



YOU'RE INVITED TO BE A PART OF OUR FAMILY

The sport of all star cheerleading requires a commitment from both parent and athlete. All families that seek participation in the GymTyme Illinois all star program should understand that **athletes are evaluated for the program, not a specific team**. GTIL places athletes on the team(s) wherein the athlete's abilities will best benefit the team and program as a whole.

Each athlete at GymTyme Illinois is entitled to the full support and encouragement from the entire GTIL family at large. We expect our members to represent the gym with class, good sportsmanship and responsibility. Any athlete or parent that does not abide by gym rules and regulations, is consistently negative, or acts in a manner that jeopardizes the name and/or reputation of the GymTyme brand, will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by management, and may include program dismissal without refund.

Our success through the years is due, in large part, to an unwavering dedication by everyone involved. In return, GymTyme Illinois is committed to providing:

- a safe and positive training environment for our athletes and coaches
- a family-friendly atmosphere for all who visit our facility
- accurate and timely communications from management
- fair business practices with regard to delivering full program value

GETTING READY FOR SEASON 11 (2025-26)

PRE-SEASON INFO SESSIONS will be scheduled each evening during clinic week May 12-16. Details will be posted on our website and social media on or about May 1.

PRE-SEASON CLINICS will be offered May 12-16. Please check our website and social media channels for information on or about May 1. Clinics are open to all athletes. You do not have to be on a team, or intend to be on a team, to take advantage of this skills training.

ELITE EVALUATION GROUPS begin Monday, May 19 and run through Friday, May 30. Information and pricing is provided on pages 2 and 5 of this packet. ***All athletes interested in Full-Season Full-Travel Elite team placement must enroll in an evaluation group.*** Online registration will be available on or before May 1.

- **TEAM PLACEMENT** and practice schedules will be announced on Saturday, May 31 by 5 pm.
- **PARENT ORIENTATION** held Sunday, June 1 — Level 1-3 @ 11 am; Level 4-6 @ 1 pm
- **SIGNING WEEK** begins on Monday, June 2. Contract/policy acceptance and first tuition/fees installment due by your first practice.

PREP EVALUATIONS June 23. SEE PAGE 6 for details

TINY NOVICE PROGRAM begins August 4. SEE PAGE 6 for details

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

ELITE TEAM PLACEMENT

EVALUATING SKILLS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEASON – ELITE TEAMS

We want every athlete to have the opportunity to showcase their strength, confidence and technique for team placement. That's why we evaluate elite team athletes for a full 8 hours before forming teams. We understand that nerves and adrenaline can impact the way an athlete performs. It is our goal to create a stress-free and injury-free evaluation process so that all athletes can show us their very best. "Elite Evaluation Groups" allow our staff to spend ample time with your child prior to team formation which ensures level appropriate placement that translates to a successful season for all.

Athletes should review evaluation routines posted on our YouTube channel (links can be found on our Instagram page. These videos showcase the minimum skill and technique required at each level.

ELITE EVALUATION GROUPS MAY 19 - 30

Evaluation groups provide the safest and most accurate way for our staff to assess athlete abilities. We firmly believe it is less stressful on athletes when they are allowed more time to show their skills.

Athletes seeking placement on a full-season, full-travel elite team MUST be enrolled in a group.

- Online registration begins on or about May 1.
- Registration is by level and age (for example Level 3; ages 12-18). Athletes should enroll in the level group s/he competed in the 2024-25 season.
- **Groups will meet for two 2-hour sessions each week for a total of 8 hours of evaluation time.**
Sessions are M/W/F or T/Th @ 5:30-7:30 or 7:30-9:30 pm
Week One = M/W or T/Th; Week Two = T/Th or W/F
- Coaches will closely evaluate athletes during Week One and may reassign their group for Week Two.
- Evaluations will focus on technique-driven warmup drills, jumps, tumbling, stunting and choreography.
- There is no penalty should an athlete miss any day during evaluations, however placement will be based on the skills performed while in attendance.
- Athletes may be moved to a different group during evaluations if coaches want to evaluate at multiple levels or with another age group.

