

2008 - 2009

CHEER RULES & REGULATIONS



CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES IS A MEMBER OF THE USASF AND WILL FOLLOW ALL USASF/IASF RULES AND LEVEL GUIDELINES FOR THE 2008-2009 SEASON.

(Guidelines and levels apply for all-star cheer and school/youth league cheer.)

**Failure to follow any of the regulations below could result in a point deduction.
All decisions by CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES Event Directors are FINAL!**

1. Teams must have at least 5 members. Please refer to "Divisions" in order to view the minimum and maximum members which depend on the division. Group stunts may have 4 or 5 members and should provide a spotter who is familiar with the routine for safety reasons.
2. Teams may choose to participate as Exhibition only for judges' evaluation and no award or award and no evaluation. There will be no minimum number of team members required for exhibition performances. Registration fees would be 50% of designated fee per competition.
3. Maximum Routine Time Limits:
 - Cheer teams (all-star, school and youth league cheer teams) - 2 minutes and 30 seconds
 - Partner/Stunt Groups - 1 minute and 30 seconds
 - Individuals/Duet/Trios - 1 minute and 30 seconds

There is .20 of a point deduction for every five seconds that the routine exceeds the maximum time limit. There are no minimum time requirements on any type of routine. Timing and judging of routines will begin with the first organized movement, the first word or the first note of music. Timing will end with a last note of music or when the ending motion or pose is held. Introductions, spell-outs and/or organized entrances are considered part of the routine and are timed as part of the performance. All participants should walk/spirit onto the floor and immediately start their routine after placement of any props. All teams (all-star, school and youth league) can use any combination of cheer and music. There are no specific requirements on this. Teams may do a spirited exit and/or sideline team chant without being timed or judged.

4. **Any unsportsmanlike conduct while entering or exiting the floor by a competitor or coach may result in a 1.0 point deduction. Unsportsmanlike conduct outside of the competition routine, in or around the competition venue will not be tolerated by any team member, coach and/or parent and could result in disqualification.**
5. Mascots are welcome to perform as members of their squad. They must be registered participants and adhere to all rules and regulations expected of team members.
6. The main performance surface will be approximately 42 feet deep by 56 feet wide. For safety purposes, we require everyone to perform their routine on the performance surface. **There will be a .20 of a point deduction for stepping off the performance surface.**
7. All routines must be suitable for viewing by audiences of all ages. **Vulgar or suggestive material is restricted and will result in a .50 of a point deduction for each occurrence.** Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications. Vulgarity will be determined at the discretion of the judges and/or CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES Event Director.
8. Please bring TWO HIGH-QUALITY copies of your music to the Event. CDs or IPODS/MP3 PLAYERS ONLY! No tapes are allowed.
9. In the event that a routine is interrupted, the following steps will be taken:
 - Due to failure of CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES equipment: The routine may be repeated at the coach's discretion. The team will be placed at the end of the competition order for their level.

- Due to failure of teams' music/equipment: The coach must immediately decide if they would like to perform again. A 2nd CD or MP3 player must be provided. The team must immediately continue but may start from the beginning of the routine. Judging will resume at the point where the music was interrupted. They will not get a 3rd chance should the music cut out a 2nd time.
- Injury: If a team member is injured severely enough for the music to be stopped by the coach and/or event directors, the team will have the option to repeat their routine without the injured member. They will be placed back in the competition line up at the Event Director's discretion.

