

SME Cheer Tryout Information 2023-2024

****Find important information on our website: www.lancercheer.com**

****Follow us on Instagram: @sme_cheer**

Tryouts

The scoring for cheerleading tryouts is completed by the coaches during tryouts and the following sections are scored:

- Jumps
- Tumbling
- Dance
- Chant
- Fight Song
- Coach/Teacher Score
- Stunting

Clinics will be organized and run by the coaches of the cheer program. There will also be 2 weeks of pre-tryout conditioning which is strongly recommended but not mandatory. A building administrator will be present at tryouts and may not judge the event. Cheerleaders will try out in groups of 3-4 and be judged by a panel of judges.

Cheer candidates will be ranked based on the grand total of points achieved in each performance category, though a natural break in the score rankings will be considered. The natural break is a campus decision with no minimum requirement. The total number of cheerleaders selected will be at the discretion of the cheerleading sponsor and the building administrator. **All tryout results are final.**

The results will be posted on the SME Cheer Website (www.lancercheer.com) by a specified time on the day after tryouts. The posting will show the names of the selected members. Coaches and administrators will not meet with anyone about the tryout results **until a minimum of seven days have passed following the announcement of results.**

Squad Performance Responsibilities

The responsibilities as listed below are required to be a SME Cheerleader and attendance for all events is required.

Game-Day Squads (Freshman, JV, Varsity)

- Practices- Begin in June (**off for most of July**) and before/after school
- Summer Camp (June 19-22 - Away NCA Camp at Baker)
- Ongoing safety and strength training
- Games (Football and Girls/Boys Basketball)
- Pep Assemblies
- Lancer Day Parade
- Meet the Coach Night
- Cheer Clinics
- Community Events
- Other Fundraisers

Competition Team

Fees as well as full rules for the Competition Team will be laid out in the Competition Team Constitution and follow.

- Routine Choreography Camp (Check Hand Out) (This is mandatory for all members)
- Summer Routine Practices (Check Hand Out) (This is mandatory for all members)
- 1st class daily for entire comp squad (fall only),
 - other assigned practices outside of class (TBD)
- Traditional Competition Routine (Local competitions in Nov/Dec/Jan - TBD)
- State Cheerleading Competition
- National Competition is a Possibility (Jan-Feb)
- Various performances (pep assemblies/games)

Competition and Nationals

Expenses

Competition Cheerleading requires dedication of not only an athlete's time but also carries a financial obligation that can not be understated. Cheerleaders should be prepared to meet the financial obligations of Competition Cheerleading. This expense will include Competition Registration fees, Competition Travel fees, Fees associated with nationals, and other competition related fees. These fees are the responsibility of the athlete and their guardians.

The following fees are an estimated cost for membership of the SME Competition team and are subject to change.

Local Competition Fees:	\$100
NCA Nationals Registration Fees:	\$199
NCA Nationals Program Fees	\$808

Travel Information

Competition Cheerleaders are expected to attend away competitions throughout the school year, for which cheerleaders may be expected to provide their own transportation. Please let your coach know if this will be an issue. **ALL CHEERLEADERS will ride the bus both ways when transportation is provided.** The members will stay until the end of the event, unless determined otherwise by the coach. Students may ride home with a parent if it has been approved by the coach. No student will be allowed to leave with anyone other than **his/her** parent/s. Students must have a transportation form on file with SME.

NCA Nationals Travel

In the event that the SME Cheer team qualifies and has the opportunity to attend NCA Nationals in Dallas, TX the SME Cheer program will travel as a unit to this competition. Cheerleaders will be required to travel and board with the SME Cheer program while in attendance of this event.

Cheerleader Responsibilities

1. Grades and Attendance
 - a. Must be passing five classes on any day in order to be eligible for events/activities, and must have a plan for any classes not passing. Cheerleaders will be held out until passing five classes.
 - b. Must be present in school for the entire day on game/activity days.**
 - c. Absences from practices WILL affect your ability to perform.**
 - d. Excused absences: personal illness (doctor's note and parent notice required), death in the family, family emergency, school-required absence.
2. Discipline and Conduct
 - a. **A Minor and Severe infraction system will be used to track discipline issues.** Violations are cumulative from the time a cheerleader is elected to the day of the following tryout.
 - i. Minor infractions are for the following, but not limited to: tardiness, incorrect apparel, missing items, poor behavior, etc.

