

# 2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS SUPPLEMENTAL REGISTRATION PACKET (SRP)

We look forward to your participation at the USA Collegiate Championships in Southern California, February 15 – 16, 2020. Any college team is welcome to register – no prequalification is necessary.

All competition will take place at the Anaheim Convention Center. Preliminary competition will take place on Saturday late afternoon/evening, with finals on Sunday afternoon/evening. Competition will conclude by approximately 8:00 PM on Sunday. All official warm-up and performance venues are at the Anaheim Convention Center.

## All teams will compete at prelims on Saturday and advance to finals on Sunday.

The competition takes place near the *Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Resort. The *Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Resort includes the *Downtown Disney*<sup>®</sup> District, *Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Park, and *Disney California Adventure*<sup>®</sup> Park. The *Downtown Disney*<sup>®</sup> District offers dining, entertainment and shopping. A theme park admission ticket is <u>not</u> necessary to visit the *Downtown Disney*<sup>®</sup> District.

Discounted theme park tickets are available for purchase through your team's registration packet or at the Anaheim Convention Center Box Office through the United Spirit Association (quantities are limited and date validity restrictions apply).

If you have any questions regarding the 2020 USA Collegiate Championship event, registration process, etc., please contact the USA office at 800-886-4872 or usacompetitions@varsity.com.

# We look forward to seeing you at the 2020 USA Collegiate Championships in Anaheim!

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### REGISTRATION

Event registration is done on-line on myVarsity.com/CompetitionSearch. To receive the **Early Bird Registration fee**, the registration must be submitted on-line and paid in full by January 10, 2020. Additionally, all registration forms and proof of team member's eligibility must be submitted to the USA office by this date. The **On-Time Registration fee** will apply to those registrations submitted on-line, paid, and paperwork received in the USA office January 11 - 31, 2020. **Registrations may not be accepted the two (2)** weeks prior to the event.

We encourage schools to register for USA Collegiate Championships prior to the deadlines noted above. Championship events often close (due to full enrollment) prior to the registration deadlines.

Forms of payment accepted are school purchase order, school check, money order, cashier's check, or credit card. Personal checks, organizational checks, cash or individual check payments from squad members are not accepted. School purchase orders must be paid in full at least five (5) days prior to the event.

Refunds will be given only if notice of cancellation is submitted in writing 15 days or more prior to the event. January 31, 2020 is the final day for this submission. Teams will be responsible for the full registration fees for cancellations past the refund deadline and/or "no shows" on the day of the event. Refunds will be automatically processed after the event takes place and is closed out. The refund will be issued back in the same manner as the original payment. It can take approximately four – six weeks for a refund to be received.

#### **EVENT ADMISSION – PARTICIPANTS AND COACHES**

All participant and coach wristbands will be included in the team's registration packet. Two (2) complimentary coach/advisor wristbands per school will be provided.

#### **EVENT ADMISSION – FAMILY AND GUESTS**

Event admission can be purchased at the Anaheim Convention Center. **Cash only is accepted for general admission tickets purchased at the event.** 

#### Daily Admission – Entrance One (1) Hour Prior to Competition Start Time

\$20.00 (adults) \$8.00 (children ages 5 – 11) Under five (5) will be admitted free of charge

2-Day Admission – Entrance One (1) Hour Prior to Competition Start Time \$36.00 (adults)

\$13.00 (children ages 5 – 11) Under five (5) will be admitted free of charge

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REGISTRATION PACKET

Please complete and submit the additional registration paperwork included in this packet. All paperwork must be received in the USA office on or before **January 10, 2020** to receive the **Early Bird Registration fee. Please see the registration check list on how to submit the completed forms.** All Release Forms must be originals. Please do not fax or email release forms. It is recommended (not required) that the release forms be sent via a traceable method (i.e. UPS, Fed Ex, etc.) and that you make copies of documents prior to submitting them. The USA is not responsible for packages that are lost in the mail. During the busy Nationals' season, the USA office will not always be able to verify the receipt for release forms sent via the USPS so sending the forms via a traceable method allows you to know that the forms have reached the office.

## ELGIBILITY

All team members must be registered full-time students of the school they represent (college or university) and must be official members of the school's spirit squad (Club Teams are allowed if they are the official squad of the school or if the official squad is not attending. The Club Team must have the approval of their administration to represent the school.). Please complete the enclosed form to verify team member's eligibility. Eligibility forms cannot be dated prior to December 1, 2019. Any exceptions to the above (e.g. graduating seniors, graduate students, etc.) must be pre-approved in writing by the USA prior to the competition.

A team that violates eligibility rules and/or contains members who are deemed to be ineligible may forfeit any title and/or may be prohibited from entering the competition the following year.

Any interpretations or decisions of eligibility for the 2020 USA Collegiate Championships will be rendered by the Rules Committee, which is comprised of, but not limited to, the Tournament Director, the USA Cheerleading Program Director or Song/Pom/Dance Program director and the Director of Special Events. The Rules Committee will render a judgment in a manner consistent with the general goals of the tournament.

If a team fails to produce this proof of eligibility for each team member prior to the registration at the event, they will not be allowed to perform. Proof of eligibility must be submitted to the USA office on or before January 10, 2020. If submitted after January 10, 2020 a \$25 processing fee will occur, in addition to a team not being eligible for the "Early Bird" registration fee. It is the advisor/coach's responsibility to provide this information to the United Spirit Association by the stated deadline in the registration confirmation.

Any exceptions to the above must be pre-approved in writing by the USA office prior to the event.

Each cheer team from the United States must be accompanied by a current USA Cheer/AACCA certified coach, representing that team, in order for the team to be eligible to compete. Proof of certification must be provided with the team eligibility materials.

## ADDITIONAL VARSITY BRANDS TEAM/INDIVIDUAL REQUIREMENTS

- Any university or college competing in a Varsity College National Championship and/or Collegiate Championships shall not permit a student-athlete to represent their school unless the student-athlete meets all the applicable eligibility requirements, and the coach and program administrative supervisor has certified the student athlete's eligibility.
- 2. A student-athlete may only represent ONE (1) school in a National Championship and/or Collegiate Championships competition for each academic year. For example, a student athlete may not compete for one school in January, transfer and compete for another school in April.
- 3. At the Junior College level, any student-athlete will be only eligible to compete in a **maximum of three (3)** National Championships during the course of his/her college career.
- 4. A student-athlete can be part of the institution's cheer/dance spirit squad but will only be allowed to compete for a **maximum of five (5)** National Championships during the course of his/her college career, regardless of the number of universities or colleges he/she has attended.
- 5. A student-athlete may not compete in more than **five (5)** National Championships in combined Junior College and/or 4-year college/university.
- 6. An alternate or injured student-athlete that does not take the competition floor will not be perceived as a competing member and will not count towards the maximum of five (5) National Championships.
- 7. This will apply for any student-athlete competing at any one of the Varsity Brands College National Championships (UCA/UDA, NCA/NDA), as well as any other designated College Nationals Championship.

