



MINNESOTA CHEERLEADING  
COACHES ASSOCIATION

## 2022 MCCA State Cheerleading Competition Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Roy Wilkins Auditorium, St. Paul

### TEAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION

*Registration for teams is due December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A late fee of \$5 per person will be assessed after this date. No registrations will be accepted after January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.*

#### ***Coaches (NEW)***

**All Coaches attending the STATE Competition MUST be members of MCCA.**

MCCA member coaches will be admitted without charge to the event. Any coaches who are not MCCA members will need to purchase a ticket at the spectator door. These coaches will not be given access to the competition floor or the back-staging areas.

**All Member Coaches will receive at least ONE meal voucher to be used at the concession stand.**

**Member Coaches with teams competing in multiple sessions will receive at most TWO meal vouchers.**

**Please plan accordingly and register all your coaches for membership ahead of time.**

**NOTE: Student coaches should be listed as coaches on your registration and roster, but membership is not required. Please indicate they are an athlete when listing their name. Also, student coaches will not receive meal vouchers.**

**Coach Requirement:** To align with UCA and MSHSL we will be requiring **ONE coach per cheer team** to complete the certification course and must accompany the team at the State Competition. Proof of certification is required upon registering for the State Competition. The course is accessible online or in person, and certification is valid for four years. The online course takes between 3 and 6 hours. Coaches can take the USA Cheer/AACCA safety course on [USACheer.org/safety](http://USACheer.org/safety) or on the Cheer and Dance Safety Certification course on [NFHSLearn.com](http://NFHSLearn.com). **Please submit your proof of certification no later than Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to [state.mcca@gmail.com](mailto:state.mcca@gmail.com).**

**NOTE: For State 2023, all coaches must provide proof of certification.**

#### ***Team Members/Alternates/Crossover/Team Managers***

**\$35** per Varsity Team Member

**\$30** per Non-Varsity Team Member

**\$20** per Crossover Varsity/Non-Varsity Team Member. This is specifically for team members competing in a Game Day and the traditional competition division for their school.

**\$15** per Alternate Team Member (this is charged per routine)

**\$15** per Team Managers

All team members, alternates, crossovers, and team managers listed on the team roster who have paid the registration fee will be allowed entrance into the competition. In the event a fee has not been paid for a team member, alternate, crossover, or team manager this must be paid at the team door before they will be admitted. Each team member, including alternates, should complete a waiver form to be on file and be listed on the team roster. Please note the number of team members, alternates, and team managers you register is the number used when ordering medals for Varsity divisions.

## ***Exhibition Teams***

**\$10** for each Exhibition Team Member

**\$5** for each Crossover Exhibition Team Member

**FREE** for each Special Needs Team Member

All team members listed on the team roster who have paid the registration fee will be allowed entrance into the competition. In the event a fee has not been paid for a team member this must be paid at the team door before they will be admitted. Each team member should complete a waiver form to be on file and be listed on the team roster.

**All exhibition performances will receive feedback from our panel of judges**

## ***Parent Volunteers***

**\$15** for Each Parent Volunteer

Due to the age of some of our participants, teams registered for the **Elementary and Middle School Divisions** will be allowed to register and prepay parent volunteers to enter and work with the team. These parents will have access to the areas designated for teams and coaches only and will be the only parents allowed in these areas. Teams registered for these divisions may register and pay for **1 parent** for every **6 team members**. **This must be done with your team registration, not at the door the day of the event.**

## ***Participant Waivers***

The MCCA Participant Waiver can be found on our website. Each participant should complete the online waiver. **All waivers need to be received by Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to avoid a \$25 processing fee.** In the event you have an athlete who cannot complete the online waiver, please email the Competition Director, Becky Stephens, at [state.mcca@gmail.com](mailto:state.mcca@gmail.com) for the paper version. A list will be updated regularly on our website to show whose waivers we have on file.

## ***Team Rosters***

Please fill out a roster for **each** team that will be competing. Be sure to include all coaches, team members, alternates, crossovers, and team managers on the form. This form is used to verify total payment due, to verify all waivers are on file and complete, and will be used the day of the competition at check-in and random roster checks. **Your roster needs to be received by Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to avoid a \$25 processing fee. This can be scanned and emailed to [state.mcca@gmail.com](mailto:state.mcca@gmail.com) .**

**NOTE: If a change to your roster occurs after submission, the Event Director, Becky Stephens, must be contacted 24 hours in advance of the competition. In the event of a last-minute injury, illness, or emergency situation occurring less than 24 hours prior to the competition, notification can be made on site the day of the event.**

Make sure to include grade and birth date for all School participants. GPA is optional, but highly encouraged for all High School teams. This will enter your team for the RAH Award.