TEAM PLACEMENT — MAY 31

- Athlete placement will be based on the strength and technique of skills at the time of team formation.
- The majority of athletes will be placed according to their group level. Exceptions may be made when placing crossovers, athletes with unique skill sets, or athletes who have aged out of a division.
- Team placement is never final. Athletes who regress or advance skill performance may be moved to another team at any time during the season.
- Athletes who wish to have their placement reevaluated may contact the director and an individual skills assessment will take place. A \$50 reevaluation fee will be due.
- Athletes that have not attended an evaluation group may request an individual evaluation (\$150 fee).
- Once rosters are finalized, practice time will be used to work on elements of the routine and nurture team development. There will be minimal time within team practice to advance tumbling skills.
- Team tumbling will focus on technique and team synchronization. Some skill advancement does occur, however athletes are encouraged (but are not required) to supplement their training with additional classes or private lessons.

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

ELITE TEAM PROGRAM

FEATURES AND AGE ELIGIBILITY

GymTyme Illinois offers athletes of all ages and abilities the opportunity to grow and develop under the supervision of professionally trained coaches. We provide a safe and positive training environment celebrating your child's success at every stage of training. In addition to achieving the skill and confidence to perform at the highest level of competition, athletes will build strength of character through valuable lessons in self-discipline, resiliency, teamwork and commitment.

Teams compete in specific divisions according to age and skill. Our elite program travels to national events throughout the U.S. We begin training in late May to early June in preparation for the competitive season which typically runs November through March. Elite teams will compete for "post-season" bids to compete at our industry's most prestigious invite-only events that take place in late April and early May. **Post season events are not elective.**

The following is a general overview of our ELITE team program. See page 6 for PREP and NOVICE details.

DIVISION	LEVEL	BIRTH YEAR / AGE	WEEKLY PRACTICES HOURS ¹	WEEKLY TEAM TUMBLE	EVENTS PER SEASON	TRAVEL EVENTS	OPEN GYM ²	POST SEASON (APRIL-MAY) EVENTS
Mini ³	1-2	2016 - 2019 Age 7-9	Two 2-hour weeknight practices June - March plus one 2-hour Sunday practice Sept - March <i>(extra practices may be scheduled in response to weather disruption, athlete injury, illness, or general team needs)</i>	1 hour <i>(takes place before or after team practice)</i>	5-7	4	FREE	US Finals and/or Regional Summit
Youth	1 - 5	2013 - 2018 Age 8-12			6-8	3-5	FREE	US Finals Yth Summit – Tampa
Youth Flex	1-5	2012 - 2020 Age 6-13						US Finals and/or Summit – Orlando U16 Jr- Sr Levels 1-5 Junior Level 6 ----- Worlds – Orlando Senior Level 6
Junior	1 - 6	2010 - 2017 Age 9-15						
Junior Flex	1-6	2009 - 2019 Age 7-16						
U16	1-4	2009-2014 Age 12-16						
Senior	1-5 6	6/1/06 - 2013 6/1/06 - 2012 Age 13-18						
U18	1-4	2007-2012 Age 14-18						US Finals and/or Summit – Orlando

Teams may attend other post-season events (US Finals, Regional Summit) if a bid is earned.

¹ Table provided is the standard program model. We will attempt to deliver all practice hours promised. Teams may meet for makeup practices in the event of an unexpected closure. We may also modify the number and/or location of competitive opportunities based on team readiness.

² We typically offer four open gym hours per week.

³ Tiny/Mini elite teams will only be formed if there are enough athletes with level appropriate mastery of skills to be successful.

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

TEAM FORMATION

SOME ADDITIONAL DETAILS

GymTyme Illinois does not promise that specific teams will be developed. We start with a clean slate each season. Teams are developed based on the total talent pool that is present during the evaluation period. From beginner to the most experienced athlete, we consider the skills of each child that comes to us for placement and design teams so that everyone has the opportunity to participate and succeed.