Whether an individual competed a USA Collegiate Championships and at either UCA or NCA within the same season or the individual competes at USA Collegiate Championships solely, this will count as one year of eligibility/one championships toward that athlete's maximum eligibility permitted during the athlete's collegiate participant.

- 8. Verification of eligibility will be required by the school's Registrar's Office and the program's administrative supervisor, in addition to the coach. It will be the responsibility of these individuals to verify that all student-provided information and documentation is correct and valid.
- 9. Teams violating this rule cold forfeit their titles and/or rankings, as well as be prohibited from entering any other Varsity Brands Championship the following year.

## DIVISIONS

The contest director may delete, combine, or divide categories/divisions as deemed necessary. If divisions are altered, adjustments will be made in the awards. Categories/divisions will be subdivided into 2-year and 4-year institutions. Divisions with 10 or more teams may be subdivided again based upon school size and/or team size.

## **PERFORMANCE ORDER/SCHEDULES**

Typically performance order is based on registration confirmation. Registrations are confirmed when the payment is received. The first registration confirmed will be the last to perform in that division and the last registration confirmed will be the first to perform in that division. Adjustments may be necessary due to division/team conflicts.

## All teams will be given an assigned check-in and warm-up time prior to competition.

The contact on the registration will be emailed a tentative line up with performance times at least 2 weeks prior to the competition. These times are subject to change. The final schedule will be available by checking usa.varsity.com after 5:00 PM (PST) the Wednesday prior to the competition. As of this day, performance times usually remain the same regardless of scratches. It is the director's/coach's responsibility to check the schedule for accuracy of divisions, team size, etc. prior to the day of competition.

#### **PERFORMANCE AREA**

A 54' x 42' carpet bonded foam mat (non-spring) will be used for all cheerleading performances.

All stunts and tumbling must be completed on the mat surface. There will be a three-point deduction off your final averaged score for each infraction of this rule.

The warm-up/practice area will consist of carpet bonded foam mat strips. The size of the warm up floor will be communicated in pre-competition information which is emailed approximately 14 days prior to the event.

All dance team divisions will perform on a marley, parquet, stage, basketball/gym court or similar type dance floor. Warm-up surfaces may differ.

#### MUSIC

Note the music rules that are in place for the 2019-20 competition season. Be sure you are familiar with these prior to taking any competition floor. Failure to comply may lead to disqualification and forfeiture of all fees (registration, admission or otherwise) associated with a team's performance.

**MUSIC RULES:** Music rules are being followed at all USA and Varsity Brands events. Competition music must be properly licensed and a team must be able to provide proof of licensing at any event where the music is used. If a team cannot provide proof of licensing, the team may be disqualified from the event. For further details visit <u>www.varsity.com/music</u>.

In order for a team's routine music to be featured in a television broadcast, should this be an option, teams must do the following:

- Use an original composition created or commissioned by you (i.e. an original song and recording to which you own or license the rights by written agreement)
- Additionally secure the synchronization rights. Not all original music providers can/will provide these rights.
- Submit proof of licensing, as well as synchronization rights, when requested after the event.
- One or several selections of music may be used as long as they follow the music licensing rules

Music is defined as any recorded sound amplified through the competition sound system.

A sound system will be provided. Speed control is not available. Music checks on the main sound system are not permitted. A representative must be present at the sound system at the time of performance. Advisors/coaches are asked to hold onto their own music until the time of performance and to take music back following the performance.

All teams must provide their own MP3 device (or smart phone) for use on the event provided sound system. Music must be recorded at the correct tempo. Although it is not recommended due to interference that may be caused during a routine, a smart phone may be used for playing music. No cover may be on any MP3 player or smart phone so that a patch cord may be easily inserted into the device. Please ensure that jacks are clean and free of any debris which may impact connectivity. You must ensure that your device has a jack into which a patch cord may be inserted. Note that you will need to acquire an adapter in advance if your player does not have a head phone jack.

## **ENTRANCE/EXIT**

Judges are looking for enthusiasm and showmanship during entrance and exits. Teams are encouraged to move on and off the floor as quickly as possible.

All team breaks, rituals and traditions need to take place prior to the team being called to the performance floor.

Teams should take the floor immediately with spirit and enthusiasm, but without excessive gestures. Example: chest bumps, hugs, hand-shakes, etc. All teams should refrain from any type of excessive celebration following the team's performance. Any team in violation may receive a "sportsmanship" penalty. There should not be any organized exits or other activities after the official ending of the routine.

#### PENALTIES

Points will be deducted from the final team average for violations of safety rules and/or time limits.

1. **Safety Rules:** Two (2) points will be deducted from the final team average for each occurrence of an illegal procedure. For example, if all squad members execute an illegal stunt, the squad will receive one two-point penalty. If the same squad performs the same or another illegal stunt within the same routine, they will receive a second two-point penalty.

You must adhere to the appropriate 2019-20 USA Cheer/AACCA Safety rules for collegiate school-based cheer and dance programs found on the USA website, usa.varsity.com.

2. **Time**: Timing will begin on the first note of music, the first word of the cheer, the first organized cheer, or the first movement, whichever occurs first, and stop with the end of the cheer or last note of music.

There will be a one-point penalty off the final averaged score for every 10 seconds over the time limit (1 - 10 seconds over = one-point penalty; 11 - 20 seconds over = two-point penalty, etc.).

For cheer teams, up to 2:15 (135 seconds) of the total routine may be performed to music. There is no restriction as to the proportion of the music section(s) used in relation to the cheer only section(s). Penalties will be deducted from the final averaged score for going over the 2:15 total music time limit. Penalties will be assessed as follows: 1 - 10 seconds over = one-point penalty; 11 - 20 seconds over = two-point penalty, etc..

Timing for prop set-up in the Mascot division will begin at the drop of the starter's hand. Set-up timing will stop when the routine begins.

## APPROPRIATENESS OF CHOREOGRAPHY, MUSIC, OUTFITTING

All facets of a performance or routine, including choreography, music selection, and outfitting, should be suitable for family viewing and listening. Uniforms for all team types should be appropriate for the age of the participants performing the routine.

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 tales facing down and should not fall over the forehead into the participants' eyes or block the view of the participant while performing.

In general, performances from the school-based teams, including but not limited to the actual routine, signs, cheers, chants, and hand signals/gestures, should adhere to outfitting, performance and music guidelines and criteria in place and approved by the administration or institution to which the school team belongs. A Collegiate Image Category/Score is included on the school-based scoresheets.

