

# GENERAL GUIDELINES

**COMPETITION FLOOR** – Performance surfaces and dimensions may vary by competition based on venue size, divisions offered and other factors. Please refer to the specific competition for which you are attending and make note of the competition floor.

**SPOTTER POLICY** – Cheer Power will provide up to three spotters on the performance floor at all competitions, for any division with stunts. **(Teams will not be allowed to waive the right to have spotters or have their own staff or coaches spot routines on the performance floor.)** Teams will be required to provide their own qualified spotters, for any warm-up area.

**INJURIES** – If an athlete is injured on the practice mat or the performance floor, the team/individual will be given up until right before the awards ceremony in order to regroup before they are required to perform.

- **NOTE:** If an injury occurs on the performance floor during a routine, the team/individual will be allowed to perform again from the point in the routine where the injury took place.

**PROTEST** – A disagreement by a coach of a penalty/deduction issue, placement of an **OPPOSING TEAM/INDIVIDUAL** or **THEIR OWN TEAM/INDIVIDUAL** or age/grade violation in which a video or other documents **MUST BE REVIEWED!**

- A protest can take place at the competition or after the competition.
- **PROTESTS can be made only by a coach.**
- **PROOF OF AGE** – It is the responsibility of the source of the accusation to complete a Protest Form at Registration and provide specific information of any age/grade violations. **NOTE:** for Individual events: the individual's age as of **August 31, 2009** will determine the age division in which the individual competes all season. The coach will be notified before, during or after the competition of the source of the accusation and be required to provide proof of age/grade.
- Response time will be dependent upon availability of appropriate staff.
- A one time \$100 fee **MUST** be paid at the time of the protest. If a ruling is made in your favor the fee will be returned.
- If the protest warrants a division change, the team or individual will be moved into the correct division.
- After the competition, if a participant is found to have performed illegally, all titles will be revoked from the team or individual and awards will be adjusted accordingly.

**INQUIRY** – A question on placement, age/grade or penalty/deduction issue for only **YOUR TEAM/INDIVIDUAL** and requires reviewing of score sheets and/or answering questions.

- **NO** fee will be involved unless the question becomes a protest and warrants video reviewing. The fee will then be \$100 and will be returned if ruling is made in your favor.
- An inquiry can take place at the competition or after the competition.
- Inquiries can only be made by a coach.
- Response time will be dependent upon availability of appropriate staff.

## **COACHES BOX** –

- Coaches must remain in the designated coaches area during the team's performance.
- Coaches will not be allowed to assist the team during the team's entrance, routine performance or exit.
- **Exception:** Teams competing in the Tiny age division will be allowed to have coaches assisting at the front of the mat (not directly in front of the judges).

## **MUSIC / TIMING** –

- Bring 2 quality recorded CDs or an MP3 player.
- Provide a representative to run music at the music station.
- Music systems are different; therefore, coaches are strongly advised to create routines that finish at least 5 seconds before the maximum time limit in order to avoid time limit penalties.
- If a mistake is made because of Cheer Power's/Power Dance's personnel or sound system failure, the team will be allowed to perform again from the point in the routine where the mistake was made.
- Timing will begin with the first organized word, movement or note of music by the team after they are officially announced and have taken the floor. Timing will end with the last organized word, movement or note of music. Teams must enter and exit in a timely manner.

## **ROUTINE APPROPRIATENESS** –

- Attire - All costuming/uniforms should be age appropriate and acceptable for family viewing. Cheer teams must wear cheer/athletic attire while performing.
- Vulgar/Suggestive/Offensive movements, words or music is not allowed. Should be appropriate for family viewing.
- Gum and/or Candy are prohibited.

## **MASCOTS** –

- Mascots will only be counted as a team member for size division purposes, if the mascot participates in organized cheer, motions, stunts, pyramids, tosses (including acting as a spotter) or tumbling during a routine.
- A mascot who wears a costume that obstructs his/her vision is not allowed to tumble, stunt or spot.

**TIE POLICY** – Due to Cheer Power's/Power Dance's philosophy in rewarding athletes, Cheer Power/Power Dance **WILL NOT** break any ties.

- **Cheer team** scores with a difference of .5 based on a 300-point scale **MAY** result in a tie upon judges' discretion.
- **Dance team** scores with a difference of .5 based on a 300-point scale **MAY** result in a tie upon judges' discretion.
- **Individual** scores with a difference of .5 based on a 100-point scale **MAY** result in a tie upon judges' discretion.

**CROSSOVERS** – Cheer Power/Power Dance will attempt to deter from overlapping teams with crossovers on the tentative schedule. **HOWEVER, WE CANNOT GURANTEE ON THE FINALIZED SCHEDULE OVERLAPPING WILL NOT OCCUR.**