TRYOUT INFORMATION
Saturday, April 18th - Sunday, April 19th

The following items are the minimum requirements needed for tryout participation:

- Application Form (online submission)
- Application Questions (online submission)
- Medical Release Form
- Copy of Sickle Cell Test Results (*required by the NCAA*)
- Proof of Medical Insurance
- Verification of Enrollment
  - Current CU Students:
    - Unofficial Transcript
  - High School Students:
    - CU Acceptance Letter
      *Contact Head Coach Tori Polsinello if your acceptance is still pending.
- Copy of Current Physical (within the last 12 months)
2020-2021 CLEMSON UNIVERSITY
CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, April 15, 2020
The application form and questions must be submitted by 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 15th. All remaining tryout documents (medical release, sickle cell results, verification of enrollment, copy of physical, and proof of medical insurance) may be turned in during check-in on the first day of tryouts or sent in prior to tryouts. You will not be able to participate if you are missing any paperwork.

Fax
Attn: Tori Polsinello
864-656-1928

Mail
Clemson University Athletics
Attn: Tori Polsinello
PO Box 31
Clemson, SC 29633

Email
torip@clemson.edu

Tentative Tryout Schedule

day 1: Saturday, April 18, 2020
8:00am-9:00am- Check in at the Indoor Football Practice Facility
9:00am- Tryout Overview *Scoresheets will be reviewed at this time*
9:30am- Sideline Review, Tiger Rag Review, Standing Tumbling Warm up
10:00am-1st Round Evaluations/Open Practice for Tiger Rag/Stunting Versatility
12:20pm- Lunch Break/Round 1 Results Emailed
2:00pm- Round 2 Check-in/Stretch
2:15pm- Round 2 Warm up Begins (Running Tumbling/Stunting Versatility/Tuckline)
2:45pm-Round 2 Evaluations/Open Practice for Tiger Rag/Stunt Combination
6:00pm- Check email for Round 2 Results/Interview Times

Day 2: Sunday, April 19, 2020
8:30am- Check-in/Stretch for all Final Round Candidates
8:45am- Final Round Overview and Stunting/Tiger Rag Practice
10:00am- Group Stunting Candidates- Scoring Begins
Coed Stunting Candidates- Break
12:15pm- Group Stunting Candidates Dismissed/Coed Stunting Candidates Warm up
1:00pm- Final Round Scoring Begins for Coed Stunting Candidates

Monday, April 20th: Final Round Results Emailed by 6:00pm
SKILL RECOMMENDATIONS (scores from each round are carried over into the next round):

First Round:
- Standing Tuck/Full
- Jumps to Tuck/Full (1, 2 or 3 jumps to tuck or full)
- Standing 1 or 2 handsprings/specialty to layout or full
- Sideline Chants (motion technique, motion placement, showmanship, voice/projection)

Second Round:
- Running Tumbling Pass (minimum-specialty to layout)
- Tuckline with Poms (down and back)
- Stunting Versatility (all straight pop dismounts)
  - Groups: Toss Liberty, Switch Up Stretch, and Full Up
  - Coed: Toss Extension, Hands Liberty, and Hands Cupie

Final Round:
- Interview (informal-practice attire can be worn)
- Tiger Rag with Tuck and Stunt (with poms)
- Elite Stunting
  - Coed Stunting:
    - Toss or Hands Liberty, Pop Off
    - Hands, Target, or Full up Stretch, turn Aero Single or Double Down
  - Group Stunting:
    - Toss Extension, Low to high Full Around, Pop Off
    - Handstand, Back Handspring or Rewind to Stretch, turn Aero Single or Double Down

PARTNER STUNTS:
It is your responsibility to select your partner/groups during the tryout process. **You may NOT bring your own partner/stunt group to tryouts.**

GAME DAY EMPHASIS:
The primary role of the Clemson Cheerleading Program is to promote crowd involvement at athletic events and appearances. Showmanship, motion technique, and crowd leading ability are important factors in the tryout/selection process.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:
The coaching staff and judges will be looking for well-rounded athletes with a positive attitude, strong work ethic, and strong skill technique during the two days of tryouts. The judging panel is comprised of the coaching staff, alumni program members, and experienced NCA/UCA judges. All returning members must re-tryout every year. The total point distribution is as follows: Interview/Application Questions- 10pts, Tumbling- 70 pts., Stunting- 90 pts., Sidelines/Fight Song- 100 pts.

