

Dear Coaches, Family and Friends:

It's almost time for the 2022 UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship. We're excited to bring this championship experience to you and your team as safely as possible, while still capturing the Disney magic you've come to know and expect from UCA & UDA.

This email contains VERY IMPORTANT information for you to go over with your team members and family traveling to Orlando with you. We suggest giving a copy of this letter to every participant to share with their parents even if they have been to our Championship in the past.

Transportation:

Transportation to and from the airport is not included in the Hotel Travel Package. If you are interested in booking transportation through Mears Connect, rates are \$14 per person each way or \$28 round trip. This is a \$2 per person each way discount or \$4 Round trip from regular Mears Connect pricing. If you would like to book transportation through Mears Connect, please click HERE. If you have already booked through Mears and wish to take advantage of this discount, you must cancel your reservation and rebook using the link above. You can cancel your reservation by emailing ConnectGroup@mears.com. You can book transportation through whoever you wish but wanted to offer Mears Connect as an option.

Arrival to Walt Disney World Resort:

The Hotel you have been assigned to is: Disney's All Star Music Resort 1801 West Buena Vista Drive Lake Buena Vista, FL 34747 407-939-6000

When you arrive at the Walt Disney World Resort, you should be dropped off at the front desk of your assigned hotel -Disney's All Star Music Resort. This is where ONE PERSON, the main contact on the room reservation will check in and receive room keys for the group. Please make sure while you are waiting for your contact person to check in that you stay physically distanced from others and if indoors, wear your mask at all times. Once you receive your keys, you can take your luggage to your rooms and get settled in.

Early Arrival:

It is very important that you know ahead of time that rooms are not guaranteed to be ready until after 4:00 pm. If you arrive earlier, the hotel will gladly store your luggage so that you can go out and enjoy the day shopping at Disney Springs, hanging out by the pool, or visiting a Theme Park, etc. There are bathrooms and showers located on property near the pool areas for your convenience.

Luggage:

Be sure to label each bag with your team name and hotel for easy identification. It is also highly recommended that you pack your competition uniform and any other necessary items in your carry-on bags in case your checked luggage gets delayed.

Registration with UCA/UDA:

After checking in at the front desk, ONE PERSON, the contact person on your registration/invoice, should head to the next stop, registration with the Varsity Spirit Staff at the Varsity Registration Tent – located in front of Celebrity Hall between Music and Sports Resort at your **confirmed reservation time.** You should have already received an email notification with information on what you need to bring and how to reserve your check-in appointment time. The email was sent on January 4th to register for your appointment. To ensure that everything runs smoothy, please do not arrive to your check-in time more than 15 minutes early. Coaches will



need to bring signed copies of the release waivers for each athlete and coach to registration as well as their completed athlete eligibility form. Also, coaches need to provide proof of USA Cheer Membership and music verification information. Just a reminder that masks are required inside the registration tent.

Friends and Family that are on the hotel travel package that registered separately from the team, will need to sign up for a registration time to receive name tags and Celebration Party bands as well as other pertinent information concerning the championship. The contact person for the invoice will need to make the reservation. Just a reminder that masks are required inside the registration tent.

Registration times are listed below, again you MUST have an appointment to enter the Varsity Registration Tent.

Wednesday, January 12th – 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Thursday, January 13th - 9:00 am – 9:00 pm Friday, January 14th - 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

** If you are delayed in your arrival and cannot make your check-in appointment time at registration, please come to Celebrity Hall during scheduled registration hours to reschedule your appointment.

UCA & UDA Championship Office Hours:

The Championship Office is located in Celebrity Hall and the hours are listed below.

Wednesday, January 129:00 am - 9:00 pmThursday, January 139:00 am - 9:00 pmFriday, January 149:00 am - 10:00 pmSaturday, January 158:00 am - 10:00 pmSunday, January 168:00 am - 10:00 pmMonday, January 178:00 am - 3:00 pm

Order of Competition and Schedule of Events:

You may view the order of competition and the event schedule on <u>uca.varsity.com</u> or <u>uda.varsity.com</u>.