When placing athletes, we consider:

- Tumbling that can be performed with “no drivers lost” ... near perfect execution
- Stunting ability
- Jump execution
- Dance/performance ability
- Leadership abilities, positive character traits, attendance/commitment level

Some placement scenarios:

- An athlete is well-rounded and makes the level where they have every tumbling skill. S/he brings strength in all the areas listed above.
- An athlete is missing a tumbling skill or two, but brings value to their assigned team in all other categories listed above.
- An athlete is placed below their mastered tumbling level. S/he’s got the tumbling down, but still has improvements to be made in some or all of the other skill categories.
- An athlete has little to no tumbling for the level they make, but is a standout athlete in one or more of the other skill categories. These skills will make a notable contribution to the team’s score sheet.

Crossover policies:

- Athletes are first and foremost a rostered member of their primary team.
- Athletes must attend all practices of both their primary and secondary team.
- Crossovers do not pay additional tuition, but are responsible for the competition/apparel/travel fees for each team.
- Level and division restrictions may apply.
- Crossover accounts must maintain good standing

Flyers:

- All team flyers are required to enroll in a discounted stretch class each week during the regular season. Additional flyer camps/clinics specific to extended body positions and baskets may also be scheduled.

Please remember that we consider each athlete’s strengths (and weaknesses) when forming teams each season. Our coaches are expert at grouping athlete talent and setting your child up for a successful season. We ask that you trust in our ability to place everyone on a GreaT team.

ELITE SKILLS CAMPS & CHOREOGRAPHY

Our elite team program includes mandatory specialty camps for routine choreography (dance, transitions) and building skills (stunts, baskets, pyramid). These camps may or may not coincide with your regular team practices and may occur in the morning or afternoon (summer and weekends only). *Dates are provided on page 7. Teams are scheduled for 1-2 sessions during choreo/camp dates (not every day).*

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

FULL SEASON ELITE

2025-26 COMPETITIVE SEASON — MINI, YOUTH, JUNIOR, SENIOR, WORLDS

GymTyme Illinois strives to publish upfront pricing with no hidden fees. We understand that you are making a significant financial commitment and deserve transparency and the ability to manage the cost of participation. If we are required to temporarily close, events are unexpectedly canceled, or other situations arise that are beyond our control, we promise to fairly prorate costs and attempt to deliver expected program value.

Program Costs (itemized)		Monthly Payment Plan ^{1,5}		Regular Season	Additional Fees ³
Elite Evaluation Groups	\$150	MAY 1-16	Elite Evaluation Signup	\$150	
(includes \$50 annual registration fee)		JUN 3-6	Tuition & Fees ²	\$580	
Annual Tuition: June-March (250 training hours)	\$2750	JUN-15	Uniform ³		\$575
Fees: Competitions (registration, event fee, meet rooms)	\$1650	JUL-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Fees: Coaches Travel (hotels, airfare, meals)	\$500	AUG-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Fees: Skills/Choreo Camps (4)	\$250	SEP-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Fees: Music	\$175	SEP-15	USASF Member Fee		\$49
Fees: Shoes/CompBow/Program Tshirt	\$175	OCT-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Fees: Practice/Gift Apparel	\$300	NOV-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
TOTAL REGULAR SEASON (May-March)	\$5,950	DEC-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
		JAN-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Additional Fees (USASF, Uniform, Post Season)		FEB-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
Uniform, if needed (Jun. 15)	\$575	MAR-1	Tuition & Fees	\$580	
USASF Member Fee (Sept. 15)	\$49	APR-1	Worlds or Summit ⁴		\$580
Summit - Midwest, Youth teams (April 1) ⁴	TBD				
Worlds/Summit - Orlando, Jr/Sr teams (April 1) ⁴	\$580				
		TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM		\$5,950	+ \$49 - \$1,155

MINI elite team (if formed) will have a modified tuition and fee structure based on events/competitions.

