# Bartram Trail High School 2020-2021 Competitive Cheerleading

#### COACHING INFORMATION

Danielle Parker Varsity Cheer Coach <u>Danielle.parker@stjohns.k12.fl.us</u>

Katie Tax Varsity Cheer Coach
Jennifer Aston JV Cheer Coach
Kayleigh Aston JV Cheer Coach

Jennifer.L.Aston@stjohns.k12.fl.us

**Mission Statement:** The purpose of the Bartram Trail High School Cheerleading Program is to increase the school spirit at BTHS, encourage and support the athletic program and the athletes within that program, develop leadership skills, foster an environment of teamwork within the team, entertain and motivate sports spectators, improve individual physical well-being, and have fun. A member of the cheer team must demonstrate responsibility and enthusiasm, have high morals and a genuine concern for other students, and desire to work cooperatively within a team.

#### Membership/Eligibility

- 1. Membership shall be determined by the coaches of BTHS Cheer program through a try-out process. The squad will be judged and chosen by the BTHS cheerleading coaches; considerations for squad placement will include but are not limited to teacher recommendations, coaches recommendation, grades, team/stunt group needs, stunt ability, tumbling ability, and tryout clinic (on-the-spot performance) participation and performance.
- 2. If you are a rising freshman trying out, you must be zoned for BTHS or already been accepted to an academy at BTHS. If you are a current freshman, sophomore or junior you must be enrolled at BTHS before trying out.
- 3. All members must maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.5. Failure to comply will result in suspension of eligibility.
- 4. Team size will be determined at tryouts based on skill level, attitude and number of candidates.
- 5. Cheerleading must take priority over ALL other extracurricular activities (including jobs and All-Star teams) during the cheerleading season.

  Example: In the event of a conflict between All-star events and school cheer events, school must take priority.
  - Consequences will be given for missed practices and events. You will be removed from the routine if you miss a competition.
- 6. Being a cheerleader one year in no way guarantees placement on the squad for the following year.

#### **Alternates**

- 1. All competition positions are considered fluid; therefore, any athlete may be moved to an alternate role at any given time during the season. Alternates will cheer all football and basketball games and have the opportunity to take on the role as a competitive cheerleader at any point throughout the season.
- 2. Varsity alternates will be eligible for their varsity letter.
- 3. Alternates will have the same expectations as any other member on the team.

#### **Cheerleader Responsibility**

- Cheerleading is one the greatest organizations in the school in charge of unity and positive support.
   Cheerleaders are an athletic team, and just like any other athletic team, members are expected to behave like a team. Practices are not optional and neither is game attendance. Positive attitudes, respect for teammates and coaches, and kindness will be expected at all times.
- 2. Cheerleaders as leaders of the school are expected to uphold high standards, and will follow and adhere to all of the student handbook rules. Failure to uphold these standards will result in suspension depending on severity and could result in dismissal from team.

- 3. Cheerleaders are required to be a part of the cheer class offered 7<sup>th</sup> period. Only exception will come from the registrar's office because there are scheduling conflicts for core classes.
- 4. Attendance is crucial in cheerleading. Missing a game or practice for any reason other than medical or family emergencies, severe illness, or school duty/functions will result in consequences determined by the coach. If a cheerleader is unable to participate in practice or games due to an injury a doctor's note is required. She is still required to attend all practices and games.
  - Absences: A justified illness or family emergency should be communicated to the coach in a reasonable amount of time before a missed event.
  - Communication between cheerleader and coach is preferred.
  - Tardies: Cheerleaders are expected to be ready to practice or prepared to cheer at the designated time. This
    means you are dressed and ready to go. Tardiness to a practice or game will lead to limited cheering time or
    other disciplinary actions determined by the coaches.
- 5. If a physician has restricted the cheerleader's participation, she must provide a note of clearance before being allowed to resume cheering at practices, competitions, or games. THIS IS SCHOOL POLICY.
- 6. Social Media- Cheerleaders will be held accountable for their actions both inside and outside of school. It is important to be aware that you are representing not only BTHS cheerleading, but also Bartram Trail High School as a whole when posting on social media. Failure to represent BTHS in a positive manner on social media will lead to limited cheering time or other disciplinary actions determined by the coaches. Girls are required to allow coaches to follow their pages.
- 7. Appearance- All cheerleaders must maintain a clean and well-groomed appearance.
  - a. No jewelry should be worn.
  - b. Practice wear and Uniforms should be washed and cleaned after every wear.
  - c. Nails should be natural and kept short and neat.
    - i. Nails should be a natural/neutral color for competitions.
  - d. The correct practice wear should be worn to each practice; this includes cheer shoes. This requires responsibility on the athletes to plan ahead. Conditioning with be the consequence for the first 3 infractions, after that other disciplinary actions will be taken.
- 8. Uniforms- Cheerleaders will be provided with school uniforms. It must be cleaned and turned in immediately following the season. Cheerleaders are responsible for any lost or damaged uniforms.
- 9. A member may not wear any part of her uniform at any time other than scheduled cheerleading activities, and she may not lend her uniform to someone who is not a Bartram Trail cheerleader.
- 10. When in any Bartram Trail attire (uniform, jacket, t-shirt, etc.) cheerleaders are expected to act appropriately, as well as when not in uniform. (People know who you are)
- 11. Any cheerleader that quits a team will not be allowed to try out for another calendar year from the date that she quit. They will be required to quit in writing and date the request as a record of their decision, turning in all uniforms at this time.
- 12. Cheerleaders must consistently perform at or above the level that was shown during the tryout procedure and all skills that were exhibited at tryouts are expected to be displayed at practices, games, and competitions. For example, if a cheerleader receives points for a standing back tuck at tryouts, she is expected to demonstrate that skill upon demand throughout the season. ANY CHEERLEADER WHO REFUSES OR IS UNABLE TO DO SO, MAY BE REMOVED FROM COMPETITION WITH THE SQUAD.

