

# ***Butler High School Cheerleading***

## TRYOUT INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Cheerleading Candidates and Parents,

Thank you for your interest in Butler High School cheerleading! We are excited to begin another year supporting the Butler football and basketball programs. This packet will serve as an overview of our program, as well as outline every step to our tryout process. Please take the time to read all information in this packet.

If you still have questions after reading through the process, please contact the coaches at:

[goldentornadocheer@gmail.com](mailto:goldentornadocheer@gmail.com)

Cheerleading at Butler High School is a fun-filled, yet demanding activity that takes a high level of dedication and commitment from both athletes and parents. We take great pride in coaching our athletes to their absolute highest potential. We coach our young people not only to be outstanding athletes, but more importantly, outstanding men and women. Each student needs to seriously consider the amount of time, hard work, and dedication involved with cheering for Butler before deciding to try out for a team. We look forward to meeting new faces at tryouts!

Be sure to follow our cheer social media accounts for updates:

Facebook: @ButlerTornadoCheer

Instagram: @bhs\_\_cheer

### **What teams are available at Butler High School?**

At Butler, we have 3-4 game squad teams and two competition teams.

- 7th Grade Game Squad
- 8th Grade Game Squad
- Junior Varsity Game Squad (Grades 9-10)
- Varsity Game Squad (Grades 11-12)
  - select underclassmen who make the Varsity Competition team may be eligible to cheer for the Varsity Game Squad team

*\*Depending on the number of athletes that make the 7th and 8th grade teams, they may be combined. This decision is made at the discretion of the coaching staff.\**

- Junior High Competition (Grades 7-9)
- Varsity Competition (Grades 9-12)

*\*Athletes must make a game squad team in order to try out for competition.\**

## Estimated Costs

A more detailed breakdown will be shared once teams have been selected. These are estimates from the 2023-2024 and may vary. New athletes will have a slightly higher cost than returning athletes, as they are purchasing practice clothing/items the returning members may already have.

- 7th Game Squad Only
  - Approximately \$395 (summer camp, athlete dues, etc)
  - Required clothing costs not included
- 8th Game Squad Only
  - Approximately \$395 (summer camp, athlete dues, etc)
  - Required clothing costs not included
- Junior Varsity Game Squad Only
  - Approximately \$395 (summer camp, athlete dues, etc)
  - Required clothing costs not included
- Varsity Game Squad Only
  - Approximately \$290
  - Required clothing costs not included
- Junior High Competition
  - Approximately \$455 (summer camp, competition music, athlete dues, etc).
  - Required clothing costs and competition fees not included
- Varsity Competition
  - Approximately \$1,215 (summer camp, choreography, music, athlete dues, etc)
  - Required clothing costs and competition fees not included

*It is important to note that the Butler Athletic Department supports the team financially for the WPIAL and PIAA State Competition. They do not support any team at the National level in a financial capacity.*

In the 2023-2024 season, the Varsity Competition team's trip to Nationals cost approximately:

- \$8,600 - airline fees
- \$26,300 - competition registration/resort stay/park entry
- \$585 - refillable Disney resort mugs
- \$3,500 - Team Meals (Senior Dinner, Team Dinner, Team Lunch)
- \$1,275 - Mears Transportation to and from airport
  - This used to be included in Varsity registration. That stopped after COVID.

The above funds were all able to be covered through fundraising efforts by the BHSCPA.

## Required Tryout Information Checklist

The following is due by the first tryout material practice on April 22! ***No exceptions.***

- Athlete Interest Form: [form.jotform.com/240647003015039](https://form.jotform.com/240647003015039)
- Parents/Athletes Join the Tryout Band: [band.us/n/aca40bv4l73fk](https://band.us/n/aca40bv4l73fk)

## Team Schedules

Practice schedules will be uploaded/communicated through the Band app. Football and Basketball schedules will be shared to parents/athletes when they become available. They can also be found on <https://goldentornado.org/>.

*Please note that only the Varsity Game Squad team travels to away games. Cheerleaders do not attend scrimmages.*

Cheer camps and choreography are MANDATORY!

