2020-2021 ACE Cheer of Dothan General All-Star Information

Please use the General All-Star Information, Practice & Competition Information and Contract & Financial handbooks to understand the ACE Cheer of Dothan competitive cheerleading program and the policies and procedures that are put in place for your family. We encourage each family to take the time to review the rules, policies and procedures with their athlete. This will ensure that the athlete fully understands the expectations that will be put into place regarding individual and team commitments. ACE Cheer of Dothan focuses tremendous effort into open communication with athletes and parents alike; therefore, understanding the Handbook in its entirety is of utmost importance. As we enter our 5th season, ACE Cheer of Dothan is looking forward to another amazing year with our athletes and excited to welcome all of our new members into the Tribe family.



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| **Name** | **Title** | **Phone** | **Email** |
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 [www.acetribe.com](http://www.acetribe.com/) /acecheerfdothan AceCheerDothan

Your facebook account, email, and our social media outlets will be the most direct point of communication for all information from ACE Cheer of Dothan and your athlete’s team. ACE Cheer of Dothan will use Facebook for immediate communication throughout the season. We will send reminders, competition updates, etc.; through Facebook. Please ensure that you accept your invitation to the Facebook group.

ACE Cheer of Dothan will not use the United States Mail, UPS, Federal Express or other similar services to deliver communications to you. Consequently, it is each parent’s and athlete’s responsibility to monitor their email and the ACE Cheer of Dothan website to ensure that they are aware of all communications relating to ACE Cheer of Dothan.

* During classes and practices, coaches are needed to instruct the athletes. Parents should *never* approach a coach during a class or practice. Coaches will be available following classes and team practices to answer any questions regarding your athlete, their needs and their individual progress.
* At competitions, coaches are there to coach. Any issues that arise during a competition will be addressed during the week following the competition. Parents should never approach a coach with an issue at competitions.
* We have a strict policy in place stating that coaches are not available to discuss:
	1. Information regarding other ACE Cheer of Dothan athletes and/or parents.
	2. ACE Cheer of Dothan coaches who do not coach their athlete.
	3. Decisions made by the Administrative Staff.
	4. Issues that involve any type of comparison of their athlete to another athlete, coach-to-coach, or ACE Cheer of Dothan to any other cheerleading training facilities.
* Coaches will not entertain questions regarding specific strategic decisions (placements made in formations, decision of why an athlete was moved, added, removed, or replaced in stunts and tumbling sections) in a public setting.
* We strongly encourage parents to have their athletes speak with the coaches directly in regards to, but not limited to, the following issues, should they arise:
1. Routine element questions
2. Individual and group skill preparedness
3. Injury
4. Illness
5. Outside events that may affect performance

*(\*In cases where the athlete is too young to articulate the issue, we ask that the parent aid in the communication appropriately.)*

* If you or your athlete would like a better understanding of routine placements, team decisions, etc., please email your All-Star Director. We will then set up a meeting with you, your athlete, the athlete’s coach and the All-Star Director. ACE Cheer of Dothan keeps an open door policy with communication to help each parent and athlete understand every decision in which they are involved.
* It is inappropriate for an athlete or a parent to approach other ACE Cheer of Dothan members about a problem, issue or dispute they have with an ACE Cheer of Dothan coach or teammate, regarding personal objections to coaching decisions, and/or disagreements with an administrative decision. This leads to unnecessary drama and problems and will result in immediate dismissal from the ACE Cheer of Dothan program.
* If there is a matter that seems to remain unresolved, or if the athlete has clear, legitimate concerns that speaking to the coach will not or cannot possibly resolve the matter, please bring the concern directly to the All-Star Director.
* If a concern is emotional or heated, we recommend a "cooling period" before contacting your All-Star Director and/or the coach. We understand that issues involving a child are very important and require quick resolution; therefore, we want to ensure that the situation is handled in a constructive manner.

