



Policies and Procedures

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SPRING FLOORS & FOAM FLOORS

- 54'x42' spring floors will be provided for all Champion competitions.
- 54'x42' Foam Floors for school teams will be provided at designated Champion Competitions.
- Spring floors and spring tumble strips will be provided for the performance area and various warm up areas.
- Both cheer and dance teams will perform on the same performance surface.
- Each competitor must begin on the competition floor and be supporting his/her own weight.
- No penalty points will be assessed for stepping out of bounds, but major and minor mistakes will be assessed.
- All elements should begin and end on the Competition Floor.

ROUTINE TIMING

- Timing will begin with the first word, movement, or note of music.
- Timing will end with the last note of music, or as the ending motion or pose's held.
- Competitors may perform a spirited entrance or exit without being timed or judged (nothing organized).
- There will be a 5-second "grace period".
- Teams must exit the performance area immediately following their routine.

MUSIC

- No profanity or other inappropriate language will be permitted.
- Designate one person from your group to run your music. Be sure to have it cued to your performance music and have your person stay with music in case of problems.
- Bring at least two quality CDs or more for each team. Mark the CDs with the team name and division.

WARM-UPS

- Each team will have a designated warm-up time prior to their scheduled performance time. Warm-ups will not be rushed and you will be given plenty of time to prepare your routine.
- Competition Floors and tumble strips will be available in warm-up areas.



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- In the event of an injury in the warm up room, the coach should immediately speak with the warm up room director to discuss options. If the injury is severe & the injured participant must be taken out of the routine, the team may be moved in the Order of Performance without penalty.
- At most events there will be, "open areas" to practice/warm-up at your own leisure.
- A sound system will not be provided for warm-up areas. There will be a portable jambox available or you may bring a battery operated, portable sound system.

LEVEL GUIDELINES & DIVISIONS

- "Performance Levels" are a division leveling system that allows all teams to compete within their own skill level, as well as squad size. These levels promote a more competitive division. Performance Levels also allow organizations with multiple teams to participate without having to compete against each other. It is the responsibility of the coach to insure that each squad's routine elements conform to the USASF/NACCC & Champion's Performance Level Guidelines of their respective division. Champion is not responsible for teams placed in the wrong division by their coach. (Click here for USASF/NACCC Level Guidelines & Divisions). (link)

PERFORMANCE ORDER

- The performance order for the first day of competition will be based on your registration date. The first team to register (with deposit) in their division performs last. The performance order for the second day of competition will be basically in the same order as the first day.
- Your performance order will be posted on our website the Wednesday prior to Nationals. (Two days prior for Regional One Day Championships.) Order of Performance Schedules will be frequently updated, please stay informed.
- Scheduling with crossovers, Champion can only guarantee 20 minutes between routines and may overlap awards and warm-up times, because Champion may have to alter the "Order of Performance".



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CROSSOVERS

- A "Crossover" is a cheerleader or dancer that competes on more than one team from the same gym or school and at the same event. The crossover fee does NOT apply to a participant who is on a school team and an ALL-Star team. "Crossover" participants must pay the full registration fee for the first team and then will pay the discounted "Crossover" fee for each additional team thereafter. (Click here for Crossover Fees) ([link](#))

INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE

- If the performance interruption is due to event equipment or facilities failure, you may begin again either at the beginning of the performance or at the point of interruption.
- If an interruption is due to failure of your team's equipment, music, supplies, personnel or injury, you may either continue or withdraw from the competition.
- Champion officials reserve the right to stop a performance due to an injury.

SPOTTING

- Champion will provide spotters for all mount and stunting categories. These spotters are in addition to the mandatory team spotters required by the rules set forth by Champion/USASF /NACCC.
- The purpose of these spotters and their priority is to provide additional safety. They are instructed to be aware of all that is happening around them (tumbling, jumps, transitions, etc.) while spotting. However, in the case that in performing their duty they affect the routine being performed in any way, the judges are instructed to take this into account when deciding the score for a given routine. The spotters' actions & opinions do not affect the scores.
- When Champion spotters are required, they cannot be requested to leave during a routine. They will stand back, out of the way, but will be ready to assist at any time.

NO BOUNDARY INFRACTIONS

- No penalty points will be assessed for stepping out of bounds, but major and minor mistakes will be assessed.
- All elements must both begin and end on the competition floor.



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- Each competitor must begin on the competition floor and be supporting his/her own weight.

PROPS AND COSTUMING

- Props must be carried onto the competition floor by the competitors and must be used during the routine (no scenery).
- Signs, flags, and banners with poles, or similar supports, may not be used in stunts, pyramids or tumbling.
- All types of electrical signs are prohibited.
- The only props allowed in the cheer divisions are signs, megaphones, poms, flags and banners.
- Costuming (apparel that is removed and used as a prop) is not allowed in the cheer divisions, but is allowed in the dance divisions.