7th Grade, 8th Grade, and Junior Varsity Game Squad will be having a one-day summer camp on **TBD**.

Varsity Competition members will be attending Trails End Camp June 12-15. Traditional choreography is August 19-20.

## Tryout Process

Game squad will be held in the Butler Senior High School gymnasium April 26 starting at 3:30pm.

Report times for the athletes are as follows:

Grades 11-12: 3:30pm

Grades 9-10: 4:00pm

Grade 8: 5:30pm

Grade 7: 6:00pm

Athletes must remain on site until their grade level has been dismissed in the event of callbacks. ***Tryouts are CLOSED to parents and friends.***

Tryout material will be posted to [butlercheerleading.com/tryouts](https://butlercheerleading.com/tryouts) no later than Monday, April 22.

## Drop Off/Pick Up:

- Athletes can be dropped off/picked up at the main entrance to the senior high gym.

### **Tryout Dress Code**

- Plain white tank/t-shirt tucked into plain dark shorts. Hair should be pulled back in a clean, slicked ponytail. Your appearance should be polished and professional. Athletes should look game day ready.

### **Announcement of Teams**

- Game squad teams will be posted on the cheer website at the conclusion of game squad tryouts on Friday, April 26. Athletes should look for their assigned tryout number to know if they made a team.
- Competition teams will be posted on the cheer website at the conclusion of competition tryouts on Tuesday, April 30. Athletes will look for their assigned tryout number to know if they made a team (this is the same number as their game squad number)

## Butler High School Cheerleading Guidelines

Further explanation of guidelines is available in the Butler Cheerleading Handbook available at [butlercheerleading.com](http://butlercheerleading.com).

### 01. Purpose

- a. The purpose of a Butler Cheerleader is to promote and uphold school spirit, develop and foster good sportsmanship among students, support the school athletic programs, and improve community relationships during all football, basketball, and competitive cheerleading events.

### 02. Duties and Responsibilities

#### a. Practice

- i. Practices are set by the coaches
- ii. Attendance at practice is mandatory
- iii. Athletes are expected to arrive 15 minutes before the scheduled practice begins to help roll out mats and prepare for practice
- iv. Unexcused absences could result in potential suspension/removal from the team
- v. Game squad athletes receive **3** excuses for practices, as well as a **1 week** vacation excuse.
  1. Excuses cannot be used for work.
- vi. Competition team athletes receive an additional **3** excuses for practices.
  1. Excuses cannot be used for mandatory summer camps/choreography
  2. Excuses cannot be used **TWO WEEKS** prior to a scheduled competition

#### b. Games/Other Scheduled Events

- i. Attendance to all scheduled games is mandatory.
- ii. Being tardy to a game may result in the athlete being sat for the game.
- iii. Athletes should arrive at games wearing the right uniform and ready to go at the scheduled time set forth by their coach
- iv. Failure to wear the correct uniform or bring their assigned items (poms, props, etc) may result in the athlete being sat for the game

#### c. Fundraisers

- i. All members will have the opportunity to participate in group fundraising activities to offset the obligation fees
- ii. All Varsity Competition members are expected to participate in various Varsity Competition fundraising activities organized by the BHSCPA.

1. Parents/Guardians **MUST** be present at the Fall Clinic Game and Home Competition. If unable to attend, the parent/guardian should find a replacement to work the event for them. Failure to attend or have a representative attend will result in their athlete losing an excuse.

**d. Competition**

- i. All competition functions will follow the above attendance guidelines.
- ii. Attendance at competitions is mandatory for all athletes unless approved by the coaches.

**e. Expenditures**

- i. Upon making a team, the parent/guardian of the athlete becomes responsible for his/her incurred fees.
- ii. Payments should be made at the stated deadlines to ensure team expenses can be paid for throughout the season.
- iii. Failure to pay dues may result in the withholding of banquet gifts and make the athlete ineligible to try out the following season. Outstanding dues are turned in to the athletic office at the end of each season

**f. Community Service**

- i. Athletes will participate in various community service projects at the discretion of the coaches. Attendance is mandatory.

