



**FEARLESS**  
ATHLETICS

**2019-2020**

**TEAM MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK**

44 Business Park Circle Unit 100 Arden, NC 28704

**{UPDATES}** Monthly email updates are sent to inform Fearless families of important announcements or upcoming events.

**{COMMUNICATION}** Every coach's cell phone number is available for all families; and we also communicate through email. However, our primary mode of communication is through "mass texts" which are sent through the 'Remind App'. Parents are required to submit cell phone numbers in order to receive texts regarding their teams. (Submission of athlete's cell phone numbers are optional)

**{PAYMENT and FEES}** Monthly tuition pays for the program and benefits for a 11 month period: June – April. Tuition is calculated based on costs for an entire season. Tuition is then set at a monthly rate and will not be increased or decreased based on the number of practices that are held in a month. There are times when practices will not be held due to holidays, conflicts, closures etc. and there will be times when extra practices are called. Tuition is due and expected by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of each month and is considered late after the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Beginning with the 2019-2020 season a \$30.00 late fee will be added on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the month; and each month following until payment is received. Payments more than 30 days late may result in the athlete's removal from the team and/or removal from upcoming competitions until payments are brought up-to-date. A \$35 fee will be assessed for any payment (check, draft, credit card, etc.) returned for in-sufficient funds for any reason. We will provide all parents with a monthly written, or emailed statement, to help ensure accuracy of posted payments on accounts and what remains due.

**{NO REFUNDS}** Under no circumstances will a refund be issued for any Fearless Athletics collected fees, tuition, or registration (injury, illness, team changes, quitting, absences).

**{CANCELLATIONS/EARLY TERMINATIONS}**

When an individual quits the team, routines, and positions have to be reworked, often resulting in extra practices. As such, if a team member quits for any reason, other than family relocation of 100+ miles away or season ending injury (doctors note required), cancellation fees will apply. If an athlete is suspended or dismissed for a period of time or indefinitely from a team or entire program based on criteria including to but not limited to: attendance, conduct, skills, finances, etc. cancellation fees will apply. Please note, poor grades, financial burden, minor injury/illness, family disputes, change of heart, dislike of team members/coaches or team placements are not extreme circumstances. Cancellations of membership must be submitted in writing, and will take effect 30 days from the date of receipt. Cancellations after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month will be charged the following months tuition. Cancellations will be assessed a \$200 early withdrawal fee along with any other tuition charges, and administrative fees. Balance on account must be paid in full within 30 days of notice to terminate. If you cancel/withdraw prior to receipt of uniforms, practice wear, etc. you will forfeit receiving these items. Fearless Athletics has a NO REFUNDS policy. If an injury will prevent an athlete from returning for the remainder of the season, we will relieve the injured team member of their contract if a doctor provides a written note stating that they will not be healed by the end of the season. A credit will only be applied to cheer/tumbling classes in this case.

**{PROMOTIONAL USE}** Fearless Athletics reserves the right to use any member's picture, and first name for promotional, advertising, or Fearless website purposes. No further personal information will be posted. Any person wishing that their name and/or picture not be used on the website must do so in writing at the time of tryouts.

**{GYM CLOSURES}** We will have several gym closures throughout the year in observance of holidays and other necessary closures for weather, etc. Closures will be communicated as soon as possible via Remind app, email, Facebook, and you may reach out to your team coach.

**{INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY}** Every reasonable attempt will be made to open our doors for business on regular practice days, however in the event of severe weather conditions, the gym will decide whether to open or not. Closures will be communicated as soon as possible via Remind app, email, and Facebook. If you are unsure, please contact your FA coaches prior to practice. Make-up practices may be added based on individual team needs.

**{PRIVATE LESSONS}** Private lessons are an excellent opportunity for athletes to grow, and excel in their skills. Private lessons are an additional cost. Payments for private lessons are to be paid directly to the coaches in the form of cash or check. Please note the prices may vary by instructor. Private lessons are an added commitment by the athlete and do not excuse warm-up/drills from the original practices. Private lessons are not to be taken in place of tumbling classes included in monthly tuition. Tumbling classes are a vital part of a cheerleader's training and progression. Skipping

tumbling class and taking private lessons "instead" will not be tolerated. Starting rate of \$50 per hour. Private lessons may not be taken if account is not up to date.

**{FACILITY INFORMATION}** Our location is at 44 Business Park Circle Unit 100 Arden, NC 28704. We have a full 54 X 42 spring floor, 60ft rod floor, 7-panel spring floor, 5-Panel dead floor, trampolines, tumbling, and warm-up area. No Food, Gum or Glass bottles in the gym area! All drinks should have a lid.

