



Dear Victory Academy All-Star Candidate and Parent,

Thank you so much for your interest in Victory Academy Cheerleading! As we prepare for our 12<sup>th</sup> season, we feel that this will be our best year yet. Our coaching staff is excited for the new season, as we hope to keep building on our success here at the Academy.

Victory Academy has earned the reputation of being one of the top cheerleading programs in Illinois. We have set a standard of excellence that we will continue to maintain and develop. Victory Academy is looking for athletes who are willing to commit a full eleven months to the Lions, to work hard and improve individual skills, and to be a loyal teammate. We know that this type of program is not for everyone, as we train to compete. One of our main goals is to create winning teams. This type of goal requires strict attendance policies, a financial commitment, and structured workouts. Please carefully consider these goals when deciding to try out.

We have prepared the following information to help each family understand our program. Please take time to thoroughly read over the packet in full. We want every parent and team member to be fully aware of our expectations.

The Victory Academy coaching staff's mission is to offer the ultimate competitive cheerleading experience! We will offer the best training and most innovative routines possible. Victory Academy wants our team members to be exceptional cheerleaders, but most of all to be exceptional people. Focusing on teamwork and structured, safe workouts, Lions' team members learn how to encourage one another while building their own self-confidence.

Once again, thank you for considering joining the Victory Academy Lions. We hope that you will find this packet informative and that it will answer any questions that you have concerning our program. Good luck to each and every one of you! We look forward to a great season!

Sincerely,

Jen Nettleton and the Lions' Coaching Staff

# Victory Academy Lions Handbook

The Lions Handbook is meant to provide parents and team members with valuable information and expectations involved with our cheerleading program. Please note that all information here is to be strictly adhered to by all parents and team members, and that information is subject to change throughout the year. If at anytime you have any questions, please feel free to talk to a member of the coaching staff.

## Team Size/Division

For the 2011-2012 season, we could have anywhere from 4-8 different teams, depending on the number of athletes at evaluations. The teams will be comprised of athletes ages 4-18. We follow United States All Star Federation (USASF) age and level guidelines to form our teams. The current divisions include Tiny (5 and under), Mini (8 and under), Youth (11 and under), Junior (14 and under), and Senior (18 and under). There are multiple skill levels within each age division, which allows us to have more than one team per age range if necessary. Divisions are also divided into small and large teams. Small teams compete with 5-20 members and large teams may compete with 21-32 members (some level 5 teams may have a maximum of 36). The divisions in which we will compete in will be finalized in the summer after the coaches have had sufficient time to evaluate each team.

## Placing/Moving Athletes

When forming our new teams, we will base them on age, maturity, skill level, experience, and potential stunting positions. When we discuss skills, this is not just tumbling ability. We also look at stunting, jumps, motions, strength, and flexibility. There are many misconceptions about tumbling. It is not the most important part of cheerleading, so decisions about teams are not based solely on tumbling ability. All categories are counted equally on a score sheet. Teams will have members with varied tumbling abilities. Technique of all skills is looked at as well. Just being able to do a skill does not always mean a child is ready to compete at that level. When we discuss age, there is a chance that your child could be bumped into an older age group if there is not enough to form a team for their correct age group and level; however, 95% of the time, we will keep team members in their appropriate age division.

Our goal is to set up the best combinations of teams right from the beginning. The more time they have to work together, the better. *We have the right to place/move team members to the squad where they will be best suited.* If we feel that a child is losing skills that they showed in evaluations, or if we feel a child has gained new skills very quickly, we may move them to a team that better showcases their current skills. In addition, if we feel like someone will fit better on a different team once they start working together, we may move them too. We will take a good look at this before camp and make shifts if needed. We will also keep this in mind for the entire season. We may also move spots within teams. Sometimes someone is better suited in a different stunting position, or maybe we just need to change for choreography purposes.

Everyone is on a specific team for a reason. TRUST YOUR STAFF to make the best decisions for everyone. In addition, keep in mind that the best teams are those that have the best and most skills for their level.

## Commitment

You must be prepared to fulfill an 11-month commitment (10-month for Tiny and Mini teams), practicing 1.25-3.5 hours a week for Tiny and Mini teams, and 3 -6 hours a week for Youth, Junior, and Senior teams. You must also be prepared to attend 4-6 competitions for the Tiny team, 5-7 for the Mini team, and 7-9 competitions for Youth, Junior, and Senior teams, which take place over the weekends.

