itinerary.**

**Early travel absences will not be excused, and athletes who miss practices or showcases for such reasons will not be able to perform. Please note that refunds will not be given in such cases.**



# PRACTICE RULES

**Practices are closed during the week. The parent viewing area will be open only on weekends.**

**NOTE: The parent viewing area is a privilege. If we receive multiple complaints of a parent causing issues or speaking negatively about an athlete, coach, or any of our programs, viewing privileges may be revoked. This includes the parking lot area. Parent drama will NOT be tolerated.**

**Parents are allowed in the parent viewing area and to utilize the restroom closes to the parent viewing area. They are not permitted inside the gym. If you need to speak with your athlete or an instructor, please inform the front office manager.**

**Topic of Discussion encourages athletes who are self-motivated and driven to reach their goals to join our program. Poor attitudes, disrespectful behavior, no desire to progress, lack of work ethic, and lack of effort will not be tolerated. If your athlete displays any of the above characteristics, their position on their respective team will be suspended or potentially revoked.**

**NO excessively long or sharp fingernails.**

**NO foul language.**

**NO JEWELRY at practices.**

**NO CELL PHONES during practice times.**

**NO FOOD OR SODA inside of the gym. All food and soda must be consumed in the lobby area.**

**NO GUM whatsoever at practices or competitions.**

**NO videos of practices from athletes or parents.**

**Practice wear sets must be worn as scheduled on the monthly calendars. Lost, misplaced, or damaged clothing must be replaced at your expense.**

