



## University of Idaho

Thank you for your interest in the Vandal Spirit Squad program. We are so excited that you have made the University of Idaho your choice in furthering your education. We could not be more thrilled to welcome you to the Vandal Family.

The purpose of being a University of Idaho Spirit Squad Member is to promote and uphold the traditions and legacies of the University of Idaho. The team's three main goals are to promote the University of Idaho, support Vandal athletics, and to work together in uniting fans at events.

The Vandal Spirit Squad involves three separate teams that work together as a cohesive unit: Joe Vandal, the Vandal Cheer team, and the Vandal Gems. It cannot be understated that being chosen as a member of the University of Idaho Spirit Squad is a privilege. It should be understood that any person dedicated to the spirit program is making a deliberate and sincere commitment. Everyone's intent should be to continue elevating the program in the community, the state, and on a national scale.

Our coaching staff is always looking for quality individuals to act in the role of ambassador for the University. We are not only looking for athletes with a high skill level but also students with a strong academic focus and time management abilities. Each member's top priority should be academics first and foremost. Team members selected should also expect to be active three-to-five days a week. (This does include the mandatory band class spirit squad members take during the fall semester.)

Scholarship opportunities vary depending on GPA, leadership skills, number of active years on the team, and extra effort displayed. We offer merit-based scholarships, band class scholarships, and other miscellaneous scholarships throughout the academic year.

Tryouts for Vandal cheer and the Vandal Gems will be May 1-3, 2020 in the student recreation center. Those who are selected for the 2020-2021 team will be asked to stay for the team meeting and uniform/ warm-up fittings. (Please note that expectations will be reviewed with squad members after tryouts.)

The following pages will help assist you in knowing what is needed for tryouts and auditions. Please make sure all items have been completed and sent to the Spirit Squad Coach, Katie Doman, by April 29, 2020.

GO VANDALS!

## NECESSARY ITEMS:

The list provided below are the required documents for tryouts and auditions. Besides the letter of recommendations, please send required documents in one file to [kdoman@uidaho.edu](mailto:kdoman@uidaho.edu).

### **\*\*Application will not be reviewed if sent in multiple attachments/ emails.\*\***

- Photo of yourself
  - ⇒ Preferred headshot.
  
- Application
  - ⇒ Double check that all application questions are answered.
  - ⇒ Each question scored and added to your overall tryout/audition score.
  
- Proof of admission/ enrollment:
  - ⇒ New to UI: Copy of acceptance letter
  - ⇒ Current student: Copy of class schedule
  
- Copy of unofficial transcript
  
- Risk waiver
  - ⇒ Will not be allowed to participate without this.
  
- Three letters of recommendation- to be submitted by reviewer, not applicant.
  - ⇒ Must be a professional recommendation (ie: coach, pastor, work supervisor, teacher, etc.)
  - ⇒ Cannot be a family member or friend.
  
- Online payment for tryout fee of \$25
  - ⇒ Found online at the University of Idaho Marketplace
  - ⇒ Find Vandal Spirit Squad
  - ⇒ Enter payment amount and click add to cart
  - ⇒ Find 'tryouts' in the drop-down menu and add participant name
  - ⇒ Click continue to head to checkout and payment

# 2020-2021 University of Idaho Spirit Squad Tryout Application

Tryout Fee: \$25 (Pay online at University of Idaho Marketplace- Vandal Spirit Squad- Tryouts)

Tryout fee and application are also required for video submissions.