Deductions will be given for vulgar or suggestive choreography, which includes, but is not limited to, movements such as hip thrusting and inappropriate touching, gestures, hand/arm movements and signals, slapping, positioning of body parts and positioning to one another. Deductions will be given for music or words unsuitable for family listening, which includes, but is not limited to swearwords and connotations of any type of sexual act or behavior, drugs, mention of specific parts of the body torso, and/or violent acts or behavior.

Removing improper language or words from a song and replacing with sound effects or other words constitutes inappropriate, and deductions will be made accordingly.

Any uniform, movement, or music in which the appropriateness is questionable or with which uncertainty exists should be submitted to the USA for approval.

#### **INSURANCE**

Each participant must have his/her own personal insurance. The USA directors/sponsors will not be responsible for any injuries occurring at this event. First aid staff will be on site during the event.

#### JUDGING

The event will utilize professional judges from various spirit organizations and/or backgrounds to create a fair competition for everyone.

#### **HOTEL/ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES**

For additional transportation, hotel, and activity options, contact Gretchen Noack with Adventures America, a tour company that specializes in travel for performing arts groups. Adventures America can assist you with all the arrangements for your group trip. Call 866-656-6105 or gretchen@adventuresamerica.com

#### **REGISTRATION PACKETS**

Registration packets will be available for pick-up by the authorized team representative only starting on **Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 12 noon**. Packets will not be mailed in advance. Individuals are not allowed to pick up portions of the registration packet. This ensures that all tickets and wristbands are received and accounted for by the school representative.

#### HOW TO CONTACT THE UNITED SPIRIT ASSOCIATION

5770 Warland Drive, Suite B Cypress, CA 90630 800-886-4872 866-761-9365 (fax) usacompetitions@varsity.com

# **DIVISION GUIDELINES**

## **SHOW CHEER**

Number on Team: Five to thirty-six in all divisions

Divisions: All Girl Show Cheer, Large Co-Ed Show Cheer, Small Co-Ed Show Cheer

For the Large Co-Ed Division, no more than half plus one (rounding up) of the total number of team members may be male (e.g. 8 - 9 total participants = 5 maximum males; 16 - 17 total participants = 9 maximum males, etc.).

**Routine Procedure:** Execute a routine of your choice using a combination of music and cheer portion(s). Audience participation and props (spell-out letters; Go, Fight, Win signs, etc.) are encouraged for school-based programs. You must adhere to the appropriate 2019 – 2020 USA Cheer/AACCA College Safety Rules (school-based programs) found at: <u>http://www.cheerrules.org/aacca-college/</u>

**Time Limit:** Maximum three (3) minutes. For cheer teams, up to 2:15 (135 seconds) of the total routine may be performed to music. There is no restriction as to the proportion of the music section(s) used in relation to the cheer only section(s). Penalties will be deducted from the final averaged score for going over the 2:15 total music time limit. Penalties will be assessed as follows: 1 - 10 seconds over = one-point penalty; 11 - 20 seconds over = two-point penalty, etc.

## **HIP HOP**

Number on Team: Six to thirty-six

**Routine Procedure:** A routine where dancers perform street style movement with an emphasis on execution, uniformity, body control, rhythm, creativity, visual effect and musicality. A combination of hip hop styles is permitted. You must adhere to the 2019-20 USA College Dance Safety Rules found on the USA website: usa.varsity.com.

Time Limit: Maximum 2 ½ minutes

#### JAZZ

Number on Team: Six to thirty-six

**Routine Procedure:** A jazz routine incorporates stylized jazz dance movements and combinations, visual effects, level changes, formation changes and dance technique. Emphasis should be on uniformity of the selected jazz style, proper dance technique, and timing and performance quality. You must adhere to the 2019-20 USA College Dance Safety Rules found on the USA website: usa.varsity.com. **Time Limit:** Maximum 2 ½ minutes

## POM

## Number on Team: Six to thirty-six

**Routine Procedure:** A pom routine consists of visual effects, synchronization, clean/sharp pom motions and technical skills. Visual effects include level changes, opposition, group work, transitions and formations. Emphasis should be placed on proper pom/motion technique, proper dance technique, timing, and showmanship. All female members must use two pompons for 80% of the routine. You must adhere to the 2019-20 USA College Dance Safety Rules found on the USA website: usa.varsity.com. **Time Limit:** Maximum 2 ½ minutes

#### MASCOT

Number on Team: Mascots may perform as individuals or as mascot groups. Participants in this division must be the official mascot(s) of the school and must wear their official mascot uniform. Additional team members (e.g. cheerleaders and dancers) are not permitted to be visible and perform as part of this routine. Routine Procedure: Execute any type of skit or novelty routine. Use of a theme and crowd involvement are encouraged. Contestants may use music, props, costumes, and accessories. Please no use of water or other substances that would be harmful to the floor. Individuals assisting with props may not be visible during the routine. Materials that require clean up (e.g. confetti, glitter, etc.) are not permitted. All props/sets/accessories must (either assembled or disassembled) be able to fit through a standard door measuring 7' H x 3' W. Stunting and/or tumbling is not allowed.

**Time Limit:** Maximum two (2) minutes for the routine. You will be limited to one (1) minute to set-up props and one (1) minute to break-down props (see time penalty).



# **2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS PRICING**

#### Entrance Fees

**Competitor Entrance Fee** (all competitors/alternates must purchase a competitor's entrance fee) \$75.00 per person Cheer Divisions Early Bird Fee\* Cheer Divisions On-Time Fee\*\* \$95.00 per person Dance Divisions First Performance Early Bird Fee\* \$75.00 per person Dance Divisions First Performance On-Time Fee\*\* \$95.00 per person Dance Divisions Second/Third Performance Early Bird Fee\* \$65.00 per person Dance Divisions Second/Third Performance On-Time Fee\*\* \$85.00 per person Mascot Division Early Bird Fee\* \$75.00 per person Mascot Division On-Time Fee\*\* \$95.00 per person

\*Early Bird fee applies if registrations is inputted on-line and payment in full is received on or before January 10, 2020 as well as eligibility document is submitted between December 1, 2019 and January 10, 2020.

\*\*On Time fee applies to all registrations entered and/or paid in full between January 11 - 31, 2020 or if eligibility document is submitted after January 10, 2020.



