

1055 S. WASHINGTON ST.  
VAN WERT, OH 45891



PHONE: (419)238-9270

## VAN WERT COUNTY FAIR

**36th Annual CHEERLEADING INVITATIONAL | Wednesday August 28, 2024 At 6:00 pm**

1055 S. Washington Street Van Wert, OH 45891

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Kim Mason, Fair Director 419-513-0323

Susie Sanderson, Fair Director

### **SCHEDULE/DIVISIONS**

The invitational will begin promptly at 6:00 pm on Wednesday August 28, 2024. This year's invitational will include the following divisions: Mini All Star, Youth All Star, Little Leaders Tumbling, Little Leaders Non-Tumbling, Junior High, Varsity, Junior All Star and Senior All Star. Once established, the order of performance will not be altered without the approval of all participating squads in the division. Mounting is only allowed in the All Star Categories.

#### **2024 Divisions**

Little Leaders (grade 3 & under)

Youth Leaders (grades 6 & under)

Mini All Star (grade 3 & under)

Youth All Star Mount (grade 6 & under)

Youth All Star Non-Mount (grade 6 & down)

Jr High Tumbling

Jr High Non-Tumbling

Jr Varsity Tumbling

Jr Varsity Non-Tumbling

Game Day (HS age)

Small Varsity Tumbling (11 athletes or less, HS age)

Small Varsity Non-Tumbling (11 athletes or more, HS age)

Large Varsity Tumbling (12 athletes or more, HS age)

Large Varsity Non-Tumbling (12 athletes or more, HS age)

Jr All Star Mount (grade 9 & under)

Jr All Star Non-Mount (grade 9 & under)

Varsity All Star Mount (grade 12 & under)

Varsity All Star Non-Mount (grade 12 & under)

\*Any squad can choose to enter as an Exhibition Only squad. They will not be judged.

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**ROUTINE DETAILS** Each squad must incorporate dance and at least two (2) cheers into their performance. A squad's entrance, transitions between cheers, and exit may consist of any combination of dances, cheers, tumbling, or sideline chants. Performance time is limited to Four (4) minutes. Judging and timing will begin at the first beat of Music or first Motion and will end at the last motion or beat of music. Any entrance cheers on or off the mat, WILL be included in your 4 minute time limit. A one (1) point deduction for each second over the time limit will be taken from the judges' combined score. There is NO time penalty for placing pompoms, props, or signs prior to a performance or removing them immediately following a performance.

**JR. HIGH SQUADS AND LITTLE LEADERS**-You can use your school Fight Song for your Dance portion of your routine. This will not require a copyright waiver or fees and will allow the crowd to show their school spirit.

**Game Day Division**-a sideline, a traditional cheer (timeout or floor), and a musical portion (band dance, band chant, fight song, etc).

**PERFORMANCE AREA** Please note that the performance area may be covered with at least 8 tumbling mats approx. 48 Wide by 42 Long. There is NO penalty for squad members stepping out of the performance area. There also is NO penalty for designated persons entering the competition area during a squad's performance to remove pompoms, props, or signs.

**SCHOOL SQUADS: PROHIBITED** Mounts, partner stunts, toe pitches, and mini-trampolines are NOT permitted. Partner stunts are defined as one or more squad members lifting one or more members off the ground for a length of time OR one or more squad members throwing one or more members in the air. Members MAY temporarily jump through or over each other. Mascots are encouraged to attend and participate in the grandstand; however, they are NOT permitted on the competition field. Pompoms, props, and signs are permitted. Squads are welcome to bring their own mats for use in practice areas.

**ALL STAR RULES** Mounts must be no higher than two and a half persons high. If you have a stunt that may be questionable, please contact the coordinators to see if it will be allowed. Any mount over shoulder level must have a back spot. No mini-trampolines. Triple twisting dismounts are not allowed. Single & double full twisting dismounts are allowed.

\*MOUNTING TEAMS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN SPOTTERS!

\*SPOTTERS MAY NOT SUPPORT OR HELP LIFT THE MOUNT IN ANY WAY AS IF THEY ARE A PART OF THE MOUNT. A spotter's job is to help catch a flier in a falling stunt and prevent injury.

\*A TEAM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IF SPOTTERS ARE NOT PROVIDED. Mounts should be perfected and stable! Spotters should be dressed in different attire than the competing squad members.

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**MUSIC** The grandstand sound system is set up for you to plug your phone into the board. Squads should test their music on the sound system during designated practice time and determine a desirable volume. Squads are recommended to bring two (2) copies of the music to be used, just in case!. Also, put your phone on AIRPLANE mode to prevent calls/texts from interrupting your music. A coach or their designee will be responsible for starting and stopping the music.

**WARM-UP** Each competing squad will receive a three (3) minute designated practice time on the grandstand racetrack. The order of practice will be the same as the order of performance unless otherwise noted -See additional information section below-. Please arrive early on the day of the invitational to ensure you do not miss your warm up time. Teams that miss their allotted practice time will be denied the opportunity to practice to ensure the invitational begins promptly at 6:00 p.m.

**AWARDS** Each squad will receive a \$75 stipend gift to help with your expenses. Trophies will be awarded to 1st & 2nd place teams.

**JUDGES** Staff members from area cheerleading associations or recent college/university cheerleaders will be asked to serve as judges. Due to the holiday weekend, if such judges cannot be secured, present or former advisors who do not have a squad entered in the invitational may serve as judges. Judges' rulings are final.

**ADMISSION TO THE FAIRGROUNDS** Advisors, squad members, and bus drivers will be admitted into the fairgrounds on the day of the invitational free of charge. Participants and coaches only will enter the west end of the grandstand and must have uniforms on. *Parents are not allowed to enter this gate.* Spectators must pay to enter the fairground and have a ticket to enter the grandstand. You can buy presale tickets for the invitational at the fair office or on the fair website before the start of the fair. If you are interested in a block of tickets, contact the fair office directly at 419-238-9270. General admission and reserved seating available; Visit [www.vanwertcountyfair.com](http://www.vanwertcountyfair.com) for more information or call the fair office. Spectators/parents may only enter through the east end of the grandstand with appropriate ticketing after gates open. No spectators/parents are allowed into the grandstand under any circumstances before the gates open. If you have young children on your squad, we suggest meeting as a group outside the west end gate of the grandstand and then entering together as a team.

\*\*Competition coordinators and/or fair board members have the final say on any and all rules and decisions.

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