

# **2015-2016 PROGRAM INFORMATION**

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions....

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## Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Star Cheerleading

*Encore Elite Wildcatz isn't just an All Star Cheerleading program; it's a family and this family is celebrating our 5 year anniversary; we want you to be a part of it! We are one of the fastest growing competitive cheerleading programs in the area! Welcome to a new year and a new adventure! This packet will give you the important information you need to know about our program and also about evaluations. Further detailed information will be available at your team meetings.*

### About our program...

**Philosophy and Goals** – Our staff is dedicated to helping each athlete excel in a positive environment in which we strive to make Encore Elite Wildcatz an All Star program that your athlete can call home. We believe in a positive work ethic, good sportsmanship, leadership, and loyalty. The coaches at Encore Elite Wildcatz are strong supporters of all types of cheerleading. With that said our staff is fully committed to the Encore Elite Wildcatz program and support what is best for our teams. We expect our athletes and their families to support each other in a positive way on and off the mat, and keep our program a drama-free zone. Encore Elite is one large, happy family and we treat each other with respect. We look forward to continuing our growth as a program with you. Our program has been blessed to have such success in such a short period of time, and we have our Encore Family to thank for that. We are looking for hard working committed athletes to join our program. Returning or new members, we welcome you to our family for the 2015-2016 season!

#### 2015-2016 Team Evaluations...

- Evaluations will be May 18-21, 2015, see website for specific times. See evaluation guideline sheet. Level information can be found at USASF.net.
- If you are unavailable to attend the scheduled evaluations, please contact us to set up an alternative evaluation date.
- Cheerleaders will be evaluated on dance, jumps, tumbling, stunts, and age appropriate readiness.
- Cheerleaders are placed by level and age. For example; if a cheerleader is a level 2 cheerleader and 13 years old their appropriate placement is a Junior Level 2 team. Older teams are not higher teams; a level 2 team is at the same level whether it's a Youth, Junior or Senior team. For example a Junior Level 2 and a Senior Level 2 are equal teams. We make every effort to place every cheerleader. The age grid can be found at USASF.net.
- The age group you are evaluated at does not guarantee placement in that division. Initial team placements will be made by June 5. Final team placements will be made by August 14 giving our athletes ample time to improve or build skills.
- \$50 registration fee (\$45 for returning members) is due on day 1 of evaluations. Registration is FREE for athletes in their 5<sup>th</sup> season with us!
- **Encore waiver and application are due on day 1 of evaluations. Athletes cannot be evaluated without these forms and registration fee.**

#### Regular Season Practices...

- Practices will be 2-days per week. All teams practice on Sundays and then 1 weekday. Level 2's & 3's are Wednesday nights and Level 1's are Thursday nights tentatively. Tiny teams will be 1 day per week on Tuesdays, no Sundays.
- Regular season practices start the Sunday after Labor Day (9/13/15). **ALL PRACTICES ARE MANDATORY.**
- Perpetual absences/ lateness/ leaving early can cause an athlete's position to be moved or possible removal from a team. When a cheerleader misses a practice (regardless of age/ level) it affects the entire team. Coaches reserve the right to change or remove positions in a routine whenever an athlete is absent. Decisions need to be made in the team's best interest. There are no refunds if a cheerleader is removed from a team due to their absences.
- Practices are sometimes added, canceled, or changed; we try to give as much notice as possible.
- The calendar will be on our Shutterfly account which can also be accessed through our website. Parents and cheerleaders are responsible for keeping track of their practice and competition dates, times, & locations. The calendar can be accessed 24/7 on Shutterfly to check times and dates.
- Encore clothing is mandatory at all practice. The calendar will state what is to be worn to practice. Cheer sneakers are also mandatory, cheerleaders will not practice in any other shoes or barefoot. Jewelry is never permitted at practice.

**Choreography...**

- Choreography is mandatory for all teams.
- Dates are tentative.
- Please keep dates open until you are placed on a team and a date/time is set. Please keep in mind that depending on the number of teams we have that dates may need to be added for choreography. Dates will be updated by July 24.
- Dates are as follows: Tiny (during regular practices), Mini September - 18-20, Youth 1- September 9/11-9/13, Junior/Senior- 1 8/28-30.
- We are lucky enough to have the award winning Jamie Parrish choreograph some of our level 2 and 3 teams' routines this season. Youth/ Junior/ Senior 2 and Junior/Senior 3 teams – will be the week of August 24-28 with Jamie (will be 1-2 days during the day).

