



## Southwest Baptist University

Attn: Committee on Women's Athletics

*Bearcat 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 Cheer's initiative to place STUNT on the emerging sport 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 Athletic 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, STUNT being added as an emerging sport would provide incredible 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 and couldn't be more excited to compete against the same schools as our fellow sports programs.

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 for formal designation. Southwest Baptist University has added STUNT as a women's sport. We encourage the NCAA committee to push to approve STUNT for emerging sports status.

Southwest Baptist University

Institution Name

Jana Whitehead

SWA

Kayle Duff

Head STUNT Coach

Bolivar, MO

City, State

7/11/19

Date

7/11/19

Date

*Southwest Baptist University is a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.*

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