**Athletes who are late or dressed incorrectly will be asked to condition after practice.**

**Team correspondence is set forth in band, monthly calendars, and email.**

**Each team will have our office manager, a team mom, and a designated coach responsible for relaying information.**

**All team related problems should be addressed directly with the owner.**

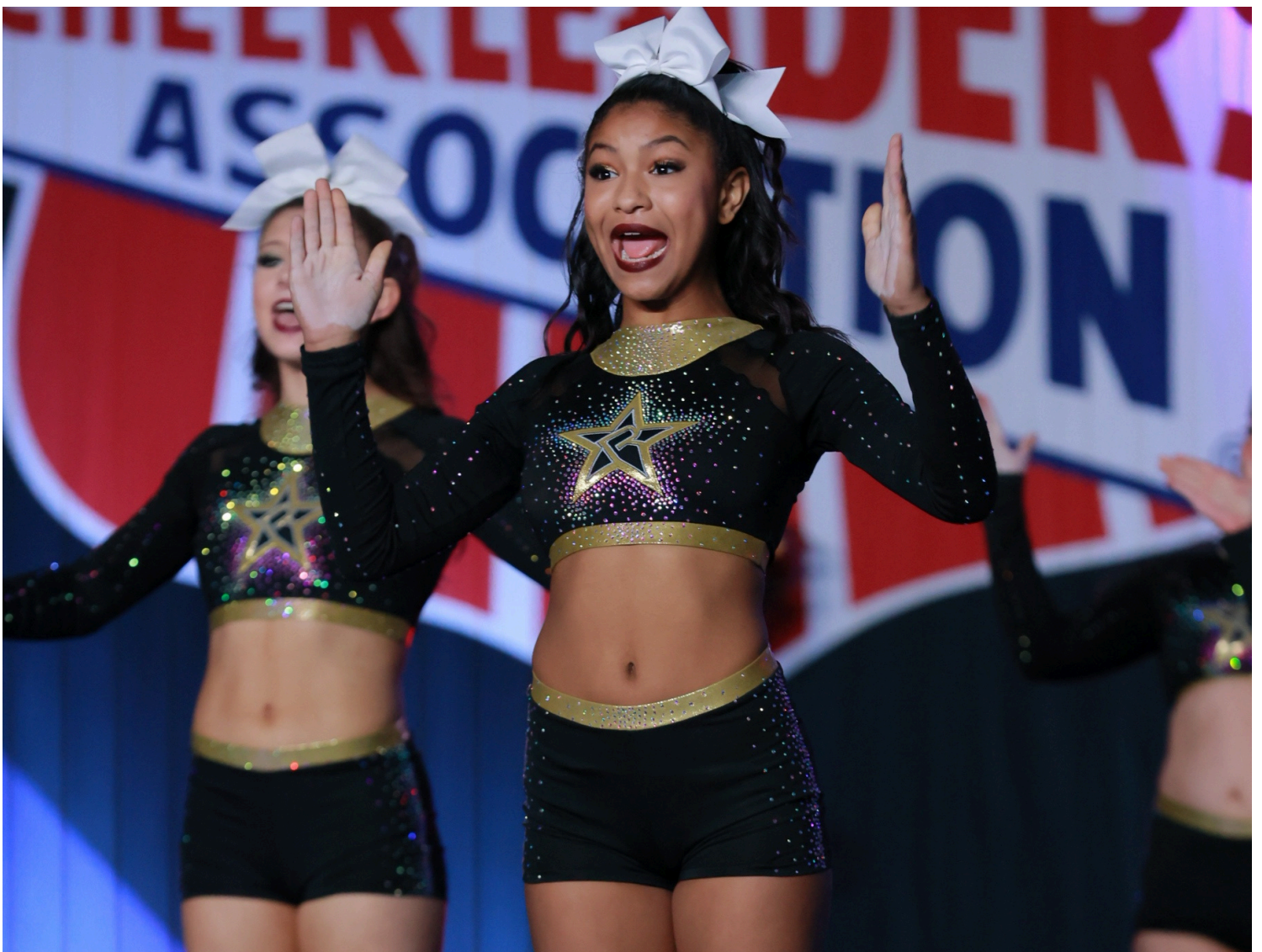


# INJURY/ILLNESS POLICY

**The health and safety of our athletes and staff is our top priority. If an athlete is unwell or injured and unable to attend practice please get in touch with the office manager. Ill athletes with non-contagious illnesses are expected to attend practice.**

**In case of injury, the athlete must provide a doctor's note with details of the injury, treatment plan, and recovery time. Prolonged injury may affect the athlete's position on the team. Notify us promptly if an athlete is injured outside of practice. We may adjust routines based on an individual's injury and recovery time. The decision to reintegrate the individual into the routine is at the coach's discretion.**

**Injured or ill athletes must continue to pay monthly tuition. Substituted athletes will receive the original athlete's competition registration. NOTE: We fully reserve the right to replace sick or injured athletes.**



# CODE OF CONDUCT

**PARENTS AND ATHLETES ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE AT ALL TIMES FOR THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN THIS PACKET!**

**A member must always be a strong representative of Topic of Discussion and a positive reflection of his/her teammates.**

**Disrespectful or abusive behavior toward staff or teammates will not be tolerated.**

**We have a ZERO tolerance policy for alcohol or drug use.**

**We will not tolerate negative comments about our staff, teams, or other programs at any time under any circumstance.**

**Please remember that your actions and words reflect directly on our organization. While using social media platforms like Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, Band, or any other, please be mindful of the content you post and also the content you share on your page.**

**Sharing inappropriate or disrespectful content will result in immediate removal.**

**It is expected that all teammates treat each other with respect. Drama, pettiness, gossiping, cliques, and private group chats that exclude or alienate some athletes will not be tolerated.**

**Talking back, yelling, rolling eyes, or any other form of disrespect toward staff or teammates will not be tolerated. Any issues between an athlete and staff member will first be addressed between the athlete and coach/owner. If the issue is not solved, a parent will be notified of the problem or infraction of the rules and will be expected to assist the staff in solving the issue.**

**We will handle all disciplinary issues privately and professionally.**

# MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**We have a policy set in place regarding athletes who choose to quit the program before the season has ended. The exit fee is outlined in our policy, as it helps cover the costs we incur when an athlete quits after the month of June, which can be significant for a small gym like ours. The exit fee is \$1000 and covers the following fees for the athlete who has to fill the position: registration fees, registration change fees (if applicable), uniform (if applicable), cheer shoes (if applicable), airfare (if applicable), hotels (if applicable), practice wear (if applicable), transportation to and from practices, bow, choreography changes, and music changes (if applicable).**

**The impact of an athlete quitting the team in the middle of the season can be significant and can affect various aspects of the team dynamics. If an athlete quits after the month of June, they will be required to pay an exit fee.**

**We value commitment and dedication, and it is our hope that setting the expectation up front will attract athletes who are fully committed and willing to put in the work necessary to be successful. Moving forward, we expect that this adjustment will help cultivate a strong team culture.**

**All routines, choreography, music, or other routine materials are confidential and should not be shared without permission. No videos of routines or choreography should be posted online.**

**Designs bearing the Topic of Discussion name and logo must be approved. Anything created without approval will not be acceptable and cannot be worn or sold independently. This includes spirit gifts and year round team gifts.**