#### **Disneyland® Resort Tickets**

*Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Resort tickets purchased through the United Spirit Association may not be re-sold. Tickets are non-refundable and non-upgradeable. <u>Although the same price, tickets need to be purchased accordingly: Youth (3 – 22 years) or Adult (23+ years).</u>

#### • 1-Day Park Hopper<sup>®</sup> Pass

• Admission to *Disneyland®* Park and *Disney California Adventure®* Park (one day park hopper must be used between February 9 – 22, 2020)

#### • 2-Day Park Hopper® Pass

Admission to Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Park and Disney California Adventure<sup>®</sup> Park
(Tickets must be used between February 9 - 22, 2020. Tickets expire 13 days after first use or by February 22, 2020 whichever comes first, regardless of the number of days the ticket has been used. All days must be used by the same person.)

#### • 3-Day Park Hopper<sup>®</sup> Pass

Admission to Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Park and Disney California Adventure<sup>®</sup> Park
(Tickets must be used between February 9 - 22, 2020. Tickets expire 13 days after first use or by February 22, 2020 whichever comes first, regardless of the number of days the ticket has been used. All days must be used by the same person.)

#### • 4-Day Park Hopper® Pass

Admission to Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Park and Disney California Adventure<sup>®</sup> Park
(Tickets must be used between February 9 - 22, 2020. Tickets expire 13 days after first use or by February 22, 2020 whichever comes first, regardless of the number of days the ticket has been used. All days must be used by the same person.)

One (1) complimentary chaperone park ticket for every 20 "youth" tickets purchased of the same ticket type (e.g. 20 Youth 2-Day *Park Hopper*® Passes purchased equals one (1) complimentary 2-Day *Park Hopper*® Pass) per each pre-purchased ticket order. This applies to school orders only. Adult tickets are not counted towards a complimentary ticket. Complimentary tickets will be added automatically to registration or order. Please do not include complimentary tickets in purchased quantity.

Parents, spectators, and guests can purchase *Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Resort tickets using the enclosed order form. Although the same price, tickets need to be purchased on-line accordingly: Youth (3-22 years) or Adult (23+ years). Payment in full via credit card is due at the time of purchase. Orders may be placed in advance until **January 10, 2020**. After **January 10, 2020**, tickets may be purchased at the event while supplies last. Tickets will be available for pick up at team registration starting on **Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 9:00 AM**. Tickets can be shipped in advance via Fed Ex for \$25. Tickets will not be shipped before **January 31, 2020**. Information on pick up location and times will be emailed to purchaser prior to the event. <u>Complimentary tickets mentioned above do not apply to tickets purchased individually</u>. Once tickets have been shipped or picked up in Anaheim, there will be no upgrades or refunds to the initial order.

\$180.00 per person

\$234.00 per person

\$296.00 per person

\$338.00 per person



# **REGISTRATION CHECK LIST**

Please use the following check-list to assist with your school's registration for the 2020 USA Collegiate Championships.

# All items need to be completed and mailed/submitted on or before January 10, 2020 to receive Early Bird fee.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete on-line registration by logging into myvarsity.com and searching for Collegiate Championships.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete the Eligibility Form and submit via email to <u>kbetts@varsity.com</u>.
- **Policies and Procedures** Document will be sent to you via email for signature and submission via DocuSign.
- **Adult Release and Waiver Forms** Mail to the USA office a complete and original release and waiver form for all participants and coaches 18 years of age and over.
- **Minor Release and Waiver Forms** Mail to the USA office a complete and original release and waiver form for all participants under the age of 18.
- Proof of USA Cheer Cheerleading Safety and Risk Management Course (formerly known as the AACCA Cheerleading Safety Course). At least one coach from the school must submit proof of this certification for cheer divisions. Note that current, unexpired AACCA certification will fulfill this requirement as well. Mail, fax or email certificate to USA office with Eligibility Form.
- **On Site Contact Information/Registration Packet/Score Sheet Authorization** link to form will be emailed separately.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Resort Ticket Order Form (optional)

# 2020 COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ROSTER/ELIGIBILITY FORM



SCHOOL NAME CITY/STATE

- The Dean of Students or Registrar's Office must sign this form before submitting. Please see the official Rules and Regulations for questions regarding participant eligibility.
- All participants must be registered full-time student for the college or university that they are representing in competition and official members of the team.
- Each cheer team must be accompanied by a current AACCA certified coach for the team to be eligible to compete. Proof of AACCA certification is required along with team eligibility form.
- Please list the names of all participants that are performing and any alternates at the USA Collegiate Championships.

#### PARTICIPANT NAME DIVISION AGE M/F 1. 2. 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. **ALTERNATES** 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

I warrant that all participants are registered full-time students of the college or university that they are representing in competition and official members of the school's team.

Signature of Advisor/Coach\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of School Administrator \_\_\_\_\_

Title

Date \_\_\_\_\_

This form must not be dated any earlier than December 1, 2019. This form is due on or before January 10, 2020. Please email to kbetts@varsity.com.



## 2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS DISNEYLAND® RESORT TICKET ORDER FORM

Athletes/Spectators attending Collegiate Championships, February 15 – 16, 2020, can pre-purchase discounted *Disneyland*<sup>®</sup> Resort Tickets through the USA. <u>Fill out the information below and send the form via fax</u>

1.866.761.9365 or email kbetts@varsity.com or mail with payment on or before January 10, 2020. Tickets can be sent via fed ex in advance or picked up at USA registration hours for the event starting Thursday, February 13, 2020 by the contact listed below.

School Name			
Purchaser's Address (not a PO box)			
City	_State		Zip
Cell Phone		Email	

Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Resort ticket purchased through the United Spirit Association may not be re-sold. Tickets are non-refundable and non-upgradeable. Although the same price, tickets need to be purchased accordingly: Youth (3-22 years) or Adult (23+ years).

QUANTITY*	TICKET TYPE	PRICE	TOTAL
	1-day Park Hopper <sup>®</sup> Pass (youth)	\$180.00 per person	\$
	1-day Park Hopper® Pass (adult) (one day hopper tickets must be used between February 9 – 22, 2020.)	\$180.00 per person	ې
	2-day Park Hopper <sup>®</sup> Pass (youth)	\$234.00 per person	\$
	2-day Park Hopper® Pass (adult)	\$234.00 per person	\$
	3-day Park Hopper <sup>®</sup> Pass (youth)	\$296.00 per person	\$
	3-day Park Hopper® Pass (adult)	\$296.00 per person	\$
	4-day Park Hopper <sup>®</sup> Pass (youth)	\$338.00 per person	\$
	4-day Park Hopper <sup>®</sup> Pass (adult)	\$338.00 per person	\$
	Multi-Day Park Hopper Tickets must be used between February 9 - 22, 2020. or by February 22, 2020, whichever comes first, regardless of the number of All days must be used by the same person.		
	Send Tickets via Fed Ex	\$25.00	\$25.00
		TOTAL DUE:	\$

\*Please only list quantity of tickets being purchased. The USA will automatically add the correct number of complimentary tickets to your order of applicable.

One (1) complimentary chaperone park ticket for every 20 "youth" purchased of the same ticket type (e.g. 20 "youth" 2-Day Park Hopper<sup>®</sup> Passes purchased equals one (1) complimentary 2-Day Park Hopper<sup>®</sup> Pass) per each pre-purchased ticket order. Adult tickets are not counted towards a complimentary ticket. **For tickets sent via Fed Ex**. - Please note the USA is not responsible for replacing the Disneyland<sup>®</sup> Resort Theme Park tickets if they are lost by Fed Ex. A signature will be required upon delivery. Tickets cannot be sent outside of the United States. There will be an additional fed ex shipping fee of \$25 added to your ticket purchase. For tickets not sent in advanced, they will be available for pick up at USA registration hours for the event starting Thursday, February 13, 2020.

If paying with credit card, once order is received you will be contacted by the USA office for a credit card for payment. Accepted: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card.

#### 2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS MINOR RELEASE AND WAIVER FORM

#### (Release and Waiver Form for Minors – Participants Under 18 Years of Age)

This form is due in the USA office by JANUARY 10, 2020. Please do not fax or scan this form. Every participant must have submitted a completed, original and signed release form in order to

participate. Please use **blue** ink. Photocopies will not be accepted.

Minor's Name	Name of Parent/Legal Guardian
Address	School /Team Name
City, State, Zip	Division
Phone Number ()	Event Location: Anaheim Convention Center
E-mail	Event Date:   February 15 – 16, 2020   Cheer []   Dance []

Liability Release: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a minor (hereinafter "Minor"), hereby grant the permission necessary to allow Minor to participate in the above Event to be conducted by Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, further agree to release and to hold harmless Varsity Spirit LLC

dba United Spirit Association, Varsity Spirit's Corporate Sponsors (hereinafter "Sponsors"), the Hosting site, (university, hotel, convention center, high school) on whose premises the Event will occur (hereinafter the "Location"), the affiliates of Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association and the Location, U.S. All Star Federation, Inc., a not for profit corporation ("USASF"), USA Federation for Sport Cheering, a not for profit corporation ("USA Cheer") and the respective directors, officers, representatives, members, agents and employees of Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, Sponsors, and their respective affiliates (hereinafter collectively "Releasees") from any and all liability whether caused by negligence of the Releasees or otherwise for any claim, judgment, loss, liability, cost and expenses (including, without limitations, attorney's fees and costs) arising out of or connected with the Event, including any claim arising out of or connected with any illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and / or death) that Minor may incur or sustain during the Event, all activities associated with the Event and while traveling to and from the site for the Event whether or not the Event actually occurs. I further expressly agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees and Releasees' heirs, successors, assigns, executors and administrators against loss from any further claims, demands or actions that may subsequently be brought by Minor or by any other persons on the account of damages of any character resulting to Minor in any way from the foregoing activities. I further agree to reimburse and to make good to Releasees may loss or costs Releasees may have to pay as a result of any such action, claim or demand.

I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, hereby warrant that I have read this Liability Release in its entirety and fully understand its contents. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, am aware that this Liability Release releases Releasees from liability and contains an acknowledgement of my voluntary and knowing assumption of the risk of injury or illness. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, further acknowledge that nothing in this Liability Release constitutes a guarantee that the Event will occur. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, have signed this document voluntarily and of my own free will.

#### Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian: X\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Supervision: A chaperone/Adult (age 21 and over) is required to attend with participants. This Chaperone will be responsible for the participants at all times. Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, AACCA and USASF are not responsible for participants' supervision.

Appearance Agreement: I understand that Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association from time to time produces promotional material relating to its programs. I understand that as participant and/ or a spectator at the Event that Minor may be included in videotapes, dvds, podcasts and videocasts or photographs taken during the Event. Therefore, without reservation or limitations, I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, hereby assign, transfer and grant to Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, its successors, assignees, licensees, sponsors, any television networks, and all other commercial exhibitors the exclusive right to photograph and / or videotape Minor and to utilize such videotapes and photographs and Minor's name, face likeness, voice and appearance as a part of the Event or in any other media now in existence or hereafter developed, in advertising and promoting the Event, in advertising and promoting similar future events or in advertising and promotions relating to Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association without reservations and limitations. I further understand that neither Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association nor any third party is under any obligation to exercise any of the foregoing rights, licenses and privileges herein granted. I waive any right to inspect or approve the programs, copies thereof and any promotional materials related thereto.

**Medical Release:** I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, acknowledge and agree that such participation subjects Minor to possibility of physical illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and/ or death) and that I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, acknowledge that Minor is assuming the risk of such illness or injury by participating in the event. In the event of such illness or injury, I authorize Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association to obtain necessary medical treatment for Minor and hereby, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, release and hold harmless Releases in the exercises of this authority. I further acknowledge and understand that I will be responsible for any and all medical and related bills that may be incurred on behalf of Minor for any illness or injury that Minor may sustain during the Event and while traveling to and from the site for the Event whether or not the Event actually occurs.

I represent that any medication to which Minor is allergic or medications that Minor is currently taking are listed below. I agree that Minor shall bring medications which Minor is currently taking with him / her to the Event and that he / she shall consume the prescribed dosage for such medications.

#### Medications (if any): \_\_\_\_

Allergic to (if any): \_

I acknowledge that the Minor suffers from the following conditions:

I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, hereby warrant that I have read this Release and Waiver Form in its entirety and fully understand its contents. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, am aware that this Release and Waiver Form releases from liability and contains an acknowledgement of my voluntary and knowing assumption of the risk of injury or illness. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, further acknowledge that nothing in this Release and Waiver Form constitutes a guarantee that the Event will occur. I, in my own behalf and on behalf of Minor, have signed this document voluntarily and of my own free will.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian: X\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_

Relationship to Minor \_\_\_\_

Minor Birthdate

\_ Minor SS #\_\_

(Not required but helpful for quick verification of insurance policy by hospital/clinic.)

#### 2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ADULT RELEASE AND WAIVER FORM

(Release and Waiver Form for all Adults – Participants/Coaches 18 Years and Older) This form is due in the USA office by JANUARY 10, 2020. Please do not fax or scan this form. Every advisor/coach must have submitted a completed, original and signed release form in order to attend event. Please use <u>blue</u> ink. Photocopies will not be accepted.