This form must also be signed by your school principal, athletic director or Community Ed Director AND the head coach verifying all team members are eligible to compete for school teams.

## ***Team Photos***

Once again, this year we will be featuring all teams in the State Program. **Please submit your team photo (jpeg format) no later than Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to [photos.mcca@gmail.com](mailto:photos.mcca@gmail.com).**

## ***Music Information Form and Supporting Documents***

The USA Music Copyright Policy is applicable to all MCCA Events. Teams competing in the Minnesota Cheerleading Coaches Association's State Competition are required to follow the national copyright laws. To participate in a MCCA competition, the coach is obliged to fill out the prescribed form guaranteeing that their music mix meets all criteria set forth by USA Music.

Please go to [www.USACheer.net/music](http://www.USACheer.net/music) to be sure your music is compliant. For more information you can also visit [www.varsity.com/music](http://www.varsity.com/music)

**The MCCA Music Information Form and supporting documentation must be submitted no later than Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to [music.mcca@gmail.com](mailto:music.mcca@gmail.com) .**

## ***State Apparel Team Pre-orders***

State Competition Apparel pre-orders can be placed as a team or individuals.

There will be no need to wait in line and you will get the size and style you want.

**Team apparel orders** will be picked up at the banquet on Friday or at Team Registration the day of the event.

**Individual orders** will be picked up on Saturday from our Apparel Vendor.

Regardless, someone will sign off that the order has been picked up and is accurate.

All pre-orders must be placed online by Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Pre-order Prices:** \$17 for short sleeve t-shirts, \$23 for long sleeve t-shirts, and \$37 for sweatshirts

Apparel quantities will be limited onsite at the event and the prices will increase \$2-3 per item.

**RETURNING THIS YEAR:** We will have a vendor onsite able to personalize your items and add bling to them as well.

**PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup> OR YOUR PRE-ORDER WILL BE CANCELLED.** You can make payment online or mail one check or multiple checks for each team order.

## ***Divisions***

Please take the time to make sure you have registered your team for the correct division. MCCA has worked very hard and taken the input of our membership to provide a fair format that promotes a competitive atmosphere. **No changes in divisions will be made after the registration deadline of January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

## ***Performance Video File***

All head coaches will have the option to have a video file of their performance emailed to them shortly after their performance. Permission will need to be given to release your email address to Mr. Video to do so.

# COMPETITION DAY DETAILS FOR ALL TEAMS

## **Team Check-in (St. Paul RiverCentre Exhibit Hall A Rotunda)**

When you arrive at Roy Wilkins Auditorium, coaches, team members, and parent volunteers should enter at the **St Paul RiverCentre Kellogg Lobby and proceed downstairs to the Rotunda/Exhibit Hall A for check-in.** If your team is arriving by bus you will want to be dropped off on Kellogg Blvd in front of the St. Paul RiverCentre and follow the signs to this location. **For those meeting their teams it is suggested to meet in the Kellogg Lobby of the St. Paul RiverCentre and then walk as a team to check-in. This is to assist with congestion at check-in.**

MCCA Member coaches, prepaid parent volunteers, registered team members, and 1 bus driver will be admitted without charge.

**When you check in, you must check in as a team, not individuals.** We ask that you have your team line-up in ALPHABETICAL order to speed up the process. It is highly suggested that team's check-in a minimum of 1 hour prior to their first scheduled report time. At this time all MCCA member coaches, prepaid parent volunteers, and team managers will receive a pass that must be worn visible at all times. This pass will give you access to the team areas, marking areas, backstage, and competition floor. In addition, coaches will turn in any missing items not checked off on the checklist and teams will receive a folder containing important information for the day. In the event you have any further questions, you can ask those working the Registration Table.

Coaches and cheerleaders will be directed to the reserved area for teams where they will keep all of their belongings. This area is NOT a private dressing room. Please use the restrooms for changing. However, we ask that you refrain from using the restrooms for fixing hair and make-up. Bring a mirror if needed. Also, please remember to leave your valuables at home. MCCA is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## The Flow Prior to your Performance

All teams will follow this routine prior to performing. It will start about 45 minutes prior to your scheduled performance time. Please be on time.

