

2006-07 TRYOUT OVERVIEW

The 2006-07 Hales Franciscan Spartans Co-Ed Cheer Squad is conducting tryouts for both current and prospective members. This is our uniform replacement year so we **do not** have a set limit on the number of good candidates we can accept! Uniforms are owned by Hales and loaned to the cheerleaders. We are looking for as many motivated, talented and dedicated cheerleaders as we can find. Could you be one of them?

Let me explain how our tryouts work. They are comprised of four (4) main components:

1. Attendance at three (3) 2-hour clinics held before tryout day (you **must** attend at least one to be allowed to tryout).
2. A personal interview before a panel of judges to include administrators, student officers, parents and/or other representatives of Hales Franciscan for which you will receive a score;
3. Performing cheers, chants, dances, stunts, tumbling, etc. before a separate panel of Tryout Judges for which you will receive a score; and
4. Attending a summer cheer camp with the team.

Tryout Clinics

The three tryout clinics will be held from **4:30 – 6:30 pm** in the **Hales Franciscan gym at 4930 S. Cottage Grove** as follows:

- Ø **Wednesday, April 19th**
- Ø **Thursday, April 20th**
- Ø **Friday, April 21st** (last day to turn in signed paperwork)

The purpose of the clinics are to (1) teach and practice the material every candidate will be expected to perform at tryouts; (2) give the Head Coach and current team officers an overview of the level of skill and experience represented in the pool of candidates; and (3) to make sure everyone knows what is expected of them during tryouts, that all paperwork is completed and turned in, and to answer any initial questions that candidates or their families might have.

To participate in the tryout clinics, you must have practice clothes (shorts, t-shirt, cheer or athletic shoes).

Material will include one or more cheers and chants, a short dance, basic stunts, and the Hales Fight Song.

Tryout Day

Official tryout day is on Saturday, April 22nd from 11 am – 2 pm. Candidates may leave as soon as their interview and tryout is completed.

The personal interviews will be conducted before the start of the performance tryouts during the warm-up period. Interviews will be held in a separate room and have a separate panel of three judges. The personal interview is worth **20 points** toward your total tryout score. (See the sample form of possible interview questions.)

Once all interviews are conducted, candidates will be called to the gym by two's or three's to perform the material and skills taught or practiced at the clinics in front of a separate panel of three

Hales Franciscan High School – Spartan Cheerleaders

judges. The panel will include former and current high school and/or college cheerleaders, as well as a representative from the Athletic Department. The performance tryout score is worth **70 points**.

The total points any candidate can win is **300**. This includes 30 bonus points that the Coach or judges can add at their discretion in special cases. Sample score sheets are attached so you can see exactly what you should work on to get the best scores possible!

Announcement of Results

Results will be **posted** on Hales' athletic website on the April 29th. No other notification will be given. Go to: www.hfspartans.com . You should also go to the website for updates.

Click the "Select a sport" drop-down menu in the upper right-hand corner and click "cheerleading" at the bottom of the list to get to our pages.

Mandatory Parent Meeting

The new squad members (including alternates if chosen), will be required to attend a **mandatory meeting with their parents on Saturday, May 6th at 2 pm**. If you receive a position on the squad and do not attend this meeting, your position will be given to the next highest-scoring alternate! (If you are unable to attend for a **valid** reason, discuss it with the Coach immediately!) The meeting should only last about one hour. Refreshments will be served.

The purpose of the meeting is to make sure both parents and squad members understand the expectations and requirements of being a Hales Franciscan Spartan cheerleader, to answer any questions parents may have and to **take measurements** for uniforms and shoes. Your score sheets will also be available for your review (no, you can't take them home!).

All members will be expected to pay **\$50 at the meeting** toward the purchase of their campwear (which should total no more than \$100). The Coach will also have ordering information available for practice cheer shoes and other gear you may need immediately and that you can purchase yourself.

Other fees will be required for specific items and events, including, but not limited to the following:

- Ø Summer cheer camp and campwear
- Ø Briefs, socks and ribbons
- Ø Hoodies
- Ø Team shoes (for performance, not practice)
- Ø Warm-ups

Specific fundraising activities and needs will be presented and discussed at the meeting. We will also be selling extra cheer gear (t-shirts, shorts, shoes, etc.) that we have on-hand at liquidation prices.

Questions . . .?

You or your parent can feel free to email Coach DJ directly if you have any questions that are not addressed on our web page by writing to her at halescheer@msn.com. (Make sure you save this address in your email address book so your spam blocker will allow the coach's return email to reach you.)

Good luck at Tryouts and thanks for your interest in the Hales Franciscan Spartans!

