



# Cheerleading Tryout Packet



**2017 – 2018**

**Parent Information Meeting**

**Thursday, June 1, 2017**

**6:00pm – 7:00pm**

**Cafeteria**

Dear Parent / Guardian:

Your child has expressed interest in becoming a member of the CMIT South Cheerleading Squad for the 2017- 2018 school year. If selected, there are certain personal and financial obligations that a cheerleader and their parents must assume in order to qualify, to participate, and to remain a member in good standing. Many of these topics are mentioned in this packet and will be described in more detail at the information session.

Please fully review and complete the information in the tryout packet with your child prior to tryouts. A detailed tryout schedule with due dates for the materials will be discussed during the information session.

Thank you so much for your interest in becoming an inaugural member of the CMIT South Cheerleading Program.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Britton  
Cheerleading Coach  
[cynthiaabritton@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiaabritton@gmail.com)

## **Tryout Checklist**

To be eligible to tryout for the CMIT South Cheer Team, each candidate must submit the following items:

- ◇ A completed cheerleader / parent information form
- ◇ A signed copy of the cheerleading commitment statements
- ◇ The 2017-2018 Athletic Registration Packet
  - This can be found on the PGPCS Athletics site:  
<http://ektron.pgcps.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=228269>
- ◇ A signed tryout waiver, with permanent physical on file by the requested due date
- ◇ A copy of the candidate's latest report card (can be printed from Schoolmax). Be aware that a candidate may be ineligible for tryouts if they have one F and / or 2 D's.
  
- ◇ 1 Teacher evaluation
- ◇ Signed Cheerleader Responsibilities Page
- ◇ Signed Parent Responsibilities Page
- ◇ 2016-2017 Tryout Form

## **Operating Principles**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the CMIT South Cheerleading Program is to promote, enhance, encourage, and build school spirit, to develop a sense of good sportsmanship among students, and to build better relationships between schools during extracurricular events. Activities to achieve this purpose may include the following: cheering at certain athletic contests, representing the school at competitions, participating in pep and other assemblies, and volunteering for other activities that may come up during the school year. The coaching staff makes decisions based on what is best for the team as a whole.

### **Conduct**

Cheerleaders are expected to adhere to acceptable standards of citizenship at all times, both in and out of uniform, in the classroom and in the hallways. Cheerleaders are expected to be loyal to their school, to fellow squad members, and to their common purpose. Insubordination, physical or verbal altercations between members, verbal / physical derogatory expressions are considered inappropriate conduct and will not be tolerated. Individuals who make the cheerleading squad will receive a copy of the point system / infractions list to review and sign; all violations of any rules will be handled as indicated.

**Attendance is mandatory** at all assigned events, meetings, practices, and team functions; this includes TEAM fundraisers and team bonding. A cheerleader is expected to be on time for all events. Parents, if you are late to taking your athlete anywhere, this will directly impact the team and they will receive the consequences stated in their contract. In case of illness, the cheerleader is expected to notify a coach of her absences. Unexcused absences will result in disciplinary actions, according to the point system / infractions list. Attendance will be taken at events and appropriate actions will be taken against unexcused absences / tardiness. (Other after school / extracurricular activities, vacations, making up schoolwork without prior approval, are not considered to be excused absences.) There will be no personal days. In the case of medical excuses other than illness (i.e. injuries, or any other condition that might physically hinder the cheerleader from practicing), the cheerleader is required to come to practice and watch in order to remain a member in good standing. If a cheerleader goes to the doctor they must have a doctor's note in order to be able to participate in practice, games, and competitions. If a cheerleader does not get a note, they must sit out until a coach receives one.

### **Game / School Event / Competition Expectations**

Attendance to all scheduled games / school events / competitions is mandatory.

Being tardy to a game will result in sitting out the entire game. If you are tardy multiple times, it will result in removal from the competition mat. Monthly calendars / newsletters will be given so that personal schedules can be worked around.

Note: Games / Activities may be added / changed without being on the calendar, including games changed due to inclement weather.

This is ESPECIALLY imperative during competition season as the absence / tardiness of one person impacts the entire team.

### **Community Service**

The CMIT South Cheerleading Program will be participating in events to give back to the community. The events will be provided during upcoming parent meetings. We will need parents to lead the community service events!

### **Financial Obligations**

Please be aware that cheerleading is an expensive activity, but every effort has been made to keep the costs down, and we will continue to do so. A list will be generated from year to year to inform parents of the anticipated financial obligations associated with the program (included in this packet), as well individual fundraiser opportunities to assist with these obligations. Please ensure you can meet the financial commitment before deciding to participate in the tryout. Due dates for payments will be on the calendar as well as in the financial sheet included in this packet. Suspension or removal from the squad could result for those with outstanding bills / fines.

### **Parental Involvement**

The CMIT South Cheerleading Program is **SOLELY VOLUNTEER DRIVEN**. The coaches and administration are involved in a volunteer capacity to effect positive change in the lives of your children. With that said, parent involvement in all capacities will be absolutely necessary to ensure the success of our program and therefore required. Additional details will be clarified during the first parent meeting; however, there will be a required commitment of a minimum number of service hours to the team (in addition to participation / assistance with group fundraising efforts).

## **Coaches Responsibilities**

The coach is primarily responsible for ensuring the operating principles are adhered to for the overall success of the organization. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Decide the roles and / or positions an athlete will have / play on the team.
- Suspend, or even dismiss, for a period of time or indefinitely from the program based on criteria including but not limited to:
  - Attendance
  - Grades
  - Conduct
  - Finances
  - Parental Commitment
- Request that an athlete or team practice longer than their regularly scheduled time or add additional practices or competitions if deemed necessary.