**Competitions...**

- Competitions are mandatory for all teams, all levels, and all ages. No exceptions. Missing a competition hurts the team.
- Competitions are either on Saturdays or Sundays. If a competition is on a Sunday regular practices will be moved to Saturday that weekend. There will be Friday night review practices added when needed before Saturday competitions.
- Competition times are not released from the event companies until the week of the event. Emails will go out with all information as soon as it is available.
- At competitions all cheerleaders stay in full uniform from report time through awards.
- No cell phones on mat for awards.
- We have added competitions this season including a 2-day Nationals in Ocean City, MD for all teams (except Tiny).

**Tentative competitions:**

12/12/15 – Cheer Sport – Junior and Senior teams (UCA bid)

1/9/16 – Garden State – Junior and Senior teams

1/23/16 – GVCC – all teams\*

1/30 or 31/16 – First State – all teams

2/6/16 – Cheer Int – all teams (except those affected by High School Nationals)

2/13/16 – Cheer for Charity – all teams\*

2/21/16 – Mardi Gras Nationals – all teams

3/5/16 – Showcase – all teams\*

3/12-3/13/16 – UCA Nationals – Junior and Senior teams that get a bid

4/9-4/10/16 – Reach the Beach Nationals – all teams

4/23 or 4/24/16 – Spirit Brands – all teams \*

(\*Tiny teams will attend these 4 competitions)

- Junior & Senior teams that get their bid and are ready will compete at UCA Nationals in Orlando, FL. Teams that do not get a bid or are not prepared may compete at a different location. Athletes traveling to Orlando must be accompanied by a parent/ adult chaperone over the age of 25.

- All teams (except Tiny) will compete at a 2- day Nationals in Ocean City, MD. All athletes must be accompanied by a parent/ adult chaperone over the age of 25. Depending on times this competition may require a 2 night stay.

**Tuition and fees...**

- Please see financial form for each team. All items listed on the form are mandatory expenses.
- ***NEW this year!*** For your convenience monthly fees will include all expenses for the entire season. Fewer checks to write and less due dates to remember!
- Monthly fees includes all practices, tumbling, coaches fees, competition fees, nationals registration fees, annual USASF membership fee, Cheer Gear order, choreography/ music fees, and team day fees (for FL).
- The uniform package is the only fee separated out. Uniform deposit is due June 15. Balances are due at uniform pick up.
- Fees will apply for cross over cheerleaders
- Other fees for season are minimal and include spirit events, holiday parties, etc.
- All families are required to fill out a financial commitment form by July 1, 2015 which is due in with the first payment.
- Fund-raising opportunities are available throughout the season and can be used to pay any fees or travel expenses.
- *We will have brand new uniforms for the 2015-2016 season.* We plan to keep these uniforms for approximately 3 seasons. We will have fundraising opportunities for uniforms as well.

**Summer team practices...**

- Team practices will be 1 day a week starting June 10-August. All teams will be on Wednesdays; 5-7pm for Level 1 teams and 7-9pm for Level 2, 3, and 4 teams. Dates: June 10, 17, 24, (OFF July 1), July 8, 15, 22, & 29.
- Starting in August-September practices will be 2 days a week, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Same times, 5-7pm for level 1 teams and 7-9pm for level 2, 3, and 4 teams. Dates: August 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 21, (week of 24 may be different due to choreography) September 2 & 3. Regular season schedule will begin 9/13/15.
- These practices are mandatory and extremely important for team and choreography placement.