**Athletes are expected to attend end of season events.**

**Only one college visit is allowed, limited to graduating seniors.**

**Parents must sign off on uniform sizes. Exchanges will not be available for garments missing original tags.**

**We prioritize perfecting basic skills before learning advanced ones. We will not focus on more advanced skills with your athlete without first perfecting the basics. If parents and athletes are not patient and have a clear understanding of our teaching methods, they should not be cheering at Topic of Discussion. Technique is everything, and only perfected skills will be choreographed into a routine.**

**Selected flyers must maintain flexibility and skill requirements. In addition, mandatory tumbling will be required for athletes who do not maintain the skill level requirements.**

**Tuition does not pay for the right to perform. Individuals must meet the skill level requirements to compete. Mandatory tumbling will be assigned as needed.**

**Athletes can be moved to an alternate position if they do not maintain the skill requirements.**

**Any athletes with performance anxiety which results in consistent team deductions may be moved to a less stressful position or be replaced.**

**Topic of Discussion reserves the right to change a team's division and level at any time throughout the season.**

**Topic of Discussion does not offer makeup days for scheduled closures, emergency closures, or athlete absences, and we do not pro-rate.**

**It is the parent's responsibility to keep contact information, payment information, and emergency contact information current via the Parent Portal.**

**If your athlete quits at any point of the season, no refunds will be given (competition fees, practice wear fees, uniform fees, tuition fees, music/choreography fees), and you will be expected to pay the exit fee if the athlete quits after the month of June.**

**All accounts must remain current; failure to do so will jeopardize the athlete's position and ability to practice with the team.**



# TEAM APPLICATION

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Athlete Name  Age

D.O.B.  Parent Email

Address

City/State  Zipcode

Grade  School

Please fill in the level that best describes you.

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

Would you accept any position, on any team?  Yes  No

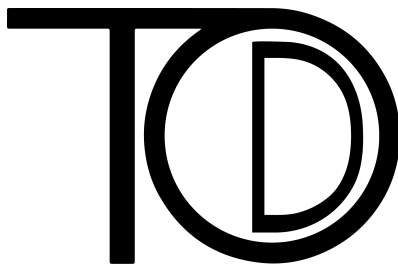
If no, what level/position are you interested in?

Would you be interested in double-teaming?  Yes  No

How do you contribute to a positive team environment?

What do you enjoy the most about cheer, and what keeps you motivated to continue training and competing?

How would a former teammate describe you?



# TOPIC OF DISCUSSION HANDBOOK

**Athletes and parents must collaborate closely to ensure compliance with the rules outlined in the Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct. Your individual contributions to the team are essential to our success. Parents, our program's success depends not only on the athletes but also on your commitment and support.**

**By following the guidelines in this packet, we can ensure this season runs as smoothly as possible and is an amazing experience for everyone involved.**

## ATHLETE

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that this is a one-year commitment, and I have a responsibility to uphold to myself, my teammates, and Topic of Discussion to fulfill my commitment.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that I commit to always maintain a competitive and positive attitude, remain focused, and give my best effort to achieve the goals set by myself and the coaching staff.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that I recognize the importance of conditioning in sports, and I am fully prepared to dedicate myself to rigorous training.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to demonstrate a high standard of conduct as a representative of Topic of Discussion. I will not act inappropriately or use inappropriate language, nor will I act disrespectfully towards any of the Topic of Discussion staff, parents, team members, or competitors at any time.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that Topic of Discussion reserves the right to change a team level or division at any point during the season.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that I must maintain the skills that I performed at evaluations.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that all routines, choreography, music, or other routine materials are confidential and should not be shared without permission. No videos of routines or choreography should be posted online.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that talking back, yelling, rolling eyes, or any other form of disrespect toward staff, teammates, or parents will not be tolerated.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that I must be mindful of my actions on social media. While using Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, Band, or any other platform. I will be cautious about not only the content I post but also, the content that I share on my page.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that failure to follow the social media guidelines could jeopardize my position on the team.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and understand the Parent Handbook as well as the Code of Conduct. I will make every effort to excel as a member of Topic of Discussion and adhere to the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct and Parent Handbook. I am

aware that failure to comply with the Topic of Discussion Code of Conduct or Parent Handbook may result in my suspension or dismissal from the Topic of Discussion All-Star Program.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN**