## **Tumbling Commitment**

As a participant in a competitive cheerleading program, all cheerleaders will be required to participate in tumbling classes to improve their athleticism as a cheerleader. Tumbling classes for the CMIT South Cheer Program will be conducted at an alternate location with suitable matting and will last for 1 hour (specific time and day will be sent to parents of selected candidates). The cost will be \$12-\$15 per session and will be collected monthly as a part of team fees. For cheerleaders that are already participating in a reputable tumbling program outside of the group session scheduled for the team, participation will not be mandatory upon sufficient discussion / clarification with the coach. Though we have only formally coordinated for 16 sessions during the school year, participation during the summer and continued participation after those sessions is highly suggested to continue to improve tumbling skills throughout the year and grow as an athlete!

## Cheer Program Fees

Below are the estimated expenses and payment schedule for participation in the CMIT South Cheerleading Program for 2017-2018:

### **Uniform Costs: \$350**

- 2 Sets of Practice Uniforms
- 1 Competition Uniform
- Warmup Jacket and Pants
- Cheer Shoes
- Cheer Bag
- Competition Bow and Practice Bow

### **Competition Fees: TBD**

- Competition schedule to be determined

### **Tumbling Fees: \$240**

- 16 Sessions at \$15 / session (Covers September through December/January)

### **Choreography Fees: \$185**

- Includes choreography for competition routine

### **Total Fees: \$775 + Competition Fees**

### **Payment Schedule: TBD**

## Tryout Process

Candidates will be reviewed based on all aspects of cheerleading ability, including:

- Grades
- Teacher Evaluation
- Motions
- Cheer
- Dance
- Tumbling
- Stunting

Tryouts will be closed to all spectators. The workshops and tryout dates are **MANDATORY** and there will be no makeups unless arrangements are made PRIOR to the first workshop. All tryout decisions are final.

Candidates are to wear white t-shirts, dark shorts, and tennis / cheer shoes (no converse) to each day of tryouts.

**The fee for tryouts is \$15 / participant.** Funds will go towards fee for competition music and cheer mats.

## Eligibility

A cheerleader candidate must:

1. Be enrolled at CMIT South Public Charter School
2. Meet PGCPs and CMIT South Grade Requirements
3. Submit a physical evaluation form
4. Submit a signed parent / guardian emergency information card
5. Sign and submit all other cheerleading paperwork in the checklist on the back of this packet.

**Not meeting academic requirements during the school year will result in benching until the athlete's grades improve to the expected requirements. If improvement is not made within four weeks from the date of academic suspension, removal from the squad will result.**

**MONIES PAID WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.**



## CHEERLEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

Cheerleading requires a GREAT deal of time, commitment, and dedication on the part of the cheerleaders (and parents). Academics should always be a priority, cheerleading should be next, will all other activities to follow. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The cheerleader will maintain academic eligibility.
2. The cheerleader will represent CMIT South Public Charter School in a positive manner in action, dress, and overall conduct, and will exhibit acceptable standards of citizenship at all times (e.g. in the halls, in the classroom, at events, in the community, etc.)
3. The cheerleader will refrain from gossiping or any form of verbal or physical confrontation.
4. The cheerleader will raise school spirit.
5. The cheerleader will follow through with all commitments, attending all practices, games, and functions on time. All family outings, appointments, and other activities with her cheerleading schedule in mind. The cheerleader will take responsibility for reminding her parent to call to notify the coach of an absence.
6. The cheerleader will communicate in a positive manner with teammates, coaches, and staff.
7. The cheerleader will maintain a positive attitude towards school and cheerleading.
8. The cheerleader will continue to be COACHABLE.
9. The cheerleader will be able to take directions and criticisms positively.
10. The cheerleader will be cooperative.
11. The cheerleader will silence their cell phone at practice.
12. The cheerleader will have all practice gear with them.
13. The cheerleader will refrain from celebrating the misfortune or defeat of another person, team, or program.
14. The cheerleader will accept placements and awards with dignity and class.

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE

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Cheerleader Signature

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Parent Signature

## PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Cheerleading requires a GREAT deal of time, commitment, and dedication on the part of the parents. Before tryouts, read and consider all information before allowing your daughter to tryout. The parent has the following responsibilities:

- Encourage cheerleader to abide by the rules set forth by coaches and administrators 100%.
- Attend parent meetings.
- Pay bills in a timely fashion.
- Refrain from using cheerleading as a punishment. **This does not punish one cheerleader but an entire squad since there is no one to substitute for your cheerleader.**
- Agree to notify your coach if your cheerleader is ill.
- Oversee the time management of your cheerleader (i.e. practice / game / competition schedules, homework completion, relaxation time, etc.)
- Furnish PUNCTUAL transportation!
- Direct concerns about your cheerleader on an individual basis directly to the coach.
- Provide all the encouragement your cheerleader needs in his / her pursuit of excellence as a scholar / athlete.
- Parent / Guardians will check the cheer website and emails for any and all updates. There is no excuse for being uninformed.
- Parent / Guardians will follow all forms of proper communication when speaking with a coach.

**\*\*Recognizing that unforeseen circumstances do occur, interim changes to anything in this document may be made at the discretion of the coaches and administration. All decisions made by the coaches and / or administration are final.\*\***

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE:

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Cheerleader Signature

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Parent Signature