- 1) Your team will check-in on the North Side of St. Paul RiverCentre Exhibit Hall A to be escorted to backstage.
  - 2) Your team will have a safety check prior to competing. **This is when deductions will be taken for any violations.** Coaches will sign the deduction form as proof they are aware of any deductions received. **(There is not a prelim safety check this year, so check beforehand)**
  - 3) Your team will have a 10 – minute warm-up time on a full-size cheerleading floor (9 strips) prior to your performance in the Roy Wilkins Backstage Area. This will take place in an enclosed area to provide your team more privacy. **This is your only warm-up time so use it wisely.** You will be on one of three warm-up mats.
  - 4) Your team will proceed to performance line up to be “In the Hole”. Your team will have about 10 minutes until they take the floor.
  - 5) Compete on a 9-strip Cheer Floor
  - 6) Exit the floor and go through the doors on your left to view a video of your performance.
  - 7) A coach will pick up their Deduction Sheet at the Score Review Table behind the judge’s risers and teams will head to the Roy Wilkins Lobby where you can meet your fans as well as return to the Team Area in the Exhibit Hall.
- Only Teams will be able to access the Exhibit Hall via the escalator in the Roy Wilkins Lobby, No spectators.**

## During your Performance

**Only coaches and team alternates will be allowed to sit directly in front of the mat.** However, there will be a TAPE LINE that we will ask you to sit behind. Coaches and non-competing members should NOT be on the mat prior to or after the performance.

A coach or designated person should also sit at the announcers table, which is where you will play your music.

**Please have the person running your music be there while your team is On Deck.** Other teams from your program, sister teams, etc will have a reserved section off the front corner of the mat. We need to keep the front clear for our judges, photographers, the videotaping crew, and other media. Thank you in advance for your cooperation

## Music

You are responsible for running the music for your own team(s). The gentlemen who will be running the sound equipment are very good and will help talk each coach through this process. Be sure you watch the schedule and are waiting on deck near the sound equipment table when your team is coming up. Please remember to bring more than one copy of your music. Music can be played on CD or iPod/Phone (iPod/Phone is preferred by the sound technician for the main competition floor). We also ask that if you need a specific adapter to play your device to bring it with you. **Remember that all music must follow the USA Music Copyright Policy and documentation must be on file with MCCA.**

## Spotters

MCCA will provide “Spotters” during all sessions. All teams are required to have spotters on the floor.

## Security

MCCA has hired Security for the Team Area located in St. Paul RiverCentre Exhibit Hall A. The purpose of this is to assure only those authorized are in this space and for the safety of our athletes.

## Coaches Only Area

It has been requested and with the space we have we are going to once again offer a quiet space for coaches to hang out during the day. Located in the St. Paul RiverCentre Exhibit Hall A Rotunda (team check-in) we are going to curtain off a space for Coaches Only. There will be tables and chairs set up in the space for you and concessions where meal vouchers can be used is nearby.

## Cheerleader Areas

The team area, backstage area, and competition floor is only for cheerleaders, their coaches, pre-paid parent volunteers, and event workers. No other parents or spectators will be allowed in these areas.

The team area located in the St. Paul RiverCentre Exhibit Hall A is only for participants. Spectators will be able to access the Rotunda of the Exhibit Hall by escalator but will not be able to enter the enclosed team area without

permission.

When cheerleaders are done performing and want to watch the competition, you will need to head upstairs to the balcony area where all the spectators are seated. Due to the fact the venue is so much larger there are no restrictions as to where cheerleaders may be seated. Only if they are supporting a team from their school/gym will they be allowed to be seated in the reserved section on the competition floor. Coaches, please also instruct your teams not to walk around during routines.

**NOTE: Please do not use outlets in the Exhibit Hall or Auditorium without permission. MCCA is charged \$100 for each hook-up that the facility finds and it not documented in advance. If MCCA finds your team using outlets without permission you will be charged this fee.**

## Open Practice Space

We are planning to have an open practice mat available in the Team Area, which will be located in the St Paul RiverCentre, Exhibit Hall A. A certified coach must be present with their team while stunting. Please be considerate of other teams waiting and limit your time on the mat. A MCCA event worker will be monitoring the use of the mat to assure all teams are able to use the space.

## Spectators

**Admission is \$18 for adults and \$10 for students in grades K-12.** Children not in school yet are free.

This fee will be charged one time per person. In the event you want to leave and come back you will need to have both your ticket and wristband to regain admittance.

