



2020 OAC Cheerleading State Championship Policies & Procedures

SCHOOL DIVISIONS

High School- Large: 194+ females registered in grades 9-11 (As of June 3, 2019). Division divided on OHSAA Girls Basketball).

High School- Small: 193 females and under registered in grades 9-11 (As of June 3, 2019). Division divided on OHSAA Girls Basketball).

Middle School: 8th grade and below. (Note: 9th grade athletes are only allowed if the 9th grade class is housed in the school the team is representing and only a minority of the team are 9th graders. If a majority of the team are 9th graders, then the team must compete in the High School Small or High School Large division).

****New! Middle School Split. For the 2020 event, the Middle School division will now be split into Large and Small. Division splits will be determined based on the size of their respective High School.***

LEVELS

Non-Mount Novice

- **Tumbling Allowed:** Forward and backward roll, cartwheel, handstand, front and back walkover, round-off. *The listed skills are permitted, but not required to compete in the non-mount novice division.*

Non-Mount Intermediate Tumbling

- **Standing Tumbling Allowed:** Back handspring, back handspring series, back handspring step out, jump to back handspring(s), back walkover back handspring.
- **Running Tumbling Allowed:** Cartwheel back handspring, Round-off back handspring, round-off back handspring series, speciality passes beginning with a front walkover or back handspring step-out, round-off back handspring back tuck, round-off back tuck, front tuck, aerial.

Non-Mount Advanced Tumbling

- **Standing Tumbling Allowed:** Standing back tuck, back handspring back tuck/layout, jump to back handspring back tuck, jump to back tuck, speciality pass to back layout or full twist, standing full twist.
- **Running Tumbling Allowed:** Cartwheel back tuck, roundoff pike/layout, roundoff back handspring layout, roundoff series back handspring to layout, roundoff back handspring full twist, arabian to layout/full twist. **NO double full twists.**

Select Tumbling and Stunting

All tumbling and stunting allowed following AACCA safety rules and regulations.

ALL TUMBLING AND STUNTING WILL FOLLOW AACCA SCHOOL SAFETY RULES, AND MAY BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE (www.ohioathletics/cheer) OR ON THEIR WEBSITE (www.aacca.org).



SCHOOL REPRESENTATION

All members of the cheerleading squad must be current members of the official school spirit squad and must attend the school they are representing. *Exception: This will not preclude participation from sister schools for same-gender schools as long as they are official members of the squad.*

UNIFORM GUIDELINES

1. All participant uniforms must cover the midriff when standing attention. Covered midriff does include mesh or nude colored body suits and liners; however, fringe would not count as a cover.
2. Any team in violation of the uniform guidelines will be assessed a 5-point deduction.

TIME LIMITATIONS

1. Each team's presentation must include at least one cheer or sideline chant. The musical portion must not exceed 1:30. Total time limit is 2:30. Timing will begin with the first movement, voice, or note of music. Whichever comes first.
2. If a team exceeds the time limit, a penalty will be assessed for each violation: A 3-point deduction for 3-5 seconds over, a 5-point deduction for 6-10 seconds over, and a 7-point deduction for 11 seconds and over.
3. BECAUSE PENALTIES ARE SEVERE, IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL TEAMS RUN THROUGH THEIR ROUTINE WHILE TIMING. YOU SHOULD LEAVE A SEVERAL SECOND CUSHION TO ALLOW FOR VARIATIONS IN SOUND EQUIPMENT.
4. All introductions (entrances, tumbling, chants, spell-outs, etc.) are considered part of the routine and are timed as part of the performance. There should be no organized exits or other activities after the official ending of the routine. *Exception: Spirited entrances are allowed.*

MUSIC

1. Teams music in cheer routines **MUST** be properly licensed and written confirmation of such license should be available upon request.
2. Under U.S. copyright law, no teams are permitted to create a re-mix, mash-up or medley without proper written authorization from the copyright owners.
3. **BOTH** the team members and the individual event producers may be liable for copyright infringement (with fines up to \$150,000 per occurrence to the copyright owner) if proper permissions or licenses are not obtained. More information can be found on www.usacheer.net/presssafety/music.

