



**A VARSITY SPIRIT BRAND**

## **2022 JUNIOR NATIONALS** **EVENT INFORMATION**

**Please share any pertinent information with all squad members, guests and family that will attend the event.**

**At Varsity Spirit, the health and safety of our athletes, coaches, employees, families and friends is our top priority.**

An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending this event, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19. Please keep each other safe and healthy by following the guidance provided.

Please note the following guidelines will be in place for all athletes, coaches and spectators.

- Only unvaccinated persons are required to mask in all indoor public settings. Fully vaccinated individuals are recommended to continue indoor masking when the risk may be high.
- Any athlete, coach or spectator with any symptoms (Fever of 100°F or higher, cough, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea) may not enter.
- The USA reserves the right and may penalize teams for any spectators and or performers that do not comply with the mask requirement.

### **Directions**

Anaheim Convention Center – Hall A (Cheer) and Arena (Song/Pom)  
800 W. Katella Ave.  
Anaheim, CA 92802

Please see enclosed map.

### **COMPETITION REGISTRATION**

- **Coaches/Professional Membership Check-In** -- All Advisors/Coaches will first need to check in at the Arena box office to present a photo I.D. and proof of USA Cheer/Dance/Professional Membership to receive the warm-up/backstage event wristband.
- USA competition registration will be inside the northeast concourse of the Arena at the Anaheim Convention Center. Enter through the far-right glass doors of the east Arena Entrance. Registration will be available between 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> and between 6:00 AM and 11:00 AM on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Only two advisors/coaches per team will be allowed at the check-in location and physical distancing protocols will be enforced. **Advisors/Coaches entering the Arena for registration must have already picked up their coach wristband.** At registration you will receive your team packet which includes participant wristbands/shoe tags, Disneyland® Resort tickets (if applicable) and updated event information. You will also pick up your participation draw

string bags, so please come prepared. One person will sign a form verifying the entire registration packet has been received.

- “Open warm-up” space will not be available until 7:00 a.m. on Sunday. All those entering the “open warm-up space” for any type of warm-up must have registered to receive their proper wristband/shoe tag.
- All performers will receive a shoe tag/wristband as admission to the competition. This should be worn on the shoe or wrist and the performer must be in uniform/sweats for admission. This shoe tag/wristband will be used for admission to the warm-up/practice area as well as to the main performance area.
- Music guidelines are being followed at all USA and Varsity Brands events. Competition music must be properly licensed and a team must provide proof of licensing at team registration. If a team cannot provide proof of licensing immediately upon request, the team may be disqualified from the event. For further details visit [www.varsity.com/music](http://www.varsity.com/music)

## **SPECTATORS**

- This event will follow our Option B plan for Events. This is “In-Person with Limited Spectators”
- Spectator viewing limited to team performance time only.
- Spectators will have a designated entry and exit door for traffic flow. Spectators will not be allowed to enter the building more than 10 minutes prior to their team’s performance. USA staff will inform spectator groups when it is time for them to enter the building for their team’s performance. Spectators will move from zone to zone with physical distancing protocols in place.
- The viewing area will be done on a rotation basis with physical distancing protocols in place.
- All spectators will need to leave the facility after each team performance to limit the number of people allowed in the facility.
- Direction signage and/or personnel will guide spectators and athletes throughout the venue.
- Congregating in the common areas of the venue is not allowed.
- Live awards ceremonies will take place in North Hall 100 for athletes/coaches/advisors only, with proper wristbands required to enter this venue. Awards will be streamed on the BAND app for spectators to view in real time.

## **ADMISSION**

- Spectators – **No cash admission purchases will take place on-site during the event.** **Online admission sales will open the week of the event.** Admission **must be** pre-purchased for spectators by going to the following website – [General Admission Tickets](#). General admission tickets are \$13.00 (6+ years) per day, 5 and under are free.
- All electronically pre-purchased admissions through Eventbrite must be exchanged for a spectator wristband prior to entering the building. Upon arrival, spectators must proceed to the general admission window at the Arena box office and show proof of purchase. You will receive a wristband which will allow you to enter the event at your designated time. Pre-purchased admission cannot be used without receiving a wristband first. We highly recommend pre-purchasing your admission to the event, as purchase on-site by cash is not available and electronic purchase the day of may not be available and/or may delay your entry.
- **Spectators - Hall A Performances (Cheer)** - After receiving your general admission wristband at the Arena box office, all spectators must line up on the walkway in front of Hall A at their spectator report time and enter through the Hall A doors, “Red Entrance”, to view the spiritleading teams competition in Hall A at the Convention Center. Spectators will not be permitted in the “official/scheduled” or “open” Warm-Up/Practice areas at any time.
- **Spectators - Arena Performances (Song/Pom)** - After receiving your general admission wristband at the Arena box office, all spectators must line up on the north side of the Arena (nearest Katella Ave.) at their spectator report time and enter through north glass doors, “Blue Entrance”, to view the spiritleading teams competition in the Arena at the Convention Center.
- Spectators will not be permitted in the “official/scheduled” or “open” Warm-Up/Practice areas at any time.