CHEERLEADER APPLICATION & SQUAD DATA FORM

For Office Use Only

Assign #: _____
 V [] M [] F []
 Recv'd: _____

Complete this form and return it to: Spartan Cheerleaders
 Hales Franciscan High School
 4930 South Cottage Grove Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60615
 (Or fax to 773-285-7025)

SEASON: 2006-07

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____

Home Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Home Telephone: (____) _____ Cell or Pager#: (____) _____

High School: _____

Class of/Graduation Year: _____ School Telephone: (____) _____

Birthdate: _____ Most Recent G.P.A.: _____
Month Day Year (2.0 or above required)

Parent/Guardian: _____

Home Telephone: (____) _____ Work Telephone: (____) _____

List Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Dance or Sport experience below: [if "None" write it in the first space]

| YEAR FROM-TO | SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION | DESCRIBE SKILLS |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

(Use back of application if you need more space.)

IF RETURNING MEMBER FROM YEAR BEFORE, CHECK HERE AND CONTINUE: []

Additional questions for New Candidates:

- If you are accepted, will this be your first cheerleading squad? Yes [] No []
- Are you on or plan to join an all-star or other cheer team? Yes [] No []
- Do you plan to hold a job during the coming year? Yes [] No []
- Will your family give you their full support? Yes [] No []
- Do you know anyone at Hales (student, cheerleader, etc.)? Yes [] No []

This form must be completely filled out and signed by both the parent or guardian and the student. It must also be accompanied by the Informed Consent Form, which also must be signed by the parent/guardian. If you have any questions, please call (312) 567-0700.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



INFORMED CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hales Franciscan Spartan Cheerleader/Crowd Leader

As parent/guardian of _____, a minor child who wishes to participate in cheerleading tryouts for and/or join the varsity or junior varsity cheerleading team for the 2006-07 school year at *HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL*, 4930 South Cottage Grove, Chicago, IL, I _____ understand that if she/he is accepted, she/he will be required to participate in all cheerleading activities of *HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL*. I also understand that my child must adhere to certain requirements imposed by both the Illinois State High School Association (IHSA) and Hales relative to grade point average, behavior, status in school, attendance, etc.

I understand that my daughter/son is required to be fit and in good physical condition and that activities in which she/he will be expected to participate are strenuous and require physical and athletic agility. It has been fully explained to me that these activities include, but are not necessarily limited to a variety of gymnastics routines which may include somersaults, back handsprings, aerials and round-offs; that there will be a variety of mounts and stunts requiring the coordination of more than one participant on the squad; that these activities will not be confined to any one site or venue, but rather a variety of sites and places throughout the school year.

It has also been explained to me that cheerleading is an activity in which there is a risk of injury; that any one of the cheerleading routines or activities involving my daughter/son, in general, could result in serious injury, including partial or total paralysis, even death, similar to other athletic activities and sports. I have discussed this with my child and with the understanding of the possibility of serious or catastrophic injury or death and the risks involved, I do consent to the participation of our daughter/son in this activity. I also understand that my child will be informed of and expected to adhere to the current rules and regulations for cheerleading safety as set forth by both the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFSHSA).

I also understand that my daughter/son will be required to travel to *HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL* on her/his own for practices, events, and meetings and that such travel is my sole responsibility. I also understand that my daughter/son will be required to travel to locations off-campus for the purpose of participating in cheerleading activities such as games, competitions, camps, etc., and that transportation may be provided to her/him by the coaches, advisors, parents and/or the school. I consent to such transportation.

I attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, my daughter/son has no physical, medical, or mental impairment or other limitation that would restrict her/his ability to fully participate in this activity as described and explained to me. I have been informed that my child should be examined by a physician prior to participation in cheerleading and that we should submit a Medical Examination form completed and signed by that physician.

I agree to, and by the signing of this agreement, release the coaches, assistant coaches, volunteers, staff of *HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL* and the Archdiocese of Chicago from any claim of negligence by me, my daughter/son, our heirs, executors and assigns, from any liability arising from claims for damages due to injury to my daughter/son and any claims for loss of or damage to her/his property which may arise out of her/his participation in the *HALES FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL* cheerleading program for 2006-07. I agree to fulfill the required financial requirements relative to payment of fees, expenses, fundraising, etc. I also understand that such fees and payments are non-refundable. I also understand that additional agreements, waivers and consent forms may be required if my child is offered a position on the cheerleading squad and that such signings will be a condition of her/his acceptance.

In witness whereof, I have affixed my signature to this consent and agreement as dated below.

