

Registration for the 2025-2026 season of Biddeford Youth Competition Cheering is now open!

Biddeford Recreation is pleased to welcome back returning Head Coaches Catrina Wade, Hannah Beaupre, and Adrianna Miller! Combined, our coaches bring over two decades of youth coaching experience to our program. Supporting our program will also be a dedicated group of volunteer junior coaches.

This season we are offering divisions for Pre-K to 8th grade. Each team can accommodate up to 20 participants (*minimum of 10 required per team to hold the division*). The season runs from October 2025 through early April 2026 and includes three to five competitions or exhibitions for each team in winter/spring, depending on division.

See below for details on this exciting season!

Mark your Calendars!

Team Evaluations: Sunday, September 28, 2025

Registration required: all cheerleaders participating in evaluations must sign up at biddefordrec.com and pay the eval fee.

Evaluation Fee: \$50.00

Following evaluations, Team Fees will be invoiced minus the cost of the evaluations.

Location for Evaluations: J. R. Martin Community Center gymnasium

Evaluation Times:

- Cubs (Grades 2-4): 10:30am - 11:30am
- Cats (Grades 4-6): 11:30am - 12:30pm
- Tigers (Grades 7-8): 12:30pm - 1:30pm
- Combined block for evals - Tots (Ages 3-5) and Paws (Grades K-2): 1:30pm - 2:00pm

Special Note: Cheerleaders in a grade that qualifies for two divisions must attend the evaluation block designated for your age group. *Please anticipate being assigned to the team specific to your age division; "cheering-up" exceptions are limited and not guaranteed. Assignments will be determined by the evaluation panel.*

Check-in/Check-out Required for Evaluations:

- All participants for evaluations must be walked into the building by a parent/guardian and checked in with a coach in the gym.
- All participants must also be checked-out with a coach at the end as well; coaches will not dismiss students to leave the building without a parent or guardian present.

BIDDEFORD RECREATION

2025-2026 YOUTH
COMPETITION CHEERLEADING
EVALUATIONS

Join our thriving Biddeford Youth Competition Program! In this program, coaches will introduce the fundamentals of competition cheering, building upon these as athletes advance to new divisions, and build on choreography and routines as the season progresses.

Sunday, September 28th
10:30-2:00PM
Evaluation schedule by division online
J. Richard Martin Community Center
189 Alfred Street, Biddeford

EVALUATION FEE: \$50.00

Register online for Evaluations Now!
Full Season Details Available Online!
Including: Practice Schedule, 2026 Competition Dates, Registration Fees, Payment Plans, and More!
www.biddefordrec.com

Billing and Registration Info for Evaluations:

- New participants must have an approved household account at www.biddefordrec.com in order to register. Accounts need to be created by Wednesday, September 24th, 2025 to receive Office approval.
- Returning participants must log into their existing account to register prior to attending evaluations.
- Existing balances on accounts due to past registrations must either be paid in full or set up on an approved payment plan to register for evaluations. Payment plan requests must be submitted to the Main Office and approved by Wednesday, September 24th, 2025.
- *No one will be permitted to attend evaluations without being registered due to liability reasons.*

Season Dates:

Parent Meeting: during this meeting, coaches will share important information about the season, including participation expectations, billing details, and answer questions.

When: Friday, October 17, 2025

Location: J. R. Martin Community Center dining room

Times: all meetings will be held between 5:00-7:30pm. We will send out the meeting schedule once teams are announced.

Practices:

**Practices will be held on the following dates, times TBD based on final number of teams*

Saturdays: October 18 and 25, and November 1, 2025

Sundays: starting November 9th through the end of the season in early April 2026

Practice location: J. Richard Martin Community Center gym – we are pleased to share that we have been able to purchase a BRAND NEW SET OF CHEER MATS! This will allow us to hold practices at the Community Center this season.

***Special note for Tots team:** this team will start practices on Sunday, December 7th, 2025.

Competition Info for 2026: *Subject to change*

- Friends and Family Team Exhibition event returns in January!
- Biddeford Recreation is excited to share that we are hosting our competition this year at BHS on February 21, 2026!
- Our program will attend the following competitions in 2026 – listed by team below. Please mark your calendars now to avoid conflicts.