## **Start-up Fees**

A start-up fee will be paid by every member before being placed on a team. This money will be put towards your yearly fees and is refunded after the season if you overpay. If a team member leaves the team or is dismissed for any reason during the season, this money will be forfeited. Start-up fees are as follows:

- \$110 – New members and returning full season members
- \$210 – Returning members who did not fulfill a full season

## **Tuition**

Monthly payments are set by Victory Academy, and are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, starting in May and ending in March. *Victory Academy has 3 payment options – cash, check, or debit/credit.* Invoices are emailed prior to the first of each month. If you are not receiving invoices, it is your responsibility to inform office staff.

Cash, check, or non-automatic debit/credit – All payments are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. After the 3<sup>rd</sup>, a late fee of \$5 will be added to your account. If this option is chosen, the non-automatic agreement form must be signed.

Automatic debit/credit draft - If you choose the convenience of automatic draft of your debit or credit card, you will be charged between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. In the event that the credit or debit card charged is refused for any reason, payment is due by no later than the 14<sup>th</sup> of such month. If payment is not received by the 14<sup>th</sup>, then a \$5.00 late fee will be assessed. The Credit or Debit Card Authorization Agreement Form needs to be signed and turned in along with the payment agreement form.

*Non-Payment Drop from Squad Policy:* A grace period of two weeks is in effect before a member is dropped from the team for non-payment. Once a member is dropped from the team, they cannot attend or participate in any team practices and/or activities. In order to be reinstated after non-payment, a member must pay the current and next monthly fees. A member can only be re-instated once.

Families who have 2 or more children in Victory Academy programs receive a 20% discount on the lesser tuition. In addition, a yearly membership fee of \$30 for individuals or \$50 for families with 2 or more children will be due at the beginning of each season.

Monthly prices are based on an “all-inclusive” system. This system includes most of the expenses that a member would normally incur throughout the season. This price includes: tuition, entry fees for local and national competitions, coaches fees for competitions, summer team camp/activities, choreography/music, and spirit fee. This does not include uniforms, make-up, practice clothing, travel expenses, spectator admission to competitions, punch cards, or annual membership fees. This system makes financial planning and budgeting much easier for our families. A breakdown of each fee that is covered will be provided, so you can see exactly where your payments are going. We will provide a breakdown first based on last year’s expenses, and then once the competition schedule is finalized, we will provide an updated breakdown.

If a team falls out of the range (too high or too low) they pay for, then we may either give refunds or ask for additional funds to cover the difference in expenses. In the case of a refund, checks would be issued AFTER the conclusion of the last competition.

The tuition continues from May through March. To offset the fact that most of the expenses we incur happen well before March, we collect the \$100 start-up fee mentioned above at the beginning of the season.

If a team member starts later in the season (this would only happen if someone was new to Lions), they will be responsible for paying back fees in order to cover all their costs for the year.

For questions about tuition or billing, please talk to the Lions accounts rep.

## **Practices**

Practice schedules will be posted on a monthly basis. Schedules will be put on our website approximately 2 weeks before the start of the month. They are subject to change; however, as much notification will be given as possible. The days that each team practices will be determined after evaluations, but note that they could be any day of the week, including

weekends. Each team will have set practices that will remain mostly the same throughout the year, and we will also have extra practices when we get near competitions. *In addition, if a team member's skills are not progressing as quickly as they need to, they may be asked to take extra classes or private lessons at an additional cost. This may require an additional night of practice each week until the team member is able to perform skills needed for his/her squad.*

There is to be no gum, candy, food, or drinks besides water in the gym.

Everyone is to arrive at practice 15 minutes before the actual start time of practice to properly warm-up. At this time, team members must be dressed and ready to go. If you are going to be late, you must call.

Practices are closed to parents, family, friends, or other spectators at all times. Some children are easily distracted by people watching them, which can be a risk to their safety and productivity. However, we do like our parents to be able to see their children's progress, so there is an exception. Parents will be able to observe for the last 30 minutes of practice on the 1<sup>st</sup> practice of the month. In addition, we will send team progress reports out by email on a regular basis.

*If a team member is injured, they must still attend practice.* They will not be required to participate, but will watch any changes that affect them. They may also stretch, condition, or perform activities that do not affect the injury.