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| (Parent's signature) | (Date) |
| (Parent's signature) | (Date) |

Please read carefully before you sign. You are encouraged to ask questions and to clarify any requirements or conditions of this consent form before you sign it. This form must be signed and returned to Hales before your child can try out or audition for cheerleading.

5. What positive qualities do you feel this student will bring to cheerleading? _____

6. What qualities do you feel this student needs to improve or overcome to be her personal best?

7. Do you feel the student is mature and responsible enough to handle this activity without allowing it to adversely affect her performance at her own school? If not, please explain.

8. Please add any additional comments below.

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| Your Name: _____ |
| Title: _____ |
| School: _____ |
| Daytime phone number: _____ |
| Date Completed: _____ Signed: _____ |

THANK YOU!

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE STUDENT WHEN COMPLETED.

Cheerleader à Return signed and completed Teacher References from two (2) different teachers, counselors, coaches or administrators at your school along with a copy of your **most recent semester grade report**.

These documents must be returned by **Friday, April 21, 2006**.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

JUDGE: _____

The Interview must be 3 minutes or less. It is used to evaluate the level of communication and confidence in dealing with strangers, and the candidate's sincerity in wanting to join the Hales cheerleading squad. This is **not** a test -- there are **no** right or wrong answers. Use your best judgment and "gut feeling" to help us identify candidates who really *want* to be here!

Please choose any of the following questions to interview each candidate. If you would like to add your own question, please write it in the space at the bottom. Record your scores on the Interview Score Sheets. Return these sheets after interviews are completed.

Ask candidate to briefly tell you about herself (name, age, school, grade, family, activities, key achievements, etc.) before you begin the questioning.

1. Why do you want to be a cheerleader?
2. What three qualities do you have that will make you a success on this squad?
3. Fill in the blank: "People really get on my nerves when they _____?"
4. How do you feel when you lose at something?
5. What do you plan to do after graduating high school?
6. What are the three best things about you? What are the three worst things?
7. What would you do if someone booed at you during a routine?
8. What is your favorite sport?
9. What kind of system do you have for organizing your time?
10. What does it mean to be a "team player" and how important is it in cheerleading?
11. What would you do if you saw a teammate doing something they shouldn't do?
12. Why do you want to cheer for Hales Franciscan instead of your own/another school?
13. Is there anything going on in your life now that could prevent you from fulfilling your position if you are selected for this squad?

Additional Questions:

TRYOUT SCORE SHEET

CANDIDATE#: _____ JUDGE: _____

| | <u>Possible Score</u> | <u>Actual Score</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| I. PROJECTION | | |
| a. Voice (articulation, clarity, loudness) | 5 | _____ |
| b. Showmanship (facial expression, eye contact, enthusiasm, smile) | 5 | _____ |
| II. FUNDAMENTAL CHEER SKILLS | | |
| a. Motions (sharpness, execution, technique) | 10 | _____ |
| b. Jumps (variety, technique, prep/landing) | 10 | _____ |
| III. DANCE SKILLS | | |
| a. Technique (precision, synchronization) | 5 | _____ |
| b. Showmanship (facials, smile, eye contact) | 5 | _____ |
| IV. TUMBLING SKILLS | | |
| a. Overall variety, technique | 10 | _____ |
| b. Required elements | 10 | _____ |
| V. OVERALL APPEARANCE | | |
| a. Well-groomed, appropriately dressed, hair off face, good posture, stance when waiting, spirit on/off, looks like a cheerleader, etc. | 10 | _____ |
| TOTAL: | (70) | _____ |

COMMENTS:

INTERVIEW SCORE SHEET

CANDIDATE#: _____ JUDGE: _____

| | <u>Possible Score</u> | <u>Actual Score</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| I. PRESENTATION | 10 | _____ |
| a. Grooming (neat, clean, good, posture) | | |
| b. Attitude (positive, good manners, articulate, confident) | | |
| c. Personality (friendly, people-person, likable) | | |
| II. RESPONSES | 10 | _____ |
| a. Honest, sincere | | |
| b. Goal-oriented, shows leadership | | |
| c. Fits Hales tradition | | |

COMMENTS

INTERVIEW SCORE SHEET

CANDIDATE#: _____ JUDGE: _____

| | <u>Possible Score</u> | <u>Actual Score</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| I. PRESENTATION | 10 | _____ |
| a. Grooming (neat, clean, good, posture) | | |
| b. Attitude (positive, good manners, articulate, confident) | | |
| c. Personality (friendly, people-person, likable) | | |
| II. RESPONSES | 10 | _____ |
| a. Honest, sincere | | |
| b. Goal-oriented, shows leadership | | |
| c. Fits Hales tradition | | |

COMMENTS

3/19/06