Not included above: spectator fees, personal travel expenses, optional pro shop purchases, optional class tuition. Pay-in-full and sibling discount available. Fundraising is also available. All team athletes receive discounted class tuition for supplemental training.

¹All payments are non-refundable. If you wish to leave the program, you must notify management via email. The last day to drop from the program without penalty is June 15. Athletes who drop June 16 through Sept 1 will be charged a \$250 drop fee. Athletes who drop Sept. 2 or later are charged a \$500 drop fee. All apparel on order and not received at the time of drop is forfeited to the gym. Athletes who experience a short-term injury but wish to return to their team must continue to make full installments to hold their "spot." Athletes who suffer a long-term (season- or career-ending) injury will be refunded any portion of the program not received. A doctor's note is required. ²Regular season tuition and fees are divided equally over 10 months June-March. Two line items will be charged each month on your account: \$275 for tuition and \$305 for fees. Fees include competition registration, coaches travel, camps, choreo, music, and apparel. ³ Additional fees will be charged on the date indicated if applicable. Athletes that already own a uniform will not be charged. Only athletes attending a post season event will be charged in April. USASF member fee is paid directly to that organization. ⁴You may NOT "opt out" of Post Season events: Listed price covers tuition, apparel package, routine choreography upgrades, and coaches fees to be paid to GTIL. Additional event registration fees may be due based on bid designation (Paid, At Large) and will be paid directly to the event producer. GTIL does not accept wildcard bids. ⁵As of June 1, 2023, all electronic payments will incur a 3.5% processing fee.

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

PREP/NOVICE LIMITED TRAVEL

2025-26 COMPETITIVE SEASON

The **TINY NOVICE** program is designed to introduce smaller athletes to big sport of All Star cheer. The only prerequisites are the ability to listen, a willingness to work hard, and a desire to have fun. Athletes will learn the fundamentals of performance cheerleading and showcase their routine at competition for judges feedback. Novice teams are not ranked against one another.

The **PREP** program is designed for athletes who have some knowledge of cheer or general athletic abilities. Prep teams are the perfect “bridge” program for families that are new to the sport or are not yet ready to commit to the travel and expense of an Elite team. While Prep athletes practice and compete fewer days, they still benefit from the same certified coaching and skills training as our full season Elite program. Athletes can return to the program each season or they may use the experience to transition to our Elite program.

MINI - JUNIOR PREP: AGES 7-15

Evaluations June 24; Practices begin July 7

Tuition	\$1650
<i>Two, 2-hour practices per week / 150 training hours per season</i>	
Annual Registration Fee	\$50
Competition Registration	\$675
Coaches Travel Fees	\$250
Music/Choreo	\$125
Uniform ¹ Shoes & Bow	\$350
Practice Apparel	\$150

TOTAL REG. SEASON (Jun-March) \$3,250

PAY PLAN

\$50 at evaluations (June 23)

\$200 July (first practice)

\$375/mo (Aug-March)

USASF Member Fee (Sept. 15)	\$49
-----------------------------	------

Post Season event if attending (April 1)*	TBD
---	-----

**Additional tuition and coaches fee will be charged.
Bid status will determine the competition fee, if any.*

TINY NOVICE: AGES 4-7

Begins August 4

Tuition	\$1000
<i>One practice/week in Aug; Two practices/week Sept-March; Approximately 95 training hours per season</i>	
Annual Registration Fee	\$50
Competition Registration	\$375
Coaches Travel Fees	\$125
Music/Choreo	\$100
Uniform ¹ Shoes & Bow	\$350
Practice Apparel	\$125

TOTAL REG. SEASON (Jun-March) \$2,125

PAY PLAN

\$130 at signup (August)

\$285/mo (Sept-March)

USASF Member Fee (Nov. 15)	\$49
----------------------------	------

An optional tumbling option (30 minutes after each practice) will be available for \$40/month Sept. - March.