COMPETITION AREA

1. Participants must start in the competition area with at least one foot on the ground.
2. Teams may line up anywhere inside the competition area.
3. UCA competitions comply with NFHS and AACCA surface ruling that school-based programs may not compete on a spring floor.
4. Approximate floor size will be 54 feet wide by 42 feet deep (9 floor strips).
5. Signs or props may be placed or dropped outside the competition area by a team member who must remain inside the competition area. Teams will not receive a deduction for throwing poms or signs off of the competition floor. However, the throw must be controlled and not into the crowd.
6. Boundary for the NHSCC- Any squad member stepping outside or touching outside the performance floor will cause the team to receive a 0.5 point deduction per occurrence.



TEAM PARTICIPATION

1. Teams may participate in more than one competition throughout the season.

INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE

A. Unforeseen Circumstances

1. If, in the opinion of the competition judges, a teams routine is interrupted because of failure of the competition equipment, facilities, or other factors attributable to the competition rather than the team, the team affected should STOP the routine.

2. The team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred. The competition judges will determine the degree and effect of the interruption.

B. Fault of Team

1. In the event a teams routine is interrupted because of failure of the teams own equipment, the team must either continue the routine or withdraw from the competition.

2. The competition judges, and competition directors will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If decided by the judges and directors, the team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred.

C. Injury

1. In the event that an injury causes the teams routine to be interrupted, the participant can stop the routine and seek medical assistance.

2. Competition judges or coaches reserve the right to stop the routine if an injury occurs.

3. The competition judges, and competition directors will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If decided by the judges and directors, the team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred.

HOW TO HANDLE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

A. Rules and Procedures- Any questions concerning the rules or procedures of the competition will be handled exclusively by the advisor/coach of the team and will be directed to Kathy Noble, the competition director. Such questions should be made prior to the teams competition performance.

B. Performance- Any questions concerning the teams performance should be made to Kathy Noble, the competition director, immediately after the teams performance and/or following the outcome of the competition.

INTERPRETATIONS AND/OR RULES

The Rules Committee will render any interpretation of any aspect of these Rules and Regulations or any decision involving any other aspect of the competition. The Rules Committee will render a judgment in an effort to ensure that the competition proceeds in a manner consistent with the general spirit and goals of the competition. The Rules Committee will consist of the competition director and Head Judge.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying good sportsmanship throughout the competition with positive presentation upon entry and exit from the performance area, as well as throughout the routine. The advisor and coach of each team are responsible for seeing that team members, coaches, parents, and other persons affiliated with the team conduct themselves accordingly. Severe cases of unsportsmanlike conduct are grounds for disqualification.



DEDUCTIONS

Any team in violation of these Rules and Regulations or any of the above mentioned guidelines will be assessed a 10-point deduction for each violation. This deduction does not apply to violations mentioned above that are designated to a lesser point value.

DISQUALIFICATION

Any team that does not adhere to the terms and procedures of these Rules and Regulations will be subject to disqualification from the competition; will automatically forfeit any right to any prizes or awards presented by the competition, and may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in a competition the following year.

FINALITY OF DECISIONS

By participating in this competition, each team agrees that the decisions by the judges will be final, and results may ONLY be reviewed for clarification. Each team acknowledges the necessity for the judges to make prompt and fair decisions in this competition, and each team therefore expressly waives any legal, equitable, administrative or procedural review of such decisions.

SCORES AND RANKINGS

Individual judges score sheets are for the exclusive use of each particular judge. Each judge has the responsibility and authority to review and submit his/her final score and rankings prior to the final tally of the score for all teams. Score and rankings will be available only to advisors or coaches at the conclusion of the competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judges will score each team according to the judging criteria on a 100-point system. To create each teams final score, the judges will take the raw score minus any deductions that were given. In keeping with the proper role of cheerleading, emphasis will be placed on the practicality of material. For more information regarding scoring, scoresheets, and judging criteria, please visit www.ohioathletics.com/cheer.

ALL TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO SING AND RETURN THE ATTACHED FORM

We have reviewed the Rules and Regulations with our entire team and we hereby accept the Rules and Regulations as a fair and integral part of the competition and agree to adhere to the rules, policies, and procedures contained herein.

TEAM NAME

DATE

CITY/STATE

ADVISOR SIGNATURE

PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE