



EAST JERSEY ELITE

ATHLETES & PARENTS,

First and foremost, we would like to thank you for your interest in East Jersey Elite All-Stars. It has taken a community to make this possible and we're grateful to welcome you. This is our fifth year as an All Star cheerleading program. We are grateful that we have the opportunity to train and make a difference in the lives of our youth. We are dedicated to offering a well-structured cheerleading experience that optimizes your child's long-term success. Although our record speaks for itself, we are constantly aiming to raise the bar and provide the best experience possible for your child.

Our mission is to accomplish the following objectives:

- provide children with an opportunity to train in an organized, safety-oriented environment
- encourage the development of long-lasting qualities, such as confidence, resiliency, and leadership
- establish great friendships and respect for the community

We understand that being a part of a competitive cheerleading program can be a large time and financial commitment to the families involved. In this packet, all relevant information is included to ensure communication of such commitments and to help your family decide if East Jersey Elite is right for you. Please take your time and thoroughly read over all the information; if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us directly. At EJE, we are more than cheerleading! Join us for the journey! We are looking forward to a fun and successful season!



PROGRAM INFORMATION

All Star Cheerleading: All Star Cheer is a high energy, team-based, performance sport that is athletic, artistic and acrobatic. It involves athletes competing with a 2 and a 1/2 minute routine composed of tumbling, stunting, pyramids, dance and cheer segments. While some skills are individually developed, such as tumbling or dancing, partner stunts, pyramids and tosses require a great deal of teamwork and routines require synchronization and team uniformity. All Star Cheer differs from traditional school cheer teams in that its primary purpose is competition. Teams are formed based on tiers for every ability level, including Novice, Prep, and Elite tiers. All Star rules are leveled based on progressions of skills commonly performed in cheer and are developmentally appropriate for the age of the competitor. Team levels range from Level 1 to Level 7.

Tiers: There are three different tiers in All Star cheerleading. The Novice tier is for athletes who are new to All Star but ready for performance-based teams that are evaluated at events. Novice teams focus on strengthening technique and performance skills that help prepare athletes for competitive All Star teams. The prep tier is for athletes with limited tumbling who want to strengthen technique and performance skills in a competitive team atmosphere. Prep teams typically require less time and cost commitments than are required of All Star Elite teams. The Elite tier is for athletes with strong cheer training and solid technical ability. Elite teams are comprised of athletes who are ready for highly competitive performance levels.

Levels: It is important that athletes do not expect to move up a level each year. Athletes must perform with the level that best represents their mastery of skills. Performing a skill is not the same as mastering a skill. Athletes who are able to master all skills at their current level will be more prepared to advance to the next level in the future. Cheerleading is a marathon, not a race; there should be pride in perfection before progression as this methodology is the safest and fastest way to progress. East Jersey Elite reserves the right to change, both, an athlete's team, as well as a team's competition level at any moment. It is imperative that athletes maintain their skills for the entire season. An athlete may be moved to a different team at any point in the season if the athlete is no longer able to complete a skill they had in the beginning of the season. Please note that there are no refunds when any of these situations occur.

Team Placement: Team placement will not be finalized until September 2022. Team placement is based on team needs and the current USASF and Varsity scoring grids. EJE Staff will not discuss another athlete's placement, situation, etc. It is our priority to make our teams as cohesive and competitive as possible. As always, we will make sure all of our teams are prepared for their division. Thank you for always believing in us!



ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

Athlete Position: Being a member of East Jersey Elite means that your child is able to train and compete. Performing is the only “spot” guaranteed to your athlete. Not all athletes will be involved in the jumps, stunting sequences, and tumbling passes. Even if your child has a skill that is in the routine, it does NOT mean that your child is guaranteed to perform that skill. EJE only competes a certain number of skills per team based on Varsity guidelines. Your child’s coaches will make the best decisions for the team. The cost of the season does not fluctuate based on your child’s position or what is done at practice. Practices consist of stretching, conditioning, jumping, dancing, tumbling, and stunting. All of these categories are reflected on the scoresheet and are equally as important.

EAST JERSEY ELITE retains the right to:

1. Place its athletes on the team(s) it feels will best suit the athletes and the program.
2. Decide the roles and/or positions an athlete will have/play on their team.
3. Move, replace, add, suspend, or even dismiss an athlete for a period of time or indefinitely from a team or the entire program based on criteria including but not limited to attendance, lateness, conduct, skills, finances, athlete conflicts, parent conflicts, etc.
4. Replace an athlete in any part of the routine (at any time) in order to benefit the team at any time.
5. Replace a flyer that loses their stretches. Flyers must be able to pull all body positions.
6. Add athletes (from outside/inside of the program) to the routine (in any position) at any point.
7. Move an athlete to a higher or lower level team.
8. Change a teams level or division if necessary.

Physical/Mental Readiness: Athletes need to be able to physically and mentally perform all aspects of competitive cheerleading. This may require additional privates, classes, conditioning and/or practices.





Routine Changes: Parents will not be notified of changes in the routine. It is highly likely that your child's spot in the routine will change many times throughout the season. This is normal and expected. All spots in the routine are important. Coaches make their decisions with the best interest of the team in mind. This is competitive cheerleading. When you are signing up for East Jersey Elite you are entrusting that your child's coaches have the expertise necessary for the team to excel. Please trust the process and understand that the needs of the program and team will always be put above the wants of a single athlete. With that being said, do not direct any questions about your child's placement or position to any staff members. If you have any questions, please email Info@EastJerseyElite.com.

Clothing Expectations: Athletes are required to wear their practice attire to every practice and tumbling class. It is the athlete/parents' responsibility to make sure that all practice wear is washed before practice. If an athlete has long nails they will not be able to practice.

Sneaker Expectations: Cheerleading sneakers are required at every practice and competition. We recommend nfinitys (and have a sizing kit in the gym). However, athletes are free to purchase any white cheer sneaker of their choosing. If an athlete comes to practice without sneakers, they will not be able to practice. Cheerleading sneakers with holes in them are a safety hazard. Athletes with holes in their sneakers will be required to purchase a new pair.

Hygiene Expectations: Athletes are expected to maintain proper hygiene at all practices and competitions. Please make sure that your athlete is showering and brushing their teeth properly. If an athlete has long nails they will not be able to practice.

Jewelry & Electronics: Jewelry is not allowed to be worn at practice. EJE is not responsible for any jewelry that is lost or stolen. EJE is also not responsible for electronics or any personal belongings. Coaches will NOT hold onto electronics or jewelry for athletes. Please bring these objects at your own discretion.

Athlete Social Media: Athletes may be removed or suspended due to inappropriate conduct posted on their social media accounts. Athletes should always refrain from negatively speaking about other athletes and other programs on social media. Your child's social media account can affect their program membership.



Water: All athletes must bring water. If your athlete does not have water, please send them with \$1 so that they may purchase water from the vending machine. If your child does not bring water or \$1, they will be supplied with water from our front desk staff. Your account will be charged \$2 if this happens. Athletes will never be denied water.

Athlete Skill Maintenance: Athletes are expected to maintain the skills that placed them onto their team and level. We understand that athletes will have struggles with skills and this is part of the learning process. To keep our teams competitive and our athletes safe and progressing, we will adhere to the following policy:

- If an athlete loses a skill performed at evaluations/placements, there will be communication directly from the coach to the parent/guardian and gym owner immediately.

- The athlete will be required to immediately take one additional tumbling class and/or private lesson per week until the skill is regained.

- If after 30 days (or four weeks before a competition) the athlete is not completing the skill, EJE staff will determine if it is in the best interest of the athlete and the team to move the athlete to a different team.

CROSSOVERS

Being a crossover is a prestigious title at EJE. Being a crossover is great for athletes who are at different levels when it comes to their tumbling and stunting ability. Being a crossover is also a option for athletes who may be on an older team due to their skill level but would like to also be with their peers who are closer in age.

Crossover Fees: Crossover athletes are only charged for their additional competition fees - there is no charge for all of the extra training! However, crossover athletes are responsible for all end of season events. End of season events are not included in the \$65 monthly fee.

Crossover Apparel: Crossover athletes are required to wear the correct gear to every practice. Crossover athletes (as well as all athletes) have the option to purchase additional practice wear sets.



ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance Expectations: Athletes are required to attend every practice. All practices are mandatory. Please make sure your child arrives ten minutes before practice starts. Please make sure that you are on time picking up your child after practice.

