

PLATINUM FORCE ATHLETICS

COMPETITIVE CHEER



2017—2018 MEMBERSHIP PACKET

WHY SETTLE FOR GOLD WHEN YOU CAN BE. . .

PLATINUM

Our Mission

At "**Platinum Force Athletics**" (PFA), our mission and purpose is to provide your child with a fun and safe environment in which he or she can flourish. It is our goal to teach the youth and young adults to work together as a team to achieve common goals. Athletic excellence is taught through top quality tumbling, stunt training, choreographed dance and more. We strive to create an affordable, family friendly, athletically competitive organization that builds and fosters life-long friendships. Through dedication, hard work, and parental support, organizational success is achieved as you become integral parts of our family, and in turn, us a part of yours.

WELCOME TO DA' COAL MINE

Introduction

If you and your child are looking for an incredible cheer experience, then you have come to the right place. We are a family oriented cheer program that will have your child's best interest and growth at heart. We want you to look at our organization as an extension of your family.

As we enter our third year, we want you to know that our coaches will instill a positive learning experience that will emphasize excellent training habits, discipline, integrity, confidence, character building and teamwork. We will work to instill good sportsmanship, motivation, determination, and leadership in our athletes.

We will work hard to ensure that each participant will achieve their personal best. We operate under a no cut policy. However, teams will be formed based on similar skills in order to be most competitive. In competitive cheer, there are no benchwarmers. Everyone is put on a team to fulfill a role. Each child is an integral part of the big picture. This program is open to all athletes ages 3 to 18. An athlete's age is based on their age as of August 31, 2017.

Athletes will be placed on age and skill based teams to ensure that they, as an individual and team can succeed.

Please take this time to read through this season's information package. You will find program information, expectations and other valuable information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at:

Email: info@platinumforceathletics.com
Phone: 443-292-8102

THIS IS WHERE PRECIOUS GEMS ARE MADE

SAFETY

All of our cheerleading staff is certified through U.S. All-Star Federation (USASF) – the governing body for all star cheerleading. In order for our athletes to be competitive, we will focus on proper skill progression as well as conditioning. As we work to get our athletes in shape for the competition season, they may be sore. Please encourage them to stretch at home to minimize the soreness. Stretching and conditioning is required for our Athletes to be competitive.



PROGRAM TYPES

Tiny Exhibition

Ages 3 - 4

August 2017 – April 2018

Practice 1hr/weekly

4 Competitions

Clothing Package Includes: Practice Set, PFA Uniform Shoes and Bow

Tiny Competitive

Ages 5 – 6

June 2017 – April 2018

Summer 1hr/weekly

Practice 1.5hrs/Weekly August – April

4 Competitions

Clothing Package Includes: Practice Set, PFA Standard Uniform, Shoes and Bow

Non Travel Competitive

Ages 7- 18

June 2017 – April/May 2018

Practice 2.5hrs weekly (1 day)

Practice 4hrs weekly Starts August (2days)

Professional Choreography

5 Competitions

Clothing Package Includes: Practice Sets, Warm-up Jacket, Bow, Make-Up, PFA Uniform and Shoes

All Star Program

Ages 7 – 18

June 2017 – April/May 2018

Practice 2.5hrs weekly (1 day)

Practice 5 – 6hrs weekly starts Aug (2- 3 days)

Professional Choreography

Competitions; Some 2 day events

Clothing Package Includes: Practice Set, PFA Uniform Shoes and Bow

Mandatory Flyer Classes

NOTE: Travel team updates for 2017 – 2018 will include more local 1 day and 2 day events

2017—2017 TEAM PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Platinum Force Athletics
1651 Crofton Boulevard, Suite 8 – 9
Crofton, MD 211114

TRYOUT GUIDELINES

Phone: 443-292-8102
Website: www.platinumforceathletics.com
Facebook: Platinum Force Athletics
Instagram: @platinumforceathletics

Stress Free Tryouts - Placement Guaranteed - Ages 3 thru 18 Parent
Team available for parents of registered cheerleaders Ages 3 - 4 No Tryout
- Register to secure your spot

\$25 evaluation fee - May 20 - 21 **CASH** only

\$35 evaluation fee - Private Tryouts

Tryouts are closed to parents. Evaluations are set up based on current tumbling skills. Advanced registration required via our website.

How do you qualify for FREE tryouts?

Pay the \$150 registration fee with complete tryout forms between April 15 and May 7 and you don't pay the tryout fee. If you have a past due balance, you are not eligible for early registration

What do you need day of tryouts?

1. Tryout Form (print from website)
2. Medical Authorization (print from website)
3. Tryout Fee (CASH only)
4. Photo (no larger than 4 x 6) (*new members only*)
5. Photo copy of child's birth certificate (*new members only*)
6. Must wear white or red shirt, black shorts and sneakers

PFA RULES AND REGULATIONS

SPORTSMANSHIP/ CODE OF CONDUCT

All cheerleaders and their families must always set a positive example when representing PFA in the gym, special events and performances. We are ONE organization and supporting ALL of our athletes equally is our number one rule. Gossiping, negative attitudes, and confrontations of any kind will not be tolerated. Negative sportsmanship will not be tolerated and will be grounds for termination. We pride ourselves on our talent, our conduct and how we present ourselves to others. This is the expectation that we are setting for our athletes?

ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Athletes must always behave in a way that will enhance and promote a positive image of Platinum Force Athletics.
2. Good sportsmanship is a MUST. This is expected not only at practice but at competitions and performances. This includes treating members of our organization and other organizations with respect.
3. Athletes must abide by all rules.
4. Athletes may not consume or transport alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco of any kind.
5. Negative or inappropriate use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.) will not be permitted or tolerated.
6. 100% effort is required from all athletes.
7. While we understand that everyone enjoys summer vacation; once our official practices begin during the school year, practice is mandatory.
8. Please do not eat in the gym. Please clean up after yourselves at all times.
9. Failure to follow any and all program rules can result in dismissal.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Parents must always behave in a way that will enhance and promote a positive image while in the gym and at all PFA events.
2. Parents will refrain from gossiping, spreading rumors or speaking poorly of any athlete, parent, or coach.
3. Parents are responsible for keeping their child's account current.
4. Once choreography is complete, no videos are to be released on any social media until the season is complete. This includes YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and other social media sites. - see social media for more info*
5. Practices are closed to parents and guests once the routines are choreographed until Sneak-a-Peek event.
6. Please be respectful of coaching decisions. Coaches make decisions based on the best interest of the team and not an individual. If you have any questions, please speak directly with the Coach or with the Cheer Director by appointment.
7. Please remember to celebrate your child's accomplishments without comparing them to another child.
8. Please ask questions before making assumptions.

HEALTH

It is each parent's responsibility to inform your child's coach if:

1. Any medical condition that may limit your child's involvement in any activity
2. Any injury sustained outside of practice that may limit your child's participation
3. If the cheerleader is too sick to attend practice— valid written documentation from a doctor will be required if your child exceeds 3 absences related in illness

Cheerleading is a competitive sport. Competitive sports do have a risk of injury. It is imperative that your child follow all rules and regulations set forth by the gym and the coaches at all times. PFA takes every precaution to prevent injuries but unfortunately we can't prevent all injuries. Attendance at practice is still required even if injured.

PRACTICE

- Hair must be out of the face (prefer high ponytail).
- Formal practice attire is required to be worn to all designated practices. Exceptions will be made for the practices only. No food, gum, candy or soda is permitted. Water or Gatorade only.
- If you are running late to practice, you must call and inform parent team representative
- No jewelry is permitted during practice
- NO ABSCENCES ARE PERMITTED THE WEEK OF A COMPETITION.
- Athlete cell phones will be collected at the start of practice and returned at the end of practice. We have found that cell phones during practice and drink breaks are disruptive to team success. Please call the Coach or the Gym if you need to contact your child.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We expect that all athletes will go on some type of vacation during the summer. We kindly ask that you submit in writing your summer vacation dates to owners so that we can plan summer practices accordingly. However, please note that once school starts, all athletes are expected to attend all practices. Below is a list of "excused" and "unexcused" absences. Excused absences do require proof.

Excused Absence

- Death in the Family
- School related function for a grade
- Contagious illness with doctor's note

Unexcused Absence

- Homework, school assignments
- Sickness – No doctor's note
- Birthday Parties, Concerts, Social Events Traffic, Vacation, Job
- Other sports or activity conflicts

SOCIAL MEDIA

- No athlete or parent may post inappropriate messages on any social media site (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.), including information about another program or individual.
- No PFA routine may be posted on social media site prior to the end of the season.
- No bullying will be tolerated in person or on social media

These infractions can result in dismissal from the program!

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

- No one is permitted to sell any items in this program with our logo, organization name or team names to any other person.
- Any cheer items sold will go through Platinum Force Athletics only.
- The Platinum Force logo and name may not be used without permission.
- No soliciting.
- The sale or distribution of any outside products is not allowed without the express permission of Walter or Robina Rives.

COMPETITION

- Athletes are required to attend all team competitions
- Missing a competition will result in dismissal
- Cheerleaders are required to attend competitions on time
- Cheerleaders that show up to competition after warm up has started will NOT be permitted to compete
- Cheerleaders are required to attend the awards ceremony and are not permitted to leave a competition prior to the posted team dismissal time.
- The competition schedule will be available early enough in the season for all families to plan accordingly.