¹Athletes who already own their uniform will receive a \$75 monthly deduction in fees Jan. - March.

See page 8 for a listing of competitions for the above divisions.

Not included above: spectator fees, personal travel expenses, optional pro shop purchases, optional class tuition. Pay-in-full and sibling discount available. Fundraising is also available. All team athletes receive discounted class tuition for supplemental training.

GYMTIME ILLINOIS

IMPORTANT DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAY 12 - 16	Pre Season Clinics, Open Gym and Parent Info Sessions — registration begins May 1
MAY 19 - 30	Elite Evaluation Groups — registration May 1-16 <i>All athletes who wish to be placed on a full season ELITE team MUST enroll</i>
MAY 31	Elite Team Placement Announced
JUN 1	Parent Orientation (Levels 1-3 @ 11 am; Levels 4-6 @ 1 pm)
JUN 2-5	Elite Signing Week — team registration and annual contracts due; team practices begin
JUN 4 & 5	Uniform Sizing (on your practice night)
JUN 24	Prep Team Evaluations — registration begins Jun 9; practices begin July 7
JUN 29 - JUL 2	Elite Stunt Camp with Ray Jasper — mandatory attendance ²
JUL 3 - 6	Summer Break — NO PRACTICES
JUL 7-15	Elite Routine Choreography with Wes Haley — mandatory attendance ¹
AUG 4	Tiny Novice Begins — signup begins July 14
AUG 8-10	Elite Pyramid Camp with GT Coaches — mandatory attendance ¹
SEP 1	Labor Day — NO PRACTICES
SEP 2	In-Season Practices Begin
SEP 7	SUNDAY PRACTICES BEGIN (elite teams only)
SEP 14	Family Day — join us for an informal visit during your athlete's practice
SEP 28 - OCT 5	Elite Dance Choreography with Wes Haley — mandatory attendance ²
OCT 31	Halloween — NO PRACTICES
NOV 9	Season 10 Showcase — mandatory attendance ³
NOV 15-18	Routine Checkup — mandatory attendance ²
NOV 26-29	Thanksgiving break — NO PRACTICES
DEC 22 - JAN 2	Winter Break — NO PRACTICES
JAN 3 & 4	Practices Resume (all elite teams will practice both days)
MAR 30 - APR 4	Spring Break — NO PRACTICES
APR 5	Easter Sunday — NO PRACTICES
APR 6	Post season mandatory practices begin ³
APR 11	US Finals - Midwest (Prep & Elite teams with gold bid)
APR 23-24	Youth Summit
APR 24-27	The Cheerleading Worlds
APR 30 - MAY 3	The Summit - Orlando

¹ May occur during the day and/or on a different day than normal practice day

² We will attempt to schedule during your normal practice. This may not be possible for some teams.

³ See our attendance policy on page 8.

GYMTYME ILLINOIS

ATTENDANCE POLICY

COMMITMENT = SUCCESS

Attendance is crucial to the success of the team. **We are providing our general policy BEFORE you make a commitment to join the all star program at GymTyme.** A parent meeting will be called if an athlete accrues 7 absences. Habitual absences (combined excused and unexcused absences in rapid succession or 8 in total) may result in modification of athlete role/responsibilities on her/his team, designation as an alternate for a probationary period, or removal from the team roster and drop fee charged.

Excused Absences

- Graded school event with teacher note
- Contagious illness or injury with physician note (athletes who are “not feeling well” or have minor injuries are still expected to attend and activity will be limited)
- Death of a family member (athlete’s sibling, parent, guardian, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin)

Unexcused Absences

- Non-contagious illness, non-graded school events, too much homework, too tired, birthdays or family gatherings, couldn’t get a ride, participation in other sports, withholding practice as a form of parental discipline. College visits and college testing (ACT/SAT) are also considered unexcused. Please schedule these events on days when your athlete does not practice/compete.

