



JUNIOR
Cheer

2021 JUNIOR CHEER PARENT PACKET

INDIANA FARM BUREAU FOOTBALL CENTER
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JUNIOR COLTS CHEERLEADING PROGRAM

The Junior Colts Cheerleading program is designed to promote positive self-esteem, respect, dedication and discipline among individuals ages 3 to 14. Led by the Indianapolis Colts Cheerleaders, this program offers the unique opportunity to participate in exclusive performances with the Colts Cheerleaders. Participants will not only learn the basic performance fundamentals of cheerleading and dance through a monthly clinic, but will also experience community and public relations aspects of what it takes to be an Indianapolis Colts Cheerleader.

CLINIC INFORMATION

The Junior Colts Cheerleaders clinics will be held throughout the months of June-December. Clinics will almost always be on a Saturday, but there is a chance for a Friday or Sunday clinic. The times for each clinic vary based on practice location. The summer clinic schedule will be emailed out by April and the remaining schedule will be finalized when the NFL schedule is released.

You will have the opportunity to choose between two locations. You will choose your location at registration and that is where you will attend the monthly clinics. You cannot go between the two during the season.

Participants will be divided into four groups depending on age. 3-5, 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14. There will be exceptions made for the participants more advanced than their age group and would benefit to be in an older age group. Those expectations will only be made during the first clinic and with the Youth Cheer Coordinator's approval.

During the clinics, the focus will be on learning choreography that will be utilized for exclusive performance opportunities, as well as a special routine that will be performed at a recital at the end of the season. Before each clinic, you will receive a video of the choreography participants will learn at that clinic. It is strongly recommended that you watch the videos with your child, so everyone is familiar with what will be reviewed during the clinic.

You may also want to bring a video camera to record the material being taught at the clinic. Nearly every child will need to practice at home to be prepared for the performance, so anything to make practicing easier is encouraged.

At each clinic, we will also focus on an important virtue of being a Colts Cheerleader, such as humility, respect and teamwork. We will discuss these topics and challenge participants to apply them in their own life.

CLINIC ATTIRE

Most clinics will have a specific theme (Colts Spirit, Sparkle Day, etc.) that will be posted in the newsletter. There may be clinics where your child will wear their Junior Cheer t-shirt with shorts/pants. Your child must be able to easily dance in any outfit he or she wears to clinics. We suggest wearing jazz shoes or tennis shoes.

There will also be the opportunity to purchase additional cheer merchandise that can be worn to any clinic. This merchandise is completely optional and not a part of the required uniform.

SQUADS AND INSTRUCTORS

Once the Junior Cheerleaders have been divided into age groups, we will divide them into smaller squads within their age group. Each squad will be lead by the same Indianapolis Colts Cheerleader for the whole season. This gives your child the unique opportunity to build a close relationship with their instructor.

Requests for your child and their friend to be on the same squad will be honored as long as they are in the same age group.

You will check your child in and out with their instructor and squad parent. Each squad will have two squad parents for the whole season. Please keep in mind that the squad parents are volunteers and donating their time to help (For more information on squad parents, please refer to page 4). It is your responsibility to make sure that your child has been properly checked in and out of every clinic or event. Your instructors and squad parents will get to know you and your child, so please make sure you let them know if anyone other than yourself is going to be picking them up. Please take all questions during clinics to the Youth Cheer Coordinator/information desk, as the instructors and squad parents are there for supervision and dance instruction of the Junior Cheerleaders.

UNIFORM

- The Junior Colts Cheerleaders' uniform is a replica of the Indianapolis Colts Cheerleaders! **No uniform exchanges after purchase.**
- We ask that all uniform pieces for your child be used only for Junior Colts Cheerleading events and performances. If your child would like to wear their uniform to a public event not associated with the Colts, please run it by the Youth Cheer Coordinator. Wearing the uniform to school for "Colts Day," etc. is fine as long as your child's school approves.
- Feel free to wear the Junior Colts Cheerleader t-shirt whenever, but we do ask for poms to be kept in good condition.
- **We highly suggest writing your child's name in all uniform pieces.** There are lots of children in this program and they all have the same uniform. You and your child are responsible for all pieces of the uniform at games and clinics. If any part of the uniform gets lost, you will be responsible for replacement.