Additional Practices: Additional practices will be added throughout the season. Additional practices will be added by email. There are no extra fees when additional practices are added. Likewise, fees are not changed when practice is canceled. Coaches do their best to give two weeks' notice for all practices. However, sometimes situations beyond our coaches control happen and last-minute practices need to be scheduled. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Homework/Parties/Other Activities: Homework is not a reason to miss practice. It is your responsibility to help your child manage their schoolwork and commitment to their team. Birthday parties and other family parties are not an acceptable excuse for missing practice. If your child is on an Elite tier team, it is highly suggested that your athlete does not participate in any other activity other than EJE. We have a demanding schedule. Our schedule is subject to change at any time and we do not accommodate other activities and practices (even if it is a last-minute practice). Please also note that punishing your child by missing practice or a competition is not acceptable.

Missed Practices: Please notify your coaches as soon as you are aware you might have an absence or conflict. Absences such as part time jobs, dances, concerts, banquets, long-distance driving, family reunions, weddings, recitals, school/church socials, etc. are considered unexcused. An unexcused absence may result in the athlete being moved to an alternate position or being pulled from an upcoming performance, at the discretion of the staff. It is the responsibility of the athlete to learn any changes prior to practices. Absences are not allowed two weeks prior to a competition. If an athlete is absent within two weeks of an event, the athlete may not be able to compete at that event. If this happens no refunds will be given.



CLOSURES	DATES (Subject to Change)
Summer Break	July 4th - July 8th
Back to School Break	August 29th - September 2nd
Thanksgiving Break	November 23rd– November 25th
Winter Break	December 23rd– December 27th



Injuries/Vacations: We understand that family time is important. However, you are making a time commitment to East Jersey Elite. When your athlete is not at practice the entire team is affected. Please do your best to schedule all vacations during our scheduled breaks/prior to competition season. If an athlete is not at practice the week before competition (due to injury or vacation) they may not be eligible to compete. We understand that there will be extenuating circumstances and those will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If your child has a fever or any flu/covid symptoms, it is required that your child stays home. Please see our Safety Policies and Procedures (located on our website) for more information.



PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Parent Conduct: Parents are expected to maintain professional conduct at all times. Parents are expected to be a strong representative of East Jersey Elite and must be a positive reflection of their team and program. Abusive behavior, lying, or any other form of negative behavior by a parent or athlete is grounds for removal of their athlete from their team. Any parent threatening to pull their child from their team will be dismissed from the program immediately.

Parents In the Gym: We ask that all parents park their car and drop their child off at the front door before practice. We also ask that parents do the same when picking up their child. If you need to schedule an appointment to come in and speak to EJE staff, you may email Info@EastJerseyElite.com. It is imperative that you pick your child up on time. Please call the gym at 201-339-3931 if you will be late to pick up your child. We do understand that emergencies happen. However, please do your best to make sure lateness does not become a habit.

Parent Social Media: Many people communicate with other parents, cheerleaders, and members of other organizations through email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and message boards. Please remember that anything you say is a direct reflection on EJE. If an athlete or parent is found communicating negatively, or sending rude or inappropriate messages, they will be subject to immediate removal from the program. This means that parent misconduct can result in the removal of the athlete from the program. Please do not post any Elite cheerleading music, videos, or routines of any sort on Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube unless given permission. If you share any sensitive information about the program you will be dismissed from the program.



Use of EJE Name & Logo: The use of the East Jersey Elite All-Star name, icon, and logo is limited to East Jersey Elite only. Our logo is copyrighted. Any athlete or parent who creates his or her own apparel with our name, logo, or team logos will face appropriate repercussions. This is also true for national attire.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Season Cost: The cost of the season can be broken down into one, two, six, or twelve payments. The season is not prorated if an athlete joins late (please see "Misc." below for more information). There are not any discounts for paying for the season in full. The cost of the season includes training, tumbling, practice wear, insurance, music fees, practice scrunchies, competition hair pieces, coaches' fees, and other miscellaneous expenses. All of these fees are non-refundable. Uniform, choreography/guest coaching fees, sneakers, warmups, and USASF fees are not included (these are also nonrefundable). Tuition holds an athlete's spot on a team. Therefore, installments do not change whether or not an athlete is injured or on vacation (despite the length of the vacation/time out from the injury). Please be aware that an athlete's account has to be up to date in order to receive any additional items, such as extra apparel. East Jersey Elite offers many fundraisers throughout the season. Your athlete will receive their fundraising profit to their individual account. You are not required to participate in any fundraisers. You are able to choose how much or how little you participate.