### **Attendance/Absences**

A team can only achieve great things if the entire team is there to practice. Because of this, team members are expected to attend all scheduled practices. There are a few excused absences:

1. Family emergencies
2. School activity that earns a grade
3. Sick with high fever or serious contagious illness
4. School games that the member is playing in or cheering at as long as this does not become a regular occurrence.

\*Other absences may be excused at the coaches' discretion.

Examples of unexcused absences:

1. Birthday parties or other social events
2. Homework/tests (PLEASE plan efficiently)
3. Shopping trips
4. Non-contagious illness/injury
5. Part-time jobs (please give your cheer schedule to your employer)

\*We expect that cheerleaders will be gone for a summer vacation. Please note that an absence request form must be filled out. One to two weeks of summer vacation is excused depending on the number of practices missed.

If an absence is known in advance, an absence request form must be filled out completely. For many school activities, dates are known well in advance – *please fill out forms as early as possible.* For a last minute absence, a coach or Victory Academy must be contacted before practice, and then you must bring an absence form to the next practice. Do not send information through other team members or email. If you do not have a ride to practice, please call a coach. They will find someone to pick you up. Not having a ride is an unexcused absence.

Submitting an absence request form does not necessarily excuse your absence. After 2 unexcused absences, a team member may be dismissed. After 7 excused absences during the competition season (August-March), a team member may also be dismissed. **NO PRACTICES ARE ALLOWED TO BE MISSED DURING THE WEEK BEFORE A COMPETITION.**

Holidays – Please see the holiday schedule, so you can plan accordingly for any travel time. Winter break especially is right in the heart of competition season, so we need people back by the designated day.

Missed practices, arriving late, or leaving early may result in disciplinary action. This could include, but not be limited to, extra conditioning, gym cleaning, or removal from the squad.

## **Practice Attire**

Proper attire should be worn at all times during practice. Proper attire includes cheer shoes, socks, Lions' t-shirts/tank tops, team color shorts (black, columbia blue, or gray), and sports bras. The color of shirt to be worn each day is found on the practice schedules. **All** girls should have a sports bra or tank top under their t-shirt (even the young ones). We also suggest spandex shorts. Hair must be tied back in a ponytail, and there is to be absolutely no jewelry of any kind (see rules for piercings).

## **Cell Phones**

During practices, all team members are asked to turn their phones off and keep them in a bag. Even better is if they leave them at home. Team members should not be using phones during practices. If this happens, a coach will keep the phone for the remainder of practice. After that, a parent may be asked to keep their child's phone at home.

## **Valuables**

Please leave all valuables at home. Victory Academy cannot be responsible for lost items.

## **Social Media**

Team members, parents, or anyone else associated with Victory Academy, are not to put anything negative about Victory Academy on any profiles, postings, videos, or photos. In addition, if something on the internet refers to Victory in words or pictures, your profile, etc. should not display vulgar language or pictures, poor sportsmanship, or anything that could be potentially damaging to the teams. All web material should remain age appropriate for all.

## **Participation in Other Activities**

While a member of the team, you may participate in other activities; however, Lions must remain a priority. This means you must be willing to compromise and communicate with Lions' coaches, as well as the other activity's coaches/advisors, about your schedules. If the other coach/advisor is not willing to compromise, you may have to make a choice. Practices cannot be missed on a regular basis and competitions cannot be missed at all. We feel that everyone needs to keep the best interest of their team members in mind at all times.

## **Weather Cancellations**

If the weather becomes unsafe to attend practice, the owners will make the decision and make a call to WJBC. You can listen to the radio or check the WJBC website. We also do our best to get it on the Lions website as well. In the event of a competition, we will make the decision and post it on our website. Competition companies *never* cancel for weather, so competition fees are not refunded if we decide to cancel.

## **Star Status Program**

We have a Star Status program for our athletes as a way to motivate them to achieve new skills throughout the year. After evaluations have been completed and our new teams have been set, each athlete will receive their Star Status, level 1-5, based on their current tumbling skills performed at evaluations. The skills for each star status level are in accordance with the tumbling skills allowed in each USASF level. This program will help to provide them with specific goals and skills to work towards, as well as to create healthy competition amongst our athletes. The Star Status boards will be posted inside the gym as a constant reminder to our cheerleaders of the new skills they can gain through hard work and determination.