#### **Parental Commitment**

- 1. Parents are responsible for purchasing a uniform, accessories, and camp wear, as well as paying for gym fees, camps, competitions, travel and other small misc. items throughout the year.
- 2. It is expected that parents support their cheerleader and the program by becoming active members of the Bartram Bears Athletic Booster Club.
- 3. Parents will be asked to join at least one BTHS Cheerleading committee.
- 4. Parents are responsible for providing transportation to ALL events for which the Athletic Department does not provide transportation. **Transportation to practice is not provided by the Athletic Department.**
- 5. Parents are required to provide appropriate fees and paperwork by the announced deadline.

- 6. If for any reason a parent requests that a cheerleader be removed from the squad, re-admittance will not be allowed, this most likely will result in the cheerleader NOT being permitted to tryout the following year.
- 7. Parents should let the coaches coach! Unlike other sports, in cheerleading all squad members participate; however, by the nature of the sport, some cheerleaders will be more visible than others, especially in the competition routine. As a result, parents have the responsibility to support the coach on decisions of tumbling sequences, stunt groups, and formation placements.
- 8. If parents have any questions or concerns, please follow the appropriate chain of command: Coach Athletic Director Principal.

#### Leadership

- **1.** We will not choose cheer captains this year. We feel it is important to have everyone equally involved and working toward the same goals, for this reason we will not be choosing captains or officers this year.
- 2. Committees- Parents and athletes will be required to serve on at least one cheer committee. Committees will include but are not limited to the following: Game Day Meals, Homecoming, Camp, Sisterhood (spirit sisters and team bonding), Nationals, Holiday Gathering and Banquet. Sign-ups for these committees will be at the first parent meeting/fitting.

#### **Cheer Standards**

- 1. Rule of 4
  - a. Give 100 percent, 100 percent of the time
  - b. Don't be a selective cheerleader (picking when to work hard and when not to)
  - c. Don't put yourself above the team. Always put your team first.
  - d. You must love Cheerleading
- 2. Be polite and respectful to everyone at all times. You are in the public eye at all times.
- 3. Show all teachers and coaches the proper respect.
- 4. Always accept the responsibility for your actions. How you respond to your circumstances defines your character.
- 5. Believe in discipline, conditioning, commitment, teamwork, high standards, yourself and your teammates.
- 6. Do not ever let yourself give or be less than your best.
- 7. Be mentally, physically and emotionally prepared to handle the responsibilities of being a Bartram Trail Cheerleader.
- 8. Take pride and feel honored to be a Bartram Trail High School Cheerleader.

Consequence			
Jewelry (Will be checked during stretching)	25 sprawls		
Nails (can't be seen past fingers on palm	No Practice		
side- no acrylics)			
Wrong Practice Clothes	25 sprawls		
Fixing Hair during practice	Everyone will hold a plank		
Tardy	1-5 mins = 10 pushups		
	6-10 mins = conditioning after practice		
	11-15 mins @ BT = roll up mats		
	■ Zone = 20 tucks with poms		
	20+ mins = sit out time at next game and		
	extra stunt group practice		
Flyer Hitting Ground (Stunt group (minus	■ BT = 10 laps around gym		
flyer) and spotters)	@Zone = 5 panel sprints		
Excessive Talking	Plank holds		
Laying on Ground or Sitting during practice	25 sprawls for everyone		