Adult's Name	School/Team Na	ime	
Address	Division		
City, State, Zip			
Phone Number ()	Event Location:	Anaheim Convention Cente	r
E-mail	Event Date:	February 15 – 16, 2020	Cheer [ ] Dance [ ]

Liability Release: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, I agree to participate in the above Event to be conducted by Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association. I, further agree to release and to hold harmless Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, Varsity Spirit's Corporate Sponsors (hereinafter "Sponsors"), the Hosting site, (university, hotel, convention center, high school) on whose premises the Event will occur (hereinafter the "Location"), the affiliates of Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association and the Location, U.S. All Star Federation, Inc., a not for profit corporation ("USASF"), USA Federation for Sport Cheering, a not for profit corporation ("USA Cheer") and the respective directors, officers, representatives, members, agents and employees of Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, Sponsors, and their respective affiliates (hereinafter collectively "Releasees") from any and all liability whether caused by negligence of the Releasees or otherwise for any claim, judgment, loss, liability, cost and expenses (including, without limitations, attorney's fees and costs) arising out of or connected with the Event, including any claim arising out of or connected with any illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and / or death) that I may incur or sustain during the Event, all activities associated with the Event and while traveling to and from the site for the Event whether or not the Event actually occurs. I further expressly agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees and Releasees' heirs, successors, assigns, executors and administrators against loss from any further claims, demands or actions that may subsequently be brought by myself or by any other persons on the account of damages of any character resulting in me in any way from the foregoing activities. I further agree to reimburse and to make good to Releasees any loss or costs Releasees may have to pay as a result of any such action, claim

I, hereby warrant that I have read this Liability Release in its entirety and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this Liability Release releases Releases from liability and contains an acknowledgement of my voluntary and knowing assumption of the risk of injury or illness. I, further acknowledge that nothing in this Liability Release constitutes a guarantee that the Event will occur. I have signed this document voluntarily and of my own free will.

#### Signature of Adult X

Date

Supervision: I acknowledge that Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, AACCA and USASF are not responsible for my supervision.

**Appearance Agreement:** I understand that Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association from time to time produces promotional material relating to its programs. I understand that as participant and/ or a spectator at the Event I may be included in videotapes, dvds, podcasts and videocasts or photographs taken during the Event. Therefore, without reservation or limitations, I hereby assign, transfer and grant to Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association, its successors, assignees, licensees, sponsors, any television networks, and all other commercial exhibitors the exclusive right to photograph and / or videotape me and to utilize such videotapes and photographs and my name, face likeness, voice and appearance as a part of the Event or in any other media now in existence or hereafter developed, in advertising and promoting the Event, in advertising and promoting similar future events or in

advertising and promotions relating to Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association without reservations and limitations. I further understand that neither Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association nor any third party is under any obligation to exercise any of the foregoing rights, licenses and privileges herein granted. I waive any right to inspect or approve the programs, copies thereof and any promotional materials related thereto.

**Medical Release:** I acknowledge and agree that such participation subjects me to possibility of physical illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and/ or death) and that I acknowledge that I am assuming the risk of such illness or injury by participating in the event. In the event of such illness or injury, I authorize Varsity Spirit LLC dba United Spirit Association to obtain necessary medical treatment for me and hereby release and hold harmless Releasees in the exercises of this authority. I further acknowledge and understand that I will be responsible for any and all medical and related bills that may be incurred for any illness or injury that I may sustain during the Event and while traveling to and from the site for the Event whether or not the Event actually occurs.

I represent that any medication to which I am allergic or medications that I am currently taking are listed below. I agree that I will bring medications I am currently taking to the Event and that I shall consume the prescribed dosage for such medications.

Medications (if any):

Allergic to (if any):

I acknowledge that I suffer from the following conditions:

I hereby warrant that I have read this Release and Waiver Form in its entirety and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this Release and Waiver Form releases from liability and contains an acknowledgement of my voluntary and knowing assumption of the risk of injury or illness. I further acknowledge that nothing in this Release and Waiver Form constitutes a guarantee that the Event will occur. I have signed this document voluntarily and of my own free will.

Signature of Adult X \_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_

## **2020 USA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

#### I. GENERAL RULES

A. The competition will follow the same general information/stunt and safety rules as set forth in the 2019-20 USA Cheer/AACCA College Cheerleading Safety Rules in addition to those rules listed in the 2020 Collegiate Championships categories/divisions rules. Dance team rules follow the 2019-20 USA College Dance Safety Rules. All of these documents and/or links to other websites where they may be found are available on-line at usa.varsity.com.

Each school-based cheer team from the United States must be accompanied by a current coach that can submit proof of the USA Cheer Cheerleading Safety and Risk Management Course (formerly known as the AACCA Cheerleading Safety Course) in order for the team to be eligible to compete. Note that current, unexpired AACCA certification will fulfill this requirement as well. Proof of certification must be provided with the team eligibility materials. The USA Cheer Cheerleading Safety and Risk Management Course may be obtained on-line by visiting usacheer.org and linking to the appropriate website for the on-line certification course.

- B. The competition will consist of the following categories/divisions: Show Cheer (5-36 members on team) 3 divisions College All-Girl, Small College Co-Ed (1-4 males), Large College Co-Ed [5-19 males- no more than half plus one (rounding up) of the total number of team members may be male], Hip Hop (6-36 members on team), Jazz (6-36 members on team), Pom (6-36 members), and Mascot.
- C. All team members must be registered full-time students of the school they represent (college or university) and must be official members of the school's spirit squad. Transcripts for each competitor, or a letter from the Dean of Students or registrar's office, must be submitted upon registering for the USA Collegiate Championships. Although a team may register for the competition prior to this date, documentation of full-time status must not be dated any earlier than December 1, 2018. Any exceptions to the above (i.e. graduating seniors, graduate students, etc.) must be pre-approved in writing by the USA prior to the competition.

Individual names on the team roster must match the name given on the transcript or in the letter from the Dean of Students/ registrar's office.

A team that violates eligibility rules and/or contains members who are deemed to be ineligible may forfeit any title and/or may be prohibited from entering the competition the following year.

Any interpretations or decisions of eligibility for the 2020 USA Collegiate Championships will be rendered by the Rules Committee, which is comprised of, but not limited to, the Tournament Director, the USA Cheerleading Program Director or Song/Pom/Dance Program Director and the Director of Special Events. The Rules Committee will render a judgment in a manner consistent with the general goals of the tournament. If a team fails to produce this proof of registration prior to performance they will not be allowed to perform. It is the advisor/coaches responsibility to provide this information to competition officials by the stated deadline in the registration confirmation.

- 1. Any university or college competing in a Varsity College National Championship and/or Collegiate Championship shall not permit a student athlete to represent their school unless the student-athlete meets all applicable eligibility requirements, and the coach and program administrative supervisor has certified the student athlete's eligibility.
- 2. A student-athlete may only represent ONE (1) school in a National Championship and/or Collegiate Championship competition for each academic year. For example, a student athlete may not compete for one school in January, transfer and compete for another school in April.