SCORING

- For Nationals all teams will compete on two days. Scores for each day will be weighted 40% / 60%. (Final score reflects the following formula: 40% of Prelims score-Day 1 + 60% of final score-Day 2 = Total score).
- Champion is putting more emphasis on Day 2 when everyone has had the opportunity to become comfortable with the practice & performance areas. This gives hope & excitement for all teams to improve and have a chance to really change their placements & improve their routines.
- All Teams, Individuals, and Stunt Groups should review the scoresheets to ensure that their routine's choreography reflects what is being judged on the scoresheet pertaining to their division & level. ([Click here for Scoresheets](#)) (link)
- [Legality & Technical Deductions](#) (Penalties) (link)
- Safety Rules & Guidelines
- All Star: visit www.usasf.net (link)
- School & Recreation: Visit www.nfhs.org (link)
- [Glossary – Click here](#) (link)

RULE INTERPRETATIONS/LEGALITY QUESTIONS

- It is the policy of Champion not to give any rule interpretations over the phone, mail or email without viewing a video. All official Champion rule interpretations must be submitted on a full size VHS videotape or CD ROM, and must contain the following:



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RULE INTERPRETATIONS/LEGALITIES QUESTIONS CONTINUED.....

- A front, side and back view of the skill/rule in question.
 - A letter stating the request/question.
 - School/Team Name and Division/Event entered.
 - Coach's name, address, phone number, email and fax.
 - Send to: Champion Cheer & Dance Rule Interpretations, 3200 Tanager Street, Raleigh, NC 27606
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- As a coach, gym owner, director, etc., it is your responsibility to be knowledgeable of and adhere to guidelines.
 - All official rule interpretation requests must be received at the Champion offices at least 10 days prior to the event attending. Please keep a copy of what you send us as well as any correspondence you receive from us for your records. Only official rule interpretations from the Champion office will be permissible at any event. Sorry, no exceptions!

HOW TO HANDLE PROCEDURE QUESTIONS

- Any question concerning the rules of the competition, the scoring of the participants or the ranking of teams shall be handled **EXCLUSIVELY** by the Coach of the team and shall be directed only to the Tournament Director. Where appropriate, the Tournament Director will refer questions to the Rules Committee. Such questions should be made prior to the team's competition performance. Any questions concerning the team's performance should be made to the Tournament Director immediately after the team's performance.
- Also, any other situations requiring Interpretation of the Rules or a decision involving any aspect of the competition not clearly specified in these Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures shall be considered by the Rules Committee – which will consist of the Head Judge Event Coordinator, Tournament Director, and any other Individual designated by the Tournament Director. This committee will render a judgment in an effort to insure that the competition proceeds in a manner as equitable as possible to all teams and consistent with the general spirit of the rules and goals of the competition. All teams agree to accept any and all decisions made by the Rules Committee as final.



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SPORTSMANSHIP "The Heart of a Champion Event!"

- It is everyone's Responsibility!!!
- Throughout the event, all participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner that displays good sportsmanship. The owner/advisor and/or coach is responsible for seeing that team members, parents, and others affiliated with the team, conduct themselves accordingly. All routines and music must be appropriate for family viewing and showcase athletic talent with emphasis on teamwork and spirit.
- Please note: Competition officials are NOT to be approached by any coach, parent, competitor or other supporter for 48 hours after the completion of the competition.
- 25 points will be deducted from the final total score for any conduct deemed unsportsmanlike.

PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY

- All team members are required to have proof of eligibility to be carried by the coach, which is a copy of a birth certificate. Open All-Star teams may substitute a state issued ID-ex: drivers license & College Teams may use college photo ID's.
- Several teams/groups/individuals per division may be asked to produce this documentation at random-Failure to provide above items upon request will subject teams to disqualification. In the event of disqualification, fees will not be returned.

ELIGIBILITY CHALLENGES

- Coaches who feel that another team has ineligible team members may issue a formal challenge in writing. All challenges must be made at the competition and prior to the awards ceremony for the division of the team being challenged. In an effort to eliminate fraudulent challenges, the written challenge must be accompanied by a \$300 cash or money order deposit and actual proof of ineligibility. Please keep in mind that "She's too tall to be in the 4th grade/8 years old" or "She looks too old to be in that division" is not proof. You must provide first-hand knowledge of ineligibility. If the challenge is upheld, the \$300 will be returned. If the challenge proves to be unwarranted, the \$300 may be forfeited. In addition, the team of the coach who presents the challenge will be subject to the same scrutiny as the team being investigated. Challenges issued by anyone other



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SPORTSMANSHIP CONTINUED.....

- than a registered coach or by a coach in a division other than the one in question will not be processed.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING ELIGIBILITY RULES

- All winnings, awards, and ranking are forfeited and that team is suspended from competing at the event the following year. The team is listed as "disqualified for ineligible members." Team coaches must present eligibility materials at check-in for all future events indefinitely. Team must pay \$500 fine before being allowed to compete again.