TRYOUT APPEARANCE:
Clemson University Cheerleaders are expected to present themselves in a professional and collegiate manner at all times. All candidates trying out must wear athletic attire appropriate for a cheerleading tryout:

- **Females:** Orange, purple or white tops are required during tryouts. Natural make up should be worn and hair should be in either a ponytail or half-up, half-down with a bow. Cheer shoes are recommended for stunting purposes. Finger nails must be athletic length (short enough to where you cannot see the tips of the finger nails while the individual’s palms are facing them). Jewelry of any kind is prohibited.
- **Males:** Orange, purple or white t-shirts are required each day of tryouts. Cheer shoes are recommended, but basketball, running, or cross training sneakers are also acceptable. Facial hair should be well-groomed and non-excessive. Jewelry of any kind is prohibited.

**TRYOUT TIPS:**
- Submit your application for enrollment to the University by February 15, 2020.
- Review the recommended tryout skills and work on mastering them.
- Practice stunting with multiple groups/partners.
- Familiarize yourself with Clemson University and Athletic traditions.
- Attend one of our college prep clinics. Clinic attendance is not a tryout requirement, but it is recommended to help candidates become more familiar with tryout skills/expectations.
- Do not underestimate the importance of the game day aspects of tryouts (sideline chant, fight song, etc.).

**TRYOUT FEEDBACK:**
If you would like to set up a meeting to review your scores or receive feedback via email contact Head Coach Tori Polsinello after April 24, 2020. Parents and/or Coaches will not be able to receive feedback or scores of participants who tried out unless written consent from the tryout participant is provided.

**VIDEO TRYOUTS:**
Candidates are highly encouraged to attend the live tryout. Video submissions will be allowed with permission from the Spirit Program Coordinator for extenuating circumstances if the candidate attended a college prep clinic and/or met with the Head Coach prior to tryouts. Contact Tori Polsinello at torip@clemson.edu for permission to submit a video tryout.

**ADDITIONAL TRYOUTS:**
Additional tryouts will only be held if positions are not filled at the spring tryout or if positions become available throughout the year. If a second tryout is needed the details will be posted online at [www.clemsonathletics.com](http://www.clemsonathletics.com).

**LODGING:**
Tryout candidates are responsible for their own lodging during tryouts. The following hotels are located close to campus.

- Courtyard Clemson (Marriott)- (864) 654-8833
- Hampton Inn Clemson- (864) 653-7744
- Comfort Inn- (864) 653-3600
- University Inn and Conference Center- (864) 986-6200
- Holiday Inn and Suites- (864) 654-9410
2020-21
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY CHEERLEADING
General Information

TEAM EXPECTATIONS:
- Uphold and reflect the goals and image of Clemson University.
- Support the Clemson University athletic teams and promote crowd involvement at games and events.
- Serve as an ambassador for the University and Athletic Department.
- Attend all practices, games, workouts, and a select number of community/University events.
- Maintain a positive attitude and strong work ethic.
- Adhere to all academic requirements and team policies.

ELIGIBILITY:
All team members must be full time students. Incoming freshmen and transfer students must provide proof of acceptance. If you are placed on the waiting list, you may try out for a position on the practice team. Current Clemson students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and be free of any academic or disciplinary probation to be eligible to tryout.

SEASON OVERVIEW/PRACTICE SCHEDULE:
April: Tryouts

April-July: Team members are expected to maintain the skills demonstrated at tryouts over the summer and complete various “summer challenges” to display ability level/progress. A game day video will be provided, and all material must be learned before preseason practices begin.

August: Preseason practices begin approximately 1-2 weeks before classes begin. Housing arrangements will be made for all team members.

