**Stephen F. Austin High School**

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**2021-2022**

**Captain/Co-Captain Tryout Packet**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position (s) Applying for: Captain Co-Captain JV Captain

Packet Includes:

* Page 2- Captain Expectations
* Page 3- Binder Requirements
* Page 4- Application Process
* Page 5- Parent/Guardian and Candidate Contract

**If you choose to apply, please turn in this packet and any other application materials to Coach Gutierrez by Friday, May 21, 2021.**

**AHS Cheer Captain Expectations**

Please read through the information in this packet carefully and consider if you are willing to take on all of the responsibilities that come with being a cheer captain – it is more than a title! Please go over this information with your parents as well to insure that they are willing and able to support you in this endeavor.

It is important to look at yourself and analyze the reason you want to become a captain. You must want more than the title of captain. You must desire to be a servant leader and be the team’s most devoted member. Keep these requirements in mind as you make your decision:

* You will dedicate many additional hours to the team throughout the year.
* You must maintain passing grades in all classes.
* You must be a role model to your team and peers.
* You must maintain excellent attendance. You will be first to arrive and last to leave.
* You must be able to critique and guide your peers with compassion and respect.
* You must help to foster an environment of growth and encouragement among the team. All team members need to trust that they can come to you for help.
* You must treat everyone fairly and equally, putting the needs of the team and what is right above yourself and friendships.
* You must earn respect and should not consider yourself above anyone else on the team.
* You must support the coaches, whether you agree with them or not. We will turn to you for your opinions, but you must remember that final decisions are the coaches to make based on what we feel is best for the team.
* You must be a leader inside and outside of school and practice.
* You must be able to work as a cohesive team with the other captains and the coaches.

Please keep in mind that not every applicant will receive a captain position, or you may not receive the position that you wanted. In these situations, bear in mind that you are still a valuable member of the team and can serve in other capacities.

The following cheerleaders are eligible to apply for a captain position:

**Varsity Captain**– any Senior who has completed at least one year on the Varsity squad

**Varsity Co-Captains (2)**– any Junior\* or Senior on Varsity

\*Junior candidates must have completed one year on Varsity

**JV Captain** – Any member of JV

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**Captain Leadership Positions Defined:**

***Game Leader****:* Makes game plans, leads warm up/stretching, critiques evaluates performances/games, etc.

***Practice Leader:*** makes practice plans/agenda, teaches cheers/chants/band dances, leads practices, plans conditioning, critiques practice, etc.

***Social/Spirit Leader****:* plans team bonding, makes big/little plans, plans for opponent cheer team gift basket, etc.

*All captain positions are responsible for communication to the team!*

**AHS Cheer Captain Binder Requirements**

Each candidate must create a binder including the following (each in its own tab):

1. A speech that describes why you want to be a captain and an overview of your ideas for the 2021-2022 school year
2. Fundraising Ideas (at least 3)
3. Pep rallies themes (at least 3)
4. Spirit Days
5. Practice schedule (for the week) & (in cheer class)
6. Practice agenda
7. Your chant/cheer with motions written out
8. Team bonding ideas: during camp and throughout the year
9. Any other ideas that you want to include in your binder

**Captain Application Process**

Each applicant must:

1. Complete contract and email to Coach Gutierrez at Brianna.gutierrez@fortbendisd.com by May 21, 2021
2. Complete Captain/Co-Captain Questions before May 21, 2021.

Questions Form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QWJ9SRo5d0KRrL3SqZ9wVOkEdaUpomhLihl50MDRjABURDFQOTZEU1lUUVlPUUQxU0s5RFlLVVQzUC4u>

1. Request 2 teacher recommendation forms from classroom teachers. Teacher recommendations must be turned into Coach Gutierrez by the teacher **NOT** the cheerleader. The recommendation form is attached at the back of this packet. Teacher recommendations are due by Friday, May 21th. Make sure to give your teachers plenty of time to complete them!



Teacher Recommendation Form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QWJ9SRo5d0KRrL3SqZ9wVOkEdaUpomhLihl50MDRjABUQjI1TUxNWkRITDFQOFU3QlBLTlZLUVdSRi4u>

1. Create a cheer to present to the team at practice
2. Create a cheer /chant binder to present to the team.
3. Give a short speech to the team explaining what you would like to accomplish as captain and what your goals for the year are.

**Reminder:** *The team will vote on the cheer captains after all candidates have had their chance to teach and given their speeches. However, the final decision comes down to the coaches and any other members of the selection panel. We value the input of the team greatly, but it is not the only factor that is considered in selection*

**Captain Candidate/ Parent Contract**

 **Candidate:**

I,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, understand that I must meet the eligibility requirements to try out for Captain. I understand that I will have additional obligations and responsibilities. I will be expected to be self-disciplined, fairly administer discipline, give orders and set an example for other Bulldog Cheerleaders. I understand that I will have additional responsibilities outside of normal team practice times during the year. I understand that more will be expected of me than a regular squad member and I am willing to give what it takes to be an exceptional Captain. I understand that my coach has the right to discipline me for falling short of her expectations of a Captain which could include dismissal from the Captain position. I understand that I am expected to attend all AHS Cheer activities, mandatory or optional. I understand that it is my duty to uphold and abide by the cheerleading handbook. I will support the coach at all times. I will accept her decisions and not expect an explanation. I understand that, as a Captain, I will be a goodwill ambassador for the Bulldog Cheerleaders and Stephen F. Austin High School and will accept this responsibility with pride and dedication. This means that I must set an excellent example in and out of school and cheerleading activities. In signing this form, I make a commitment to my team, my coaches, and to myself to accept the office offered graciously and fulfill all obligations assigned. I am expected to serve a complete one year term.

**Parent/Guardian:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_has my permission to try out for the AHS Cheerleaders Captain. I have read and understand all additional obligations and responsibilities that will be expected of her. I will encourage and support her in this journey. I will partner with the coach in holding her accountable to these obligations and responsibilities that she is choosing to take on.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_