

## HHS Cheerleading Tryout Details

In order to be eligible for tryouts, all forms and the tryout fee must be submitted to the front office of HHS by **Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**.

**HHS Tryout Clinic:** Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> (3:30pm – 5:00pm) in main gym at HHS

**HHS Cheer Tryouts:** Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> (beginning at 3:25pm)

Cheerleading tryouts are open for all rising 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders who meet the following eligibility criteria. Rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible for the freshman squad, rising 10<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible for the JV squad, and rising 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible for the varsity squad.

### Qualifications for tryouts:

1. A candidate must have at least a 2.0 for the previous semester with no failed core classes. This rule applies to the average of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks grades for HMS students. Students enrolled in math team, pre AP and AP courses will have quality points included in their class average. This grade requirement is consistent with the grade requirements listed in the HHS cheerleading constitution.
2. Each candidate must have a current Physical, Concussion, AHSAA release, Star, and Homewood City Schools release on file.
3. Each candidate and his/her parent must read and agree to the rules/expectations set forth in the HHS cheerleading constitution. This document is included with this tryout information online.
4. At least one parent or guardian must attend the **mandatory cheer meeting on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm**. Failure to attend will result in disqualification from clinic and tryouts. The meeting will be held at HHS in the Bailey Theater.

### Tryout procedures:

1. The candidates will attend a three day tryout clinic in the HHS gym during the week of tryouts. At that time, the candidates will learn the tryout material.
2. Two independent judges and one cheerleading director will make up the judging panel. These judges will evaluate each candidate individually and in a group.
3. The candidates are expected to be able to perform the following elements and will be evaluated on all of the criteria listed below:
  - Teacher Evaluations (10) / Coach's Score (25) 35 points
  - Jumps 10 points
  - Cheers 20 points
  - Dance 20 points
  - Running Tumbling 10 points
  - Back Handspring 10 points
    - Back Tuck (optional for 5 bonus points)
4. We do not prevent anyone without tumbling skills from trying out; however, the judges and coaches will be scoring based on level of difficulty, proper technique, and execution. Higher level skills are encouraged and scored accordingly.
5. The candidates will learn an individual cheer, group cheers, and a group dance. These will be evaluated on precise motion placement, sharpness, enthusiasm and ability. Jumps will be evaluated on proper technique, which includes pointed toes, height and flexibility.
6. Scores will be collected by an administrator and entered into an Excel spreadsheet by a technical assistant. Scores will be rounded to two decimal places and placed in numerical order for each squad. Scores will be evaluated for a significant natural break. Teams will be posted on the athletic website at a designated time that will be announced during tryout week. Any unusual circumstances or deviations must be approved in advance by the Athletic Director and/or Administrator.
7. For tryouts, each girl is required to wear a white shirt; red, royal or navy shorts; and tennis shoes. Hair should be in a ponytail.

### Obligations:

1. The cheerleader must meet all financial obligations. We attend camp and place all of our orders in the spring, so cheer bills need to be paid in full before camp. Payment dates : \*March 18<sup>th</sup> - \$350 \*Mid May – approximately \$350
2. The cheerleader must attend cheerleading camp (May 28- May 31 in Gulf Shores) and all practices pre-season, in-season, and post-season.

\*Spring practices are from April- May after school (approx. 3:00-5:00, 3 days a week).

\*Summer practice will begin in August approximately one week before school starts.

\*Fall / Winter practices are from August – February after school (approx. 3:00-4:30, 2 to 4 days a week).

### Important Dates:

- **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 Freshman uniform try-on and meeting (\$350 and all new cheerleader forms are due)**
- **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> - 3:15 JV uniform try-on and meeting (\$350 and all new cheerleader forms are due)**
- **Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 Varsity uniform try-on and meeting (\$350 due and all new cheerleader forms are due)**
- **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> - Varsity Rep Fitting (all three squads) V- 2:25, JV- 3:10, F- 3:20**
- **Varsity ACE days: April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 14 from 2:45-3:45**
- **JV/FR ACE days: April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 14 from 7:00-8:00**
- **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>- We love Homewood Day**
- **Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>- Physicals at HHS**
- **Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Final camp practice (4:00) and potential parent show (6:00)**
- **May 28<sup>th</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup>- Cheer Camp in Gulf Shores (parents provide a way home from camp)**
- **Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Ad Picture Day at Waldrop Stadium**
- **Mandatory August Practices August 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:15-5:00**

Cheerleading Coaches:

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