**NEW BAG POLICY and SAFETY MEASURES:** To provide a safer environment and significantly expedite guest entry, Roy Wilkins Auditorium encourages you to not bring a bag to an event or to limit the size of bag that you bring. We suggest clear totes (plastic, vinyl or PVC) which do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12", gallon size plastic storage bags or small bags or clutch purses no larger than 4.5" x 6.5". Oversized bags and backpacks are prohibited for spectators. [http://www.rivercentre.org/assets/doc/RWA\\_BagPolicy\\_Flyer2018-2a505e1774.pdf](http://www.rivercentre.org/assets/doc/RWA_BagPolicy_Flyer2018-2a505e1774.pdf)

Also, Roy Wilkins Auditorium uses walk through metal detectors (WTMD) for all events. Guests will be required to pass through walk-through metal detectors upon entry. To expedite the screening process, fans are encouraged to leave non-essential items at home or in their vehicles.

## Busses

Busses can drop off the teams at the St. Paul RiverCentre on Kellogg Blvd to get to Roy Wilkins Auditorium and then move to the parking area for busses. A map will be provided closer to the event.

## Spending Money

Cheerleaders and spectators may want to have money to spend on:

\*Purchasing your 2022 Full Color State Cheerleading Program for ONLY \$5! The program includes pictures of all teams and award recipients.

\*Food from the concession stands **because no coolers or outside food is allowed in the venue.**

\*Purchasing the video from the day **\*\*\*No Video Taping Allowed!\*\*\***

\*Purchasing a 2022 32<sup>nd</sup> MCCA State Competition Apparel (\$20-40) -proceeds go to the Honor Team of Excellence Scholarships! **(Limited available onsite due to pre-orders)**

\*Some of the vendors will also have fun cheerleading items for sale as well as the opportunity to personalize your State Apparel items.

## First Aid

We will have a staff of medical professionals on site for your first aid needs. Their room will be located on the East side of the Backstage Area, close to the performance mat as well as the warm-up area. Please supply your own tape for athletes that need to be taped regularly.

## Rules/Restrictions and Time Limit

MCCA adheres to the UCA/AACCA/USA Cheer guidelines and rules and will judge with the UCA Score sheet. These can be viewed at [www.varsity.com](http://www.varsity.com).

Appearance Rules for **all** participants:

- Hair can be worn in a full ponytail or half up (from the ears back). All face framing hair must be pulled back if it reaches the participants eyes.
- No loose glitter.

- No jewelry.
  - Nails must not be visible above the fingertip when viewed from the palm at face level.
  - Bows should not be excessive in size and shouldn't be a distraction to the performance. Bows should be worn in a manner to minimize risk for the participants, should be adequately secured on the back of the head with the tails facing down and should not fall over the forehead into the participants' eyes or block the view of the participants while performing
- ✓ Participants on a high school team must be 7th – 12th graders.
  - ✓ Participants who are considered the spotters for a stunt must be attentively spotting. Deductions will be given for inattentive spotting.
  - ✓ Participants must begin the routine with at least one foot on the ground.
  - ✓ Participants cannot participate on more than one school competing team. The only exception is a traditional routine and Game Day routine.
  - ✓ Traditional Routines have a time limit of 2:30 with up to 1:30 allowed for music.
  - ✓ Game Day performances should consist of a Band Chant, Situational Sideline, Time Out Cheer and Fight Song. The maximum performance time must not exceed three minutes. Timing will begin with the first movement, voice, or note of music, whichever comes first.

### **Disqualification:**

Any team that does not adhere to the terms and procedures outlined in this informational packet or violates the MCCA Coaches Code of Ethics will be subject to disqualification from the competition, will automatically forfeit any right to any awards presented by the competition, and may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in a competition the following year.

### **Refund Policy**

There will be no refunds due to inclement weather or after the registration deadline of January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Also, at this time all outstanding registration fees must be paid in full regardless of participation.

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY**

**The MCCA State Competition will run in FOUR Sessions.**

**MCCA will NOT start sessions early.**

(These times are approximate and may change depending on the number of registrations received)

### **SESSION ONE: MORNING**

**Elementary Teams, Game Day, AND Varsity Stunt Groups**

- 7:00AM** Team Registration will open
- 8:15 AM** Marking Times for Session One Begin
- 8:00 AM** Doors open for spectators
- 9:00 AM** Session One Begins

Awards for this session will take place following the Varsity Prelims (Session 2).