### **Approximate Costs**

Item	Description	Due	Cost
UCA Summer Camp	Make checks payable to UCA – 4 Day Camp at UK	Monday, June 1	Approx. \$ 435
	Bus and hotel	Monday, June 15	Approx. \$350
Nike Apparel and Backpack	This includes three days of camp wear, which will also be used as practice wear throughout the season, warm-up and backpack	Wednesday, May 13	Approx. \$450
BTHS Game Ready Apparel	This cost will vary depending upon what was purchased in previous years, but includes Game Day Apparel, bloomers, cheer bag, poms, rain jacket, sweatshirts, body-liners, and cheer shoes.	Wednesday, May 13	Approx. \$350- \$???
Uniform	You will purchase one uniform to be warn at games and competitions. If you purchased a uniform in the past, you will not incur this cost. You can also purchase from previous members.	Wednesday, May 13	Approx. \$275
ZONE Yearly Registration Fee	Onetime fee for the 2020-2021 team	First ZONE practice	\$35
Monthly Gym Fees	Summer fees, June and July  *JV ONLY	Due June 1	\$40 each month
Monthly Gym Fees	School Year, August – January, Two Practices per week (First payment due July 15 <sup>th</sup> –for Aug)	15 <sup>th</sup> of Month Prior	Varsity -\$50 JV- \$65
Competition Choreography	Payment for choreography, skills day with choreographers and the music to be mixed (June 20-23)	Covered via Sponsorship or Due July 27	Approx. \$300
Competition Fees	Costs will depend on entry fees as well as transportation and hotel expenses. After the squad is chosen, a parent meeting will be held to discuss competitions.	Once Finalized	\$100 - \$500 UCA Nationals (JV and Varsity) could be \$300- \$500
Additional Items	Bows, Homecoming, Cookies for F-Ball Team, Team Dinners before FB Games, Banquet, Team T- Shirts, backpacks, water bottles, Gatorade		Varies \$200-250

#### Important Dates for Summer Practices, Camps, and Choreography

**Summer Practices, Camps, and Choreography** 

\*\*\* These are Mandatory if you are in town.

\*Varsity Team Practice: May 11, 14, 19, 21, 26 and 28th @ BTHS 4pm-6pm

June 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, and 18 (Calendar with exact times will be handed out after tryouts)

July 7, 9, 14, 16, 28, 30

\*JV Practice: May 11, 14, 19, 21, 26 and 28th @ BTHS 4pm-6pm

June 3, 10, 17, 24 and July 8, 15, 29 @ Zone

June and July: Tuesdays and Thursday @ BTHS (no practice week of 4th of July)

\*\*Stunt/Skill Camp - June 20-22 (Traditional) June 23rd Game Day

@BTHS June 20-21 and @ Zone 22 and 23(specific times will be announced later)

\*\*UCA Camp at the University of Kentucky-Varsity and Junior Varsity July 17-23

#### **Regular Season Practices are Mandatory**

Junior Varsity- Monday 4:30-6:30 and Wednesday 4:30-6:30 @ Zone; Tuesday 4-5:30 @ BTHS; Thursday Football Games (practice when no games)

Varsity- Monday  $7^{th}$  Period- 4:30PM @ BTHS, Tuesday 7:00AM-8:45AM @ BTHS, Wednesday 3:30-5:00 and Thursday 4:45-6:15 @ Zone

\*This start August 5<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*We will make every effort to establish a practice time and stick to it; however, if the gym must be used for an athletic contest, our day or location may change.

#### **Tentative Competition Schedule:**

- Nov 7- Creekside HS
- Nov 14- UCA Regional # 1
- Nov 21- West Nassau Warrior Warm-up
- Dec 5- UCA Regionals # 2(Tampa, FL)
- Dec 19- Chase the State (Tampa, FL)
- Jan (Keep All weekends Open)
  - FHSAA Regionals (V ONLY)
  - West Nassau
  - FHSAA State (V ONLY)
- Feb 3-7: UCA Nationals (Orlando)

## Bartram Trail High School Cheerleading Parent and Member Agreement

Do not sign this agreement unless you have read and discussed the *By-Laws* with your child.

Athlete's Name	(print)
I, the parent/guardian of the above named BTHS cheerless By-Laws and understand all of the requirements, objective coach has final say in my daughter making and remaining nature of the sport; therefore, I realize that my perception coach's perception of my daughter's skills. As a result, I whighlighted in the routine and may be required to serve a National competitions. I also realize that this is a team of ability and capacity to do so) throughout the year. I will ron behalf of my cheerleader.	es, and consequences. I especially understand the on the squad. I also understand the competitive n of my daughter's skills may be different from the nderstand that my cheerleader may not be s an alternate at the two FHSAA sanctioned or fort and that I may be asked to help (within my
Parent Signature:	Date
Parent Signature:	
As a potential member of a BTHS cheerleading squad, I had understand what is expected of me as a cheerleader. I unbeyond the athleticism and time commitment of the sport a school leader with outstanding character. I will keep m and I will realize that the consequences of defiant behavis squad. I also accept responsibility for continually improviand understand that not doing so may result in my inability am a member of the varsity squad, I understand that I may fellow a sanctioned competitions. Finally, I promise to responsible of the varsity squad, I understand that I may sell the sanctioned competitions. Finally, I promise to responsible of the varsity squad, I understand that I may sell the sanctioned competitions. Finally, I promise to responsible of the varsity squad, I understand that I may sell the sanctioned competitions. Finally, I promise to responsible of the varsity squad with BTHS at all times.	iderstand that my role as a cheerleader goes it and that it includes the expectation that I will be yself knowledgeable and informed of the rules, or could result in suspension or removal from the ing my skills in the areas of stunting and tumbling ty to participate at games or at competitions. If I may be asked to serve as an alternate at the two pect my cheerleading coach(es), my teammates,