

Concordia University Irvine

Cheerleading Team Tryout Information

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I. Team Tryout Information

White Team Definition

(All Girl - primarily composed 20 - 30 females)

The White Team members primarily lead cheers at home games, women's home basketball games, and women's home volleyball games while supporting all other women's sports on campus with the possibility of competing. The Team also makes numerous appearances at University and non-University functions as determined by the Head Coach and the Associate Athletic Director.

Green Team Definition

(Large Coed - primarily composed of 10 males and 10 females)

The Green Team members primarily lead cheers at home men's home basketball games, and men's home men's home volleyball games while support all other men's sports on campus with the possibility of competing. The Team also makes numerous appearances at University and non-University functions as determined by the Head Coach and the Associate Athletic Director.

Please note that the Green Team tryouts are by invitation only. You DO NOT need an invitation to tryout/audition for the White Team. You can attain an invitation to Green Team tryouts ONLY by submitting a video-taped entry as instructed in the videotape entry section.

II. Member Selection Process

The Concordia Spirit Program will host a two-day (for those that make the list on Day 1) tryout on **April 14th-15th, 2012** to assess the abilities, leadership skills and potential of interested and qualified candidates for one of the predetermined number of available positions. All previous members are required to tryout.

Tryouts are intended to be a low stress event. For that reason they are conducted in a practice-like environment during which the level of each candidate's skills and talents, and their ability to work with current and prospective team members, will be evaluated. A short interview with the candidate may be conducted at any time during the sessions.

Saturday will start with a clinic in the morning to learn the chant, short dance, and review stunting with the rest of the applicants, and all other skills you would like to practice. The evening (usually around 6pm) will be the actual tryout. Cheerleaders will try out with the chant and dance taught at the morning session to show technique and rhythm. They will show a toe touch, a pike, and a front hurdler, tumbling (minimum is standing back handspring), and stunting. The team will be posted at around 8pm, and the girls that make it will attend their first team meeting with the coaches at 8:30pm.

The following day is the first practice with the team to prepare you for your individual summer workout plan before camp.

Are you local? If no, our veteran cheerleaders host out of town cheerleaders in their dorms for the weekend, so that you do not have to worry about booking hotel or rental cars. We will even have rides from the OC airport if you fly in.

Actual attendance by candidates at the tryout session is highly recommended; however, any individual who cannot attend the tryout session may submit videotape for consideration. All videos must be submitted before each perspective scheduled tryout session begins and follow the format described below.

Videotape Entries

All videotape submissions must follow the format and be accompanied with a completed tryout packet.

All videos received for consideration as their final tryout (Meaning they will not be able to physically attend the scheduled tryouts), must be received no later than the due date of their perspective tryout packet (listed in the "tryout packet" and "FAQ" section below).

All videos received seeking an invitation to a tryout session (Green Team Only), must be received in our office by Thursday March 29, 2012 @ 4:00pm. Upon receipt of tryout packet and video, candidate will be notified of invitation status by e-mail or by phone depending upon their preference.

Notification of Selection

The names of persons selected for the Concordia Spirit Programs will be posted on the Concordia Spirit Program Website at <http://www.cui.edu/studentlife/student-leadership/index.aspx?id=19488> and posted on the CUI Gym Door at 8pm. A mandatory meeting will be held at 8:30 for all 2012-2013 Team Members.

Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts

Persons who wish to try out for a Concordia Spirit Program Team must meet the following minimum qualifications:

(Please note that incoming freshman and transfer students, DO NOT have to be regularly admitted in order to attend a scheduled tryout session, although all individuals selected to the spirit program WILL NOT be guaranteed admissions into the university.)

- If an incoming freshman or transfer student, has completed the regular admissions application process before the posted deadlines. Be sure to check www.cui.edu for Freshmen and Transfer Admissions Process and Deadlines prior to making your decision to tryout.
- If a current CUI student, not be on disciplinary probation.
- Have sufficient physical fitness, strength, and athletic skills to perform the cheerleader activities described below.
- Have health/hospitalization insurance in an amount comparable to the minimum coverage offered through the University's student insurance program.
- Have completed the tryout packet as describe below in the tryout packet section.

Selection Criteria

The Head Coach of the Concordia Spirit Program will select members for the Concordia Cheer Team.

Members will be chosen based on the following criteria:

- Strong leadership qualities
- Charismatic presence/personality
- Confidence
- Independence
- Voice and the Ability to involve the crowd.