### **SESSION TWO: AFTERNOON**

**Varsity Team Preliminary Round of Competition**

- 11:45 AM** Marking Times for Session Two Begin
- 8:00 AM** Doors open for spectators
- 12:30 PM** Session Two Begins

Once all teams have performed, trophies will be awarded for Session 1 Teams!

Following the awards ceremony, Varsity teams advancing to finals will be announced. Final team scores and rankings by division will be available along with the Finals Order of Performance for each division in the Judges Area where deduction sheets were picked up.

**Scoresheets:**

- With the exception of the deduction scoresheets, you will pick up, all other scoresheets will be completed electronically. Scoresheets will be emailed to the coach as soon as possible following division awards.
- Final team scores and rankings will be emailed to coaches within 24 hours of the conclusion of the event

**SESSION THREE: MID-AFTERNOON**

**Middle School and Junior Varsity Teams**

**2:45 PM      Marking Times for Session Three Begin**

**3:30 PM      Session Three Begins**

**Honor Team of Excellence and Coach of the Year Recognition**

(Conclusion of Session 3)

Once all teams have performed, trophies will be awarded for Session 3 Teams!

**Scoresheets:**

- With the exception of the deduction scoresheets, you will pick up, all other scoresheets will be completed electronically. Scoresheets will be emailed to the coach as soon as possible following division awards.
- Final team scores and rankings will be emailed to coaches within 24 hours of the conclusion of the event.

**SESSION FOUR: EVENING**

**Varsity State Competition Finals**

**6:00 PM      Marking Times for Session Four Begin**

**6:45 PM      Session Four Begins**

**All-State Sideline and Competitive Team Performance and Mascot Performance**

(Prior to awards for Session 4)

Once all teams have performed, trophies will be awarded for the State Finals.

**Scoresheets:**

- With the exception of the deduction scoresheets, you will pick up, all other scoresheets will be completed electronically. Scoresheets will be emailed to the coach as soon as possible following division awards.
- Final team scores and rankings will be emailed to coaches within 24 hours of the conclusion of the event.

# NON-VARSITY COMPETITION DETAILS

## Team Definitions:

A School team is a group representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. **All School teams must have a signed proof of affiliation and liability insurance from their school district.** All participants on JV and Varsity teams must be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities in accordance with the MSHSL eligibility rules. For all other school divisions, team members must attend school within the school district.

## Divisions

**Non-Varsity Divisions** The divisions are listed on the registration form and descriptions are provided below. There will be no splitting or combining of any divisions. These teams cannot have more than 32 participants.

**Elementary** – An Elementary team is a group of competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. Team members in this division must be in kindergarten through 6th grade.

**Middle School**– A Middle School team is a group of competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. Team members in this division must be in 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Junior Varsity** – A JV team is a group that consists of non-varsity competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. All team members must be in 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade in this division. This division will include JV Co-ed teams as well.

**Junior Varsity Non-Tumbling Team**- A JV Non-Tumbling team is a group that consists of non-varsity competing members representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team agrees to perform a routine with no tumbling. All team members must be in 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade in this division. This division will include JV Co-ed Non-tumbling teams as well.

## Competition:

The competition will consist of one round of competition to determine the division champion.

### **Order of Competition**

Competition order will be determined by the order registration is received and completed (first team to complete their registration goes last in the division) and will be posted on the website prior to the competition. Please understand that sometimes adjustments may need to be made to work around conflicts for schools/programs in more than one division. Yet, please also understand that avoiding all conflicts is not always possible.

### **Deduction Review Process**

Coaches will report to pick up a copy of their deduction sheet **immediately** following their performance, after watching the video playback. This will be located behind the judges' stand. Coaches will have 10 minutes from the time of pick up to dispute any point deductions from the performance (Falls, illegal skills, time of routine). No challenges can be made regarding deductions for jewelry, hair, finger nail length, or glitter since coaches will have already signed off on these at final safety checks.

- If it is a time dispute, the routine will be timed again via video playback of the performance.
- If it is an illegal skill, that particular skill will be reviewed via video playback.
- If it is for a deduction for an individual or stunt fall, the entire routine will be relooked at for deductions. This may mean if something was missed the first time it could be called during the review process.

