

2025 PSFCA Cheerleading Tryouts

Dear Cheerleading Coaches:

On October 26, 2024, and November 23, 2024, the Big 33 and East/West cheerleading programs will be holding three in person tryouts to select our cheerleaders. This process has proven to be successful in selecting cheerleaders that are the best of the best, and we are looking to continue that success into 2025. The 2025 Game is scheduled for May 18th for East/West and Memorial Day Weekend at Cumberland Valley HS in Cumberland County with the game on Sunday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m.

Tentative Practice schedule: Subject to Change
All Practices are Mandatory.

April 11th-13th – Stunting/Choreography
May 16th-18th Choreography/Youth Camp/Game Day (E/W)
May 24 – 27 Choreography/Game Weekend
Sunday May 25th BIG 33 GAME DAY
Monday May 27th RAIN DATE

This year, we invite current Juniors and Seniors from Pennsylvania or Maryland who currently cheer for their high school and/or an all-star squad and are in good standing to tryout for Big 33. We also invite current Juniors and Seniors from Pennsylvania ONLY who currently cheer for their high school and/or an all-star squad and are in good standing to try out for East/West. There will NOT be a virtual option. To be considered for one of the rosters athletes must attend one of the in-person tryouts.

It is our goal to have the cheerleaders leave this game with such an experience that it serves as the pinnacle of their high school cheerleading career.

All cheerleaders registering for tryouts must meet the qualifications listed below. There will be a maximum of 70 cheerleaders chosen for the Big 33 team. For East/West can have up to 80 cheerleaders. They will be divided evenly between the Pennsylvania and Maryland football teams. There will also be several alternates selected; in the event someone needs to resign their position. Please note that alternates may be called upon at the last minute. The 2025 Big 33 and East/West Cheer Team will be posted on the Big 33 website (www.Big33.org) as soon as the coaches have made their decisions, following the final tryout. Please do not call/email the Big 33 office asking if you made the team – we are a small office and are very busy.

The following is the list of requirements to tryout. Candidates MUST:

- Be current juniors or seniors, who currently cheer for their high school and/or an All-Star Squad.
- Be available for all practices on which are still being determined. Tentative Schedule listed above.
- It is the responsibility of the cheerleader to provide transportation to all practices. If the distance to travel each day is too far, we will do our best to provide a host family for you.
- Each cheerleader selected to a squad is required to raise money for a half page program advertisement.

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- Be students who are in good standing, both academically and discipline wise. (i.e. academic probation or drug and/or alcohol infractions) Students who do not remain in good standing throughout the school year will be dismissed from the Big 33 or East/West cheer team.
- Have a Coaches Evaluation submitted by the cheerleader's CURRENT high school or All-Star squad cheer coach. (The coach that completes eval will determine your team placement)
- Have at least a 2.5 grade point average.
- Not have a history or record of drug / alcohol infractions.
- Possess leadership qualities and teamwork ethic.
- Demonstrate respect for authority.
- Be willing to perform other stunt positions as needed.
- Provide a photocopy of a current report card.
- Provide an individual photo in their high school cheerleading uniform (no larger than 4x6 and no team pictures) – name printed on back!

The following is a list of items for submission for tryouts.

(Candidates MUST bring all items listed to the tryout registered to attend):

- ☐ Coach Evaluation Form (Completed by coach link will be sent)
- ☐ Waiver/Release Form - completed and signed by parent/guardian.
- ☐ Photocopy of cheerleader's current report card - please do not bring original!
- ☐ Big 33 Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form (5 Pages)
- ☐ PIAA Physical Form from your current HS or All-Star Cheer Team (must be completed during 24-25 school year)
- ☐ Participation Release Form
- ☐ Pride Rules (Digital) will be sent later.
- ☐ Individual Photo in their high school uniform (no larger than 4x6 and no team pictures) – name printed on back!
- ☐ Pack a Lunch and bring drinks and snacks.
- ☐ Remember: dress appropriately (practice shorts, top, sports bra, sneakers, hair pulled away from face)

Minimum skills to tryout include:

- A standing back handspring (preferred, but not mandatory).
- Must be willing to execute all tumbling and stunting on grass, track, and turf in during game week.
- Advanced jumps technique.
- Strong dance and motion technique.
- The ability to execute extensions, liberties, and heel stretches (flyers must be standing on their right leg for all single leg stunts)

Tryouts include jump execution, tumbling demonstration, and stunt demonstration with other tryout candidates and the performance of a cheer and dance. Video links with the cheer and dance will be sent upon registration/payment and in advance of tryout. It will NOT be taught in person. Each cheerleader will have to learn the cheer and dance from the video and perform them at tryouts. The tryout will include only a brief review.

Each cheerleader trying out is required to pay a \$50.00 *non-refundable* registration fee to help defray the incurred costs associated with the Big 33 cheerleading program. **Tryouts will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024 (8 am-4 pm)** at Cheer Tyme 200 Lambs Gap Rd, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050 (Register by October 13th)

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to guarantee a t-shirt October 20th is the LAST day to register for this date) and **Saturday, November 23, 2024 (8 am-4 pm)** at Archbishop Spalding HS (8080 New Cut Rd Severn, MD 21144 (Register by November 10th to guarantee a t-shirt November 17th is the LAST day to register for this date). Once, registered for one of the dates, an email will be sent with details for in person tryout. Registration will be from 15 minutes prior to the tryout time. If inclement weather, please check our website – www.big33.org.

How to register for Tryouts:

- Click on the 2025 33 Cheerleading Registration Form (www.big33.org)
- Complete the entire form on-line.
- You will be asked to pay the registration fee of \$50.00 through PayPal if you have an account and if not with a credit card, upon completing the form.

All necessary cheerleading materials and information will be posted on our website or emailed as soon as it becomes available – please check it often! We do not mail information to cheerleaders and coaches. Please check the website (www.big33.org) and your email for updates!

Please remember the selected cheerleaders will need to be available in Mechanicsburg for all practices prior to game day for promotional work and practice – no exceptions! A more detailed schedule will be released closer to game day. The cheerleaders will cheer the entire game as well as entertain the crowd with a halftime show.

We are very excited about the 2025 Big 33 and East/West games. We hope that you will share in our excitement and help us with the tryout process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at big33cheer@gmail.com

Best regards,

Destinie Hills
Big 33 Cheerleading Coordinator