- ii. Major infractions are for: Extreme acts of disrespect, no contact no shows, any instance of bullying.
 - b. **Cheerleaders may be removed from performance or games, placed on probation/suspension, removed from leadership positions, or be dismissed from the squad due to behavioral or discipline issues, at the discretion of the coach and administration.**
3. Cheerleader Concerns
- a. If, at any time, a cheerleader has a concern about his/her own performance, relationship with other cheerleaders, coaches, or any other concerns, he/she should be sure to communicate these concerns directly to either the captains or the coaches.
 - b. **A parent meeting may be set up after meeting with the cheerleader but only after the athlete meets with the coach first.**
4. Violations of the Drug and Alcohol Policy
- a. A cheerleader will be benched for a minimum of 10% of the season immediately following infraction (SMSD policy)
 - i. If infraction occurs between seasons, this will begin at the start of the next season.
 - ii. It is at the discretion of the coaches and administration as to whether the 10% minimum will suffice for the offense.
 - b. Removal from choreography for stunts or routines that will be performed during the time the cheerleader is benched. If the stunt or routine will be performed again following the cheerleader's return, it is at the coach's discretion as to whether or not the cheerleader will be choreographed back into the routine due to time and safety constraints.
 - c. If violation occurs when school is not in session, the cheerleader is released from events following the start or return of school.
 - d. Cheerleaders with subsequent violations are subject to being removed from the program entirely.

Next Steps if Squad is Made

- Attend the You Made it Meeting: April 6th 2023, from 5-7:30 in SME Commons
- Bring the required fee check for the amount outlined below.
- Begin preparation for Competition Tryouts (if you would like)

Coaching Staff

- Varsity and Competition - MKilar Otte
- JV - Jenna Witteman
- Freshman - Carolyn Wolff
- Program Director - MKilar Otte
- Program Advisor - Laura Buckman

Projected Costs

Program Fees

The fees outlined below are paid directly to the SME Cheer Program and will be due by the dates listed below.

Program Fees (Paid Directly to SME Cheer)		
Fee	Amount	Date Due
Uniform Rental Fee	\$ 200.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023
Camp / Practice Wear (Can pry be reduced)	\$ 100.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023
Activity Fee	\$ 125.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023
Total Due	\$ 425.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023

The Activity Fee covers items such as Lancer Day parade float/costume, Scavenger Hunt, Football Tailgate, Senior gifts/banners, etc

NCA Camp Fee

Parents will be responsible for the payment of the fee for the cheerleader to attend the mandatory NCA Summer camp. This fee is collected by the SME Cheer program but the entirety of it goes to NCA, a division of Varsity Spirit.

NCA Camp Fees (Paid Directly to SME Cheer)		
Fee	Amount	Date Due
NCA Camp Fees	\$ 410.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023
Total Due	\$ 410.00	You Made It Meeting April 6, 2023

Competition Team Fees

The competition team fees and further rules will be discussed in the competition team contract and Competition specific You Made it Meeting to be held of April 20th.

Varsity Spirit Accessories Fees

These fees are collected directly by varsity spirit. More information below.

Besides a few required yearly items, many are one time purchases made as new members of the team.

The fees Shown below are an estimated cost list, actual prices may vary.

Varsity Accessories Fees (Paid Directly to Varsity)		
Fee	Amount	Date Due
Poms Pairs (1 Black pair, 1 Blue pair)	\$ 46.00	See Below
Shoes	\$ 95.00	See Below
Briefs (if needed)	\$ 24.95	See Below
Black Mock Liner (if needed)	\$ 21.95	See Below
Blue All-Squad Jacket (if needed)	\$ 109.00	See Below
Winter fleece (if needed)	\$ 97.00	See Below
Cheer Backpack (if needed)	\$ 60.00	See Below
Plain Black Bow	\$ 8.95	See Below
Plain Pink Bow	\$ 8.95	See Below
Plain White Bow	\$ 8.95	See Below
Total Due New Member	\$ 500.70	1 Week after Varsity Portal Opens
Total Due Returner	\$ 168.00	1 Week after Varsity Portal Opens

*Cheerleaders will receive a link in After Varsity Fitting to their personal account set up by our Varsity Spirit representative. You must purchase the "required" items through the link - not through SME. There will be other "optional" items available. Some optional items are SME Cheer sweatshirts and personalized backpacks. Most veteran cheerleaders own the black backpack. Please be sure to discuss the optional items with your cheerleader.

Costs should never prohibit a cheerleader from trying out. Please reach out to a coach if in need of financial help.

Summer Information

1. Summer
 - a. Physical Exam (dated on or after May 1, 2020, **Due by June 1**)
 - b. Practices in May/June (Check Calendar)
 - **Most of July is off**
 - c. NCA Away Camp (Confirmed: June 19-22)
 - d. Competition Squad Choreography Camp (End of summer)

Please check calendar available for all Date Information!

If you have any questions, please email:
Program Director MKilar Otte: smeast.cheer@gmail.com or
AD Ryan Johnson: ryanjohnson@smsd.org