## **Punch Cards**

Based on the level that your team competes in, you could be required to attend Punch Card sessions. These are extra tumbling sessions that are not included with regular practice tuition, and are generally held weekly. You purchase a card that is punched every time a session is attended. If your Star Status is completed for the level your squad competes at, you will not be

required to attend. If you do not meet the Star Status for your team's level, you will need to attend until you meet the requirements.

### **Double Teaming**

At times we may ask if people are interested in competing on 2 teams. In this case, your child will be responsible for attending practices and competitions for both squads. In addition, they will pay any additional fees associated with the second team.

### **Team Bonding Activities**

Team bonding activities are required, just as practices are. We feel that in order to have the most cohesive team, activities outside of practice times are important. These activities will be spread out throughout the year and will help the team members develop strong relationships.

### **Jewelry/Piercings**

All jewelry should be removed for practice and competitions. New piercings must be done before August 15<sup>th</sup>. Piercings are illegal at competitions and may be grounds for team disqualification or a huge legality deduction. If piercings are done after August 15<sup>th</sup>, there is a chance they will have to be removed before they are healed. In addition, if new piercings are obtained over the summer, they must be properly covered with athletic tape for practice. After the 6-week healing period, they must be removed for every practice. Even stud earrings have a chance of being ripped out.

While certain jewelry might be "cute", cuteness is never an excuse for safety or team penalty at competition. "It might close up" is not an excuse for wearing earrings at competition. Even a hair tie still on a wrist can be cause for a deduction.

### **Uniforms**

All members must purchase the entire Lions uniform. This includes MotionFLEX bodyliner, skirt (pants for males), briefs, warm-up, cheer shoes, hair bow, and team makeup. Other items may be added to this list at anytime.

Uniforms will have a 75% down payment to be ordered and must be paid for in full before your child receives their order. You will receive your uniform bill approximately 2-3 weeks after uniform fitting day. All uniforms will then be picked up on a designated date.

We do sell used uniforms, which offer lower prices, but we cannot guarantee used pieces to everyone. However, we do our best to provide as many used pieces as possible.

Uniforms must be well taken care of. They should be washed according to directions and should not be dry-cleaned, dried, or ironed. Uniforms should not be worn to anything other than competitions, exhibitions, or other Lions-related functions.

### **Competitions**

Every team member must attend every competition. Missing a competition will result in dismissal from the squad. The team members pay a lot of money and work very hard to prepare for competitions, and missing even one person can have a huge impact on the team.

The Tiny team will attend approximately 4-6 competitions, Minis will attend approximately 5-7 competitions, and Youth, Junior, and Senior teams will attend approximately 7-9 competitions throughout the Midwest, mainly central Illinois. There is a possibility of some teams traveling farther. Competitions run from October to March or April. Competitions are on Saturdays or Sundays, with some being two-day competitions (depending on the team). There is a chance that 2-day competitions will require travel or report times on weekdays. We do our best to schedule competitions over long holiday weekends, but there is a possibility of missed school due to team travel.

When we sign up for competitions, we do not know how many other gyms will be signing up, and therefore do not know how many teams we will be up against. Some competitions may be very small, some very big. We generally will not know the number of teams until the week of the competition.

Parents are highly encouraged to take the trips with their child. Team members must have a parent responsible for them, whether it is their own parents or another suitable arrangement was made.

At competitions, *team members are expected to watch all Victory teams* perform to cheer them on. Teams will always stay for their own awards ceremony. Competitions generally last all day long. If a parent needs to leave early from a competition, they must arrange another ride home for their child. We are a “family” and feel that being there for all the teams and for awards teaches good sportsmanship and shows respect for everyone. This concept is very important to us.

People with injuries that are unable to compete should still try to attend all competitions while they are injured. If the competition is an hour or less away, they are required to attend.

While at competitions, team members should look professional and be in uniform. If they are waiting to compete, or have finished competing, they may wear our warm-up with a Lions’ t-shirt. All team members must be in full uniform for awards. Items that are not allowed include, but are not limited to: pajama pants, jeans, t-shirts that are not Lions, etc. In addition, please respect yourself – do not walk around with skirts unzipped or tops rolled up.

Parents or team members should not talk to the judges or those running the competitions. Coaches will take care of any problems that may arise.

### **Traveling to Competitions**

For competitions requiring overnight stays, Victory Academy will be designating a team hotel. We always highly encourage everyone to stay in the same hotel for convenience as well as for letting the team members and parents have fun together. These team hotels will most often be optional; however, but there may be select times when you are required to stay at the team hotel. In addition, if a team meeting is called, everyone will be responsible for getting to the team hotel.