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that my child must wear the appropriate practice attire as scheduled for each practice.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that I will do my part to ensure that my child is on time for practice and competitions. I also understand that my athlete can and will be removed for repeated offenses.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not prevent my child from practicing or performing as a form of punishment.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that it is my responsibility to keep my account up to date and current. If I fail to do so, I understand that my child may be prevented from participating in practices and/or competitions until my account is current. This includes all fees that may be incurred.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that Topic of Discussion does not get involved in disputes between divorced parents regarding financial responsibility for their child's cheerleading and tumbling expenses. By signing as a guarantor, you agree to be financially responsible for the services we provide to your child, regardless of whether a divorce decree or other arrangements place that obligation on your former spouse.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that: I will not engage in negative conversations about Topic of Discussion, its staff, or athletes. I also understand that the parent viewing area be maintained as a positive space. If I fail to maintain a positive demeanor, my access to the parent viewing area may be restricted or permanently revoked.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that the parent viewing area is not my workshop, living room, dining room, party room, or daycare center. I will respect others and use it solely for the purpose of viewing my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that all routines and choreography, including cheers, dances, stunts, transitions, and tumbling, should be highly protected and should never be discussed with others. This also includes any and all portions of music. No videos of routines, practices, competitions, or any choreography should be uploaded to any online site, such as YouTube, or other forms of social media.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that any and all problems or concerns related to the program, staff, cheerleaders, or other parents are to be brought directly to the owner, and not to publicly air grievances if any arise. I also agree to accept all staff decisions as final and in the best interest of all parties.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that my assistance and support will be invaluable in my child's development. I will take every necessary step to support the Topic of Discussion staff and their decisions regarding the Topic of Discussion Program, whether it directly relates to my child or not.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that no person shall, for any reason, print, embroider, screen or, by any other means, transpose the Topic of Discussion company logo, name, initials, or any other representations thereof onto any material without prior written consent from Topic of Discussion. The company name and its entity are solely owned by Topic of Discussion. I agree to abide by its rules and regulations therein as well as those stated here in the Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that the payment of tuition, expenses, and other fees do not guarantee the right for my child to perform and that my child must meet the skill requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that if my athlete quits at any point after June 2024, I will be required to pay an exit fee of \$1,000.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that Topic of Discussion does not offer makeup days for scheduled closures, emergency closures, or athlete absences.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that my child has 4 absences during the months of May, June, and July, and understand that my child is limited to 3 absences after the month of July.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree that skills camp, choreography, and competitions are mandatory.

\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge, understand, and agree, that if my child decides to quit, is injured, or is removed from the team there will be NO REFUNDS for any amounts paid including tuition, uniform, coaches' fee, competition fees, or practice wear, and includes the FULL remainder of the 12-month contract.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and understand the Parent Handbook as well as the Code of Conduct. I will make every effort to excel as a member of the Topic of Discussion and adhere to the rules outlined. I am aware that failure to comply with the Topic of Discussion Code of Conduct or Parent Handbook may result in my suspension or dismissal from the Topic of Discussion All-Star Program.

I have read and understand the rules and regulations set forth.

Parent Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Athlete Initial \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the program fees and expenses.

Parent Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Athlete Initial \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the scheduled holidays, injury, and attendance policy.

Parent Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Athlete Initial \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the team practice rules, travel and code of conduct.

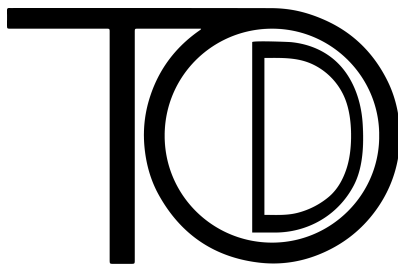
Parent Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Athlete Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





## **FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION**

**ATHLETE NAME (FIRST, LAST):** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATHLETE DATE OF BIRTH:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHERS NAME (FIRST, LAST):** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHERS CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHERS WORK PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHERS EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FATHERS NAME (FIRST, LAST):** \_\_\_\_\_

**FATHERS CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FATHERS WORK PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FATHERS EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

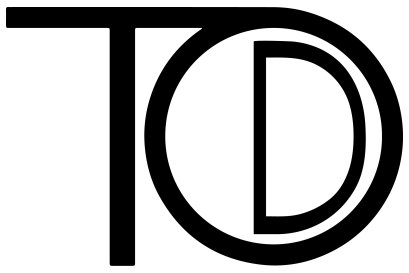
**CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PREFERRED EMERGENCY CONTACT**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WORK PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Medical Consent

**Topic of Discussion Sports will not provide medication to any athlete without written permission and consent from a parent or guardian. If health issues arise and this form needs to be revised, please reach out to us immediately.**

**Please indicate your preference by checking the appropriate option with your initials.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **NO, I do not want medication provided to my child.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES, my child may be provided any of the medications listed above.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES, my child may be provided and administered medicine but only from the following list:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT STATEMENT

**I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, permit Topic of Discussion Sports staff and any medical team to seek emergency medical attention for my child or to transport my child for emergency medical treatment if my emergency contact or I cannot be reached.**

**Telephone Numbers:**

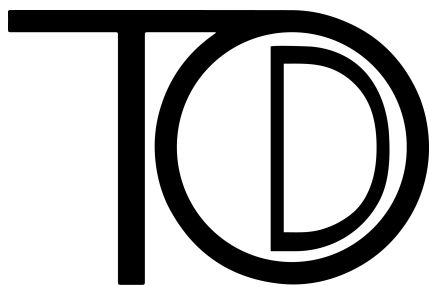
**Day: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Evening: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_**

**Emergency: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Athlete's Name: \_\_\_\_\_**



# CREDIT/DEBIT/ACH AUTHORIZATION FORM

Please provide a credit/debit card number for monthly tuition payments. Tuition fees will be automatically debited on the 15th of each month. Please notify us promptly of any changes to your credit details. NOTE: A 3% transaction fee will be applied to cover credit card processing fees.

Athlete's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEBIT/CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

Name as it appears on the card:

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holders Address with Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## E-CHECK/ACH:

Bank Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing #: \_\_\_\_\_

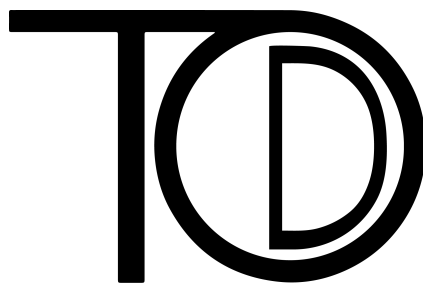
I hereby understand that I am required to keep a current credit card on file with "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" and that I am also required to complete and sign a credit card authorization form.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A \$25 Fee will be applied for all returned Checks/E-Checks.

Any accounts past due more than 3 days will incur a \$30 Late Fee.

All-Star Monthly Tuition includes unlimited All-Star tumbling classes per week. NOTE: This fee remains the same if you choose not to attend any tumbling classes. If skill requirements have not been met, tumbling may be mandatory. Any extra classes or outstanding balances will be billed to your account on the 15th.



# **RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

**BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU ARE WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS. PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING WITH A SIGNATURE. I, \_\_\_\_\_, ("Releasor") the parent or legal guardian of the above named athlete hereafter referred to as ("Athlete") do hereby permit the athlete to participate in classes, cheerleading, tumbling, competitions, gymnastics, programs, or any other physical activity while considered an athlete at Topic of Discussion Sports Training, LLC or its affiliates hereinafter referred to as "Topic of Discussion". By granting permission for the "athlete" to participate in any program at "Topic of Discussion Sports Training", I assume full responsibility for "athletes" own personal safety and release "Topic of Discussion Sports Training", it's employees, and supervisors from any and all liabilities that may arise due to injury including death to "athlete" by reason of "athletes" participation in any program or activity at "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" or in which "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" is participating any place else. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE "ATHLETE" BEING PERMITTED BY "TOPIC OF DISCUSSION SPORTS TRAINING" TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATED ACTIVITIES RELEASOR AGREES TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS: I hereby understand there is a personal risk involved in any activity involving height, rotation, and motion and that these activities can result in serious injury, death, or disability. I hereby declare that the "athlete" has recently been seen by a physician and is cleared to participate in all physical activities such as, tumbling, cheerleading, and gymnastics. I hereby authorize "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" to use photographs, video, and/or any other forms of likenesses of "athlete" for use in "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" promotional materials or sales and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto. I hereby understand the 1st month's tuition will be required to be paid in full when registering for any activities at "Topic of Discussion Sports Training". I hereby understand that I must give written notice on or before the 5th day of the month, one month prior to dropping any class or activity at "Topic of Discussion Sports Training". In conclusion, I understand that if I do not provide "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" with this notice in writing and deliver it to the front desk, my tuition will be forfeited. I hereby understand that "Topic of Discussion Sports Training" does not refund tuition for any reason.**

**Name of Athlete:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic of Discussion Representative:** \_\_\_\_\_