TOTS:

Biddeford Comp: 2/21/26

Elite Cheer Challenge: 3/7/26

Scarborough: 3/28/26

Maine Cheer Classic: 4/4/26

(Competition Schedule Continued)

PAWS:

Biddeford: 2/21/26
Gray New Gloucester: 2/28/26
Elite Cheer Challenge: 3/7/26
Scarborough: 3/28/26
Maine Cheer Classic: 4/4/26

CUBS CATS TIGERS:

Lisbon: 2/8/26
Biddeford: 2/21/26
Gray New Gloucester: 2/28/26
Elite Cheer Challenge: 3/7/26
Maine Cheer Classic: 4/4/26

Save the Date: the tentative date for the end of season banquet is Monday, April 13, 2026

Program Fees: NEW FORMAT THIS YEAR!

Biddeford Recreation has changed the payment format for this program. In past seasons, participants purchased uniforms to own and paid a separate registration fee to the department to cover staff costs and program expenses. In an effort to streamline this program budget and reduce participation costs, we have purchased uniforms that will be owned by the department for participants to BORROW for the season and return at the banquet.

This year, your team fee will cover a uniform to borrow, shoes to keep, participants' practice tee to keep, bow to keep, and department expenses such as coaching staff, competition fees, music licensing, MYCCA annual membership, and more.

Teams Fees and payment schedules are listed below. As a reminder, this is the **ONLY** fee due for the season. **The average overall savings for the season based on last year's uniform costs and department registration fees ranges between \$100-200 per cheerleader!**

2025-2026 Team Fees:

- **Tots:** \$150.00 resident/\$160.00 non-resident
 - \$50.00 paid for evaluations
 - Two additional payments of \$50.00/\$55.00 due on 10/17/25 and 11/14/25
- **Paws (Grades K-2):** \$250.00 resident/\$260.00 non-resident
 - \$50.00 paid for evaluations
 - Two additional payments of \$100.00/\$105.00 due on 10/17/25 and 11/14/25
- **Cubs (Grades 2-4):** \$350.00 resident/\$360.00 non-resident
 - \$50.00 paid for evaluations
 - Three additional payments due on:

- 10/17/25: \$100.00/\$105.00,
- 11/14/25: \$100.00/\$105.00, and
- 12/12/25: \$100.00/\$100.00
- **Cats (Grades 4-6):** \$350.00 resident/\$360.00 non-resident
 - \$50.00 paid for evaluations
 - Three additional payments due on:
 - 10/17/25: \$100.00/\$105.00,
 - 11/14/25: \$100.00/\$105.00, and
 - 12/12/25: \$100.00/\$100.00
- **Tigers (Grades 7-8):** \$350.00 resident/\$360.00 non-resident
 - \$50.00 paid for evaluations
 - Three additional payments due on:
 - 10/17/25: \$100.00/\$105.00,
 - 11/14/25: \$100.00/\$105.00, and
 - 12/12/25: \$100.00/\$100.00

All team fees may be paid as one full payment if preferred.

Team Fee Payment Plans: Families requesting payment plans or extensions may email Deputy Recreation Director, Erika Dube at erika.dube@biddefordmaine.org to discuss options. Requests must be made by Monday, November 3rd, 2025. *All payment plans must be completed by January 16, 2026.*

Team Fee Scholarships: Competition Cheering Team Fees are also eligible for scholarships if you are a Biddeford resident. For this season, the maximum scholarship value is 50%; scholarship eligibility will be evaluated and your discount will be determined by application materials submitted. Families may submit a scholarship request form. If the Department has a current form on file that was submitted in the last year and there are no changes, please email your scholarship request to Recreation Director, Lisa Thompson at lisa.thompson@biddefordmaine.org.

The deadline to request a scholarship is Monday, November 3rd, 2025.

Attendance Expectations

Competition Cheering is a team sport like no other. Athletes rely on each other to learn stunts and choreography and will build on these skills throughout the season. Missing practices impacts the ability for coaches to work with stunt groups adequately and place cheerleaders appropriately in routines. Missing competitions means entire stunts and routines may need to be modified.

With that in mind, please consider that your child's participation in this program is a commitment. This year we will be tracking attendance and allowing cheerleaders 3 unexcused absences for the season before we will need to discuss whether they may continue. Athletes that leave the season early due to attendance issues will not be eligible for refunds.

Competition Cheering is a longer season than most recreation programs. We hope by providing this information and competition dates in advance that this gives you the necessary information to decide if you are able to honor the commitment.