Parents will be making all individual reservations. If a room block is made, coaches will provide the contact and room block information.

Transportation will be set up on your own. If at any time you cannot find a ride or need assistance, you may talk to the coaches or travel with them. Those team members who do not have parents on the trip must travel with a responsible adult.

### **Fundraising**

All team members may participate in team fundraisers to help defray costs associated with competitions. If one does not participate in a fundraiser, they will not receive the funds from it. In addition, if a team member leaves the team before the end of the season, all team fundraising money will be forfeited. All funds will be kept in an account until payments are due. At this time, parents will receive a credit on their invoice showing how much was earned by their child. In the event that all funds are not used, the money will be applied towards other fees if possible or refunded.

We hope to hold approximately 2 individual fundraisers and 1 team fundraiser over the course of the year. Help from parents is needed to help achieve this goal.

### **Summer Camps**

Various camps will take place over the summer for all teams. Each team will have at least one day of camp, with some teams up to four days. All Junior and Senior teams will for sure have multiple days, as we are bringing in outside camp directors/choreographers. These will take place in June. There will also be camps in August to tie up any loose ends on routines prior to competition season starting. It is mandatory for all members to attend their camp dates. We will be having these camps at Victory Academy. The camps that have outside staff will require an extra cost, which is included in your all-inclusive tuition and is highlighted on the expense sheet. This cost must be paid, even if you are injured and cannot participate fully. It covers the cost of the team’s choreography and music.

## **Parent Committees**

We often form several parent committees for which we need volunteers. Possible groups are fundraising, spirit, and social events. These groups usually meet once or twice a month during practice times. We cannot run these groups without your help, so please consider helping out.

## **Parental Expectations**

Supportive parents are an important part of a successful team. We expect that all of our parents are always supportive and positive towards their own child as well as coaches, other parents, and every other member of the team. You are your child's most important role model, and your attitude towards the program greatly affects your child's attitude. The following are obligations and expectations for all our parents.

1. RESPECT COMMITMENT! Once your child has committed to the team, it is your responsibility to keep them on the team for the entire season.
2. Parents are to encourage and support your child, other team families, and the program to the best of your ability. Negative remarks should not be made, especially in the presence of your child. Gripping or complaining makes everyone miserable and uncomfortable – *let everyone enjoy their time at the gym or gym events.*
3. Any negative behavior towards a Victory Academy member or staff, as well as other gyms' members and staff, may result in the removal of your child from the team or parents being banned from attending future competitions.
4. Make sure your child is on time and attends **all** practices and events.
5. You must fulfill all financial obligations associated with the program.
6. Parents are expected to volunteer with fundraisers and other events as needed.
7. Parents should inform coaches of any absence or if a child will be late. Never send information through anyone else.
8. Talk to coaches with all questions rather than other parents or members. Coaches will always have the correct answers.
9. Any questions or concerns with the program should be handled respectfully.
10. Parents are expected to stay informed at all times. Check your email and the website on a regular basis.

Please remember that parental actions affect the team members. It is disappointing when a child's role on the team is negatively impacted due to a parent's decision.

We love our supportive parents and the kids do too! When you cheer the team on and encourage them, it can make so much difference in their performance. Set a good example at all times, and teach your kids about good sportsmanship and teamwork.

## **Team Member Expectations**

We are looking for hard-working, devoted cheerleaders with positive attitudes. We want our team to be the best it can be, which takes a lot of dedication and teamwork. Team members are expected to give 110% in everything they do. They should motivate each other and be constantly working to improve their skills. The following are expectations we have for all team members:

1. RESPECT COMMITMENT! Once you commit to the team, you are to fulfill the entire season.
2. Members will set and maintain the highest examples of behavior. They should be respectful to all team members, staff, and parents at all times. This also includes members of other teams when we travel to competitions. The way they conduct themselves while representing Victory Academy reflects on the entire squad.
3. Members will be on time to all activities, dressed appropriately.
4. Members will do everything in their power to achieve personal and squad goals and work as a team.
5. Each member should be aware that they do not have the right to be on Victory Academy Lions. It is a privilege.

6. Each member must be willing to cooperate with and be helpful to the coach or any person in charge.
7. Each member must be willing to work hard, take directions, and strive for excellence.

