



ACS A Cheer Event Sanctioning Standards April 2019

All ACS A Member Event Producers who conduct cheer competitions must meet the following **minimum** standards in order for their competitions to be sanctioned.

I. General Event Standards:

- a. A properly equipped & sufficient for the competition size First Aid professional present and ready to handle emergencies.
- b. \$20,000,000 (Aggregate) in public liability insurance coverage.
- c. ACS A/IASF membership rules, guidelines and policies must be followed.
- d. Only offer divisions, levels and categories from the approved ACS A Age and Levels grid unless approved by the ACS A Board.
- e. Have at least one IASF Certified Safety Judge onsite at the competition.
- f. Event Producer will enforce IASF Safety Rules & violations & ACS A violations.
- g. Team performances will not be scheduled to start earlier than 7:00 am and run no later than 11:00pm.
- h. Have a documented plan that outlines how to handle emergency situations on site in competition venues and event management staff must review prior to producing an event.
- i. Make best efforts to follow the USASF Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring at Sanctioned Events (below).
- j. All music played at sanctioned events must comply with APRA/PPCA licenses.
- k. A communication system is in place whereby whoever stops the routine (injury, etc) has a timely method to instruct the music desk to immediately stop the music.
- l. All coaches must have a valid Working with Children Check.

2. Official (Timed) Event Warm Up Area Standards:

- a. Provide at least one full 12.8' x 12.8' carpet bonded foam matted practice area.
- b. Any space provided for building or tumbling skills must be carpet bonded foam.
- c. If performance or practice areas are outdoors, provide suitable foul weather alternatives.
- d. Provide a method of cleaning practice mats of bodily fluids.
- e. Backstage time between when a team finished warm ups and is on the competition floor should be no sooner than 8 minutes and no longer than 30 minutes.
NOTE: Teams delayed to perform after 30 minutes should have the opportunity to warm up again



- f. All official warm up mats should have a minimum clearance of 1 x metre on all sides.
NOTE: If an Event Producer has a decline border surrounding their performance surface, the length of the decline may be included in the mandated 1 x metre clearance area.
- g. If an Event Producer is using a spring floor as the competition floor as part of the warm-up rotation, a tumbling surface must be provided that is of the same floor construction as the performance floor.

3. Event Performance Area Standards:

- a. Provide a 12.8 x 12.8 metre performance floor matted with a minimum 1 3/8" carpet bonded foam with panels joined by 4" tape. The performance floor will have a minimum clearance of 1.5 metres on the supporting surface before any obstruction. NOTE: If an Event Producer has a decline border surrounding their performance surface, the length of the decline may be included in the mandated 1.5 metres clearance area.
- b. An unobstructed ceiling height of 6 metres over the performance floor measured from the lowest obstacle. i.e. if the ceiling height was 6 metres but there is a mirror ball in the centre, this would drop the ceiling height to below 6 metres.
- c. If the performance floor is on a built stage, the stage must have a minimum 1.2 metre of additional supporting surface beyond the performance floor.
NOTE: If an event producer has a decline border surrounding their performance surface, the length of the decline may be included in the mandated 1.2 metre clearance area.
- d. Provide a method of cleaning performance mats of bodily fluids.

4. Disclosures

- a. Any minimum standards that are not met in the Warm Up and or Performance Area must be disclosed to all competitors no later than at the point of registration (i.e prior to payment received).

Event Producers accepted for ACSA membership after June 1, 2018 must be in business successfully conducting competitions for 3 years before they will be approved to hold ACSA sanctioned competitions which will allow them to advertise they are an ACSA Sanctioned Event. Documentation and/or proof of holding legitimate and safe events may be requested by the ACSA before approval. A competition will be sanctioned only if the management or executive staff of the Event Producer conducting the event has at least 3 years experience conducting competitions.



ACSA Member Event Producers with less than 3 years experience may communicate they are ACSA Members “following” the ACSA Cheer Event Sanctioning Standards but will be under review by the ACSA through the completion of the 3rd year of experience. They may only use the words “Provisionally Sanctioned Event” until their third year of conducting events is complete and the events they wish to have sanctioned meets all other sanctioning criteria.



Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring at Sanctioned Events

- Required judges meeting/orientation/training prior to start of competition.
- Have a separate safety and deduction judge per panel (it should not be the same person).
- When possible, there should be a separate difficulty and technique judge per category.
- Video playback capability.
- Any score changes must be communicated to the judge.
- Follow the "ACSA MEMBER POLICY RECOMMENDATION FOR ROUTINE INTERRUPTION" protocol for all sanctioned events. Currently, this is a recommendation to all event producers. The protocol is to protect everyone's interest, with the focus on the injured athlete during an event.
- Scheduled meal and restroom breaks for judges.
- Access to water and/or refreshments while judging.