DISQUALIFICATION

- Any team that does not adhere to the understanding and procedures of these Rules, Regulations and policies shall be subject to disqualification from the Championship and will forfeit the opportunity to participate in the Championship the following year.

Examples:

- Competing an ineligible member
- Competing with more members on a team than was registered
- Gross display of un-sportsmanlike conduct witnessed by Tournament Official
- Found violating any rules on the code of conduct form, or other registration materials
- Failure to produce eligibility documentation
- Failure to follow divisional requirements

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

- All Champion Events will go on regardless of the weather conditions. Please make any necessary travel arrangements so that you will not have any problems making it to the event on time.
- It is our policy that if our competition venue is open, the event will take place. If the venue is closed, Champion will make every attempt to reschedule the event. Teams unable to attend will not receive a refund.



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MEDICAL HISTORY & RELEASE FORMS (Only One per Team!)

- Each separate team must have 1 form just for their team. You may also use our Individual Forms for each participant. Each participant & parent/guardian must fill out completely & sign.
- Be sure to have 1 Medical History & Release Form per team or person performing & bring to the Registration table the day of the One Day Championship. For Nationals, all forms must be sent to the Champion Office prior to the Championship. (See dates on Registration Forms) ([Click here](#)) (link)
- The information must be complete including the insurance number and parent/guardian signature or there will be no participating. ([Click here for Medical Form](#)) (link)
- For your safety, an Athletic Trainer, EMS, or Red Cross will be on duty all day.

GENERAL ADMISSION

- Tickets will only be available for purchase the day of the event. All seating is general admission. No saving of seats is permitted. Prices are \$10.00 per day for Adults. Children 3 and under are free.

MERCHANDISE AND CONCESSIONS

- Cheerleading and Dance merchandise, apparel and jewelry will be available in a variety of styles and sizes along with many great accessories. Visit our booths located in the concession area/lobby for great gift ideas! What a great way to say, "Job Well Done!" to your special competitor.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

- Videotapes and photographs will be offered at every Champion Event. When videos are available, no video cameras will be permitted in the arena.
- Professional video production and photographers will be on site to capture every exciting moment of your performance! Computers/TV's will be available for you to preview your team's performance and place your order on the spot. Photos may be ordered online...see our website for information.

"PARENTS FUN TEAM"

- Hey Parents! This is your chance to relive those cheerleading days gone by, and show your kids how it's done! Parents



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from any team, may participate in our "Fun Team" competition.

- This division will follow the Open Team Guidelines and will compete on Day 1 after the Open Division.
- What a fun way to wrap up the competition day and have your kids cheering YOU on for a change

CHAMPION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO:

- Change, add, delete, split or combine divisions for any reason.
- Disqualify competitors that do not adhere to the guideline requirements or those who exhibit poor sportsmanship.
- Cut off registrations early (before deadline) or add registrations after the deadline.
- Change schedules, times, etc., when needed.

ONE DAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

DIVISION OR LEVEL CHANGES

Changes are allowed as indicated on the Due Dates Table on the Registration Form. However, please understand these changes carry a \$50 change fee. NO CHANGES WILL BE PERMITTED AFTER THE Monday prior to the competition.

LATE REGISTRATION FEE

- All faxed and phoned registrations require credit card payments. We will accept late registrations at our discretion.
- The late payment must be made by Money Order, Cashier's Check or Certified Check. Registrations are considered late if not received by the FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE (See Registration Form) All late entries will be assessed a \$50.00 per team express registration fee. These changes will be included on your invoice.

REFUND & CANCELLATION POLICY:

- You must cancel in writing or by fax by 5p.m. EST on the Monday before your selected competition date in order to receive a refund, minus a \$50.00 per team, \$15.00 per individual, and \$50.00 per group processing fee. After the cancellation deadline, NO refunds will be given for any reason. This includes "no shows".



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"THE CHAMPION CUP NATIONALS!"

DIVISION OR LEVEL CHANGES

- Changes are allowed as indicated on the Due Dates Table on the Registration Form. However, please understand these changes carry a \$300 change fee. **NO CHANGES WILL BE PERMITTED** After the Monday prior to the competition.

REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY

- The team's official contact person must cancel in writing (fax: 919-851-4376) by 5:00pm EST on or before the **FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE** (See Due Date Table on Registration Form) in order to receive a refund minus a \$45 per team participant fee and a \$25 Individual Performer and each Stunt Group Performer. \$22.50 for Crossover and \$20 per Coach.
- Absolutely **NO REFUNDS** will be given for cancellations after **FINAL BALANCE DUE DATES**.

LATE REGISTRATION FEE

- There will be a late fee of \$10 per participant/per team, \$10 per individual competitor, \$10 per person for stunt groups, \$10 per person for crossovers and \$10 per coach. All faxed and phoned registrations require credit card payments. We will accept late registrations at our discretion.
- The late payment must be made by Money Order, Cashier's Check or Certified Check. Registrations are considered late if not received by the **FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE** (See Registration Form).