

Informational Meeting

Parents, families, and guardians we will be having an informational zoom meeting in regards to our full year program, tryout process, and what to expect through the season. There will be very important information that if you are thinking or planning on trying out for our full year program you won't want to miss!

Date: Saturday, May 8th

Time: 1PM

Zoom Link: will be posted online, and on our Facebook page in the morning on Saturday, May 8th

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to ensure you don't miss any information that may be shared on those platforms!

Level Placements

If you are interested in trying out and have read through the tryout packet you may have seen that this year we are implementing an additional step in our tryout process - level placements. Traditionally when an athlete attends a tryout we are able to assess their tumbling and jumping abilities, however, on a competitive scoresheet athlete's are judged on how they partner stunt, tumble (standing and running), pyramid, basket, motion, dance, and perform. On top of that, they need to be able to do these things in combination requiring certain levels of strength and endurance. These are things that are not able to be seen in a short one time tryout. With so many categories to be considered we feel it is going to be in the best interest of creating the most competitive teams possible, while allowing athletes to grow in their weaknesses and truly shine in their strengths, to introduce level placements. Keep in mind when forming teams we are looking for what an athlete has mastered with stingray clean execution, not just what they are capable of throwing that day. We will need to consider the assembling of groups that will be able to stunt safely and successfully as well.

So... what is it exactly?

Following the tryouts athletes are going to receive an email asking them to attend a certain set of practices for a given level. There will be a total of **four** practices for each level spanning over two weeks. At these practices athletes will be asked to show consistent repetition of skills thrown at tryouts as well as skills to be expected in routines for that level throughout the season. Athletes will be put together in "mock" stunt groups to begin working the basic stunt skills to be expected that season. These practices will be set up to push the athletes and see what all they are capable of. It's one thing to bring your A-Game tryout day, its another to bring your A-Game every day.

Does being invited to a certain level practice mean I am guaranteed a spot on a team that level?

No, these practices should be considered an extension of the evaluation process. After the first week of level practices athletes may be asked to attend another level practice the following week in addition to or instead of the level practices they attended the week prior. These decisions will be based on how the athletes are able to handle the skills (in any area of the scoresheet) they're being asked to perform at the practices. Additionally, if we notice that a certain level/age group is in need of an exceptional stunter that could also result in being asked to attend a different level practice. We could have a team full of the most amazing level two

tumblers but if that combination of athlete's does not stunt well together that team will struggle to be successful.

Are these level practices mandatory?

Absolutely. As an extension of the evaluations these are just as important as the actual tryout day itself. Inability to attend a level practice could very well result in a different outcome regarding team placements for that athlete. This goes for athlete's that may be asked to attend a different level practice than originally assigned. Some athlete's may be asked to come to more than one level placement practice from the start, if this is the case then that athlete will need to be in full attendance for both levels practices. [SEP]

Additional:

Below are going to be some important dates over the summer that will be mandatory for anyone that is placed on a full year team. Vacations will **not** be accepted as an excused absence for these dates. Missing them could result in an athlete not being choreographed in that teams routine.

We'd also like to remind everyone that while we excuse vacation absences prior to school starting, the teams with the highest success rate are the ones that make the team a priority for the entirety of the season. We are closed with no practices for five weeks throughout the season as well as multiple long weekends. We recommend trying to plan any out of town trips within those time frames to avoid a team being hindered by high absentee rates.

Important Dates:

- LEVEL PRACTICES: May 17-May 31
- STUNT CHOREO: June 29-July 1
- ROUTINE CHOREO: July 21 & 22 OR July 27-29
- GYM CLOSED: July 2-11 (open again on July 12)

Official stunt/routine choreo dates will be sent out as soon as we have teams formed. We currently have those times blocked off but teams will be split up through those days once we know how many teams we will have and are able to set an exact schedule.