### **Other Rules and Regulations**

1. Team members and parents are responsible for all information that is passed out or discussed at a missed practice. Information comes out in at least 1 of 4 ways: paper notes to take home, postings on the web site, postings on the team bulletin board, and email. Email is our most common way of sending information, so you must have an email address that you check regularly.
2. Each member and parent will follow all rules and guidelines set by Victory Academy staff.
3. Team members will not smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, or use illegal drugs.
4. Abusive behavior, lying, profanity, or any other form of negative behavior will result in removal from the team.
5. Safety of self or others should never be jeopardized. Each member is responsible for using proper, safe techniques at all times.
6. Team members are not allowed to use cell phones during practices, fundraisers, or exhibitions. We prefer they are left at home. If not, they must be turned off and put away.

## Lions Program Expenses

<b>Annual Membership Fee:</b>	<b>\$30.00</b> (Individual Member) <b>\$50.00</b> (Families of 2 or more)	
<b>Punch Cards:</b> (for tumbling nights, open gyms, etc.)	<b>\$40 for 8 sessions, \$50 for 12, and \$60 for 17</b> (only for those who do not have required Star Status for their squad)	
<b>Uniform, Warm-Up, and Accessories:</b>	<b>Tiny and Mini Teams</b>	<b>Youth, Junior, Senior Teams</b>
	MotionFLEX Bodyliner - \$127.00 Skirt - \$60.00 Briefs - \$12.95 Shoes - \$40.00 Hair Bow - \$18.00 Warm-Up - \$62.00 Make-Up - \$5-\$25 Tax and Shipping Costs – vary depending on what is ordered	MotionFLEX Bodyliner - \$140.00 Skirt - \$74.95 Briefs - \$12.95 Shoes - \$69.99 Hair Bow - \$20.00 Warm-Up - \$62.00 Make-Up - \$5-\$25 Tax and Shipping Costs – vary depending on what is ordered
<b>Team Practice Clothing:</b>	<b>\$35.00</b> – Each team member is required to have at least 3 practice shirts. Returning members will only have to buy the new designs.	
<b>Hotel Stays for 2-day competitions:</b>	<b>\$80.00-\$180.00</b> per night depending on location 1-2 nights possible for each 2-day competition (approx. 1-4 per season)	
<b>Monthly All-Inclusive Tuition:</b> (Includes practice time, competition fees, competition routine music, coaches fees for competitions, summer camp, and spirit fee divided into equal monthly payments. Additional family members receive 20% discount on the lesser tuition price)	<b>\$178.00</b> Junior and Senior Teams (at 4 hours per week)	
	<b>\$147.00</b> Youth Team (at 3.5 hours per week)	
	<b>\$137.00</b> Mini Team (at 2.5 hours per week)	
	<b>\$105.00</b> Tiny Team (at 1.25 hours per week)	

**\*Note: Used uniforms may be available; prices will be determined by the coaches depending on the condition of the uniform.**

**\*We also sponsor fundraisers when possible to defray the costs.**

## Tentative Schedule 2011-2012

### **Holiday Schedule**

*While planning for vacations this season, please keep these dates in mind – especially pay attention to winter break. We often have competition right after break, so plan to be back by below dates.*

<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Dates to Know</b>
Memorial Day	Closed May 28-29, 2011 *Will most likely have practice late afternoon or evening on May 30
Mother's Day	Will most likely hold practices on May 7, but not May 8
Father's Day	Will most likely hold practices on June 18, but not June 19
4 <sup>th</sup> of July	Closed July 2-4, 2011
Possible Vacation Week	July 11-17 (may ask for most vacations to take place during this week)
Labor Day	Closed September 3-4, 2011 Will most likely have practice late afternoon or evening on September 5.
Thanksgiving	Closed November 24-26, 2011 *Will have practices on November 27, 2011
Christmas	Closed December 23-25, 2011 *Other travel dates between December 23 and January 1 may be excused if traveling.
New Years	Closed December 31-January 1 *Be back for practices on January 2

*\*If a holiday is not listed here, there are most likely no schedule changes.*

## **Tentative Camp, Competition, and Exhibition Schedules**

*Currently we have all competitions listed that are closest to Bloomington. We will narrow them down once dates and prices are confirmed. Tiny teams will attend approximately 4-6 competitions, Minis will attend approximately 5-7 competitions, and Youth, Junior, and Senior teams will attend approximately 7-9 competitions.*