****All final decisions will be made at the discretion of the Event Director.***

10. One (1) representative of your group/individual will report to the music table and MUST remain throughout the entire performance. This representative must know exactly when to start and stop the music. In the event a routine is delayed due to operator error, timing of your routine will continue. No unnecessary team members, parents etc. are allowed at the music table.
11. Coaches are allowed to sit on the floor/stage for TINY, EXHIBITION & SPECIAL NEEDS DIVISIONS ONLY. Coaches are not allowed to be on the competition floor/stage for any other divisions with the exception of spotting routines. Seating for coaches during the performance will be designated in front of the competition floor. No team will be allowed to place "space markers" on the stage except for Tiny, Exhibition or Special Needs teams. **This could result in a .20 of a point deduction.**

ROUTINE SPOTTERS

In an effort to provide a safe performance environment, CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES is allowing programs to provide their own routine spotters. We feel that allowing programs to put trained and knowledgeable routine spotters on the floor that are familiar with the performances and areas of the performance that may need 'special attention', the overall safety of the competition environment is improved. CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES will allow teams to provide up to 4 of their own routine spotters for each of their competition performances. CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES will NOT be providing routine spotters. It will be up to the discretion of the coach how many routine spotters, if any, they choose to use. Please pay special attention to the stipulations and suggestions below:

DEFINITION OF ROUTINE SPOTTERS: Routine spotters are individuals affiliated with the performing program that are voluntarily provided by the performing program as a safety precaution for the routine. Routine spotters cannot be uniformed members of the competing team and must adhere to all "Rules for Routine Spotters."

RULES FOR ROUTINE SPOTTERS:

1. Routine spotters are there to help 'catch' falls and/or mistakes, not to assist or save skills. Routine spotters may only be used for stunts, pyramids and/or basket tosses. **Spotting of tumbling is prohibited and will result in a .5 deduction for each occurrence.**
2. **Flagrant contact by a routine spotter that assists a stunt, toss or pyramid may result in a .5 of a point deduction for each occurrence.** Point deduction is at the sole discretion of CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES. The decision of the judges is FINAL.
3. Routine spotters must dress differently than the team so they are not mistaken for participants.
4. Routine spotters are for safety purposes only. **There will be a .20 of a point deduction for a routine spotter engaging in excessive behavior before, during or after the performance.** Routine spotters should enter the stage behind their team and exit immediately ahead of their team.
5. CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES encourages the use of routine spotters, however, they are not required. Use your best judgment as to whether routine spotters are needed for your routine.

PERFORMANCE ORDER

For Classic competitions and Round One of National Championships competition, the performance order will be determined by random draw conducted by the CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES management within each division.

For National Championships and Round Two/Day Two competitions, the performance order will be determined by splitting the performance order from Round One for each division in half and dropping the first half to the end of the order. For divisions with an odd number of teams, the largest number will be dropped.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

THE CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES will NOT cancel any event due to weather conditions. The competition will go on regardless of rain, sleet or snow! Please make all necessary travel arrangements so that you will not have any problems making it to the event on time. No special favors or performance times will be granted to those who arrive late for any reason (weather or otherwise). Furthermore, no refunds or expense reimbursement will be given for teams missing their scheduled competition time. Please watch the local and national weather forecasts so that you are prepared for any inclement weather.

RULE INTERPRETATION

It is the policy of CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES Events not to give specific rule interpretations over the phone. All official rule interpretations must be submitted on a DVD, full size VHS videotape or email. All videos must contain:

1. A front, side and back view of the skill/section in question (do not send entire routines).
2. A letter stating the question/request.
3. School/Team Name and Event/Division entering.
4. Coaches Name, address, phone and fax numbers and email address.

Send all Inquiries to:

USA SPORTS PRODUCTION
Attn: Official Rule Interpretation
P.O. Box 29185
Indianapolis, IN 46229

Overnight Mailing:
7654 Fieldstone Court
Greenfield, IN 46140

Please bring the rule interpretation that you receive from us with you to the event. Only official rule interpretations from the CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES office will be permissible at any event.

All official rule interpretation requests must be received at the CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES office at least 10 days prior to the event attending. Sorry no exceptions!

THE CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES reserves the right to disqualify any team or individual who does not adhere to the safety guidelines set forth by the CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES and/or USASF.

THE CHAMPIONS CUP SERIES will follow all USASF Guidelines regarding splitting or combining divisions and reserves the right to close, combine or open divisions at any time prior to the competition.