



**Southwest Baptist University**  
*Bearcat Athletics*

Attn: Committee on Women's Athletics  
The National Collegiate Athletic Association  
700 W. Washington St.  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

Please accept this letter on behalf of Southwest Baptist University in support of USA Cheer's effort to add STUNT as an NCAA emerging sport. USA Cheers initiative to place STUNT on the emerging sports list is important as it provides additional opportunities for women to participate in intercollegiate athletics and derive the important benefits from sports.

The mission of Southwest Baptist's athletics program is to promote participation and sportsmanship, to develop good citizens through intercollegiate athletics, which provide equitable opportunities, positive recognition and lifelong learning experiences to students while maximizing the achievement of educational goals.

We believe that the new sport of STUNT will help colleges and universities like ours provide a valuable sport offering that will significantly expand the number of female students and student-athletes on campus. With already achieving a 34 person roster in our second year we know firsthand how popular this sport is within the already developed cheer and STUNT community. STUNT being added as an emerging sport would provide opportunities for our current and future female athletes, with its 36 person roster, STUNT provides universities like ours an effective and doable way to expand female sports participation and improve compliance with Title IX.

As a small division II university, we are always looking to improve our student athlete numbers. We are confident that STUNT will provide great opportunities on our campus as our program continues to grow and develop. This will be our second year competing in STUNT the sport and we couldn't be more excited about all the wonderful things to come. We are also in the same conference with many other schools who participate in STUNT so being able to have all of our sports play against the same opponents provides a great experience for all athletes alike.

We fully support the efforts of USA Cheer to secure NCAA emerging sport status for STUNT and urge the Committee on Women's Athletics to approve their proposal and formal designation. Southwest Baptist University has added STUNT as a women's varsity sport and we encourage the NCAA committee to push to approve STUNT for emerging sports status.

Southwest Baptist University  
Institution Name

Bolivar, MO  
City, State

Karla Duffey  
Head STUNT Coach

7-18-19  
Date

[Signature]  
Athletic Director

7-18-19  
Date

[Signature]  
University President

18 July 2019  
Date