At the Junior College level, any student-athlete will be only eligible to compete in a maximum of three (3) National Championships during the course of his/her college career.

- 3. A student-athlete can be a part of the institution's cheer/ dance spirit squad but will only be allowed to compete for a maximum of five (5) National Championships during the course of his/her college career, regardless of the number of universities or colleges she/he has attended.
- 4. A student-athlete may not compete in more than five (5) National Championships in combined Junior College and/or 4-year college/university.
- 5. An alternate or injured student-athlete that does not take the competition floor will not be perceived as a competing member and will not count towards the maximum of five (5) National Championships.
- 6. This will apply for any student-athlete competing at any one of the Varsity Brands College National Championships (UCA/UDA, NCA/NDA), as well as any other designated College National Championship.
- 7. Verification of eligibility will be required by the school's Registrar's Office and the program's administrative supervisor, in addition to the coach. It will be the responsibility of these individuals to verify that all student provided information and documentation is correct and valid.
- 8. Teams violating this rule could forfeit their titles and/or rankings, as well as be prohibited from entering any other Varsity Brands Championship the following year.
- D. Categories/divisions may be subdivided or combined at the discretion of the competition director if the total number of teams in a division warrants this. The USA reserves the right to adjust days of performance for all divisions based upon final competition enrollment.

- E. The maximum squad size for all cheer and dance teams is 36 participants. For the Mascot division there is no limit to the number of individuals permitted on a team, as long as the routine can be performed safely within the given floor size constraints.
- F. Timing of a routine will begin on the first note of music, the first vocal command (for cheer squads), or the first cheer movement, and will stop with the end of the cheer or the last note of music. Timing for prop set-up in the Mascot category will begin at the drop of the starter's hand. Set-up timing will stop when the routine begins. Penalties for exceeding the total routine time limit will be deducted from the final averaged score. Please refer to the College Championships information for time limits in each category. (Available on-line at usa.varsity.com.) We recommend that you "time" your performance several times prior to the competition and give yourself at least five seconds of "cushion" to allow for speed variations in sound equipment.
- G. Teams may use as many songs in the musical portion of their routines as they like. Music guidelines are being followed at all USA and Varsity Brands events. Competition music must be properly licensed and a team must be able to provide proof of licensing (upon request) at any event where the music is used. If a team cannot provide proof of licensing immediately upon request, the team may be disqualified from the event. For further details visit <u>www.varsity.com/music.</u>

## **Music Guidelines**

- a) I have read and understand the USA Cheer Music Copyrights Educational Initiative and all sound recordings used in our team's music shall only be used with written license from the owners(s) of the sound recordings.
- b) These guidelines are as of June 16, 2016. For the most up to date music information, visit <u>http://varsity.com/music</u>. If you have any questions, cheer teams should email <u>info@usacheer.net</u> and song/pom teams should email <u>dancemusic@varsity.com</u>. Please check Preferred Provider list for updates and changes periodically.
- c) Teams must be able to provide proof of licensing, in the form of a printed copy, during registration at the event they are attending.
- d) If a team does not have the required paperwork, they will be given the option to perform to an approved track of music or a track with counts (provided by Varsity Spirit).
- e) If a team does not have the required paperwork, and chooses not to perform to the approved track of music or a track with counts, the team will be disqualified from the competition and not be allowed to perform.
- f) If there are concerns regarding a team's use of music, a Challenge Form must be completed immediately following the team's performance.
- g) A challenge can only be made by the official coach, advisor, director or gym owner of a team competing at the event at which the challenge is being made.
- h) Challenge Process
- All music challenges must be submitted in writing to the event director. ii) There will be a \$100 fee to request a music challenge, which must be in the form of a check made payable to St Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- iii) Challenges will be reviewed and finalized within 48 hours of the event.

- iv) If the challenge is correct, fees collected will be voided. If the challenge is incorrect, fees will be donated to St. Jude.
- i) Each team is required to have a representative remain at the music station that knows the routine and music. This representative is responsible for starting the music and stopping the music in case of technical malfunction or injury. Please hold on to your music until the time of your performance. A team representative must remain at the sound station during your team's performance. If using an MP3, smart phone, etc. please ensure that there is no case on the device which will obstruct the jack from plugging into the sound system. Please ensure that jacks are clean and free of any debris which may impact connectivity. Note that you may need to acquire an adapter in advance if your player does not have a head phone jack. If you are using a smart phone, please ensure that no interruptions (i.e. phone call, alarm, etc.) occur during your performance. Place the smart phone in "airplane mode," ensure that the volume is turned up and the phone is fully charged. Interference caused by a smart phone that results in routine delay may receive an overtime or delay of contest penalty.

#### **Video Media Policy**

No commercial recording (audio or visual) or commercial live streaming is allowed in the event venue or other event-related venues (including, but not limited to, hotels and restaurants) or on the grounds of any such venues (collectively, "Event Locations"). In the event a team authorizes the commercial recording or streaming in any Event Location, the team will be automatically disqualified. In addition, the personal, non-commercial use of live streaming apps (such as Periscope, Facebook Live, etc.) to capture all or any part of a performance during the event is not permitted. By attending/ purchasing admission to the event, each attendee grants permission to Varsity Spirit, LLC and its affiliates, designees, agents, licensees, and invitees to use the image, likeness, actions and statements of the attendee in any live or recorded audio, video, film, or photographic display or other transmission, exhibition, publication, or reproduction made of, or at, the event in any medium, whether now known or hereafter created, or context for any purpose, including commercial or promotional purposes, without further authorization or compensation. Any team traveling with a video crew may be disqualified.

#### Logo Usage

Teams will not be allowed to use any Varsity Spirit Brand logo including: banners, rings, bows, t-shirts, etc. without prior approval from the Varsity Spirit office.

- H. Judges are looking for enthusiasm and showmanship during entrances and exits. Teams and individuals are encouraged to move on and off the floor as quickly as possible. Set-ups and break-downs will be timed in the Mascot category.
- A 54' x 42' carpet bonded foam mat (non-spring) will be used for all cheerleading performances. All stunts and/or tumbling must be completed on the mat surface. There will be a three point deduction off your final averaged score for each infraction of the rule. All dance team divisions will perform on a marley, parquet, stage, or similar type dance floor.

## J. Competition Standard for Spotters

"Team Spotters" = are part of the performing team and required as part of specific types of stunting/pyramid/toss, etc. skills.

"Additional (Routine) Spotters" = Individuals on the competition floor provided as a safety precaution to spot certain elements of a routine. These are in addition to the team and do not take the place of "team spotters" required by specific types of stunting/pyramid/toss, etc. skills.

