

# Men to be NFL cheerleaders for first time ever

## 31st March, 2018

Fans of the USA's National Football League (NFL) will soon be in for a surprise. For the first time ever, an NFL team will have male cheerleaders in its ranks. The Los Angeles Rams have recruited two men as part of its official spirit squad (the term often given to the cheerleader team). Quinton Peron and Napoleon Jinnies will be the first men in NFL history to perform the same dance routines alongside their female counterparts. Other NFL teams have men who perform stunts, but they do not dance. Quinton and Napoleon are both classically trained dancers with years of performing experience. They were selected after impressing judges in a rigorous three-week-long process of auditions and interviews. The current captain of the LA Rams cheerleader squad, Emily Leibert, enthused about her new colleagues in an interview on the TV show Good Morning America. She said: "They really just fit the bill to be a Los Angeles Rams cheerleader. They are intelligent; they are eloquent; they are more than qualified to be ambassadors out in the community." Leibert added: "They bring so much energy and there's something so magnetic about their performance that you really can't take your eyes off them." Napoleon was equally enthusiastic about joining the Rams. He praised the team for welcoming inclusivity and said he was "humbled" by his new role. He said he wanted to prove that "boys can dance too".

Sources: [usatoday.com/](http://usatoday.com/) [abcnews.go.com/](http://abcnews.go.com/) [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com)

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*surprise / first time / cheerleader / spirit / history / dance routines / stunts / interview / captain / colleagues / intelligent / eloquent / magnetic / performance / inclusivity*

### True / False

- a) NFL fans will not be in for a surprise regarding male cheerleaders. T / F
- b) The LA Rams have recruited two male cheerleaders. T / F
- c) The new LA Rams cheerleaders will have to perform stunts. T / F
- d) The process of auditions was three days long. T / F
- e) The cheerleading captain was not happy about men joining her team. T / F
- f) The captain said on TV that the men really fit the bill. T/F
- g) The Captain said the men were qualified to be community ambassadors. T/F
- h) One of the men said he felt humbled by becoming a cheerleader. T/F

## Synonym Match

(The words in bold are from the news article.)

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1.fans        | a. representatives |
| 2.recruited   | b. procedure       |
| 3.perform     | c. chosen          |
| 4.selected    | d. demonstrate     |
| 5.process     | e. raved           |
| 6.enthused    | f. supporters      |
| 7.eloquent    | g. attractive      |
| 8.ambassadors | h. articulate      |
| 9.magnetic    | i. enlisted        |
| 10.prove      | j. carry out       |

Discussion–Student A	Discussion- Student B
What do you think of the NFL?	What do you think about what you read?
What do you think of cheerleaders?	What do you think about the work of a cheerleader?
What was the last surprise you had?	Are cheerleaders important?
Why there have not been male cheerleaders before?	Do you fit the bill in your job?
What do cheerleaders add to sporting events?	What do you bring a lot energy to?
Do we need cheerleaders in other areas of life?	How successful do you think the two men will be?
What is the life of a dancer like?	Would you be a good cheerleader?
What do you think of American sports?	What questions would you like to ask the male cheerleaders?

## Phrase Match

- |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.have male cheerleaders              | a. trained dancers          |
| 2.alongside their female              | b. welcoming inclusivity    |
| 3.both classically                    | c. interviews               |
| 4.a rigorous three-week-long          | d. about her new colleagues |
| 5.auditions and                       | e. their performance        |
| 6.enthused                            | f. in its ranks             |
| 7.They really just fit                | g. to be ambassadors        |
| 8.they are more than qualified        | h. counterparts             |
| 9.there's something so magnetic about | i. process                  |
| 10.He praised the team for            | j. the bil                  |

## Spelling

1. *cedreiurt* two men
2. part of its official spirit *uqdas*
3. alongside their female *rpuoatnretsc*
4. *llasyacsilc* trained dancers
5. a *oruigosr* three-week-long process
6. *aotdunsii* and interviews
7. *sehduetn* about her new colleagues
8. they are *eotequln*
9. qualified to be *odassbamras*
10. something so *gmaintce*
11. He praised the team for welcoming *ciilusitvny*
12. he was "*delumhb*" by his new role

## Role Play

### Role A – Entertaining the public

You think entertaining the public would be the best thing about being a cheerleader. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): dancing, the uniform or the glamour.

### Role B - Dancing

You think dancing would be the best thing about being a cheerleader. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): entertaining the public, the uniform or the glamour.

### Role C – The uniform

You think the uniform would be the best thing about being the cheerleader. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): entertaining the public, dancing or the glamour.

### Role D – The Glamour

You think the glamour would be the best thing about being the cheerleader. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): entertaining the public, dancing or the uniform.

## Speaking–Cheerleading

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about cheerleading at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- colleagues
- the glamour
- entertaining the public
- the football games
- staying fit
- the competition
- the dance routines
- the uniforms

## Answers -

### Synonym Match

- 1.f
- 2.i
- 3.j
- 4.c
- 5.b
- 6.e
- 7.h
- 8.a
- 9.g
- 10.d

### True False

- A F
- B T
- C F
- D F
- E F
- F T
- G T
- H T

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.

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