September-December: Regular season practices begin. Both teams cheer at football, volleyball, and preseason basketball games. Various University, community, and athletic events occur during these months as well (examples: First Friday Parade, Tigerama, Rock the John, etc.).

December-January (Finals/Winter break): Attendance at Men’s and Women’s Basketball games as well as travel to post season football events may be required over winter break. No mandatory practices will be held during finals week.

January-April: Regular season practices continue. One of the weekly evening practices will be used to prepare for basketball games, the other practice will be designated for team members interested in competing at NCA Collegiate Nationals. Travel for post season Men’s and Women’s basketball will take place in March. Team members who choose to compete will be required to return early from spring break and attend all competition practices and fundraisers.

TEAM DESCRIPTIONS:
The All Girl and Coed teams are two teams within one program. The primary difference between the teams is their style of stunting. Both teams follow the same guidelines, require the same time commitment, and perform/practice together frequently. Alternates may be selected for one or both teams at the discretion of the Head Coach.
Clemson All-Girl Cheerleading
The All-Girl team attends all home Football games as well as select Volleyball, Women’s Basketball and Men’s Basketball games. All members are required to represent the spirit program at various University activities, functions, and charitable events. The team practices and attends strength and conditioning workouts 2-3 times a week. The Team consists of 18-24 members.

Clemson Co-ed Cheerleading
The Co-ed team attends all home Football games as well as select Volleyball, Men’s Basketball, and Women’s Basketball games. All members are required to represent the spirit program at various University activities, functions, and charitable events. The team practices and attends strength and conditioning workouts 2-3 times per week. The team consists of 18-24 members.

Alternates/Practice Team
The need for alternates/practice team members will be determined by the coaching staff at tryouts.

All Girl and Coed Team Benefits
The following benefits will be provided to students who are in good standing with the program for the entirety of the season (August-April):

- The opportunity to represent Clemson University at games, events, and in the community.
- Nike Attire (warm-ups, practice t-shirts, shorts, backpacks, and sneakers).
- Travel opportunities for away Football games, Post-season Football games, and Post-season Men’s and Women’s Basketball tournaments.
- Ability to see a nutritionist and have a customized nutritional plan developed.
- Use of the Jervey Strength & Conditioning Facility and a customized training program provided by a Strength Coach.
- Access to Athletics Department team physicians and athletic trainers.
- Access to Academic Support Services.
- Option to compete at NCA College Nationals in April.
- Yearly Athletic Awards (awarded to student-athletes who complete a full year commitment and are in good academic standing):
  - 1st year= Letterman’s Jacket
  - 2nd year= Coasters
  - 3rd year= Watch
  - 4th year= Ring
- Scholarships:
  - 1st year team members= $750
  - 2nd year team members= $1,000
  - 3rd year team members= $1,500
  - 4th year team members= $1,500

TRAVEL:
Travel rosters will be determined by the coaching staff. Skill level, commitment/attitude, stunting position, seniority, and grade point average will be taken into consideration when choosing which team members travel to away and postseason games. Students who are on academic probation and/or do not meet the minimum appearance requirement will not be eligible to travel.
Medical Liability Waiver

I, ___________________________________, hereby desire to try out for the Clemson University Cheerleading Program that will start workouts in August, 2020. This includes all practices, workouts, conditioning, games, drills and strength training that the team participates in.

I fully understand that prior to trying-out, I must provide the following:
   1) Proof of a physical examination within the last six (12) months, and
   2) Results of a Sickle Cell Trait test.

I fully understand and accept that neither Clemson University nor any of its employees can assume responsibility for any injuries that I may receive as a result of trying out for a team, or conditions arising from a pre-existing injury or condition (before coming to Clemson).

If I am selected to join the team, I will receive a physical examination and complete the Clemson University Athletic Department Sports Medicine Forms (including health history and insurance information) for review and clearance to participate.

I know of no physical ailments, injuries, or conditions that would restrict my participation in the Clemson University intercollegiate athletic program.

____________________________________________ (Signature)  ____________________________ (Age)

DATE: _________________________________  WITNESS: ______________________________
DATE OF LAST PHYSICAL: _____________