### **Scoring**

Each judging panel will consist of 6 judges. There will be 2 judges for the Cheer Section, 2 for the stunt/pyramid elements of the Music Section, and 2 for the non-stunting elements of the Music Section. Scores will be averaged so the total possible points will be out of 100. Any deductions will be taken off from this total.

**In the case of a tie for School Teams**, the team that receives the fewest deductions will win!  
If there is still a tie...The team that ranks highest in the Cheer Section will win!

\*\*All score sheets are available on the website [www.mccacheer.com](http://www.mccacheer.com).



## Awards

The number of awards given will depend on the number of teams in the division. The top 50% will be awarded a team trophy or plaque and in the event, there are an odd number of teams in the division, an additional place will be awarded.

Trophies will be presented up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place with plaques for any places beyond.

## Awards Presentation Ceremonies

Following the last performance of sessions 2 and 3, we ask all teams to report to the auditorium. Teams will be asked to take the floor by division and form a semi-circle on the mat. All team placements will be announced, but awards will be handed out according to the guidelines above. If your team receives a trophy/plaque we ask that the entire team to go to the center of the mat for a team photo with the award.

# GAME DAY COMPETITION DETAILS

## Team Definitions:

A School team is a group representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. **All School teams must have a signed proof of affiliation and liability insurance from their school district.** All participants on the team must be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities in accordance with the MSHSL eligibility rules.

## Divisions

**Game Day Divisions** The divisions are listed on the registration form and descriptions are provided below. There will be no splitting or combining of any divisions. These teams cannot have more than 32 participants.

**Varsity Game Day Tumbling** - A Game Day Tumbling team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team. All participants must be in the 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade at that school.

**Varsity Game Day Non-Tumbling**- A Game Day Non-Tumbling team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team agrees to perform a routine with no tumbling. All participants must be in the 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade at that school.

**Junior Varsity Game Day** – A Game Day team consisting of Junior Varsity team members representing a school district which assumes liability for that team. Teams may perform a routine with or without tumbling. All participants must be in the 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade at that school.

**Elementary/Middle School Game Day** – A Game Day team consisting of Elementary or Middle School team members representing a school district which assumes liability for that team. Teams may perform a routine with or without tumbling. All participants must be in kindergarten to 9<sup>th</sup> grade at that school.

## Game Day Guidelines

- 1) The Game Day Division showcases what traditional cheerleading is all about – leading the crowd! Teams will be evaluated on their ability to lead the crowd, proper game day skill incorporations / performance, motion/dance and overall routine.
- 2) The performance will follow this order: Band Chant, situational sideline into Cheer, Fight Song. Collectively the sideline and cheer section will be defined as the Crowd Leading portion of the routine.
- 3) The use of crowd leading tools such as signs, poms, flags and/or megaphones is required.
- 4) The incorporation of skills (Stunts and tumbling are allowed in the fight song, sideline and cheer) Stunts and Tumbling are not allowed in the band chant.

**NOTE: Fight song incorporation is limited to 3 consecutive 8-counts of stunts and or tumbling. If the fight song repeats, the incorporation will only be allowed both times if it is repeated exactly the same both times.**

- 5) The Band Chant should have an emphasis on crowd appeal and practicality – No stunts or tumbling permitted however jumps and kicks will be allowed.

- 6) Following completion of the band chant, the announcer will give squads a game scenario indicating an offense or defense situation. Teams should show their definitive understanding of the situation with an offense or defense crowd-leading response, which transitions the squad into the crowd leading portion.
- 7) Each section should have a beginning and end. Note: Spirited crowd leading interaction between each section is encouraged to continue the game day feel.
- 8) Traditional game day uniform is required.
- 9) **Total Time is limited to 3 minutes.**
- 10) Additional Skill Restrictions
  - No Tosses (basket, sponge or elevator) are allowed.
  - No Inversions are allowed.
  - No Twisting Dismounts are allowed.
  - Single leg stunts are limited to liberties and liberty hitches.
  - No Running Tumbling is allowed.
  - Standing Tumbling is limited to one tumbling skill and a back tuck is the most elite tumbling skill allowed.

## **Competition:**

The competition will consist of one round of competition to determine the division champion and take place during Session 1 of the State Competition.

### **Order of Competition**

Competition order will be determined by the order registration is received and completed (first team to complete their registration goes last in the division) and will be posted on the website prior to the competition. Please understand that sometimes adjustments may need to be made to work around conflicts for schools/programs in more than one division. Yet, please also understand that avoiding all conflicts is not always possible.