**\*\*\*Co-ed Clause:** If a co-ed competition team is selected, male athletes participating in another school activity or sport may be eligible to participate under a modified attendance requirement at the discretion of the coaching staff.\*\*\*

**03.Expected Behaviors and Standards**

- a. Hair must be completely pulled back at all practices and cheering events.
- b. Jewelry is **NOT** to be worn at any practice or competition. Studs are accepted at games at the discretion of the coaches.
- c. Nails should be unpainted or a neutral color for all competitions.
- d. Cell phones may not be used at practices/games.
- e. All members must abide by the Butler High School Cheerleading Handbook and Butler Student Handbook.
- f. Lack of participation due to injury or physical health must be accompanied by a doctor's note. Any injured cheerleader is still required to attend all cheer functions. Extended injury responsibilities are at the discretion of the coaches.
- g. Athletes **MUST** be passing at least four full-credit subjects or the equivalent as of each Friday during the grading period or the previous grading period. If you fail to meet this requirement, you will lose your eligibility from the

following Sunday through the Saturday. You will remain ineligible until you meet this requirement. If it is from the preceding grading period, you will be ineligible for a period of 15 days.

- h. Any behavior unbecoming of a representative of Butler High School may result in suspension or dismissal as determined by the coaches/administration.
- i. Social Media - athletes are expected to represent themselves and the program in a professional manner on social media.

#### **04. Transportation**

- a. It is the responsibility of individual parents and cheerleaders to provide their own transportation (ON TIME) to and from practices, games, and competitions
- b. Athletes are not permitted to drive themselves to competitions. A parent/guardian **must** be present in the vehicle with them if they are driving.

#### **05. Uniforms**

- a. Uniforms are provided by the school district and are property of Butler High School. Any uniforms not returned at the end of the season will result in an obligation being filed through the athletic office.

#### **06. Dismissal and Resignation**

- a. Any dismissals will be at the discretion of the coaches and/or administration.
- b. If a cheerleader is dismissed or resigns from a team at any point in the year, they are still financially liable for all costs incurred and/or committed at that time. This includes any future events where deposits have been made and costs have been divided among other squad members.
- c. If a cheerleader is dismissed or resigns from a team during the season, they are not eligible to try out for any team for one full season.
  - i. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated by the coaches

#### **07. Discipline**

- a. A cheerleader may be asked to come early/stay after practice to run, condition, or clean up for not adhering to certain expected behaviors.



# SCORE SHEET - FEMALES

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ 7th 8th JV Varsity

	# _____	# _____	# _____	# _____
<b>DANCE (15)</b>				
Sharpness (5)				
Motion Placement (5)				
Sync (5)				
<b>CHEER (20)</b>				
Sharpness (5)				
Motion Placement (5)				
Sync (5)				
Voice (5)				
<b>JUMP (5)</b>				
Toe Touch (5)				
<b>TUMBLING (10)</b>				
Standing (5)				
Running (5)				
<b>OVERALL EFFECT (10)</b>				
Appearance (5)				
Overall Impression (5)				
<b>TOTAL POINTS (60)</b>				

Tumbling (Difficulty sets max score)

Standing: Jump Tuck (5), Tuck (4), Handspring (3)

Running: Layout (5), Tuck (4), Handspring (3)

## SCORE SHEET - MALES

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ 7th 8th JV Varsity

	# _____	# _____	# _____	# _____
<b>CHEER (15)</b>				
Meg Work / Motions (5)				
Energy (5)				
Voice (5)				
<b>STUNTING (20)</b>				
Full Group - Technique (5)				
Full Group - Difficulty (5)				
Coed - Technique (5)				
Coed - Difficulty (5)				
<b>TUMBLING (10) *not required</b>				
Standing (5)				
Running (5)				
<b>OVERALL EFFECT (10)</b>				
Appearance (5)				
Overall Impression (5)				
<b>TOTAL POINTS (55)</b>				

Tumbling (Difficulty sets max score)

Standing: Jump Tuck (5), Tuck (4), Handspring (3)

Running: Layout (5), Tuck (4), Handspring (3)