Tumbling: All athletes (except prep, novice, and expo.) will have group tumbling this season. This means tumbling will take place during an additional time. This will make it easier for all elite athletes to focus on their tumbling goals. Our other tier teams will continue to have team tumbling. Any athlete who wishes to advance their tumbling further is encouraged to take additional classes - we strongly encourage our prep, novice, and expo. athletes to take an additional class each week. Athletes are only permitted to take tumbling classes and private lessons at EJE. We have a specific way of teaching tumbling and it is imperative for our athletes to have proper progressions. However, athletes are permitted to attend open gym sessions at other gyms.



Misc.: The cost of the season will not be prorated under any circumstance including injury or vacation. Tuition does not fluctuate based on the number or duration of practices each month. Tuition does not fluctuate based on what is done at practice or where practice is held. Athletes who join at any point in the season are responsible for all installments plus all additional fees. Athletes who join after evaluations may have higher costs on items such as their uniform and practice wear since they will not be part of our bulk pricing.

Uniform: All athletes will be required to purchase their own uniform. This will be your uniform that you own. At EJE we wear the same uniform for three seasons. This is the second year of our uniform cycle. We encourage athletes to purchase a size that they will be able to get more than one season from. Athletes need cheerleading sneakers to practice/compete. This is not included in your athlete payments. If any athlete has a hole in their sneaker they will be required to purchase a new pair immediately.



Insurance: East Jersey Elite is your child's secondary insurance – not their primary insurance. Athletes MUST have insurance to participate in East Jersey Elite activities. It is against the law in NJ for children to not have health insurance. Any medical care that an athlete may need as a result from East Jersey elite activities will be an out of pocket expense for athletes who do not have insurance - or for athletes who lose their insurance.

Payments: All athletes will be required to have a credit/debit card on file on their EJE GoMotion account. The card will automatically be charged on the first of the month (unless otherwise stated). The charge date is program wide and cannot be changed. If you would like to pay before your card is charged, you must pay prior to the first of every month. You are permitted to pay using cash, check, or money order. If payment is not received by the 5th of every month, you will receive a \$25 late fee. The card will be processed again automatically once the late fee is applied. There are processing fees for all payments (\$3.9% + \$0.30). Any athletes with an outstanding balance after the 5th of the month will not be allowed to participate in practice. You will be called if your child is required to sit out. Athletes will not be reimbursed for missed practice time if they have to sit out due to late payments. There will only be one point of contact for athlete's payments. It is your responsibility to make sure your account is up to date at all times.

Declined Payments: If your card on file declines once, you will be required to put your ACH on file in GoMotion. If for any reason you are unable to provide an ACH you will be required to pre-pay a month in advance for the remainder of the season.

Siblings: Families with more than one athlete in the East Jersey Elite cheerleading program receive a 12% discount on their installments. There is no discount for the following fees: choreography, uniform, USASF fee, and end of season events.

Tuition Increase: Please note that last year we dropped prices due to the uncertainty of the pandemic. Prior to last year, the monthly tuition for an Elite level athlete was \$275/mo. With rapid inflation and all other factors considered, such as attending an additional Varsity event, we have arrived at this years pricing. Also note, that this year an optional weekly tumbling or jump/conditioning class will be included in your tuition; this class will be formatted to focus on progression of new skills. Crossovers will have access to one class.

New Athletes: Athletes who are new to the EJE family have additional apparel fees. Please see the chart below.

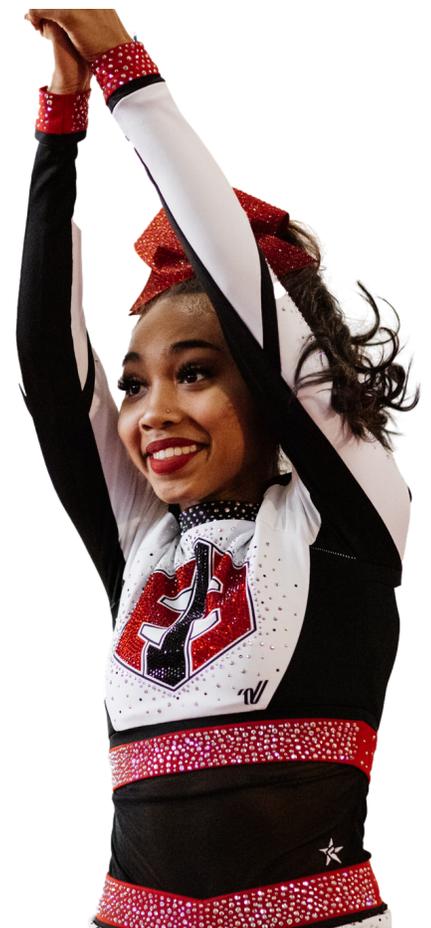
NEW ATHLETES ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS: :

FEES	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Uniform	\$250*/\$525**	7/15
Warmup Jacket	\$50	9/15

These fees are in addition to the fees on the next page.