**Cheerleader Expectations...**

- All practices are mandatory all season and arrangements need to be made to attend all practices on time.
- All competitions are mandatory and arrangements need to be made to attend all competitions.
- Conditioning, stretching, tumbling, and practicing outside of regularly scheduled practices and classes are necessary for the success of the athlete and the team. Cheerleading is a sport, it requires strength and endurance. You are athletes and need to act as such with healthy nutrition and training.
- Encore practice clothes are mandatory for all practices.
- No jewelry, fake nails, or long nails during practices or competitions.
- No cell phones are permitted out of bags in the gym or at competitions during warm ups, performances, or awards.
- Full uniform is required for all competitions through awards.
- Hair and make-up are to be complete when you arrive at the competition venue.
- No food, gum, or colored liquids are permitted in gym.
- No foul language, bullying, gossip, or any other negative behavior will be tolerated in our program from or towards athletes, parents, and/or coaches and staff. Gossip or bad mouthing another program and or athletes, staff, coaches, or parents from our program or another program is also not acceptable. This includes all social media outlets as well as text and email. Such behavior from an Encore team member or their family could be cause for dismissal from our program with no refunds,
- Good sportsmanship is very important to Encore. Cheerleaders should carry themselves with grace no matter the outcome of a competition and always respect judges' decisions. Our athletes cheer on all teams in our program, as well as others and we applaud all teams at awards. We also ask our athletes and fans to wait to hear our name announced before cheering for their placement.
- Please be mindful that you are representing Encore Elite Wildcatz whenever you are in our apparel or uniform.
- Uniforms are to be worn properly, no rolling skirts etc. and no altering. They will also be cared for properly.
- Videos of parts or whole routines may not be shared anywhere on the internet until the current season is complete.
- No alcohol, tobacco, or drug use will be tolerated.
- Athletes are not permitted to "coach" other athletes. Concerns should be brought directly to a coach.
- Athletes are not permitted to spot tumbling for other athletes.
- All coaches' decisions are final. Arguing or disrespectful behavior towards a coach is not acceptable.
- An injury should be reported to a coach immediately. Doctor's notes are required when an athlete is unable to do what is required at practice/ competitions and another Doctor's note is required once cleared in order to participate again.
- Email and text are used to communicate often. Please stay on top of the information. Read emails thoroughly, important information goes through email to avoid having several parent meetings. Also check calendars frequently.
- If you are not performing the skills that were choreographed for you in your routine your position on the team or in the routine can be changed or removed without refund.
- Any policies, parent/ athlete expectations, or rule violation could be cause for termination from the program without refund. We reserve the right to refuse service.

**Parent/ Family Expectations...**

- Arrangements should be made to have cheerleaders dropped off and picked up at practice on time.
- If a parent is unable to attend a competition arrangements should be made for their child to be with another adult through awards for supervision.
- Good sportsmanship is very important to our program. Our fans should carry themselves with grace no matter the outcome of a competition and always respect judges' decisions. We also ask our athletes and fans to wait to hear our name announced before cheering for their placement.
- Please be mindful that you are representing Encore Elite Wildcatz whenever you are in our apparel.
- Whenever possible we ask that our fans support all of our teams at competitions. The more cheering fans the better energy our athletes have on the floor. Wear our colors and cheer as loud as you can!

- Only athletes and coaches are allowed in the practice gym. Our practices are closed to avoid distractions.
- Coaches can be easily reached by text, phone call or email; email is the best and most efficient way. If a meeting is necessary it can be scheduled via email. Coaches are not available during practice time.
- No foul language, bullying, gossip, or any other negative behavior will be tolerated in our program from or towards athletes, parents, and/or coaches and staff. Gossip or bad mouthing another program and or athletes, staff, coaches, or parents from our program or other programs is also not acceptable. This includes all social media outlets as well as text and email.
- Talking about issues or complaining about any parts of the program to other parents, on or off property, will be considered negative behavior and will not be tolerated. If you have any concerns or issues they should be directed to coaches or gym owners.
- Videos of parts or whole routines may not be shared anywhere on the internet until the current season is complete.
- All coaches' decisions are final. Arguing or disrespectful behavior towards a coach is not acceptable.
- An injury should be reported to a coach immediately. Doctor's notes are required when a cheerleader is unable to do what is required at practice/ competitions and another Doctor's note is required once cleared in order to participate again.
- Coaches are not permitted to engage in conversation with parents about other cheerleaders, coaches, or the program. Major concerns should be directed to gym owners and not done through staff.
- Email and text are used to communicate often. Please stay on top of the information. Read emails thoroughly, important information goes through email to avoid having several parent meetings.
- If an athlete is unable to make a practice please email their coach directly as soon as you are aware so adjustments can be made. If a cheerleader becomes sick without notice and is unable to attend practice text message their coach instead of email so they know in time for practice.
- Any policies, parent/ cheerleader expectations, or rule violation could be cause for termination from the program without refund.