- Poms will be the hardest thing to keep track of. It is extremely likely that they will get switched around. Good news is, all the poms are exactly the same. Just be sure to double check that your child has two poms before leaving clinics. If they do get misplaced, you will need to replace them.
- **New poms, t-shirt and hair bow will need to be purchased every season.**

UNIFORM PRICING

- Uniform payment is due when you come to registration and have your child fitted. Parents are responsible for fitting the uniform at registration.
- All uniform items are taxed at the Indiana State tax rate of 7%
- Total uniform price for new members with tax is **\$262.15**
- Uniform Dress: **\$140***
- Boots: **\$55***
- Poms, t-shirt and hair bow: **\$50***

** prices do not include tax*

When sizing your uniform, please keep in mind that it needs to fit through December 2021.

TUITION & REGISTRATION

There is a **\$25** registration fee due when you register online.

TUITION BREAKDOWN

Ages 3 to 5: \$205 **Ages 6 to 14:** \$280

This includes all clinics, performances, and events.

We offer two payment options for tuition:

- If you pay in full at registration, you will receive a **\$25** discount [\$180 or \$255].
- You may also choose to pay in two installments.

3 to 5 age group

\$102.50 due in June \$102.50 due in September

6 to 14 age group

\$140 due in June \$140 due in September

DISCOUNTS

We offer discounts for Colts employees, season ticket holders, fan club members and Alumni Colts Cheerleaders.

PAYMENT TYPE OPTIONS

NO CHECKS. We will accept cash or any major credit card.



LATE FEES

If you choose to pay tuition in two installments, we need to receive payment by the above listed dates. If payment becomes more than 30 days past due, we will apply a **\$25** late fee.

DROPPING

If at any point during the season your daughter decides to drop out of Junior Colts Cheerleading, you will need to notify the Youth Cheer Coordinator. No refunds.

SCHEDULE

The Junior Colts Cheerleader schedule will be released in early May, once the NFL Football schedule is released.

DATES

Summer clinics—announced at registration.

Season clinics—announced at the end of May.

There will be several clinics led by the Indianapolis Colts Cheerleaders. We will also have several opportunities throughout the season to do community appearances. We will communicate those opportunities to you in the monthly newsletter as they come up.

CORRESPONDENCE

All of our correspondence will be made through email. Please inform the Youth Cheer Coordinator if you are not receiving emails or do not have an email address.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

SQUAD PARENTS

Two squad parents per squad will be chosen as the elected volunteers for the season. These parents need to be available for ALL clinics to help supervise their squad. There will be a mandatory VIRTUAL squad parent meeting/training prior to the first clinic. Erin Smith will send out more information regarding this meeting.

Responsibilities will include helping with check-in and check-out at clinics and general supervision and safety of our Junior Cheerleaders.

All interested volunteers must fill out an application to be considered. Squad parent application will be sent via email. Squad parents will be chosen by the Youth Cheer Coordinator based on availability, experience and application. All parents who apply are subjected to a background check.



PARENT GUIDELINES

During all Junior Cheerleading clinics, parents and families are always invited to stay and watch their child. Many parents however, choose to spend their free time elsewhere. If you choose not to stay, your child's safety is our #1 priority.

If you do choose to stay, please keep in mind that you are there as a spectator and we ask that you watch quietly and allow the instructors to lead the program. There are some specific protocols that will need to be followed if you choose to stay. Erin Smith will send this out at the start of the season.

The Youth Cheer Coordinator will make announcements to parents at the end of all clinics. General announcements and upcoming events will be discussed. The end of practice will be a good opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.

If you have any questions or concerns during the season, please send those via email to the Youth Cheer Coordinator, Erin Smith—Erin.Smith@Colts.NFL.net. Email is the most sufficient way to communicate your questions and concerns.