All missed practices must be reported via email to the attendance mailbox. DO NOT report absences on social media, via team apps, or by text. Failure to report your athlete absent via the official attendance email is considered an unexcused no call/no show and is subject to disciplinary action.

Summer Attendance (June 2 — Sept 1)

Four (4) absences are allowed. All choreography and camp dates must be attended.

In-Season (Fall/Winter) Attendance (Sept 2 — Mar 29)

Four (4) absences allowed, however any unexcused absences may affect routine spots. We advise saving these for sick days or significant life events (weddings, sacraments, etc.)

Mandatory Competition Practices

There are no unexcused absences allowed 7 practices prior to any event (approx. 17 days). No absences allowed 4 practices before an event (approx. 10 days) which includes any extra practices that are scheduled. A formal attendance calendar will be shared at parent orientation. Failure to follow this policy will result in one of the following:

- ineligibility to compete (without refund)
- allowed to compete, but removal from all group sections of the routine such as stunts (only considered if the absence follows the guidelines for excused absences and does not negatively impact the team)

Worlds / Summit Post-Season Attendance - Orlando (April 6 — end of season)

Only excused absences with proper documentation are permitted. No absences 10 days before your designated travel date (exception, crossovers competing at both Worlds and Summit).

A note about vacations after Sept 1: we have designated a Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring break. Please take your trips during this time. Vacation absences that fall on any other dates may result in modification of the athletes role/status on the team or dismissal without refund.

GYMTIME ILLINOIS

EVENT SCHEDULE

SEASON 11 COMPETITION SELECTION

EVENT	PROGRAM/DIVISION/TEAM	LOCATION	TRAVEL DATES	EVENT DATES
WSF Cheer and Dance Nationals	Elite Teams	Louisville	DEC 5 & 8	DEC 6-7
Nation's Choice Grand Nationals	Elite, Prep Teams	Wisconsin Dells	DEC 12 & 15	DEC 13-14
The MAJORS	Fever (invite only)	Indianapolis	JAN 15 & 17	JAN 16
Jamfest Cheer Super Nationals	Elite Teams	Indianapolis	JAN 16 & 19	JAN 17-18
CSG Grand Nationals	All Teams	Schaumburg	N/A	FEB 7-8
Cheersport Super Nationals	Youth, Junior, Senior Elite Teams	Atlanta	FEB 13 & 17	FEB 14-16
NCA All Star Nationals	Youth, Junior, Senior Elite Teams	Dallas	FEB 26 & MAR 2	FEB 27 - MAR 1
GLCC Grand Nationals	All Teams	Schaumburg	N/A	MAR 7-8
All Star Challenge Showdown	All Teams	Schaumburg	N/A	MAR 14-15
One Up Grand Nationals	Youth, Junior, Senior Elite Teams	Nashville	MAR 27 & 30	MAR 28-29
US Finals - Midwest	Elite, Prep Teams (if gold bid)	DeKalb	N/A	APR 11
The Summit - Regional Midwest	Mini Elite Teams (bid required)	Indianapolis	APR 17 & 19	APR 18-19
Youth Summit	Youth Elite Teams (bid required)	Tampa	APR 22 & 25	APR 23-24
The Cheerleading Worlds	Elite Senior Level 6 (bid required)	Orlando	TBD	APR 24-27
The Summit	Elite Junior, U16, Senior Teams (bid required)	Orlando	TBD	APR 30 - MAY 3

The above schedule is a tentative “wish list” of our favorite events. Final selection will be based on budgeted fees and announced no later than Aug. 1. We reserve the right to substitute events if it is in the best interest of the program. GTIL does not add events to chase bid or League points. We do not accept wildcard bids. GymTyme will secure hotel options within Stay-to-Play guidelines and attempt to meet the varying needs of our families.

Final schedule aims to include:

ELITE: Regular season = 6-7 events; Post season = 1-2 events (pending bids)

PREP: Regular season = 4 events; Post season = 1 event (pending bid)

NOVICE: Regular season = 3 events