



# Mustang Cheerleading

Program Handbook





## Mission Statement



### **Our Mission Statement**

To provide a youth program to learn the skills of cheerleading in a positive and encouraging environment.

### **Vision Statement**

- To instill life-long values of teamwork, dedication, self-worth, and confidence.



## Mustang Cheer Coaches

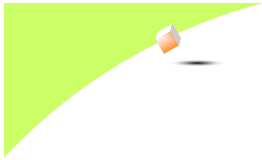
**Elementary Football - Mary Haag**

**Middle School Football - Mary Haag**

**Junior Competition - Mary Haag**

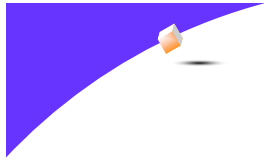
**Senior Competition - Mary Haag, Jen Walker, Kari Vail**





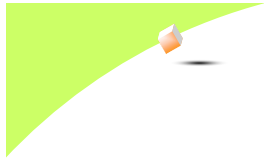
## **Mustang Cheer Athlete Expectations**

- 1. Uphold the rules and policies of the program as outline in this handbook.**
- 2. Dedicate themselves to try their best always.**
- 3. Contribute positively to the overall success of the team by accepting the decisions of the coaches and supporting your fellow cheerleaders.**
- 4. Invest practice time to strengthen the team.**
- 5. Communicate appropriately with the coaches whenever necessary.**
- 6. Practice safely during and outside of practice.**
- 7. Have fun while working to be YOUR best.**



## **Mustang Cheer Bullying Policy**

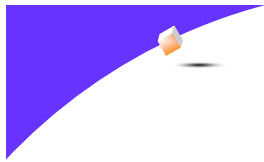
We have a zero tolerance policy regarding bullying and violence. All athletes on all teams and parents are expected to treat their coaches and teammates with respect at all times - in person and on social media. Failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal from the team without refund at the Directors' discretion.



## Team Placements

We currently do not hold tryouts or hold cuts. We have 4 teams for football and four for competition. Teams may be combined depending on team number enrolled, or for football depending, on the number of football teams.

Registration is limited. Due to Insurance, uniforms, practice space, choreography, and coaching staff, it is difficult for us to add anyone at a later date.



## **Mustang Cheer Time Commitment**

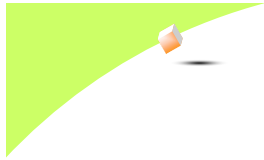
Cheerleading is a unique sport, wherein the absence of one team member affects the entire squad. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of attendance. Planning family activities around our season is important. Family event conflicts should be cleared with Director well in advance.

Practices are held in Dodgeville, WI.

Currently practices are scheduled once a week for each group. We will add Saturday practices or another weeknight later in the season for competition. This will help with spacing and familiarity with the floor size for competition.

Football practices are important to learn all the material. There are many cheers to learn, so please do not allow your child to miss any practices. If they do not know the material the rest of the team knows, they will not cheer at the games.

There are no refunds if you chose to allow your child to quit or if your child is removed from the team.



## Practice Schedule

Currently practices are located at DES or Harris Park in Dodgeville and are scheduled for:

**Fall Elementary** - Tuesdays

**Fall Middle School** - Mondays

**\*\*\*Competition**

Elementary - Thursdays

Seniors - Mondays



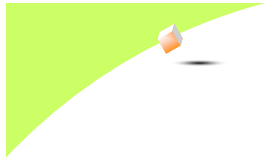


## Choreography role on team

Competition teams will be taught a unique, custom choreographed competitive routine. Football teams will be taught a halftime routine. No athlete has a right or guarantee to any particular role or location in a routine. There are various reasons coaches may move athletes to different spots in a formation or to a different stunt group.

Oftentimes, this has nothing to do with the athlete's ability, as there are multiple other important items to consider when working on a routine. Aspects such as the flow of choreography or a difference of formations are just some of the many reason for athletes to be moved to different spots or different stunt groups. Each member of the team is vital to their team's overall success.

Our Competition teams will participate in a choreography clinic—an all day event where we learn formations/transitions/dances in one day. Attendance is mandatory at choreography clinic. This day is expected to be in October and on a weekend.



## Absence Policy

It is important that you and your athlete take participation on the team seriously. Each cheerleader has 3 excused absences throughout the season. If your athlete has excessive absences/tardiness to practices, their spot in the choreography will be removed/changed.

It is your responsibility to contact the coach or director to let them know, in advance, that your child will miss practice. Please keep in mind that there are only 3 excused absences.