USASF Gym and Staff Certifications

* The mission of the United States All Star Federation (USASF) is to support and enrich the lives of our All Star athletes and members. We provide consistent rules, strive for a safe environment for our athletes, drive competitive excellence, and promote a positive image for the sport.
* ACE Cheer of Dothan is a Certified Gym Member of the United States All Star Federation (USASF).
* ACE Cheer of Dothan All-Star staff are all credentialed and certified members of the USASF.
* Athletes in the ACE Cheer of Dothan program will be required to become a credentialed member of the USASF yearly.

o More information is available at [www.usasf.net](http://www.usasf.net/). Safety Measures

* To ensure a safe environment at ACE Cheer of Dothan, coaches are certified and trained in the areas listed below. Please check with the front desk for documentation.
* CPR
* USASF
	+ Tumbling
	+ Stunting

* All ACE letters and logos are copyright protected.
* All spirit wear items are to be purchased through Varsity or Ragland.
* If a parent would like to buy merchandise for an entire team, the order must go through Varsity or Ragland. Happy Hooper must approve any spirit items purchased for teams.
* Bows, t-shirts, bags, etc., with an identifiable icon, resemblance, design or reference to ACE, Tribe, etc., not purchased through Varsity and/or Ragland, are not permitted.
* Anyone who attempts to sell or give away items with an identifiable icon, resemblance, design or reference to ACE, Tribe, etc., will be in violation of the *ACE Brand and Logo Policy*.
* You are welcome to monogram your warm-up; however, we ask that you use *athletic gold* for the lettering. Athlete’s name, initials and/or nicknames are all acceptable.
* These, and all, decisions will be at the sole discretion of the gym owner and/or All-Star Director.

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* The ACE Cheer of Dothan program philosophy is simple:

o Program FIRST, Site SECOND, Team THIRD, Athlete FOURTH.

* ACE Cheer of Dothan members agree to put the team ahead of the individual athlete. All decisions are made for the benefit of the team’s performance, scoring and success. Although the individual athlete is very important to the program, some decisions, initially, may not seem to be the best to the athlete or parent. We ask that each athlete take the time to see what the overall routine entails. If he/she still has a question with a decision, they should then speak with and/or schedule a meeting with the coach.
* Athletes will set individual and team goals for the season. Through instruction, the athlete will work hard to obtain and even exceed those goals, building a strong work ethic for the future. ACE Cheer of Dothan is focused on developing the lifelong success of the athlete, not on merely winning championships.
* If it is in the best interest of the program, an athlete may be moved from one team to another team. This is a decision that will only be made through careful evaluation and consideration of both teams and in the sole and absolute discretion of ACE Cheer of Dothan. An All-Star Director will contact you with any information regarding a team change and schedule a meeting if necessary (excluding Warriors.)
* Athletes being moved to a different team should not be perceived as a negative consequence. The decision to move an athlete to a different team may be based off of one or more of the following reasons, among others:
1. Athlete’s routine positions (side base, back base, top)
2. Athlete’s skill level (tumbling, stunting, jumping, etc.)
3. Athlete’s attitude
4. Athlete’s willingness to learn and improve in a group setting
5. Team’s needs for competition
6. Attendance issues
7. Injury
* Athletes may request to be moved to a lower level team if he/she feels they are not sufficiently utilized throughout a routine or if they become overwhelmed by the routine layout. Although maintaining the mental and physical well being of the athlete is recognized as a paramount concern, any move to a different team will depend on team availability and availability of roster positions. In this case, athletes must be willing to fulfill any position needed by that team.
* These, and all, decisions will be at the sole and absolute discretion of the gym owner and/or All-Star Director.

Team Selection Process

* ACE Cheer of Dothan uses a two step process throughout team selections.
* Athlete Clinic
* Stunt/Tumbling Evaluations
* Athlete Evaluations

o Athletes can receive a “call back” for Stunt or tumble Evaluations. This call back may be one or multiple levels of stunt opportunities for each athlete dependent upon tumbling skills and experience.

* Stunt Evaluations

o Athletes will attend schedule practice hours for stunt evaluations. Athletes may move up and down throughout levels and teams based upon need and performance

* Team Announcements
* Initial team placements will be announced via email on the scheduled date.
* Any issues with team placements should be handled by contacting your All-Star Director.