Pre-ordered Meals at Resorts:

Disney will be offering the option to pre-order meals at the resorts. It is highly suggested that if you are planning on eating a team meal, that you pre-order them. If you are interested in pre-ordering, please click <u>HERE</u> to see the menus and pricing. Meals must be ordered at least 5 days prior to when you would like them.

Competition Venues:

This year's competitions will take place in two different venues: The Arena at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex and the Field House at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Admission into ESPN Wide World of Sports is included only for those on the UCA/UDA hotel travel package AND anyone purchasing Disney tickets from Varsity Spirit.

Anyone needing to purchase tickets into ESPN Wide World of Sports can <u>CLICK HERE</u> to purchase them for \$40 per day. Please pre-purchase these online prior to arriving in Orlando. Once you purchase your ticket online, you will receive an email from ESPN Wide World of Sports with your tickets. When you arrive at the Sports Complex, you will show your ticket barcode to enter. The \$40.00 admission will get you into both the Arena and the Field House.

Advancement Announcements and Awards:

We will be doing all announcements for advancing to finals in the venue as well as streaming on Varsity TV. We are planning on in person awards this year in the scheduled venue. College Dance Teams, please be sure to bring your warmup to wear during awards.



Private Buses:

If your team is bringing a chartered bus or renting a bus during your trip, please have them pick your team up in the parking lot closest to your hotel rooms. Disney will not allow buses to pull into the front lobby areas and hold for any amount of time. At the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, private chartered buses will be directed to load and unload in the private bus parking lot.

Performance Order and Scoring:

The top scoring 50% of teams will advance from Semi-Finals to Finals. The Semi-Finals order of competition was randomly drawn in our office. The Finals order will be in the reverse order of competition from the Semi-Finals ranking.

USA Cheer Membership and access to the Warmup and Backstage area:

This is just a reminder that any coach, choreographer, band directors, administration, or personnel wishing to access the warmup area, backstage or coaches' box must have a USA Cheer Coach, Dance or Professional Membership. When coaches register on arrival day, they will have to show a photo ID and proof of membership for each person from your school who wants access to receive their wristband. Once your membership is complete, you can print your membership card, or save and display it on your mobile device at event. CLICK HERE to learn more and to complete the steps required before you arrive in Orlando. There will be no exceptions to this requirement, so please be sure to complete it prior to arriving in Orlando.

Music:

All teams must provide their own device for use on the event provided sound system. <u>NEW!</u> There will no longer be a pre-check music area at the music table. Music should be on a digital music player/iPod/iPhone. CD's will no longer be allowed, and CD players will not be provided at competition. Music must be recorded at the correct tempo and loaded onto an MP3 device. Please make sure that all devices have a headphone jack to connect to sound system and are fully charged, volume turned up and placed in airplane mode. Please ensure that jacks are clean and free of any debris which may impact connectivity. You will need to acquire anadapter in advance if your player does not have a headphone jack. Coaches will be escorted from the staging area tothe music play area. We highly suggest that a coach plays the music and not a participant.

Walt Disney World Tickets-VERY IMPORTANT:

Once you are paid in full, you will receive an email from Varsity Spirit with your theme park ticket numbers for each person on your invoice. You will then need to complete the steps below to enter ESPN Wide World of Sports or any Theme Park. If you have paid in full and have not received your ticket number email, please contact your Registration Specialist. If you do not complete the steps below, it could delay you and your team getting into ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex.

Ticket Linking and Park Reservations

If you have not done so already, download the MyDisney Experience app to link your theme park tickets and make a park reservation. As a reminder, we highly recommend that Guests make their theme park reservations as soon as they receive their ticket confirmations, as park availability can change and is limited. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the Disney How-To Guide for ticket linking!

If you have any issues or trouble linking your Walt Disney World tickets, please contact the Disney Guest Help Desk at 407-939-4357.

ESPN Wide World of Sports Access

If you are not planning to visit a theme park during your visit, you still must link your tickets through your MyDisney Experience app to gain access to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. No Park reservation is required to enter the Sports Complex.



