



# ACS A Cheer Event Sanctioning Standards 2020

All ACS A Member Event Producers (EP) who conduct cheer competitions must meet the following **minimum** standards for their competitions to be sanctioned. **Due to many events being run virtually in 2020 the standards have been updated to include adaptations for virtual competitions.**

EP Members who meet the below standards will receive automatic sanctioning. EP Members can apply for special consideration if they foresee having difficulties meeting the exact sanctioning standards but must provide evidence that they are operating safely and legally.

## I. General Event Standards:

Usual Standards	Adaptations for Virtual Competitions
a. A properly equipped & sufficient for the competition size First Aid professional present and ready to handle emergencies.	Communicate to entrants' the necessary requirements for a properly equipped and sufficient safe space for filming. Request that entrants have a qualified first aider present and emergency plans that adhere to their local Covid-19 regulations
b. \$20,000,000 (Aggregate) in public liability insurance coverage.	Confirm with the insurer how your public liability applies to virtual competitions. Request entrants declare that they have Public Liability insurance.
c. ACS A/IASF membership rules, guidelines and policies must be followed.	Disseminate ACS A/IASF rules, guidelines and policies to entrants and include adherence as part of entry conditions.
d. At a minimum the divisions and categories from the approved ACS A Age Grid must be offered. EPs can add additional categories as they see fit. Divisions and Categories Guidelines may not be sanctioned by ACS A, unless approved by the ACS A Board.	Follow ACS A Age and Levels Grid for Virtual Competitions. Noting that in response to Covid-19 ACS A has released a one year lee-way to age grid plus allows EPs to grant other exceptions at their discretion.
e. Have at least one IASF Certified Safety Judge onsite at the competition.	Include at least one IASF Certified Safety Judge as part of virtual Judging Panel.
f. Event Producer will enforce IASF Safety Rules & violations & ACS A violations.	Adapt processes to enforce IASF Safety Rules & violations & ACS A violations in virtual judging



g. Events (including warm-up, performance and awards) will not be scheduled to start earlier than 7:00am and run no later than 11:00pm.	For live Virtual Events, team performances will not be scheduled to start earlier than 7:00am 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.	Have a documented plan that outlines how to handle an emergency during any live stream events. Adhering to all relevant Covid-19 guidelines.
i. Make best efforts to follow the USASF Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring at Sanctioned Events (below).	Make the best effort to follow USASF Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring that are relevant to Virtual Competitions.
j. All music played at sanctioned events must comply with APRA/PPCA licenses.	Liaise with One Music regarding licensing compliance for virtual events
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.	For live stream events, implement a communication system and procedure for entrants to follow in instances of routine stoppage due to injury or technical issues etc.
l. All coaches must have a valid Working with Children Check.	Request that entrants submit their coaching rosters including WWCC and verify prior to the virtual event
m.	Reinforce and ensure that entrants adhere to the current restrictions applicable in their area. ACSA recommends that you ask entrants to supply any legally required documentation (e.g. COVID Safe Plans), see ACSA Framework for Resumption of All Star Cheer and Dance for the latest requirements. Adapt your policies to cover Virtual Events.

## 2. Warm Up Area Standards:

Usual Standards	Adaptations for Virtual Competitions
a. Provide at least one full 12.8' x 12.8' carpet bonded foam matted practice area.	Communicate these standards to entrants, highlighting they should be met where reasonable to do so. Communicate consequences (if any) if standards are not met. In particular for standard b) ACSA recommends disqualification due to severe safety
b. Provide information regarding warm-up room surface at time of registration.	
c. Any space provided for building or tumbling skills must be carpet bonded foam.	
d. If performance or practice areas are outdoors, provide suitable foul weather alternatives.	
e. Provide a method of cleaning practice mats of bodily fluids.	



<p>f. 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</p>	<p>concerns if these skills are not performed on carpet bonded foam.</p>
<p>g. 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.</p>	
<p>h. 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.</p>	
<p>i. If an Event Producer is using a sprung 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.</p>	

### 3. Event Performance Area Standards:

<b>Usual Standards</b>	<b>Adaptations for Virtual Competitions</b>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Provide recommendations to entrants on requirements for a suitable and safe performance space for filming/recording performances.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Request that the entrants filming/recording venue has an unobstructed ceiling height of 6 metres. Communicate consequences if not met. ACSA recommends disqualification due to severe safety concerns.</p>



<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>request Remind entrants that 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. Communicate consequences if not met. ACSA recommends disqualification due to severe safety concerns.</p>
<p>d. Provide a method of cleaning performance mats of bodily fluids.</p>	<p>Notify entrants that they should have a method of cleaning performance mats of bodily fluids.</p>

#### 4. Disclosures

Usual Standards	Adaptations for Virtual Competitions
<p>a. Any minimum standards that are not met in the Warmup and or Performance Area must be disclosed to ACSA as well as the competing teams and sanctioning will be removed.</p>	<p>Request that entrants disclose any standards that are not met when entering the virtual competition.</p>

Event Producers accepted for ACSA membership after June 1, 2018 must be in business successfully conducting competitions for 1 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 1 years experience conducting competitions.



## Recommended Standards for Judges & Scoring at Sanctioned Events

Usual Standards	Adaptations for Virtual Competitions
	Work Health and Safety laws still apply in remote work environments. Ensure judges and staff are equipped to work in a safe and ergonomic remote working environment, with adequate breaks encouraged.
Required judges meeting/orientation/training prior to start of competition.	Conduct virtual judges' orientation where applicable
Have a separate safety and deduction judge per panel (it should not be the same person).	Have a separate safety and deduction judge on virtual panel
When possible, there should be a separate difficulty and technique judge per category.	If possible, have separate difficulty and technique judge on virtual panel
Video playback capability.	Consider video playback for live stream virtual events
Any score changes must be communicated to the judge.	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.	For live virtual events, communicate routine interruption protocol to entrants.
Scheduled meal and restroom breaks for judges.	Ensure workload and deadlines are adequate. Encourage regular breaks, including to avoid eye strain given the need for high concentration on a screen time.
Access to water and/or refreshments while judging.	