### Policies...

- Monthly payments for all teams are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. A late fee will be applied to balances after a 1-week grace period; a \$15 late fee will be automatically applied on the 8<sup>th</sup> of every month. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month if tuition payments are still delinquent then the tuition fee plus a 3% processing fee will be charged to the credit/debit card on file. All athletes (unless paying in full) will be required to have a valid debit or credit card on file for the season and the financial commitment form can be found in the financial packet.
- If tuition is delinquent more than 20 days athletes will not be permitted to participate.
- Checks are made out to Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC, cash, or credit cards (with a 3% fee) are all accepted payments. Cash must be handed directly to Robyn or Amanda in a sealed marked envelope. Do not mail cash. Please make notes on memo lines for what checks are for, i.e. - April payment. Returned checks have a \$30 bank fee.
- If an athlete leaves the program for any reason, you are still responsible for all fees for the entire season and any unpaid balances.
- Any policies, parent/ athlete expectations, or rule violation could be cause for termination from the program without refund.



## Encore Elite Wildcatz Evaluation Guidelines

	<b>Standing Tumbling</b>	<b>Running Tumbling</b>	<b>Stunting</b>
<i>Level 1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forward Roll</li> <li>• Backward Roll</li> <li>• Cartwheel</li> <li>• Roundoff</li> <li>• Front Walkover</li> <li>• Back Walkover</li> <li>• Non-Tumblers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cartwheel</li> <li>• Round-off</li> <li>• Round-off Back Walkover &amp; Sequence Passes</li> <li>• Non-Tumblers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knee level stunting</li> <li>• Prep level stunting</li> <li>• Belly button level stunting</li> </ul>
<i>Level 2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Back handspring</li> <li>• Back walkover back handspring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round-off back handspring</li> <li>• Round-off multiple back handspring</li> <li>• Front walkover + pass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prep level one-legged stunts</li> <li>• Extended two-legged stunts</li> <li>• 180</li> <li>• Straight ride toss</li> <li>• Log roll</li> </ul>
<i>Level 3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple standing back handsprings</li> <li>• Jump connected to back handspring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round-off handspring tuck</li> <li>• Round-off tuck</li> <li>• Front walkover + Pass</li> <li>• Punch front</li> <li>• L2 Specialty pass to tuck</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended one-legged stunts</li> <li>• Single twisting dismounts from two feet</li> <li>• 360</li> <li>• Twisting toss</li> <li>• 1 trick toss</li> </ul>
<i>Level 4</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing Tuck</li> <li>• Handspring tuck</li> <li>• Jump, handspring tuck</li> <li>• 2/3 Back handspring to layout</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round-off, handspring layout</li> <li>• L4 Specialty pass (punch front, whip, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Release moves to extended level</li> <li>• 360 to extension</li> <li>• 2 trick toss</li> <li>• Double twisting dismounts from two feet</li> </ul>
<i>Level 5</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing full</li> <li>• 2/3 handspring to a full</li> <li>• Jump tuck</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round-off, handspring full</li> <li>• L4 Specialty pass to Full</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 360 to extended level one foot</li> <li>• 3 trick toss</li> <li>• Double twisting dismounts from one foot</li> </ul>

According to the score sheets we compete on, most of the athletes on a team need to participate in all level appropriate skills to score in high range. *Example: 15 out of 20 athletes on a team must participate in all level appropriate skills.*

Exceptions will be made if need be to create a well-rounded competitive team.

## Application for Encore Elite Wildcatz All Star Cheerleading

\_\_\_\_\_ (Child's name) would like to be a cheerleader with Encore Elite Wildcatz.

**Please initial all lines below and sign the bottom:**

I have read the financial commitment/ schedule and understand all costs involved. \_\_\_\_\_

I understand there is a \$30.00 bank fee for any returned checks, \$15 late fee for payments over 1 week late, and an automatic credit/ debit card charge for delinquent payments after the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the program and evaluation packet and also the Waiver of Liability. \_\_\_\_\_

I understand by the very nature of the activity cheerleading and gymnastics carry a risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the participants and the coaches are, how many spotters, or what landing surface are available, the risk cannot be eliminated completely. I agree not to hold Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC, or any affiliated persons, financially responsible for care and/or treatment needed in case of an injury, sickness, accident, and/or death to my child. \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the expectations and policies and understand that if in violation and my child is removed from a team there are no refunds. \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL legal guardians (if under 18) for the cheerleader applying must sign below.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print first & last name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print first & last name