Please schedule appointments, family events, friend events, or any other event outside of practice time.

If you have a vacation scheduled in August before school starts, please let the director know at registration time.

If your child misses too many practices, or has skipped practices to hang with friends, go shopping, sleep, or for any other reason, your child may be removed from the team.

Not only has your child made a commitment to the team, they have made it to all the families who have made the same commitment.

There are no refunds if your child loses their spot on a team.



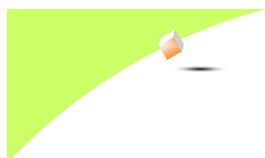
## Quitting Policy

If an athlete quits at any point in the season, he or she is ineligible to return the following season.

Cheerleading is a team sport that requires commitment. We all rely on each other. Everyone is an important member of the team and if someone leaves, it impacts the entire program.

Should an athlete quit, we will need to change the entire competition routine to accommodate the change.

A \$100 re-choreography fee will be charged to any competition athlete who quits the team during the season. There are no refunds.



## Financial Investment

### **Registration -**

**\$90 for Football.** This includes rental of the uniform, 1 hair bow, practices, and games.

**\$150 for Competition.** This includes rental of the uniform, 1 new bow if it is different from the football bow or you didn't get a football bow, and practices.



## Additional Costs

**Cheer Shoes** - Please pay that when registering. \$37 for elementary and \$47 for middle school. This fee could change after registration. **REQUIRED**

**Boy cut briefs** in **BLACK** for under the uniform. You can find them online, Old Navy, Walmart, Dicks, etc. Please check with other parents. **REQUIRED**

**Practice Tee** - to be worn at all practices. This fee will be due by July 15. \$15 **REQUIRED**

**Team Gear** - We do short pop orders for any additional items you may want to purchase, such as a jacket, warmups, additional tees, or sweatshirts, backpacks, duffels, etc. Not required, but beneficial



## Fundraising

Each cheerleader will be asked to participate in fundraisers over the course of the season. For competition cheer, the profits raised from basket raffle over \$50 will be applied directly to your child's competition fees. Each competition charges between \$25—\$70 per athlete per event.

Fundraising helps offset these expenses! If you'd prefer, you are able to donate \$50 per fundraiser in place of participation.

During your season, you are required to participate in fundraising. You will be informed if the fundraising is specifically for competition cheer. Football Cheerleaders do not have to participate in competition cheer fundraising if they do not want to.

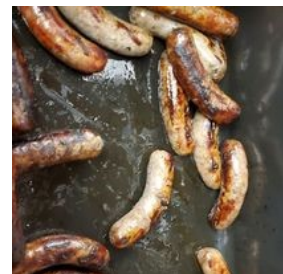
### **Other items fundraising will be applied to:**

Choreography fees = \$60 per athlete

Clinic or camp fees = \$60 - \$100 per athlete

Music/copyright - \$25 per athlete

Equipment additions or upgrades, rental space





You will not need to purchase a uniform. Your child will rent one for the season included in the registration fee.

\*\*Middle school 7th and 8th grade teams will not be using Mustang Uniforms.

Your athlete will be fitted for a uniform. Your registration fee and uniform contract must be on file in order to receive your uniform. All uniform pieces; top, skirt, custom liner, besides hair bow must be returned at the end of the season each year or you will be billed for them.

Please watch for the date of uniform fitting.

**Keep your uniform cleaned after each event:**

1. **DO NOT DRY CLEAN.**
2. Machines inside out with cold water.
3. **NO BLEACH OR FABRIC SOFTENER**
4. Hand dry....**DO NOT TUMBLE DRY**





## Competitions

We will compete in 2 - 4 competitions per season.

All team members must be at competitions! These are mandatory performance events. Without one member, all other aspects of a competitive cheer routine cannot be executed and would result in a total disqualification from the event and loss of our paid competition fees.

Please keep this in mind when deciding if this program is something that would work for your family.







## Competition Travel

Most competitions will be within 2-3 hours from home. We will set up hotel room blocks for most events to help save some money.

Travel to and from the venues will be the responsibility of the parents.

Room block info will be sent out 2 months prior to the event.

You are not required to stay at the hotel.





### Competitive and Sideline Cheer

Please share photos, videos, and more via our social media platforms. We encourage you to like, follow, comment, and share with us! You can follow us on the following Platforms

<https://www.facebook.com/cheerformustangs>

Instagram [dodgeville.mustang.cheer](#)

SnapChat

