

To Whom It May Concern:

For the past 40 years, the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship has been the culmination of the season that cheerleaders look forward to every year. The UCA NHSCC is endorsed by the NFHS, which reflects the values we share and the high standards we have developed for our camp curriculum, regional qualifiers and the NHSCC.

We feel strongly that it's important for teams to attend the NHSCC because it gives them the opportunity to showcase their skills and celebrate each other (especially the seniors), despite the challenges this year has brought. This year, more than ever, the athletes need this experience. Many young people are feeling the adverse effects of not being able to be in schools and with their peers. Nationals is an opportunity to celebrate them and all the hard work they do year-round in raising school spirit.

Because we want every athlete to have this experience, and we know how important it is, our team at Varsity Spirit has worked closely with our partners of 25 years at the *Walt Disney World Resort* to make this experience as safe, rewarding and fun as possible for everyone.

Here are some of the updates that UCA and the *Walt Disney World Resort* are making based on the guidance from health authorities, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and appropriate government agencies. The detailed information can be reviewed <u>HERE</u> and some of the highlights are listed below:

- Each team will have a designated person as their *Safety Champion*. This person will be responsible for monitoring everyone's health and ensuring that everyone follows the safety requirements, such as mandatory face coverings and physical distancing. All Safety Champions will receive additional training prior to the event administered by the *Walt Disney World Resort*. If we are approved to attend, ______ will be our Safety Champion.
- Anyone planning to travel should monitor themselves for symptoms for COVID-19 listed by the CDC and check their temperatures every day, starting 7 days prior to travel. Varsity Spirit strongly recommends you get tested for COVID-19 72 hours before arriving in Orlando. If anyone does test positive or develops symptoms prior to traveling, they should stay home.
- Temperature screenings and health questionnaires will be required upon arrival to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Spectator viewing will be limited therefore the cheerleaders won't be staying in the venues to watch other teams.
- UCA / Disney has also increased sanitization measures throughout venues, including enhanced cleaning protocols, hand sanitization stations and more frequent cleaning of performance surfaces. There will also be longer intervals between team practice and performance times and increased physical distancing throughout the practice and performance areas.

For additional health and safety information about the Walt Disney World Resort, <u>click here</u>. In addition to its safety protocols, the *Walt Disney World Resort* has introduced a new Park Reservation system, where reservations for at least one of the theme parks is guaranteed with all tickets purchased from



Varsity Spirit. This gives cheerleaders the chance to bond with each other and experience the magic of the *Walt Disney World Resort*.

From the competition to the parks and every moment in between, nationals is an experience unlike any other that creates memories to last a lifetime. And although the event will look different this year, the memories will be just as – or maybe even more – meaningful.

If you have questions, your coach can set up a meeting with their Varsity Spirit State Director to review the information above. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Bill Seely

President

VARSITY SPIRIT