### **Deduction Review Process**

Coaches will report to pick up a copy of their deduction sheet **immediately** following their performance, after watching the video playback. This will be located behind the judges' stand. Coaches will have 10 minutes from the time of pick up to dispute any point deductions from the performance (Falls, illegal skills, time of routine). No challenges can be made regarding deductions for jewelry, hair, finger nail length, or glitter since coaches will have already signed off on these at final safety checks.

- If it is a time dispute, the routine will be timed again via video playback of the performance.
- If it is an illegal skill, that particular skill will be reviewed via video playback.
- If it is for a deduction for an individual or stunt fall, the entire routine will be relooked at for deductions. This may mean if something was missed the first time it could be called during the review process.

### **Scoring**

Each judging panel will consist of 6 judges. There will be 3 judges for the Crowd Leading Section and 3 for the Band Chant and Fight Song Section. Scores will be averaged so the total possible points will be out of 100. Any deductions will be taken off from this total.

**In the case of a tie**, the team that receives the fewest deductions will win!

If there is still a tie...The team that ranks highest in the Crowd Leading Section will win!

\*\*All score sheets are available on the website [www.mccacheer.com](http://www.mccacheer.com).

### **Awards**

The number of awards given will depend on the number of teams in the division. The top 50% will be awarded a team trophy or plaque and in the event, there are an odd number of teams in the division, an additional place will be awarded.

Trophies will be presented up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place with plaques for any places beyond. First Place Varsity teams will receive individual medals.

### **Awards Presentation Ceremonies**

Following the last performance of session 2 we ask all teams to report to the auditorium. Teams will be asked to take the floor by division and form a semi-circle on the mat. All team placements will be announced, but awards will be handed out according to the guidelines above. If your team receives a trophy/plaque we ask that the entire team to go to the center of the mat for a team photo with the award.

# VARSITY COMPETITION DETAILS

**All Varsity teams will compete in a preliminary round of competition to qualify for the State Finals.**

## **Team Definitions:**

A School team is a group representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. **All School teams must have a signed proof of affiliation and liability insurance from their school district.** All participants on the team must be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities in accordance with the MSHSL eligibility rules.

## **Divisions**

**Varsity School Divisions** are determined according to school size. School size is determined by using the enrollment of the school grades 9 – 12 posted on the MSHSL web site. The enrollments are updated every 2 years and can be found on their website at <https://www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/csp-enrollments-for-2021-22-and-2022-23.pdf>. There will be no splitting of any divisions. **If there are two or less teams in a division, divisions will be combined by Class Size, if possible.**

## **Divisions broken down by class size**

### **CLASS A: Student enrollment for grades 9-12 is 1-1299 students**

\*Class A schools are given the option to compete in Class AA if they would prefer to do so. This will be indicated by checking a box on the online registration form.

### **CLASS AA: Student enrollment for grades 9-12 is 1300 or more students**

**Varsity Tumbling Team**- A Varsity Tumbling team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team. All participants must be in the 7th to 12th grade at that school.

#### **Tumbling 1 – 15 or less team members**

#### **Tumbling 2 – 16-32 team members**

**Varsity Non-Tumbling Team**- A Varsity Non-Tumbling team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team agrees to perform a routine with no tumbling. All participants must be in the 7th to 12th grade at that school and must all be females.

#### **Non-Tumbling 1 – 15 or less team members**

#### **Non-Tumbling 2 – 16-32 team members**

## **Divisions NOT broken down by class size or team size**

**Co-Ed Non-Tumbling** - A Co-Ed Non-Tumbling team is a varsity group with **one or two males** representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. All participants must be in the 7th to 12th grade at that school.

**NOTE: Co-ed Non-Tumbling will be moved to a regular Varsity Non-Tumbling division, based on the division criteria, if there are 2 or less teams registered in the division**

**Co-Ed Tumbling** - A Co-Ed Tumbling team is a varsity group with **one or more males** representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. All participants must be in the 7th to 12th grade at that school.

**NOTE: Co-ed Tumbling will be moved to a regular Varsity Tumbling division, based on the division criteria, if there are 2 or less teams registered in the division**

# VARSITY PRELIMINARY ROUND DETAILS

**All Varsity Teams will compete in the Preliminary Round of competition.**

## **Order of Competition**

Competition order will be determined by the order registration is received and completed (first team to complete their registration goes last in the division) and will be posted on the website prior to the competition. Please understand that sometimes adjustments may need to be made to work around conflicts for schools/programs in more than one division. Yet, please also understand that avoiding all conflicts is not always possible.

