Parents and Athletes:

The following Q and A document has been developed to help parents and athletes better understand the Carolina Magic Allstars competitive cheer program. As we work hard to finish out our very successful inaugural season, a number of questions have come up about the upcoming 2015-16 season. Please do not hesitate to ask any other questions that are not answered in this document. We promise to you that we will be 100% transparent with our program as it is our goal to have 100% of our customers feel confident that they have all of the information needed to make their decision.

Based on the success of our first season and with the addition of outstanding and USASF Worlds’ experienced competitive cheer and tumbling coaches, we could not be more excited about the future of Carolina Magic Allstars! We are receiving inquiries from more and more families weekly, many of whom are already enrolled at more expensive allstar programs. Word is spreading, and people are starting to see us as the most sensible option for competitive cheer. We are very committed to our members and families that we will not engage in excessive pricing, unnecessary mark-ups, and questionable competition demands. Our goal is to bring competitive cheer back to Mebane as it was when our family fell in love with the sport – affordable, family-friendly, and fun!

Please feel free to bring a copy of this document with you and share with anyone who may be interested.

Thanks for your support,

Terry and Jeff
Q: I have heard that All-Star Cheerleading is ridiculously expensive. How can I afford this?

While we can certainly attest to the fact that this sport can be very expensive, IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE. The belief and mission of Carolina Magic Allstars is to allow as many athletes and families as possible to experience the excitement and benefits, and to be as passionate about the sport of competitive cheerleading as we are. Being AFFORDABLE is critical to this belief. We have no interest in charging $350 for a $175 uniform, $100 for practice wear, 50% mark-up on hotel rooms, competition fees, make-up, etc. We also have no interest, for example, in bringing a beginner level team to a $1,000+ weekend event in Ohio, when there is a better event occurring the same weekend in Greensboro. We are very aware of what other all-star programs in the area are charging, and we know what you are getting. We challenge any program to show you the breakdown of their fees, and welcome you to compare them to ours. We guarantee that Carolina Magic Allstars will be significantly friendlier to your bank account. While, admittedly, some of those programs may be a better fit for some athletes right now, we know that eventually people will see that more expensive does not necessarily mean better. When people who know anything about allstar cheerleading see our pricing structure, they are shocked, especially when they compare to what they are paying elsewhere.

Q: When will 2015-16 Carolina Magic Allstars teams ‘officially’ start practicing?

In the first week of May, we will begin our evaluation process of athletes and begin to determine what combinations will work best to allow for the most success on the mat – now and in the future. Teams will be announced at the end of May and begin practicing together during the first week of June, throughout the summer and early fall as we prepare for our competition season. Parents and athletes need to understand that team placements are not final. While we certainly encourage, athletes to take time off in the summer and enjoy vacations, it is expected that the athletes put in their time at the gym to stay conditioned and to improve.

Q: When will 2015-16 Carolina Magic Allstars teams start to compete?

We are fully expecting to be able to attend our first competition in late November or early December.
Q: How long does the season last?

Traditionally, all-star cheerleading is a year-round activity, as athletes train to be ready for competition season. The competition season will run from November or December through to March or early April (depending on event selection). Leading up to competition season, and especially during the season, athletes are expected to be at practice, preparing as a team for the next event. After the final event and into the summer, attendance at practice is certainly encouraged, but not mandatory.

Q: How much travel is involved and how many competitions will there be?

In 2015-16 Carolina Magic Allstars will compete in five competitions. The furthest event will be our year-end two-day event in Myrtle Beach. The other events will be two one-day events in Raleigh, Greensboro, and/or Charlotte areas, and another two-day Nationals event in Charlotte. The Charlotte events will likely require an overnight stay, determined by the scheduled compete times for our teams. Depending on the progression of the teams throughout the summer, an additional travel-necessary Nationals competition may be added, but will be thoroughly discussed and decided upon, in consultation with families.

Although competition weekends are very fun and can be rewarding for our athletes, we are very much opposed to attending an excessive amount of competitions. Unlike many local allstar gyms, we DO NOT mark-up our competition fees and use them as a revenue source. Quite simply, we believe that families should have lives outside of competitive cheer and that it should not consume nearly every weekend during the competition season. Extra competitions greatly contribute to the excessive costs that burden our sport, and we do not feel that they are necessary.

ALL competitions that we attend will be USASF-sanctioned events hosted by a nationally reputable event producer, most likely within the Varsity Brands family of competitions.
Q: My child made the High School or Middle School team, how can she do both?