**{GYM EVENTS}** We look forward to getting to know each Fearless member and his/her family. We have several planned events throughout the season. Nick Sweeney, owner, will set up multiple Fearless Outings throughout the summer. We will begin the season with a Back to Cheer & Dance Family Picnic, a Halloween Lock-In in October, Fall Showcase, a Holiday Party in December, Pep Rally, Picture Day, End of season banquet, and a special Fundraising Scholarship event (dates and times T.B.A). We may also participate in the Asheville Christmas Parade, the Apple Festival Parade, as well as the autism/buddy walk, if possible with our schedule.

**{AFTER HOURS}** Fearless is not a babysitting service and athletes should not be left at the gym during non-practice hours or after the practice time is over. If this becomes an ongoing issue, a meeting will be set up with the family.

**{SUMMER VACTIONS}** All summer vacations dates must be submitted by **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please write it down on the conflict calendar two weeks prior to absences.

**{TEAM PLACEMENTS}** Everyone at Fearless Athletics will make a team, based on overall skill of level in tumbling, stunting, jumping,

choreography, and performance factor. Age, maturity, and work ethic also play a big role in making team placements. The first month of training is NOT permanent. Fearless coaches may choose to move, remove, or add you to and from a team until final choreography has been set in the fall. Coaches will decide roles for athletes on a team that best suits them and the team (i.e. base, flyer, back-spot, tumbler, etc.). Please keep in mind that you are trying out for the Fearless Athletics full year program, you are not trying out for a particular team. We expect all our cheerleaders, and parents to respect all final team placement decisions. Our ultimate goal is to create **teams** that are safe, well balanced, and successful!

**{SKILL LEVEL}** It is understood that when an athlete stops performing the skills they did at tryouts, it is at the discretion of coaches to move them to a more appropriate level team at any time throughout the season.

**{MANDATORY EVENTS}** Choreography camps, Boot Camps, Team practices, and Competitions are 100% mandatory. Specific team dates will be released at the end of June. Failure to attend mandatory practices and event may result in an athlete being benched for a period of time.

**{ATTENDANCE}** This is a TEAM sport. ALL team practices are mandatory exceptions are pre-scheduled summer vacations; doctor appointments, etc. that have been *communicated and approved by coaches*, and must be written in conflict calendar. All absences due to last min illness or injury must be called in to the front desk two hours before practice starts. In August we will start Sunday practices, plus normal weekday practice, meaning we will be practicing 2-3 days a week depending on team placement. (Full year prep athletes may have an additional weekday

practice instead of Sunday). Team members will be allowed minimal absences due to illness, family emergencies, trips, etc. once the additional practices are added! Absolutely no absences allowed the week of competitions or two weeks prior to any National Competition. Multiple unexcused absences and tardiness may result in suspension or removal from the team, upcoming events, or competitions. In the event that your athlete is late or absence to practice and the staff receive no call ahead of time this is called a “no call, no show” and will not be tolerated. Injured athletes are still expected to attend practices, even if limited to spectating only, for the support of the team. Please provide doctors note. We will accommodate for absences due to school-graded functions and we are able.

**{PRACTICE WEAR}** We expect all our Fearless cheerleaders to look fierce, and fabulous in red and black active wear at all team practices. All athletes will receive a Fearless Athletics practice wear set. Account must be up to date to receive attire. You will be required to wear it to weekly team practices. Tumbling classes have no specific attire. Additional practice wear sets will be available for added purchase. We will have some fun **themed** practices such as Disney, black out, neon colors, twin day etc.

**{CHOREOGRAPHY}** Attendance at choreography is very important, and MANDATORY, as we **cannot** choreograph a body that isn't there. -All black must be worn if FA practice wear is not in by choreography dates. August and September will be our choreography months. Specific times and dates will be released by the end of June. Meal/Snacks will be provided on long choreography days. Choreography camps are closed practices, meaning no parents/siblings or friends in the lobby our viewing areas.

**{COMPETITIONS}** The 2019-2020 season will include approximately 5-8 competitions (depending on your division). Our athletes are scheduled to compete at several local competitions as well as 2-3 two-day competitions, and 2-3 travel competitions (prep please disregard travel). Please keep in mind that all Fearless Athletics full year ELITE teams will be attending Bid competitions for U.S Finals and Summit. Teams winning a Bid must plan for added travel and competition(s). We will release a FINALIZED competition schedule ASAP to allow plenty of time to accommodate for travel. Hotel and other information will also be released prior to the event. Parents are responsible for all personal travel arrangements. Travel arrangements must be planned around scheduled practices. ALL competitions are mandatory; missing without a doctor's note may result in permanent replacement on the team and will not receive a refund. All full year elite teams WILL attend US Finals in Pensacola with or without a bid!