Other Criteria:

Mastery, or the potential to master the following skills:

- Standing tumbling - standing back handspring minimum.
- Stunts – **See below** to view stunt requirements for White Team and/or Green Team.
- Series tumbling (i.e. Round off back handspring; tuck, layout, or full)
- Athletic physique appropriate for required activities (**WE DO NOT HAVE A HEIGHT OR WEIGHT REQUIREMENT**)
- Ability to remember routines and stunts.

Video Format

Video Submissions must contain everything on the list below.

-Video footage of candidate at a school sporting event or pep rally showing candidates ability to lead a crowd. Must be a minimum of 20 seconds in length, and can be multiple events or a single event.

In the event you cannot provide game footage, you can apply for a waiver for this criterion by providing a letter describing all reasoning. Once received the Head Coach will confirm if you can be waived from this criteria.

-Potential ability to execute a standing back handspring.

-Potential ability to execute suggested stunting criteria.

-Interview questions/topics to answer/discuss at THE END OF THE TAPE, NOT ON PAPER:

Why do I want to become a CUI Cheerleader?

What do I have to offer the program and Concordia University Irvine?

-Rank the following items, beginning with the most important and explain your reasoning.

Academics.

Being a university ambassador.

Extracurricular activities (social clubs, etc.).

Nationals competition.

Supporting athletics at the university.

III. Contact Information

Telephone

Head Coach – Shannon May : (949) 813- 4350

Email

Head Coach – Shannon May : cuicheer@gmail.com

Mail (for Video Tryout)

David Bireline, Athletic Director

Concordia Cheer Program Tryout

1530 Concordia West

Irvine, CA 92612

IV. Tryout Packet Information

All candidates must submit a completed tryout packet to the Concordia Cheer Program Office. No one will be allowed to participate in a tryout session unless Concordia Cheer has received a completed tryout packet prior to the session an individual wishes to attend. **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE FOR THIS REQUIREMENT!**

Tryout Packet and Video Due Dates Cheer (Green Team) in our office no later than: March 29th, 2012 @ 4pm

Cheer (White Team) In our office no later than: April 12th, 2012 @ 4pm

Tryout Packet Content Checklist:

-Completed medical forms

-Cover Letter

-One head to toe color photo of recruit, and one color head shot. (**Will not be returned)

-Resume of accomplishments (Individual cheer and non-cheer related activities).

-One letter of recommendation sent from current or most recent cheer / dance advisor, or coach directly to Cheer Advisor. (**Do not send in packet, have advisor/coach send letter directly to Athletic Office. Address letter to -Shannon May – CUI Cheer Coach, 1530 Concordia West, Irvine, CA 92612.)

-For incoming freshman only: one letter of recommendation from school official. (**Do not include the letter in the packet; have the school official send letter directly to the address listed above.)

-Copies of all high school transcripts from incoming freshman, and college transcripts from transfer or current UT students.

-\$10 processing fee. (We will **ONLY** accept checks or money orders payable to CUI Cheer.)

V. Frequently Asked Questions

Can I tryout to be a cheerleader if I have never been on a cheer team?

Yes. As long as you have the minimum requirements, we will be happy to train you to be an amazing collegiate cheerleader.

Can you mail/send me information regarding the program or tryouts?

We currently do not have any printed literature regarding our program or the tryout process. We have worked very hard to provide all pertinent information regarding our program and the tryout process right here on our website.

When and where are tryouts?

The information regarding dates and locations for tryouts is provided in a link located at the very top of this page.

When is my tryout packet and/or video tape due?

Cheer (Green Team) In our office no later than: March 29th, 2012 @ 4pm

Cheer (White Team) In our office no later than: April 12th, 2012 @ 4pm

Do you offer scholarships or out of state tuition waivers?

Fall and spring semester scholarships may be awarded to Concordia Cheer members based upon need, academic performance, cheerleading activity, and conduct. Scholarships will range from \$100 to \$250 a semester. We currently DO NOT provide out of state tuition waivers.

Do I need to send in a video tape if I am auditioning for the white teams?

You DO NOT need to send a video tape tryout if you will be attending the scheduled tryouts in person. You DO need to send in a video tape audition if you cannot attend the scheduled audition in person.

Do I need an invitation to attend a tryout session?

You DO NOT need an invitation to attend the White Team tryouts. You DO need an invitation to attend the Green Team Tryouts. Information on how to receive an invitation is listed above.

How can I get an invitation to attend the Green Team tryout session?

Our program constantly recruits all year long and there are two ways in which to receive an invitation to attend a Green Team tryout session. One, current veteran members of the Green Team are allowed to invite potential candidates should they meet them or observe them in person. Two, send in a video tape as formatted in our video criteria section of our website.

Can I try out for both cheer Teams?

