

GEORGIA TEAM OF THE YEAR APPLICATION FORM

School Information:

Name: _____

Mascot: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Head Coach: _____

Coaches' Email:

Team Members:

Please list all team members and their respective grade level.

Team Philosophy:

Team Motto:

Team Essay:

Write a comprehensive essay of your team's philosophy of cheerleading and an explanation of your team motto in 75-100 words.

Team Achievements:

Team GPA: _____

(Cumulative Average Based on 4.0 Scale)

Team Awards:

List with a description any honors, awards, or recognitions related to Cheerleading earned by the team.

Sportsmanship/Community Involvement:

Sportsmanship:

Please explain how your team displays sportsmanship. Sportsmanship may include (but is not limited to) interaction with visiting teams on game days and/or at competitions and increasing school spirit for all athletic teams.

Community Involvement:

Please explain how your team displays community involvement. Community involvement may include (but is not limited to) interaction with feeder programs or philanthropy projects.

Individual Achievements:

Cheerleading Awards:

List with a description any honors, awards, or recognitions related to Cheerleading earned by individual team members.

Other Awards: _____

List with a description any honors, awards, or recognitions related

Education, Unity, Progress

to other sports and/or activities earned by individual team members.

Endorsements: _____

List a minimum of 3 (maximum of 5) references to write letters of endorsement; which must include one letter from the Athletic Director and one letter from a community member. May also include (but is not limited to) parents, students, faculty, or alumni.

Thank you for participating in the Team of the Year process. Please contact Abby Manus Bates, Team of the Year Chair, Email: abbymanus@walkerschools.org with any questions.

Remember that your team must be nominated first by December 5! Applications must be received by January 5 and Videos OR Portfolios must be received by February 5 from the top three applicants. The top 5 applicants will be notified by January 10.

Georgia Cheerleading Coaches' Association
www.georgiacheer.com

GCCA Team of the Year TIPS for Applicants Georgia's premier award to recognize those hard working, committed, and successful programs throughout the state – whether you are a spirit or a competitive squad!

The GCCA has always been dedicated to recognizing outstanding athletes and coaches, and now we are on the quest for the most outstanding overall cheerleading program in Georgia.

Cheerleading is about athletics, academics, and service to the community.

This award takes each aspect into consideration when seeking to recognize the top program in our state. Nominate your team for this prestigious award today!

General Info:

- There is NO fee to apply for Team of the Year
- There are 3 parts to the competition.

Timeline:

- August/September- make decision to apply and get busy planning
- December 5 - Nomination form is due
- January 5 – Application is due
- January 10 – Top 3 Teams notified
- February 5- Video OR Portfolio is due

Planning Ahead:

- Decide early if you would like to nominate your team
- Know your strengths and weaknesses
- DO NOT TRY AND COMPLETE EVERYTHING YOURSELF!!!
- Find someone to take on the AV duties (unless that is you)
- Set a schedule for collecting all footage/photos/etc... that fits YOU!

Know your team:

- Does this particular group of kids fit the requirements?
- Brainstorm with team to choose team philosophy, motto, and how you will creatively define SUCCESS
- Whatever you do... BE POSITIVE!

Delegate responsibilities:

- Choose ONE area you most comfortable with and complete it- Keep in mind you will need to oversee the entire process
- Utilize assistant cheer coaches in key areas
- Involve trustworthy cheer parents to assist you in community projects
- Use Senior team members to complete specific pages of your portfolio or sections of your video
- Secure a qualified "proof reader" for your team essay (hint, hint English Department) Community Involvement Ideas
- Running 5K as a team OR hosting a 5K to raise money for a charity
- Relay for Life teams
- Special Olympics volunteers
- Nursing home volunteers
- Youth Clinics
- Animal Shelter charity fundraisers
- Open House volunteers
- Cheerleader Reunion
- Samaritan's Purse- Shoe box ministry during Christmas/Angel Tree/Toys for Tots
- Anything to show community involvement Just keep in mind that you must have fun during this process. Remember that while you are creating your portfolio/video – you are also creating memories.

Team of the Year Portfolio Requirements

All of the following are sections of the portfolio to be submitted by each nominated team:

- **COVER PAGE**
- **SQUAD GPA**
- **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**
- **TEAM ESSAY**
A comprehensive essay of your team's philosophy of cheerleading and an explanation of your team motto (stated on your cover page) in 75-100 words
- **TEAM PHOTOS**
Portfolio must include at least one current photo of the team in uniform
- **HONORS, AWARDS, & RECOGNITIONS (CHEERLEADING)**
List with a description...may include individual merit, or program merit
- **HONORS, AWARDS, & RECOGNITIONS (OUTSIDE OF CHEERLEADING)**
List with description
- **OTHER SPORTS & ACTIVITIES**
List of any other sports and/or activities in which the cheerleaders of the program are involved
- **ENDORSEMENTS**
Minimum 3, maximum 8 letters of endorsement. MUST include one letter from the Athletic Director and one letter from a community member. May also include (but is not limited to) parents, students, faculty, or alumni.

Team of the Year Video Requirements

Each nominated team must include a video which includes three required sections. Videos may have the maximum length of 15 minutes.

1. **TECHNICAL-15 points**

- Dance/ motions
- Jumps/tumbling
- Stunts

2. **SPORTSMANSHIP- 40 points**

- Shows evidence of crowd involvement, sportsmanship, and team unity. May include (but is not limited to) interviews throughout the community, game footage, athlete interviews, footage from service projects
- Community service
- Team essay
- Academic Excellence

3. **CREATIVE SECTION- 45 points**

- Program will creatively answer the question: HOW DOES YOUR TEAM ACHIEVE SUCCESS? (HDYTAC)
- Portfolio
- Video
- Endorsements

Have a GREAT time with your team putting together this portfolio. Order a pizza, pull out some pictures, pen and paper, and GET CREATIVE! Have a BLAST!

Please contact Abby Manus Bates, GTOY Chair, at abbymanus@walkerschools.org or (678) 234-6279 with any questions.

Portfolios are due February 5. Remember that your team must be nominated first! Get your Nomination Form from www.georgiacheer.com today! Nominations must be postmarked by January 5.