**Expo, Novice, & Prep Uniform - \$250*

***Elite Uniform - \$525*



EXPO/NOVICE TIER:

FEES	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Installments (12 Total)	\$165	1st of Month (June*-May)
Choreography	\$100	8/15
USASF Fee	\$49	9/15 (Paid to USASF)

* June tuition is due 6/15.

PREP TIER:

FEES	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Installments (12 Total)	\$195	1st of Month (June*-May)
Choreography	\$100	8/15
USASF Fee	\$49	9/15 (Paid to USASF)

* June tuition is due 6/15.

ELITE TIER:

FEES	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Installments (12 Total)	\$295	1st of Month (June*-May)
Choreography & Guest Coaching	\$200	8/15
USASF FEE	\$49	9/15 (Paid to USASF)

Crossover Fees: \$65 Per Month (June 2022 - May 2023)

* June tuition is due 6/15.

COMPETITION INFORMATION

General Competition Information: East Jersey Elite will attend local and national competitions throughout the season. EJE values all competition opportunities-whether a local or away event.

Athlete Competition Preparedness: Athletes are required to arrive to every competition with their hair and makeup completely done. Athletes will not be permitted to do their hair and makeup at the venue. Athletes will be expected to stay in their full uniform during the entire event. EJE shirts, and other spirit attire are NOT allowed to be worn over an athlete's uniform. Athletes are not permitted to take their bow out or change out of their sneakers until they leave the venue. Athletes who arrive early or stay late are expected to stay in their full uniform for the entire event.

Missed Competitions: Athletes who miss a local competition (without prior approval) for an unexcused reason will be fined \$250. Athletes will not be permitted to attend practice until all fines are paid. Athletes who miss a national event for an unexcused reason will be removed from the team.

Late Competition Arrival: Athletes must be on time for all competitions. It is unfair to athletes, coaches, and parents when an athlete is late. Any athlete who arrives more than 15 minutes after the team arrival will be fined. Athletes will not be permitted to attend practice until all fines are paid. Please note that we do understand emergencies happen as well as car trouble, weather, etc. and this will also be taken into consideration.

1st Day/Event: \$50 Fine

2nd Day/Event: \$100 Fine

3rd Day/Event: \$200 Fine

Possible Removal from Program

Traveling: There will be competitions throughout the season that will require athletes and parents to miss school/work. When informed of the travel schedule, coaches will explain departure dates and arrival times. It is expected that these dates and times are adhered to and all athletes are at practices prior to major competitions. Athletes and parents must be willing to make this commitment in order to cheer at East Jersey Elite.



Events Not Included: End of the Season events such as the D2 Summit, U.S. Finals, and the Regional Summit are not included in pricing. NCA is also not included in pricing. This means that any athletes attending these events will be responsible for their fees, coaches fees, and crossover fees (if the athlete is a crossover). You will receive more information on these events as we receive them. Please note that travel expenses such as athlete travel and hotel room are NOT included in pricing. Parents are responsible for booking all travel expenses for themselves and their athlete. There are some weeks in the schedule on the next page that say "TBD" - we are waiting for small local competitions (such as high school competitions) to become available for these dates. In the event that we must add a bigger event (Varsity, Spirit Brands, etc.), athletes will be responsible for these fees. If one of these larger event have to be added it would be an event that is only one day and within driving distance.

Competition Officials: At no time are athletes or parents allowed to speak to any judge, official, event producer, or any other competition official for any reason.

Traveling: Elite tier athletes will be attending several overnight events. Prep athletes will be attending one overnight National. Novice and Expo athletes will attend only 1-Day events. You will receive competition schedule updates throughout the season. All competitions will be in driving distance unless otherwise stated. If your child's team receives a D2 Summit bid you will be required to travel to the D2 Summit. This trip may be added within 21 days of the event.

Sportsmanship: All EJE athletes and parents are expected to be respectful of everyone. All athletes must accept team placements with dignity and class. Athletes must refrain from celebrating the misfortune or defeat of another person, team, or program. Athletes are expected to cheer on all EJE teams and celebrate the accomplishments of the entire program. At EJE, all athletes support one another!





MORE THAN CHEERLEADING!

Join us for the journey!

