

SME Cheer Tryout Information

2022-2023

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

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

Tryout Application (Required From #1 - blue sheet) - DUE: Thursday, March 10

1. Incoming Freshmen
 - a. You must obtain your own teacher recommendations/grades. You will not be allowed to try out until all recommendations have been submitted.
 - b. You can only make the Freshman squad.
 - c. Turn in your application to Mrs. Buckman at IHMS - Room 10.
2. Transfers
 - a. You must obtain your own teacher recommendations/grades. You will not be allowed to try out until all recommendations have been submitted.
 - b. If you are a current 9-11th grade student, please make sure you are KSHSAA approved prior to tryouts (See Jeanne Dusek in the SME office.)
 - c. Please indicate which squad - JV only, JV/Varsity, Varsity.
 - d. Turn in your application to the front office at SME.
3. Current SME students
 - a. You do not need to obtain your own teacher recommendations.
 - b. Please make sure to carefully consider the squad options available before making your choice.
 - c. Turn in your application to the front office at SME.

Release Form (Required form #2 - pink sheet) - DUE: Thursday, March 10

Acknowledges that both the cheerleader applicant and a parent/guardian have carefully read the SME Cheer Constitution and understand/agree to the requirements of participating in the SME Cheer program.

- Copies of the constitution are provided to you, and are also posted on www.lancercheer.com
- You do not have to return the constitution, just the release form.

Squad Performance Responsibilities

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

Game-Day Squads (Freshman, JV, Varsity)

- Practices- Begin in June (**off for most of July**) and before/after school
- Summer Camp (June 22-25 - 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 and State Squad

For Competition Squad there will be an additional \$50 fee - due September 1.

- Routine Choreography Camp (Check Hand Out)
- Summer Routine Practices (Check Hand Out)
- 1st hour 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)
- National Competition is a Possibility (Jan-Feb)
- Various performances (pep assemblies/games)

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 may 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, 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.

Tryout Information

1. Tryout Dates
 - a. Pre-Tryout Clinic Days (Not required but **Strongly** Recommended) March 7,8,9,10 and 21,22,23,24 from 5-8 pm.
 - b. Tryout Clinic (**Required**): March 28, 29, 30 From 5:00-8:00pm - SME Stage Gym
 - c. Tryouts: March 31 beginning at 4:00 - SME Main Gym.
 - d. Competition Tryouts will be held in April and picked from athletes who have already made the SME Cheer Team (Varsity, JV, or Freshman). These tryouts will be stunting focused and have a mandatory clinic process on April 11, 12 from 5-8 pm. With Tryouts being on April 13 from 5-8 pm.
2. Results will be posted on Thursday March 31 after 8:00pm on www.lancercheer.com. Coaches and administrators will not meet with any candidate or parent to discuss results until at least seven days have passed following the posting of results.
3. A mandatory You Made It meeting will be held on Wednesday April 20 at 6:00pm - SME Cafeteria.
 - a. **A check for \$800 is due at the meeting. Please make checks payable to Lancer Spirit.**
4. Varsity Spirit will be at SME for a fitting for ALL SQUADS on Wednesday, April 20 after school. Cheerleaders should plan to stay at East for the fitting and through the YMIM.
5. Per SMSD rules, there will be no delivery or special congratulations in any form to selected students during the school day following. There will be no "rituals," "hazing," private selection parties, or gatherings in conjunction with selected candidates. Any group social meeting or social function connected with the cheerleader selection process will be with the consent of the sponsor and administrator.
6. Tryout Components
 - a. Entrance (spirit on with or without running tumbling - not required)
 - b. Individual Jumps (toe touch, hurdler, jump of choice)
 - c. Individual Running Tumbling (not required)
 - d. Individual Standing tumbling (not required)
 - e. Group Chant (motions, execution, crowd appeal)
 - f. Group Dance (coordination, execution, overall presentation)
 - g. Fight Song
 - h. Stunting (**For Competition Tryout Only**)
7. Tryout Selection
 - a. The cheerleader will be scored by a panel of the coaches according to the Tryout Components listed above. The Team placements will be decided on the highest scores.
 - b. Seniors who do not make Varsity will **not** be placed on JV or Freshman squads.
 - c. Freshmen candidates may only make the Freshman squad.
 - d. After tryouts have concluded and team placements have been announced there will be a 7 day waiting period. After such time, a cheerleader may contact the coaches to discuss their tryout and/or team placement.

Coaching Staff

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

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 20, 2022
Camp / Practice Wear	\$ 85.00	You Made It Meeting April 20, 2022
Activity Fee	\$ 125.00	You Made It Meeting April 20, 2022
Total Due	\$ 410.00	You Made It Meeting April 20, 2022

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	\$ 390.00	You Made It Meeting April 20, 2022
Total Due	\$ 390.00	You Made It Meeting April 20, 2022

Competition Team Fees

These fees only apply to members of the competition team.

Competition Program Fees (Paid Directly to SME Cheer)		
Fee	Amount	Date Due
Competition Fee	\$ 50.00	September 1, 2022
Total Due	\$ 50.00	September 1, 2022

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.

Varsity Accessories Fees (Paid Directly to Varsity)		
Fee	Amount	Date Due
Poms Pairs (1 Black, 1 Blue)	\$ 46.00	Mid-May
Shoes	\$ 95.00	Mid-May
Briefs (if needed)	\$ 24.95	Mid-May
Black Mock Liner (if needed)	\$ 21.95	Mid-May
Blue All-Squad Jacket (if needed)	\$ 109.00	Mid-May
Winter fleece (if needed)	\$ 97.00	Mid-May
Cheer Backpack (if needed)	\$ 60.00	Mid-May
Varsity Decorative Bow	\$ 19.95	Mid-May
Plain Black Bow (if needed)	\$ 8.95	Mid-May
Plain Pink Bow (if needed)	\$ 8.95	Mid-May
Plain White Bow (if needed)	\$ 8.95	Mid-May
Total Due New Member	\$ 500.70	Mid-May
Total Due Returner	\$ 160.95	Mid-May

*Cheerleaders will receive a link in April or May 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)
- b. Practices in May/June (TBD - keep June-July open)
Most of July is off
- c. Weights/Conditioning (TBD)
- d. NCA Away Camp (Confirmed: June 22-25)
- e. Competition Squad Choreography Camp (End of summer)

TBD Dates will be decided and given at the YMIM on April 20

If you have any questions, please email:
Program Director MKilar Otte: smeast.cheer@gmail.com or
AD Debbie Katzfey: debbiekatzfey@smsd.org