## **Deduction Review Process**

Coaches will report to pick up a copy of their deduction sheet **immediately** following their performance, after watching the video playback. This will be located behind the judges' stand. Coaches will have 10 minutes from the time of pick up to dispute any point deductions from the performance (Falls, illegal skills, time of routine). No challenges can be made regarding deductions for jewelry, hair, finger nail length, or glitter since coaches will have already signed off on these at final safety checks.

- If it is a time dispute, the routine will be timed again via video playback of the performance.
- If it is an illegal skill, that particular skill will be reviewed via video playback.
- If it is for a deduction for an individual or stunt fall, the entire routine will be relooked at for deductions. This may mean if something was missed the first time it could be called during the review process.

## **Scoring**

Each judging panel will consist of 6 judges. There will be 2 judges for the Cheer Section, 2 for the stunt/pyramid elements of the Music Section, and 2 for the non-stunting elements of the Music Section. Scores will be averaged so the total possible points will be out of 100. Any deductions will be taken off from this total.

**In the case of a tie**, the team that receives the fewest deductions will rank higher!

If there is still a tie...The team that ranks highest in the Cheer Section will rank higher!

\*\*All score sheets are available on the website [www.mccacheer.com](http://www.mccacheer.com).

## **Who Advances to the Final Round?**

The number of teams advancing will depend on the number of teams in the division.

### **If there are 3 or more teams in the division:**

The top 50% will advance to finals and in the event, there are an odd number of teams in the division, an additional team will advance.

### **If there are less than 3 teams in the division:**

A team must achieve a score greater than or equal to the lowest advancing teams score in order to advance to finals.

## **Announcement of Qualifying Teams**

At the conclusion of Session 2, teams advancing to finals will be announced. Teams will NOT need to take the floor but will want to be present in the Auditorium at that time. Advancing teams will be read in no particular order but will be the order of performance for the Final Round.

Following the announcement, score sheets will be emailed to coaches as soon as possible. A list of final team scores and rankings from the preliminary round will be available along with the Finals Order of Performance for each division in the Judges Area where deduction sheets were picked up.

# VARSIY FINAL ROUND DETAILS

## Order of Competition

The order of Competition for the Final Round will be done by a random draw. This will be the order in which the teams are announced for advancing.

## Deduction Review Process

Coaches will report to pick up a copy of their deduction sheet **immediately** following their performance, after watching the video playback. This will be located behind the judges' stand. Coaches will have 10 minutes from the time of pick up to dispute any point deductions from the performance (Falls, illegal skills, time of routine). No challenges can be made regarding deductions for jewelry, hair, finger nail length, or glitter since coaches will have already signed off on these at final safety checks.

- If it is a time dispute, the routine will be timed again via video playback of the performance.
- If it is an illegal skill, that particular skill will be reviewed via video playback.
- If it is for a deduction for an individual or stunt fall, the entire routine will be relooked at for deductions. This may mean if something was missed the first time it could be called during the review process.

## Scoring

Each team will be scored by the 6 judges on the opposite panel of Prelims. This is so the judges are not judging the same routine twice and to give teams in Finals feedback from all 12 of our judges. There will be 2 judges for the Cheer Section, 2 for the stunt/pyramid elements of the Music Section, and 2 for the non-stunting elements of the Music Section. Scores will be averaged so the total possible points will be out of 100. Any deductions will be taken off from this total.

All scoring will start over for each division.

**In the case of a tie**, the team that receives the fewest deductions will win!  
If there is still a tie...The team that ranks highest in the Cheer Section will win!

## Awards

Each team who advanced to the finals will receive an award.

Trophies will be presented up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place with plaques for any places beyond.

**\*\*Only first place Varsity teams will be awarded individual medals.\*\***

Note: If you are the only team in your division at finals you must score greater than or equal to the lowest 1<sup>st</sup> place team of all Varsity divisions to be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place. If not, you will be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

## Awards Presentation Ceremony

Following the last performance of the session, we ask all teams to report to the auditorium. Teams will be asked to take the floor by division and form a semi-circle on the mat. All team placements will be announced, but awards will be handed out according to the guidelines above. We ask that all teams go to the center of the mat for a team photo with the award following the announcement of division placements.