To promote a higher level of safety for competing athletes, USA will provide additional spotters at all USA school and recreational/youth cheer competitions. School and recreational/ youth cheer programs do not always have a large number of staff and coaches available to spot routines. To ensure that the safety of participants is not compromised due to limited number of team provided spotters, "additional (routine) spotters" will be provided by the USA.

## These USA-provided "additional (routine) spotters" will be mandatory on the competition floor.

Reminder – To provide the safest competitive environment, teams should not attempt skills beyond their ability level.

## **II. INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE**

- A. If, in the opinion of the competition officials, a squad's routine is interrupted due to failure of competition equipment, facilities or other factors attributed to the competition, rather than the squad, the squad affected may be allowed to re-present its routine from the beginning. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by competition officials as will the decision to allow a team to represent its routine.
- B. In the event a squad's routine is interrupted because of failure of the squad's equipment or an error on the part of a squad representative, the squad must either continue the routine, withdraw from the competition or be placed elsewhere in the division with a 3-point penalty from the final averaged score for "unnecessary change of performance order".
- C. In the event that an injury causes the squad's routine to be interrupted, the squad will be allowed to represent the routine in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred, or the team may withdraw from the competition. Either of these options is at the discretion of the competition official. The competition officials reserve the right to stop the routine due to injury.

## D. Uniform Distractions

The Legality Official, Head Judge or any other competition official reserves the right to stop a routine, assess a deduction, and/or disqualify a team for a uniform distraction (e.g. garment not being securely fastened/attached, straps break, pants split, etc.). Each performer is required to take the necessary steps to avoid inappropriate exposure prior to the performance. If a judge stops the routine the penalty will vary from 3 points to possible disqualification of the routine.

E. Competition officials reserve the right to stop a routine at any time.

## **III. APPROPRIATENESS OF CHOREOGRAPHY, MUSIC, OUTFITTING**

All facets of a performance or routine, including choreography, music selection and outfitting, should be suitable for family viewing and listening. Uniforms for all team types should be appropriate for the age of the participants performing the routine.

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 tales facing down and should not fall over the forehead into the participants' eyes or block the view of the participant while performing.

In general, performances from school-based teams, including but not limited to the actual routine, signs, cheers, chants and hand signals/gestures, should adhere to outfitting, performance and music guidelines and criteria in place and approved by the administration or institution to which the school team belongs.

Deductions will be given for vulgar or suggestive choreography, which includes, but is not limited to, movements such as hip thrusting and inappropriate touching, gestures, hand/arm movements and signals, slapping, positioning of body parts and positioning to one another. Deductions will be given for music or words unsuitable for family listening, which includes, but is not limited, to swearwords and connotations of any type of sexual act or behavior, drugs, mention of specific parts of the body torso, and/or violent acts or behavior. Removing improper language or words from a song and replacing with sound effects or other words constitutes inappropriate, and deductions will be made accordingly.

Any uniform or music in which the appropriateness is questionable or with which uncertainty exists should be submitted to the USA for approval prior to the performance taking place.

#### **IV. PRELIMINARY AND FINAL COMPETITION**

All divisions will advance from prelims to finals. The judges and tournament officials have full authority to make final determination of the number of squads/teams selected for the finals in each division. Any team that competes in a division with a prelims and finals must compete twice to be considered for final placement in that division.

#### V. HOW TO HANDLE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

Any questions concerning the rules or procedures of the competition will be handled exclusively by the captain or the advisor of the squad and will be directed only to the Competition/Venue Director or their designee. Such questions must be made prior to the squad's competition performance. Any questions concerning the performance of the squad must be made to the Competition/Venue Director immediately after the performance. Should a director or coach wish to lodge a formal complaint against another team in the competition for any violation of "Policies and Procedures" or competition rules, this complaint must be submitted in writing, signed, dated and presented to the Competition/Venue Director prior to any awards ceremony for which the team in question may be eligible to receive an award. It is to the discretion of the awards ceremony.

#### **VI. SPORTSMANSHIP**

All participants and spectators affiliated with them agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying positive sportsmanship throughout the competition. The advisor and/or captain of each squad is responsible for seeing that squad members, coaches, parents and any other persons affiliated with the squad conduct themselves accordingly. Un-sportsmanlike conduct will include, but is not limited to, approaching other teams, competition judges and/or any competition personnel with inappropriate comments, outbursts or gesture; confrontation with members of another team and/or between spectators of teams. Cases of unsportsmanlike conduct at any time during the Championships event are grounds to receive a 1-point penalty per occurrence, up to and including disqualification and the USA also has the right to deny entrance to or to remove an individual from the competition site. Additionally, disbarment from future USA events may occur.

#### **VII. SCORES AND RANKINGS**

Individual judge's score sheets are for the exclusive use of each particular judge. Each judge has the responsibility and authority to review and submit his or her final scores prior to the final results of each division being announced. Score sheets will be available only to advisors, directors or captains at the conclusion of the competitions. No scores or rankings will be given over the phone. If the recaps are not available at the competition, then advisors/coaches may request detailed recaps for each category/division by calling the main USA office no earlier than 1 week following the competition.

#### **VIII. APPEARANCES, ENDORSEMENTS AND PUBLICITY**

All squads winning titles, awards or prizes agree to have all appearances, endorsements and publicity approved through the USA office.

#### IX. INTERPRETATIONS AND RULINGS

Any interpretation of any aspect of these Policies and Procedures or any decision involving any other aspect of the competition will be rendered by the Competition Rules Committee. The Rules Committee will render a judgement in an effort to insure that the competition proceeds in a manner consistent with the general spirit and goals of the competition. The Rules Committee will consist of, but not limited to, the Tournament Director, the USA Cheerleading Program Director or Song/Pom/Dance Program Director and the Director of Special Events.

#### X. FINALTY OF DECISIONS

By participating in this competition, each squad agrees that decisions by the judges will be final and will not be subject for review. Each squad acknowledges the necessity for the judges to make prompt and fair decisions in this competition and each squad therefore expressly waives any legal, equitable administrative or procedural review of such decisions.

Any squad that does not adhere to the terms and procedures in the "Policies and Procedures" may be penalized (up to and including disqualification) from the competition and automatically forfeit the right to any awards presented by the competition. In addition, the squad may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in any competition produced by the United Spirit Association the following season or subsequent seasons. Any fees (team and/or spectator based) associated with participation in the event will be forfeited in the event of disqualification.

I have reviewed the "Policies and Procedures" with our entire squad and we accept the "Policies and Procedures" as a fair and integral part of the rules of this competition and agree to adhere to the rules, policies and procedures contained herein.

School Name	
City/State	
Advisor/Coach/Director's Name/Signature _	
Date	

#### THIS FORM WILL BE SENT TO YOU VIA DOCUSIGN AND IS DUE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 10, 2020