Yes, if you choose to try out for the Green Team and are not chosen, you can then request for consideration for the White Team. It is still highly recommended that you attend, in person, each of the separate tryouts should you choose to do so. Green Team tryouts will typically be held prior to White Team tryouts.

Yes, as long as you carry a full course load as defined by your graduate studies program, you are eligible to try out for a position on the Teams.

Are freshman eligible to tryout, and can freshman make the team?

Yes, freshmen are eligible to tryout and can make the team.

How many people tryout?

The number of individuals that tryout for one of our groups vary from year to year.

If you have any questions that we did not answer in the FAQ or in the tryout material, please send your question to cui cheer@gmail.com. Thank you for your help.

Six Easy Steps for Applying To Be a University Of Concordia Cheerleader Green Team (Co-Ed) and Video Entry

Step 1 - Refer to Section V ("Frequently Asked Questions") in the **"Tryout"** section of our website before starting the tryout process.

Step 2 - Decide which squad you want to try out for. The Definition of each squad is available under the **"Tryout"** link of our website. Yes, you CAN tryout for both the orange and white squads.

Step 3 - Download, complete, and attach to Tryout Packet the required "Tryout Information Sheet" and "Medical Release" forms located in the **"Downloads"** section of our website.

Step 4 - Complete Tryout Packet and send to the Athletic Office before posted deadlines that are located in part IV of the **"Tryout"** section of our website.

| Tryout Packet Content List |
|--|
| 1. Information Sheet (available in downloads section) |
| 2. \$20 processing fee |
| 3. Color Head to Toe Photo |
| 4. Color Headshot |
| 5. Letter of Rec from most recent cheer/dance advisor |
| 6. Letter of Rec from school official (incoming freshman only) |
| 7. Transcripts |
| 8. Cover Letter |
| 9. Resume |
| 10. Other Misc. Items |
| 11. Video |
| 12. Acceptance Letter (if applicable) |

Step 5 - Send in video with completed tryout packet as outlined in the Video Format part of the **"Tryout"** section of our website.

Step 6 - Include in your cover letter a description of the purpose of your tryout packet and video. (Are you seeking an invitation to tryouts? or is your tryout packet and video being considered as your final tryout because you will not be able to physically attend a scheduled tryout?)

GOOD LUCK AND GO EAGLES!

Green Squad Stunt Requirements (Preferably with one male as the base)

The following stunts can be performed from hands or tossed to the top.

Potential to execute any of the listed stunts: -Extension -Liberty

Four Easy Steps for Applying To Be a University Of Concordia Cheerleader White Team (All -Girl) Only

Step 1 - Refer to Section V ("Frequently Asked Questions) in the **"Tryout"** section of our website before starting the tryout process.

Step 2 - Download, complete, and attach to Tryout Packet the required "Recruit Information Sheet" and "Medical Release" forms located in the Downloads section of our website.

Step 3 - Complete Tryout Packet and send to the Athletic Office before posted deadlines that are located in part IV of the **"Tryout"** section of our website.

| Tryout Packet Content List |
|--|
| 1. Information Sheet |
| 2. \$20 processing fee |
| 3. Color Head to Toe Photo |
| 4. Color Headshot |
| 5. Letter of Rec from most recent cheer/dance advisor |
| 6. Letter of Rec from school official (incoming freshman only) |
| 7. Transcripts |
| 8. Cover Letter |
| 9. Resume |
| 10. Other Misc. Items |
| 11. Video |
| 12. Acceptance Letter (if applicable) |

Step 4 - Include in your cover letter a description of the purpose of your tryout packet and video. (Is your tryout packet and video being considered as your final tryout because you will not be able to physically attend a scheduled tryout?)

GOOD LUCK AND GO EAGLES!

White Squad Stunt Requirements (Preferably executed with three bases)

If you consider yourself a base:

Potential to base all three parts (main, assist, and back-spot) of any level of stunt.

If you consider yourself a top:

Potential to top any level of stunts.

Yes, you can be considered as both a base and a top. Please inform us of what your first preference is if you choose to do so.

CUI Spirit Program Information Sheet

I am requesting consideration for the following squad: (Circle)

White Team (All-Girl)

Green Team (Co-ed)

Both

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Permanent Address:

Street

City

State

Zip

School Address: (For Current CUI Students)

Street

City

State

Zip

E-mail Address: _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Date Of Birth: ____ / ____ / _____ Height: _____ Feet _____ Inches Shoe Size: _____

T-Shirt Size: (Circle One) X-Small Small Medium Large X-Large XX- Large

Short Size: (Circle One) X-Small Small Medium Large X-Large XX- Large

Probable / Current Major: _____ Current GPA: _____