



COLLEGE UPDATES FOR THE 2021-2022 COMPETITION SEASON

We remain committed to fair and consistent scoring. Our goal is to evolve and provide the tools needed to all school teams this season for a clear understanding of divisions, rules, and scoring. To achieve this, we will follow the four guiding principles of transparency, fairness, integrity, and safety.

Here is an overview of the College changes for the 21-22 Season

Cheer Score Sheet Updates

- Tosses split into Difficulty - 2 points Difficulty and Execution 3 points
 - Technique, Height and Form – 3pts
 - Type of Skill & Number of Tosses – 2pts
- Purpose is not for you to increase tosses – goal is to provide better feedback to teams

Dance Score Sheet Updates

- No changes

Division Updates

- NEW Spirit Program Game Day Divisions
 - Cheer and Dance can now compete together for one combined performance.
 - In the Spirit Program Divisions - cheer and dance teams will split the performance surface 1/2 mat (approx. 25 feet deep and 42 feet wide- 5 strips) and 1/2 marley (approx. 25 feet deep and 53.5 feet wide for Dance). Cheerleaders and dancers may stand or perform on either surface and must stay within the 53.5 X 53.5 area. Skills must be performed on the surface that is legal for the skill being performed. Athletes must follow the specific Safety Rules and Regulations for their team (cheer/dance).
 - Dance teams are allowed to compete in two traditional categories and one game day division. Teams may not compete in one traditional category and two game day divisions. Cheer teams can compete in one traditional division and one game day division.
- Cheer and Dance Divisions
 - All Divisions have increased to 18 total athletes
 - For the 22-23 Season all divisions will be 20 total athletes (except for Game Day Divisions)
- Large Coed division Floating Scale
 - 14 – 15 total participants = 8 maximum males
 - 16 – 17 total participants = 9 maximum males
 - 18 – 19 total participants = 10 maximum males
 - 20 total participants = 11 maximum males
- Small Coed Changes
 - Move Division II into Open Small Coed Division was previously with Division I school
- Partner Stunt Competition is Back! See rules book for details

Championship Format Changes

- For the 2022 Championship we will do Semi-Finals and Finals rounds of competition scored separately with 50% of the teams advancing to the next round.
- Reverse Rank for Finals
 - Teams advancing to Finals will compete in the reverse order of the Semi-Finals ranking for the Finals Round of competition

Virtual Competitions

- NEW College Game Day Kick-Off – College Cheer teams will have the opportunity to upload their Fight Song, Situational Sideline and/or Timeout. College Dance teams will have the opportunity to upload their Fight Song, Game Situation and/or Performance Routine. Cost is \$110 per team per category or, submit a video for all three categories for \$275!
 - Registration Due on Friday October 1
 - Payment Due on Friday October 8
 - Upload open on Monday October 11
 - Upload closes on Tuesday October 12
 - Videos Available Sunday October 17 - 9:00am
 - Results Available Sunday October 17 - 5:00pm
 - Score Sheets emailed Sunday October 17 - 6:00pm

- Judges Education
 - We are moving into Season 4 of our Judges Training and Education Course on Varsity University.
 - Each judge is required to complete a Judges Agreement including a Code of Conduct for the season and complete a Background Screening to be eligible to judge.
 - We also opened to coaches the option to take the judges testing in 2019. The course will be available online starting for all coaches in October.
- USA Coach Member
 - Beginning with the upcoming 2021-22 competition season, Varsity Spirit will require that all college coaches, choreographers and personnel wishing to access the warmup area, backstage or coaches' box at our competitions have a USA Cheer Coach or Professional Membership. Please visit our website listed below for additional details.
- Legality Review

UCA & UDA offer a service to help teams with legality and safety questions. Teams will be able to email skills in throughout the year to receive a legality or safety response. This service will help teams get a response with a video attached back to use in situations where the skill may be in question. Teams are not required to submit a safety video.

To email a video, the following must be included:

1. The skill in question must be recorded by the team at practice. We are unable to accept videos from performances, competitions, or of other teams.
2. All submission must include the coach, team, and division.
3. The recording will be reviewed as if every person in the video is included in the skill. This would include additional spotters.
4. Videos are limited to 30 seconds and must be able to be viewed upright without rotating.
5. The recording will be limited to attachments only. Links, video sharing and YouTube style videos will not be accepted. While this does limit the video size, you are able to submit multiple videos.
6. All videos will either receive a legal or illegal response. If the video receives an illegal response, the entire video will not be reviewed but stopped at the point that the video was illegal. *If the video is inconclusive, you will receive a response as to why the video was unable to make a judgement. It is up to you as a coach to resubmit the video to be re-reviewed.

Videos via text message or facetime will not be reviewed. If you know that your video does not meet all the requirements above, please refile/resubmit the video. Only videos that meet the above requirements will be reviewed.

Please send all videos to UDARules@varsity.com for dance or UCARules@varsity.com for cheer. Due to volume, please allow up to 48 business hours to get back to you.

Please note: Performing the skill at a prior event does not make the skill legal nor would it warrant a warning. Only submitting the skill will make the skill eligible for a warning. UDA can only guarantee this process will be accepted at UCA/UDA Branded events. This would not include other Varsity Branded and State Association Events

For additional information regarding Rules, Divisions, Scoring, USA Cheer Coach Membership and USA Cheer Profession Membership please visit:

Cheer Coach details at <https://www.varsity.com/uca/school/competitions/rules-scoring/>
 Dance Coach details at <https://www.varsity.com/uda/school/competitions/divisions-rules-scoring/>