**{UNIFORMS}** This is NOT a new Uniform year for Fearless Athletics meaning there will be a separate uniform fee. Uniforms, and warm-ups will be delivered by the beginning of the 2019-2020-competition season. Uniform and practice wear fitting will take place at during summer practices. Your registration fees include, 2 bows, warm-up suit, backpack, makeup, and practices wear. You will NOT receive uniforms, etc., until your account is 100% up to date. Those athletes that join later in the season will receive their uniform, etc. with the next order that is placed. It is a possibility that uniforms will not arrive in time for a late starting athlete. They may need to borrow another athlete's uniform in this case until their pieces arrive. Fearless is not responsible for rips/tears, missing stones etc. you will be responsible for purchasing replacements if items are damaged or lost. ALL cheerleaders must purchase a pair

of white cheer shoes. Cheer shoes may only be worn at practices, and competition. Uniforms, and shoes must be kept clean. Wash Uniform in cold water, inside out. Use gentle setting. Hang to dry. Do not put in the dryer and do not iron or dry-clean. Fearless Athletics uniforms are not to be worn outside of Fearless approved function in order to prevent premature wear and tear. **RETURNING ATHLETES** that do not need a new uniform for this season (must be in good condition and fit well) will not have a uniform fee. If your returning athlete's uniform is in good condition but does not fit, you will have the option to sell. Us your uniform to be reused by another athlete. We do NOT guarantee that FA will be able to use your uniform and will only place a credit on your account once the used uniform is purchased but another athlete. We will not take uniforms that have not be laundered and/or are not in good condition.

**{CROSSOVER}** This is when an athlete competes on more than one team. Athletes typically cross down to a lower level team and their primary team takes precedent in regards to extra practices or scheduling conflicts. Crossover competition fees will be added. A crossover contract must be signed by the athlete's family.

**{FUNRAISING}** Fearless will provide several fundraising opportunities throughout the season. All proceeds from individual fundraisers will go directly to your account. All Gym fundraisers will benefit our scholarship funds. Athletes on scholarships (limited) are required to participate in ALL fundraising opportunities. Athletes on full year teams competing for a US Finals Bid or Summit Bid that need financial help getting there are encouraged to participate in fundraisers. Credit will be placed on personal account onto the oldest fees that are past due in your account. Up to date accounts will see a credit towards next month's fees.

**{CONFRONTATIONS}** Confrontations of ANY KIND are not to be discussed in the presence of Fearless athletes, parents, or spectators. We

will not tolerate misuse of social media that affects, or reflects poorly on Fearless in any way, shape, or form. Please schedule a meeting with our Fearless owner before situations become confrontational!

**{SIDE LINE COACHING}** Fearless Athletics coaching staff makes all team decisions. Parents are not allowed to “coach from the stands”. Decisions are made to benefit the entire team as well as each individual cheerleader. No parents are allowed in the Fearless practice area, or in the warm-up area of any competition or gym. This includes pre-warm-up, warm-up, and team discussions during competitions as well as practices. The lobby window is available for parents to watch the progress of our practices. Closed practices may be called. We ask that parents only speak positively about the program, and/or coaches, and athletes. In addition, we ask that no comments or opinions be given in reference to our cheerleaders, practice progress, or the routines. We ask that parents respect our facility as an athletic training center. Younger brothers and sisters must be constantly supervised. Only registered athletes and coaches are allowed in the practice area during practice hours. Parents that are concerned about the coaching of their child’s team should schedule a direct meeting with our owner, away from the practice area/time.

**{TEAM MEMBER BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS}** Athletes will be expected to focus, and try their best in every class and practice. They are role models for the other athletes at the gym. Classes and practices will be fun based on the joy of accomplishment and the love of cheer. Classes and practices are not appropriate times for socializing with friends. Positive attitudes are essential! All athletes must work as a cohesive team, which means holding their classmates, team members, and teachers in the highest regard.