*All teams will perform at exhibitions.*

*Camp dates will be narrowed down once evaluations are complete.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Teams</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>City</b>
May 1, 2011	ALL	First Week of Practices		
June 1, 2011		Team Shifts as needed		
June 10-21, 2011		Tiny/Mini/Youth Camps	Victory	
June 22-25, 2011		Junior/Senior Camp	Victory	
August 7-21	ALL	Final Choreography Camp Weeks	Victory	
September 5, 2011	ALL	Labor Day Parade		Bloomington, IL
September 24, 2011	ALL	Tentative VA Dress Rehearsal	Victory	
Sept/Oct 2011	ALL	CIDSO Buddy Walk	Prairieland Elementary	Normal, IL
Oct. 2, 2011	ALL	Tentative VA Dress Rehearsal	Victory	
October 9, 2011	ALL	CSG Dress Rehearsal Competition		Springfield, IL
October 22, 2011		Jamfest Wild Jam	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria, IL
October 30, 2011		CSG Chitown Challenge		Chicago area
November 6, 2011		Jamfest Turbo Jam	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, IN
November 13, 2011		CSG Cheer for the Cure		Chicago area
November 19-20, 2011		Jam LIVE!		Chicago, IL
November 20, 2011		Cheersport	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, IN
December 3, 2011		Great Lakes Reindeer Challenge	Chaifetz Arena	St. Louis, MO
December 4, 2011		CSG Holiday Classic		Chicago area
December 4, 2011		Cheersport Championships		St. Louis, MO
December 3 or 4, 2011		Twisted Spirit		TBA - Possibly Bloomington
December 10-11, 2011		WSF Indy Nationals	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, IN

January 8, 2012		Xtreme Spirit Championship	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria, IL
January 14-15, 2012		Jamfest Super Nationals	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, IN
January 22, 2012	ALL	UCA Midwest Championships	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria, IL
January 29, 2012		Cheersport Championships	Northern IL University	DeKalb, IL
January 29-30, 2012		CSG Nationals		Wisconsin Dells, WI
February 4-5, 2012		Jamfest Nationals		Chicago area
February 11-12, 2012		American Classic		Schaumburg, IL
February 18, 2012		JAM Bash		St. Charles, MO
February 26, 2012	ALL	CSG Prairie State Challenge		Bloomington, IL
March 3-4, 2012		CSG Super Nationals		Schaumburg, IL
March 10-11, 2012				TBA
March 11, 2012		CSG Gateway Challenge		St. Louis, MO
March 17-18, 2012		JAM LIVE		Indianapolis, IN
March 17-18, 2012				TBA
March 18, 2012		CSG Windy City Challenge		Chicago area
April 2011		US Finals or Intl All Levels Championships		

***Many competitions are still tentative at this point, but please leave all of the dates on your calendar until the schedule is completely finalized.***

Please initial, sign, and return this page at Registration:

### **Cheerleader/Parent Code of Conduct and Handbook Agreement Form**

I will come to practice with a positive attitude, and I will give my best effort towards the agenda set by the coaching staff.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I will not disrespect any team member, coach, or competitor for **any reason at any time**. I understand that my actions 24 hours a day are a representation of my team and Victory Academy.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I understand that this is an 11-month commitment and that my team is depending on me to fulfill my responsibilities as a team member. I am also aware that if I fail to honor my commitment, no refund for any reason will be given.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I will learn and obey all rules and regulations of the gym and the cheer program, and I understand that by breaking any of the codes of conduct, I may be suspended or dismissed from the Lions cheer program.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I will wear the scheduled practice wear to each practice. If I lose any of my practice wear, I understand that I must replace it immediately. I know I must remove jewelry and tie my hair back for practice as well.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I understand that time is essential to the program. I will do all that is necessary to get to practice on time and be there for the full practice.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I will attend parents' meetings and retrieve information in which the Victory Academy staff had prepared for educating me on upcoming schedules, etc.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I understand that there is a monthly financial commitment. I agree to pay by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month or to provide Victory Academy with the Credit or Debit Card Authorization Agreement Form so that tuition can be paid on time each month.

\_\_\_\_Athlete Initials      \_\_\_\_Parent Initials

I have carefully read and I fully understand and accept all information covered in the Lions Handbook. I agree to follow all the guidelines set forth here for the good of my team and the Victory Academy program and know that not following the guidelines means I could lose my spot on the team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team Member Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date