Travel Team Expectations

All athletes that are enrolled on a travel team must follow the below listed rules:

- Travel Team will travel in two travel events. These travel events are two day competition events in which one will require a 4 day and 3 night travel to Florida and the other will be a weekend event (TBD).
- All athletes MUST stay with a parent, guardian or designated chaperone when on overnight travel.
- All travel plans must be turned in to the director; including: method of travel, arrival date, departure date when organized group travel has not be set up through the organization.
- All athletes must follow the curfew set by the Director. Any athlete caught out after curfew may result in suspension
- All travel arrangements must be booked by the travel block deadline.
- All travel expenses are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
- Overnight competitions should not be used as a family vacation as cheerleaders will be required to follow designated schedules and follow PFA rules.
- Cheerleaders should be competing and socializing with their teammates as their first priority. Friends of cheerleaders are NOT permitted for overnight travel.
- When attending travel competitions (Florida only), PFA will typically secure a practice facility on the Friday prior to the competition and attendance by all athletes is mandatory, typically report time is by 3:30pm on Friday.
- All athletes are required to stay at the designated hotels when traveling, because of "Stay to Play" rule. There will be NO exceptions.

ALLSTAR UNIFORMS (Travel Teams)

All athletes will own their own uniform. The allstar uniforms are custom style. A uniform fitting will take place in August. Allstar uniforms are changed every 2 years. The uniform will be brand new this year and will be used for 2 years. The allstar uniform will range from \$350 - \$380. Two payments for uniform are scheduled between July 15 & August 15. Uniform fees are non-refundable and your uniform will not be ordered until paid in full. No child can participate in choreography without paying for their uniform.

ALLSTAR UNIFORMS (NON TRAVEL)

All athletes will own their own uniform. The non-travel uniforms are changed every 3 years. A uniform fitting will take place in early fall (September). The 2017 - 2018 season is the 3rd year of the uniform. Non Travel Uniform is \$130 due August 15. Tiny and Exhibition are \$85 due August 15. No child can participate in choreography unless their uniform is paid in full.

CHEER CAMPS

PFA offers 2 summer cheer camps that give our athletes an excellent opportunity to work on their competitive cheer skills while also enjoying some summer fun.

Our skills camps are \$150/ week. Camp involves: tumbling, jumps, stunts, motions, and a host of fun activities. It is highly recommended for our all of our athletes between the ages of 6—14.

PFA is looking to schedule some optional specialty clinics as well and encourage participation prior to team placement. More information to come.

PROGRAM COSTS

PFA is a 12 month program. Our season runs from June 2017—May 2018. Most teams will end in April however; some teams may participate in early May competitions. Most teams practice 1 day per week from June through mid-August and 2 - 3 days per week from mid-August to early May. All tiny teams practice 1 day per week.

Payments are due on the 1st of each month, all tuition payments made after the 5th will have a \$25 late fee. Payment methods are auto draft, credit card, cash or check.

Team Type	Age Range As of 8/31/2017	Monthly Tuition	Uniform Cost
Tiny Exhibition (August - April)	Ages 3 - 4	\$65/month August - April	\$85
Tiny Competitive (June - April)	Ages 5 - 6	\$80/month August -April Tiny competitive will need to participate in Monday night tumbling class during June & July 1 day/week for 1 hour	\$130
Non Travel (June - May)	Ages 7 - 18	\$100/month June, July \$125/month August—April	\$130
Travel (Level 1 or 2) Youth thru Senior (June - May)	Ages 7 - 18	\$100/month June - July \$140/month August - April (level 1 &2)	**\$350 - \$380
Travel (Level 3 or 4)	Ages 7 - 18	\$100/month June, July \$150/month August - April	**\$350 - \$380

Sibling Discount is available for monthly tuition only

**** May 2018 tuition fees will be additional for teams that qualify for May events Monthly Tuition payments can be made via auto debit, credit card, or personal checks**

REGISTRATION DEPOSIT IS \$155/CHILD

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Competition/Travel Fees:	Range from \$300 - \$850 depending on the team and the level Competition & Travel Fees include Competition Entry and Coaches fees only	
Music Fee:	\$100 per cheerleader	
Choreography Fee:	Non Travel	\$200
	Travel	\$300
Practice Cloths & T-Shirt:	Tiny Teams	\$50
	All other teams	\$100
USASF Registration Fee:		\$40

Crossover Fees: Please note that crossovers are responsible for crossover/travel fees

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

PFA offers fundraisers typically on a monthly basis to offset individual accounts. Individual fundraisers are optional. All money fundraised can be used to cover your child's cheer fees. Fundraising money is nonrefundable and non-transferrable. While competitive cheer can be an expensive sport, Platinum Force offers a host of fundraisers to help offset your fees.

We also have a contract at the Naval Academy in which you can work the concession stands to assist with covering individual accounts. We are able to work Navy Graduation as well as home football games, concerts and a host of other opportunities. All parents who work have funds split into their accounts towards these fees. We also have sponsorship forms – please feel free to obtain sponsors that can be used to offset your fees.

There is another local organization called "All About the Kids". This company offers fundraising opportunities as several professional games and large concerts and allows those families to raise money for their child to participate in competitive sports. Please inquire with the Director for additional information.

ORGANIZATION FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITIES

More information to follow