**{CODE OF CONDUCT/IMAGE}** Fearless Athletics prides itself on team spirit and unity. All cheerleaders are expected to support other Fearless teams during performances. We expect our cheerleaders to treat their teammates and coaches with respect at all times. Fearless cheerleaders and parents must also maintain good sportsmanship with each other, and other cheerleading programs in the area, and around the country. We expect our members to be humble about their abilities and respect other talents in the industry. Always be supportive of everyone’s program, and routine. Remember other coaches, parents, and athletes have the same love for the sport as we do. Clapping for dances, counting for pyramids, and stunts is always expected. Foul language, and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated at practices or competitions. If this becomes an issue you will be removed from the program. Please keep in mind when you are in Fearless attire, or Uniform you are representing Fearless Athletics. All cheerleaders must have a cover-up at ALL times during competition, unless you are walking to warm-ups with the team. Friends and family are invited to watch our cheerleaders perform, however, we expect each cheerleader to remain with the team one hour before competing/warm-ups. We often require our members to arrive early at events and stay after awards to support the rest of the program. All cheerleaders must be in full uniform or in team warm-ups at Awards (must have a bow on). NO UGGs at Competitions. (Nick will take them)

**{PARENT CONDUCT AT EVENTS}** Parents are not allowed to approach competition judges or officials at any event. Judging is subjective in any sport. It is not our place as coaches or parents to express our difference of opinions with the company providing the event. This could result in disqualification of all Fearless Athletics teams. We ask respectfully that parents not interfere with the coaching of our cheerleaders at competitions. Mental preparation is 75% of how a team will perform at any event. Most national championships will

require that our teams perform in preliminaries and finals (2day events). Only coaches are allowed to discuss, and critique preliminary performances in order to keep them focused in finals. Be assured that the staff watches other teams, reviews score sheets, listens to critiques, and analyzes deductions. All of this information is used to provide the teams with the best possible mental preparation. Parents should refrain from discussing their personal opinions with their children until the competition is over. This will only put a hardship on the relationship of the cheerleader to parent, cheerleader to team, and cheerleader to coach. We ask that our parents respect our program at outside events. Please display the same good sportsmanship and positive behavior that you expect from your children. This includes positive encouragement to all of our members and other parents. Parents must not place the blame of weak performances on any specific child. Our teams succeed together and fail together. Be careful when blaming other cheerleaders for missed tumbling or dropped stunts - it could be your child at the next performance. You will not like how it feels.

**{DISCOUNTS}** Military families will receive \$20 off their monthly tuition. Must present military ID to receive credit. Second and third child discounts will be offered to families that have multiple siblings enrolled in our all-star program. Please see your tuition rates for discounts. We also provide discounts for accounts that pay in full by August 31<sup>st</sup> and accounts that are set up on automatic draft. If you're unable to be draft automatically each month, your discount will be removed!

**{TRADEMARKED}** It is unlawful to copy, recreate, or use our Fearless Athletics logo on any non-official Fearless item(s). This pertains to the Fearless logo, name, or any Team logo, or name. We will not authorize the use of our logo to anyone other than our official clothing

company(s). Official Fearless attire may be purchased in our lobby pro-shop!

**{NON-DISCRIMINATORY}** Fearless Athletics believes in the benefit of our students getting to know athletes from other areas, different races, and other cultures. FA does not in any way discriminate against its students based on race, gender, sexual orientation, background, or religious preference.

**{PERSONAL PROPERTY AND VALUABLES}** Neither the team nor the Fearless Athletics can be responsible for theft, loss, or damage of personal property occurring during practice or other gym events. Discretion with regard to personal property is the responsibility of the gym member and his/her family.

**{SPONSORSHIP}** Fearless Athletics offers local and corporate business sponsorships. These are GYM sponsorships that we allow to be applied directly to your account balance, however in the event that a sponsorship is applied to your account and you leave Fearless you will not be refunded for any part of the sponsorship.

# PARENT & ATHLETE ACKNOWLEDGMENT & AGREEMENT

## 2019-2020

You, the Cheerleader AND Parent, Guardian, or adult responsible for payment, have received and are in agreement with the following documents:

- **FA Team Membership Handbook Agreement**
  - **Fearless Athletics Waiver of Liability**
    - **2019-2020 Billing Agreement**
  - **FA Registration Information Sheet**
    - **Athlete/Parent Agreement**
    - **Additional Information Page**

\_\_\_\_\_ You, the Cheerleader AND the Parent, Guardian, or adult, have received, read and signed the Waiver of Liability and are aware of the risks involved in the sport of cheer.

\_\_\_\_\_ You understand that you are responsible for all the information contained in the Fearless Athletics Membership folder and that Fearless Athletics is authorized to enforce its contents regardless if you have read the material in full.

\_\_\_\_\_ You, the Cheerleader agree to commit and behave in accordance with all Fearless Athletics rules, policies and team requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_ You, the Parent, Guardian, or adult responsible for payment agree to adhere to all FA rules, policies and payment requirements as outlined in the Billing and Enrollment Agreement.

_____	_____	_____
Print Name of Parent, Guardian Or Adult Responsible for payment	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Print Name of Cheerleader	Signature	Date

