



June 7, 2017

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

Dear Committee on Women's Athletics:

The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) is aware of the efforts underway by USA Cheer to add STUNT as an NCAA emerging sport. Their initiative to place STUNT on the emerging sport list is important as it provides additional opportunities for women to participate in athletics and derive the important educational benefits that come with participating in intercollegiate athletics.

The FHSAA is committed to the ideal that the youth of Florida deserve the best possible education, and to the belief that a high quality education does not begin or end in the classroom. For nearly 100 years, the FHSAA, through the cooperative effort of its member schools, has provided opportunities for high school students in Florida to participate on a fair and equitable basis in interscholastic athletic programs that produce vital educational benefits.

The FHSAA sponsors 32 state championships each year through which more than 790 schools participate. On an annual basis, nearly 250,000 student-athletes participate in these opportunities, which the FHSAA extends, to receive lessons in leadership, sportsmanship, and citizenship ... lessons not normally taught in the classroom.

We believe the new sport of STUNT will help state athletic associations like ours provide another viable sport offering that will help to expand the number of young women participating in high school athletics.

We are thrilled that high school teams here in Florida are currently participating in STUNT and look forward to the opportunity to potentially offer it as yet another championship within the Association, once it reaches state-level requirements. Our state is one in which competitive cheerleading is a popular choice, and STUNT could potentially expand those opportunities quickly amongst our high school athletes. With the University of Florida, Florida State University, University of South Florida, and Tallahassee Community College having participated in STUNT, we expect that this new sport will have opportunities to grow in Florida at the high school and collegiate level.

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.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roger Dearing  
Executive Director