Both due: Wednesday, April 29, 2020

email: kdoman@uidaho.edu (Attach as pdf or word document)

## Athlete information:

### Trying out for:

Co-ed

All-Girl

Vandal Gems

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Size Information (XS, S, M, L, XL)

(Does not affect tryout score – used for new squad ordering purposes)

T-Shirt \_\_\_\_\_ Sports Bra \_\_\_\_\_ Warm Up Jacket: \_\_\_\_\_

Shoe Size \_\_\_\_\_ Shorts/Briefs \_\_\_\_\_ Warm Up Pants \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_

**History:**

*Fill in any that apply: where you have cheered or danced & include number of years. This section will NOT affect tryout score. If none leave blank.*

Years of Cheer/Dance: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

All Star Team/Studio/Gym: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Competition Experience:

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Please list your tumbling skills, stunting skills, technique level, etc:

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List any awards or recognition you have received:

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**Academic History: (include a current, official High School or College Transcript)**

High School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

College GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ College Status 2020-2021: Fr So Jr Sr

Probable/Current Major: \_\_\_\_\_

New/ Transfer students: Have you been accepted to U of I for fall 2020? Yes No

**Application questions- Please answer questions on a separate page.**

1. Why did you choose U of I Cheer/ Dance?
2. What qualifies you to be a member of the U of I Spirit Squad?
3. Have you ever been in a Leadership/Captain position? Explain.
4. Have you ever quit, or been removed from an athletic team, job, or extracurricular organization? If yes, explain.
5. List any health concerns or injuries that may limit your ability to participate at the same level as the other candidates or limit your ability to fulfill the level of athleticism during the season.
6. Have you ever been on a workout program before? Explain.
7. Do you plan to join other social groups on campus (ex: Greek life, ASUI, Block and Bridal, etc.) or work during the academic school year? If yes- if a scheduling conflict arises between the spirit squad and your other activity, how would you handle that situation?
8. Our program requires athletes to put cheer/dance above everything (except academics). This means no other activities, jobs, trips, etc. will come before commitments with the team. Would there be any issues for you with this policy? Would you struggle? Explain.
9. What are your summer plans? Will they interfere with the mandatory summer dates of July 13-25, 2020?
10. In fifty words or less tell us why we should choose you to become part of the U of I Spirit Squad?

## University of Idaho Spirit Squad Statement of Understanding:

I hereby certify that I fully understand the following:

1. Cheerleading and dancing involves a variety of gymnastics, motions, partner stunts, rotations and heights; therefore, participating in cheerleading and dancing involves some amount of danger of personal injury. I totally assume the risks involved by participating in the 2020-2021 tryout and audition sessions. I further realize that improper conduct of cheerleading activity could result in catastrophic injury, paralysis or even death, therefore, I agree to abide by all AACCA Safety Rules and Regulations.

2. I hereby certify that I have read, am thoroughly familiar with and will carefully abide by the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors (AACCA) guidelines for safety in college cheerleading and dancing. This will be posted in the tryout clinics and sessions.

3. I further agree to hold harmless the University of Idaho and the University of Idaho Athletic Department, officers, directors, staff and spirit team officials for any injury which I may incur by being a participant in the cheerleading tryout clinics and sessions.

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**STATEMENT:** I have read carefully this memorandum, and I understand and accept the information and requirements contained in it.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If under the age of eighteen years old a parent or guardian's signature is required.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Recommendations (Three Required)

Recommendations should be sent to: [kdoman@uidaho.edu](mailto:kdoman@uidaho.edu) DUE BY Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Recommendations must be sent directly from the reference person to the coach, they are confidential and should not be submitted by the applicant.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please rate on a 1-5 scale (1 being the lowest, 5 being the highest)

1. Work Ethic	1	2	3	4	5
2. Punctuality	1	2	3	4	5
3. Coachability	1	2	3	4	5
4. Leadership Qualities	1	2	3	4	5
5. Tolerance of Others	1	2	3	4	5
6. Teamwork Ethic	1	2	3	4	5
7. Physical Fitness	1	2	3	4	5
8. Desire to Improve	1	2	3	4	5
9. Character Qualities	1	2	3	4	5
10. Time Management Skills	1	2	3	4	5

Comments or concerns about applicant:

Thank you for taking your time to do this recommendation. This information will be part of the applicant's tryout score.

Sincerely,

*Katie Doman*

**University of Idaho**  
***Brave and Bold***

Head Spirit Squad Coach  
875 Perimeter Drive MS 4271  
Moscow, ID 83844-4271  
208.885.7125