

Manhattan Patriots Competition Information 2018

Competition Dates (MUST be available for all dates to compete):

Dates TBD after the February IRCA Meeting

❖ **We need a final decision by April 1, 2018 - NO EXCEPTIONS**



❖ **We will determine what level the girls will be placed on after we have final competition numbers.**

We will be competing cheer again this season and in the future. What this means is that the routine you have seen the girls perform at halftime, will be the competition routine. This includes: a cheer, a short dance, tumbling and stunting. Non-comp girls will perform in halftime also doing the same routine as comp girls.

We are in the process of working with the high schools to set up some stunting clinics again. We will send out this information as dates become final.

We will designate 2 practices per week specifically for competition and will add more as the season goes on. Competition Practices will most likely be held on Tuesday and Wednesday during football season and then Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after the football season ends.

The girls have to be wearing the exact same uniform, socks and shoes. Also, their hair has to be exactly alike along with any accessories. **Earrings are not allowed at games or competition. If you are thinking about getting their ears pierced, please do it soon so they can be removed for games and competitions.**

The girls will only be allowed to miss two competition practices to compete due to the limited number of practices. We will continue to enforce this rule this year, as it is not fair to the girls who are present every practice. If girls repeatedly miss practice, it takes them twice as long to catch up and puts everyone behind. The coaches must be notified of any absences in advance. Also please respect the coaches' time and the girls' time and get your girls to practice on time.

Girls will not be released from practices until all mats are put away. Parents, this process goes a lot faster if you come in and help. We encourage and appreciate any and all help in getting the mats set up and removed. If we have parent help, this process takes about 5-7 minutes. If the girls and coaches have no help it can take 15-20 minutes.

There is a \$20 fee/ per cheerleader to pay for registration costs for the first 2 competitions. These fees will be paid at Fittings. State fees are additional and will be due once a squad earns a State Bid.

❖ If a squad earns a bid to the State Competition, held the first weekend in December, there will be additional costs for registration fees

Practices

As you know, we do not have our own indoor practice area for cheer. For that reason, we use the schools as best as we can for our competition practices. There are several things that go into choosing a practice location. The following are all the items that go into consideration for practices:

- First, we need enough space for the amount of girls practicing to be able to mimic the spacing required for competition.
- We need a floor with mats to perfect our required tumbling and stunting
- The girls need to focus and not be distracted.
- We are at the mercy of the schools schedules. Any school function or park district function is ahead of us.
- We are currently working with the schools to obtain more indoor practice times
- For insurance purposes, we cannot use private locations for practice. Our insurance does not cover us at someone's home.

As in the past, we are closing competition practices to allow the coaches to have the girls' fullest attention. We cannot allow parents to be in the cafeteria when there is another squad practicing. It isn't fair to the other squad even if they are an older level. We are asking for your cooperation to help these girls get the most from each and every practice to allow them the opportunity to make State and Win! The last 10 minutes of every practice, we would like to invite the parents in to watch the accomplishments of the practice and give the girls and incentive to perform at their best.

Any questions, please email us and we will do our best to assist you.

We are very excited for another great year as our program grows. We hope you are too.

Patriot Cheer Coaches