I am interested in being an Encore Elite Wildcatz athlete. I understand the risks stated above. I promise to abide by the rules and code of conduct set forth by the staff, coaches and the Encore Elite Wildcatz program. I promise to cooperate and follow the instructions of the coaches and staff and to attend all practices and competitions and work hard for myself and my team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheerleader Signature (if over 9)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This application, & Encore's Waiver of Liability; together with the Registration Payment will be turned in at evaluations in order to participate.** Registration cash or checks should be made out to Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC. **Please print legibly below.**

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of August 31, 2015: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in September: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheerleaders Cell number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's cell number (if cheerleader under 18): (mom) \_\_\_\_\_ (dad): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cheerleaders:**

I am interested in being a cross over (there are additional fees that apply): \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in helping out with younger teams as a junior coach (must be 12 or older): \_\_\_\_\_

FREE T-SHIRT WITH REGISTRATION FEE (preferred size): \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in being a team parent and or on the parent booster committee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY / MEDICAL / PUBLICITY  
RELEASE FORM FOR ENCORE ELITE WILDCATZ LLC**

**Please print legibly – This waiver is valid for all years that your child is involved in any part of Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC**

As \_\_\_\_\_ (“cheerleader”) voluntarily and with my permission participates in Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Star Cheerleading, for all seasons and at all events. I, \_\_\_\_\_, (“parent or guardians”) understand that by the very nature of the activity cheerleading and gymnastics carry a risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the participants and the coaches are, how many spotters, or what landing surface is available, the risk cannot be eliminated completely. The risk of injury includes minor injuries such as muscle pulls, dislocation and broken bones. The risk also includes catastrophic injuries such as permanent paralysis or even death from landings or falls on the back, neck, or head.

In consideration of your allowing “cheerleader” to participate in the Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Star Cheerleading program, and intending to be legally bound, I do hereby for myself and my heirs, executors and administrators, forever release, absolve and discharge Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Stars, which includes but is not limited to all the owners, coaches, instructors, staff, employees, parents, cheerleaders, sponsors, and participants, from all liabilities and waive any and all rights and claims for damage which I may have or may hereafter accrue as a result of injury, disability or death sustained or suffered by “cheerleader” in connection with his/her association with or participation in the Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Stars Cheerleading program. .

I do hereby acknowledge that “cheerleader” has insurance coverage and that I accept the financial responsibility for care and/ or treatment “cheerleader” should need in the case of an emergency during or as a result of any and all participation with the Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Star Cheerleading program. I agree not to hold Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC, which includes all aforementioned persons, financially responsible for care and/or treatment needed in case of an injury, sickness, accident, and/or death to “cheerleader.” In the event of an emergency resulting in injury, accident, sickness, and/or death the designated emergency adult listed in the box below will be contacted.

I hereby give my permission for “cheerleader” to be photographed, videotaped, and / or audio taped during any participation with the Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Stars Cheerleading program. I further give permission for such photographs, videotapes, and audiotapes to be used in print or broadcast media as deemed appropriate for promotion of the Encore Elite Wildcatz, LLC All Stars Cheerleading program.

<p><b>IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL: <u>Please print clearly w/ black ink.</u></b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Relationship: _____</p> <p>Emergency Person* Home Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Home Phone: (____) _____</p> <p>Mobile Phone: (____) _____</p> <p>Business Phone: (____) _____</p> <p>Doctor’s Name: _____</p> <p>Dr. Phone: (____) _____</p> <p><b><u>List any allergies:</u></b></p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Insurance Information:</p> <hr/> <p>Child Name: _____</p> <p>Date of birth: _____</p> <p>Home Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>EMAIL: _____</p> <p>Home Phone: (____) _____</p> <p>Responsible Insurance Party _____</p> <p>Insurance Company: _____</p> <p>Policy # REQUIRED: _____</p> <p>Insurance Co. Address: _____</p>
<p>*Please add any additional emergency contacts to the backside</p>	

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Initial that all information is still correct: Any changes will require a new waiver. 2015/2016: \_\_\_\_\_ 2016/2017: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2017/2018: \_\_\_\_\_ 2018/2019: \_\_\_\_\_ 2019/2020: \_\_\_\_\_