

END OF THE SEASON BANQUET

Whether the season was victorious or less than perfect, you must end it with a bang! The cheerleading team worked hard and all members need to be recognized for their contributions. The cheerleaders not only work with each other, but deal with other athletes, fans, teachers, peers, and parents.

You need to have an end-of-the-year celebration. You can keep it simple or make it elaborate; the important thing is to honor them for all they have done. Types of banquets include potluck dinners, a sit-down dinner at a local restaurant, a dessert potluck, a barbeque, dinner at your house, or dinner at one of the cheerleader's home, a pool party or a party at a bowling alley. Whatever type of gathering you choose, plan the party around a theme, such as one of the following

- *Winner's Circle* – Use checkered tablecloths. Decorate with checkered flags and anything connected with automobiles.
- *Sands of Time* or *Beach Party* – Use towels for tablecloths and sand buckets with signs in them for centerpieces. Decorate with beach umbrellas, beach balls, and beach chairs.
- *Spirit Journey* or *Passport to Victory* – Decorate with suitcases, toy trains, cars, buses. Design scrapbooks with passport covers.
- *Follow Your Dream* or *The Sky's the Limit* – Decorate with plastic tubs covered in cloud-print wrapping paper. Put cotton stuffing inside the buckets to make them look like clouds. Play “Over the Rainbow”.
- *You're a Star* – Decorate with director's chairs, stars, movie projector, clapboards, and spotlights. Food menu should include popcorn and other typical movie snacks.
- *You Are an A-Maz-ing Team* - Use mazes as decorations. Site all their accomplishments.
- *You Put Your Heart Into It* – Decorate with hearts.
- *Many Hats of Cheerleading* – Decorate with hats that symbolize the different areas in which they participate during the year.
- *It's a Jungle Out There* – Decorate with animals, your mascot, and/or your opponent's mascot.
- *Keys to Success* – Decorate with keys and locks.
- *Building the Best* – Decorate with hard hats, wooden building blocks, and construction signs.
- *Together We Created Magic* – Decorate with top hats, magic wands, wizards, and cauldrons.
- *Mission Possible* – Everyone wears black sunglasses and trench coats. Play the theme song from “Mission Impossible” Decorate with spy paraphernalia.

Include everyone in the planning stage like your captains, parents, underclassmen and coaches. Send invitations to all the cheerleaders with the details about time, place, location and what to bring. Ask the parents to decorate and the captains to make up awards for each person. Ask someone to put together a large collage of photos. You

could also make a collage placemat for everyone. Make a video of the season and play it while everyone is eating. Make scrapbooks for your seniors.

Most important thing to keep in mind is to make this a day they will remember!