With a child who competes in all-star and on a time-demanding Middle School or High School team, we can attest to the potential conflicts. We believe that our athletes, if they choose, should be actively involved on the school teams. Our commitment to our athletes is that we will do everything in our power to allow them to do both. We will work with you and your child’s coaches when scheduling practices and competitions.

Q: My child also plays another sport, how can she/he do both?

We believe that it is good for our athletes to be well-rounded and participate in multiple sports. Although during the competition season, some conflicts are unavoidable, we will work closely with you and your child to ensure as much as possible that she/he can enjoy both sports.

Q: How many teams will you have, and at what levels?

The honest and truthful answer as of right now is that we do not know. Looking forward, however, given those who have expressed interest or have committed to Carolina Magic Allstars we are leaning towards a Tiny team (6 and under), a Mini 1 (under 9), a Youth 1 or 2 (under 12), a Junior team (Level TBD –but likely a L2 or L3), and a Senior team with a level that is TBD but no less than a L2.

Q: My child is already registered with another program, can I get a release?

YOU DO NOT NEED TO GET A RELEASE FROM YOUR CURRENT PROGRAM TO BE A PART OF CAROLINA MAGIC ALLSTARS. If any gym owner or coach tells you that they will not release you from your current program, they either do not understand the rules, or they are simply not telling you the truth. The only time a release is required under USASF rules is when a Level 5 or 6 Worlds team athlete has participated with one gym, and wants to transfer to another to be on a Level 5 or 6 Worlds team. For Level 1-4 athletes, USASF membership for the 2015-16 season does not apply until August 1. There is no release needed to compete with another program. It does not matter if you
have paid a ‘registration fee’ to that program at tryouts. It simply is not true that you have to be released to compete elsewhere if you are not on a Worlds team.

**Q: How much will it cost for my child to be on Carolina Magic Allstars?**

Consistent with our vision and mission to allow as many athletes as possible to experience our sport, we are excited and proud to say that Carolina Magic Allstars is the least expensive competitive program in the area, and probably one of the least expensive in the state. It is our belief that anyone who experiences all-star cheerleading will benefit in so many ways – athletically, mentally, and emotionally - and we do not want price to be the determining factor for them not to participate. While it is not possible for us to give it away, we are confident that our prices will open the doors to so many athletes who would never consider joining a competitive program. We do not believe in large mark-ups on third-party expenses, nor do we see it necessary for excessive travel in order for our teams to compete. Monthly tuition will be $85 per month which allows for up to three practices per week (routine/tumbling). The other fees include uniform, team clothing, competition fees, and choreography and music fees. The total of the competition fees is the largest portion of the costs, and unlike most competitive programs, we do not mark-up the costs. The total for other fees is approximately $1,150, which is a fraction of what you would pay elsewhere. Click on the link to review our price sheet, and feel free to ask other gyms in the area for a similar breakout for comparison. We are confident that you will see how favorably we compare. Additionally, we will work with parents to support any gym-approved fundraisers to assist with cost.

**Q: My child has never done anything like this before? Is there a spot for her/him?**

Absolutely there is a place for your child on Carolina Magic Allstars! Teams in all-star cheerleading are classified by different levels based on what they are able to do from a skills perspective. This leveling system was developed not only with safety in mind, but also to encourage participation across a wide array of skills. Although acquiring advanced tumbling skills requires months and sometimes years of training, competitive cheerleading includes many more elements in which an athlete can excel. Dancing, jumping, stunting, and just being a great performer are all part of the
sport. It is the job of our coaches to ensure that your child is an important part of the team. You will see at a competition that your child and her/his team will fit right in.

Q: I want to sign my child up for Carolina Magic Allstars. What do I do now?

First of all, please let us know that you want to sign up your child so that we can thank you for trusting in us and allowing us the privilege to work worth your child. If you are not already, we would encourage you to enroll in the appropriate Tumble and Cheer classes to get a head-start on the team practices. Each class is $55 per month, but combined are only $85 per month until teams are placed. We will then begin to assess your child’s current skill set, and also what we anticipate it being with three and six months of training. This will ultimately help us to determine her/his team placement. Secondly, spread the word! The more athletes that we have as part of our program, the more we are able to share costs and share the excitement of being a part of the Magic. Finally, prepare yourself for an amazing season as you and your child get to experience competitive cheerleading and all of the excitement, personal growth, and satisfaction that it brings.