



2023 Evaluations FAQ

Q How are evaluations being ran this year?

A This year's evaluation process will be the most comprehensive it's ever been and will involve a three-phase structure, this includes:

May 19-20

Individual Assessment: Athletes must select ONE day/time and attend this specific time. During this session, coaches will evaluate each athlete's proficiency in various areas such as motions, jumps, and tumbling. Athletes will only be asked to demonstrate skills they can SAFELY perform without assistance and with near perfect-perfect execution. Additionally, athletes may be evaluated on various fitness/skill-related components such as strength, power, endurance, flexibility, balance, coordination, reaction speed, etc.. At the conclusion of this session, athletes will receive an invitation to attend a 'level specific' assessment for their second evaluation.

May 20

Level Assessment: Athletes must attend the time slots that correspond with the level-specific invitation they received at the end of their Individual Assessment. During these sessions, athletes will be grouped according to specific age ranges and placed with other individuals of similar skill level. Coaches will then begin evaluating each athlete's stunting abilities within these age/level groups. Athletes may be asked to perform different stunting positions within their stunt group or other stunt groups within their age/level. Athletes may even be asked to switch age/level groups altogether, depending on what puzzle pieces the coaches feel are missing throughout the program. At the conclusion of this assessment, athletes will receive an invitation to attend a 'group specific' assessment for their third evaluation.

May 26-27

Group Assessment: Athletes must attend the time slots that correspond with the group-specific invitation they received at the end of their Level Assessment. During these sessions, evaluations will continue with the specific combination of athletes the coaches feel have demonstrated the strongest capabilities up to that point within each level/age group. Coaches will continue to challenge each group in various areas and make adjustments if needed. Athletes may even be asked to switch age/level groups altogether, depending on what puzzle pieces the coaches feel may still be missing throughout the program. While team placements may appear obvious by the end of this phase of the evaluation process, assumptions should not be made as coaches, directors and owners must still meet to review the data and prepare the team placement announcements.

Q When will I know which team my athlete has made?

A Team placements will be announced by evaluation number on the Elite Athletics website on May 28th after 8:00PM. Athletes will receive their number when they submit their evaluation forms during Individual Assessments. (Note: Placements are always subject to change, at any time, throughout the season.)

Q What if my athlete cannot attend a specific assessment?

A If your athlete has to miss a specific assessment due to a prior commitment that cannot be rescheduled or a sudden emergency, please contact the EAQC office immediately at **(309) 524-3327** and we will do our best to accommodate the situation. However, please be advised that missing one or more sessions will automatically result in being amongst the last athletes selected, which could result in being placed on a different team/age group/level than the one in which your athlete might have made.

Q Does my athlete need to bring a stunt group?

A No. It is **NOT MANDATORY** for your athlete to bring a stunt group to evaluations. However, if your athlete feels their stunting abilities may strongly impact which Level Assessment session they are invited to, then they are encouraged to bring a stunt group to their Individual Assessment. This option is being offered to allow athletes who are more skilled at stunting the same opportunity to earn spots on our higher level teams as those who are more skilled at tumbling.

Example:

A high school cheerleader who's best tumbling skill is a standing back handspring, which is a Beginner Level 2 skill, but who's best stunting skills include main basing a double up to extended heel stretch, which is an Elite Level 6 skill, **COULD** very well be invited to attend our Level 5-6 Level Assessment.

Athletes who wish to take advantage of this opportunity must formulate their own groups and should take into consideration the age, size, and strength of the athletes in the group.

Coaches may NOT be a part of the group.

Q If my athlete does not bring in a stunt group, will they not be considered for a certain stunt position?

A No. If your athlete does not bring in a stunt group, they will still be evaluated on their stunting ability during the Level Assessment and Group Assessment phases of the evaluation process.

Q What skills should my athlete be throwing during their evaluation?

A Athletes should only be throwing skills they are comfortable and confident in performing. No spots, mats, or other equipment besides the spring floor will be allowed during evaluations.

Q Am I able to do a video evaluation?

A No. Video evaluations are no longer being accepted. All evaluations must be conducted live. However, a Zoom evaluation MAY be allowed for in-state athletes in EXTREME cases and for out-of-state athletes looking to relocate to be a part of our program. For more information on this process, please contact Coach Ruby at Ruby@iwantelite.com.

Q Are there any important dates I should be aware of after evaluations?

A Yes. Please mark these important dates on your calendar.

- **May 30, 2023** - Parents In-Person Meeting (more information to follow)