Sunday Night Championship Celebration Party

We are so excited to have our Celebration Party this year at Magic Kingdom ® Park! The park will be closed to the public. The following attractions will be open from 10:00 pm-1:30 pm

- Astro Orbiter
- Space Mountain ®
- Tomorrowland Speedway
- Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin ®
- Seven Dwarfs Mine Train
- Mad Tea Party

We will have a DJ set up on the Castle Stage! This DJ will play until 2:00 am. (The DJ plays thirty minutes longer than the attractions are open) Select Food and Beverage locations will be open as well. As a reminder, you must wear face coverings in any indoor location as well as in any que lines.

Dress is casual. The cost of the Celebration Party is included in the College Hotel travel package and wristbands will be given out at registration. You do not need a Park Reservation to attend this Party and it does not take a day off of your Theme Park ticket. For those teams or family members who didn't purchase the hotel travel package, admission into the Celebration Party is \$55.00. Extra tickets (wristbands) are limited and will be for sale by credit card only, no cash and only during the registration times listed on the previous page. Wristbands will NOT be sold the night of the party at the park.

TRANSPORTATION IS NOT PROVIDED FOR THOSE PURCHASING EXTRA TICKETS. Walt Disney World buses DO NOT shuttle to Disney Magic Kingdom® Park this evening due to the park being closed to the public. Those purchasing extra wristbands must provide their OWN TRANSPORTATION. PLEASE NOTE: Each group of minors attending the Celebration Party must be accompanied by an adult chaperone (21 years or older) in order to be allowed into the Party. No liquids of any kind will be allowed in the park. Liquid medication should be reported to the front gate Disney Cast Members.

Coaches Webinar

Instead of having coaches meetings on site at the resorts, we will email your team contact person a video webinar. The email with this video will be sent soon. This will allow you to prepare for your trip and to share information with all of your coaches. Once you arrive in Orlando, we will have a separate coaches' registration and our UCA/UDA representatives available for any questions you may have.

Photography and Video Policy:

The safety and security of our participants is very important to us. If you or any members of your team suspect that anyone is taking inappropriate photos or videos of our participants, please contact one of our Event Staff immediately. All press requests will be taken seriously, and a contract must be signed prior to clearance being given. For 2022, due to venue restrictions, full press clearance will not be granted for any outside media groups. Team photographers can request clearance to photograph their team only by contacting Emily below no later than Thursday, January 13th. We hope thatyou understand the seriousness of this issue and give us your full support. For questions, please email Emily Zemlachenko, ezemlachenko@varsity.com.

UEP Photography

Due to health and safety protocols, there will not be team photos or any on-site photo booths at this event. Have no fear - Universal Event Photography still has your team covered! UEP is offering contactless pre-orders for their very popular action photo digital files package. Get all the action photos from your routine for one price and share them with your team! Your order will be delivered via email link after the event. Bring home the best action photos of your team's performance with the quality you can trust, only with UEP!



Additional Event Reminders:

- Your health and safety is always our #1 priority. Before arriving to the championship, take a moment to review our <u>Championship Experience Updates</u> and be sure to talk to your team's Safety Champion if you have any questions.
- Each team must have a Safety Champion who is 18 years or older and who is not the coach. Each Safety Champion must complete the Safety Champion training. If you have multiple teams, you must have a different Safety Champion for each team. Safety Champion training information will be sent out in the coming days.
- You must wear your blue championship name tag to ride the championship buses, your name tag and lanyard is your ticket to use this special transportation. To view the Championship Bus Schedule -click HERE.
- You'll find detailed information on the championship plus tips on how to make the most of your championship experience at the Walt Disney World Resort on Channel 77 in your room.
- Stay up to date with full coverage of the championship including routine videos, results, behind the scenes features and more on Varsity TV.
- o Be sure to join the <u>2022 UCA & UDA College Coaches BAND Group</u> for important updates and information during the competition weekend.

Good luck and travel safely. If you have any questions, please call our Customer Service Specialist at 1-888-CheerUCA (1-888-243-3782) or 1-800-DanceUDA (1-800-326-2383).

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Berry Senior Vice President Competitions & Special Events

Catherine Morris
Vice President
Competitions & Special Events

Nicole Franklin College Registration Director