- Spectator admission wristbands will be required in all competition venues.
- **Athletes** - Wrist/ankle bands/shoe tags for performers must be worn at all times. Admission will not be allowed without a wristband/shoe tag.
- The Arena box office will be open at 6:45 AM on Sunday for spectators to show proof of purchase and exchange for their general admission wristband.
- Check the final performance schedule for spectator report times.
- The USA reserves the right to refuse admission to any spectator.

## **Open and Assigned Warm-Up/Practice Times and Information**

### **Open Practice Area**

Cheer and Song/Pom Teams –  
 Sunday – 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – North Hall Level 100

### **Scheduled Practice Mat/Floor Space**

There will be scheduled practice times for all cheer competitors on carpet bonded foam mats and all dance competitors on convention center cement flooring with at least one strip of Marley, located in Hall A at the Anaheim Convention Center.

**A sound system will be provided only at each official practice mat and/or floor space.** Strict adherence to timing will be maintained. Failure to show-up at your designated time will result in forfeiture of your mat/floor time. No swaps (even within the same team) will be permitted.

### **OFFICIAL CHEER WARM UP – LEGALITY CHECK**

For this year's competition, Legality Officials will not be stationed at each scheduled warm up mat/floor. Legality reviews for each team in the scheduled warm up area will be by request only. If a team wishes to have their routine checked for potential penalties, they must request this when entering the warm-up check in area. If requested, the team will be given a flag that they will take with them to their official warm up mat. They will post the flag into the orange cone at the corner of the mat. This will alert the legality official to come to your warm-up mat during your warm-up time. This review is a courtesy to help locate any potential issues that might be able to be quickly adjusted. Ultimately, it is the coach's responsibility to ensure there are no penalties in the routine. Having attended a previous event does not mean that the routine does not have any infractions, nor does a routine being reviewed in the scheduled warm-up area guarantee a penalty-free routine on the performance mat. Keep in mind, as with any live event, it is possible that an infraction was not caught by an official at your qualifying competition earlier in the season.

All teams are required to report to the warm-up/practice area "Check-In" table according to your check-in time on the assigned warm-up/practice schedule (available "on-line" after 5:00 p.m. PST the Wednesday prior to competition). This check-in time is in addition to your checking-in at the main registration table to receive performer shoe tags/wristbands and updated competition information.

**Additional areas for practicing around the Anaheim Convention Center are extremely limited. The United Spirit Association will not make practice facilities available other than those listed above. There will be no access to the Anaheim Convention Center or its facilities at any time on Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Use of the facilities is not permitted other than during scheduled competition/warm-up times. Please note that the USA Spirit Nationals takes place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Warm-up space will be reserved for our high school spirit competitors only during the times of the Spirit Nationals event.**

For safety reasons, spectators will not be permitted in the warm-up/practice facility area at any time. Only team members/coaches/advisors with appropriately colored wristbands will be permitted in this area.

We encourage teams to come ready to perform, as there is limited space available for changing.

### **Performance Information – Hall A (Cheer)**

All performances will take place in Hall A for Cheer. The “getting ready” area will be upstage right for all teams. Teams will exit upstage left after their performance and meet their family friends outside of Hall A.

The “on deck” area will be immediately prior to taking the stage.

### **Performance Information – Arena (Song/Pom)**

All performances will take place in the Arena for Song/Pom. The “getting ready” area will be upstage right for all teams. Teams will exit upstage right after their performance and meet their family friends outside of the Arena.

The “on deck” area will be immediately prior to taking the stage.

All song/pom and cheer competitors will perform on a dance floor, measuring approximately 60’ (wide) x 48’ (deep). On top of this dance floor will be placed a Marley floor measuring 42’ x 42’ for song/pom teams. Song/pom teams do not have to stay within the Marley during their performance. For cheer teams, mats (9 strips) measuring 54’ (wide) x 42’ (deep) will be in placed on the dance floor. You are not limited to the mat, but all stunts and tumbling for cheerleaders must be completed on the mat. A penalty will be assessed for each infraction of this rule.

### **Awards**

Awards ceremonies for Jr. Nationals divisions will be presented “live” in North Hall 100 on a rotating basis with athletes, coaches and advisors only permitted to attend. Awards will take approximately 30 minutes following the end of each division. See the awards tentatively scheduled times with the final performance schedule a few days before the competition begins.

Following awards, scoresheets will be available immediately following the end of the announcements. These will be available at the North Hall Level 100. Any scoresheets not picked up immediately following awards will be sent to the Arena box office for later pick-up.

### **Music**

- 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 may need to acquire an adapter in advance if your player does not have a head phone jack. One or several selections of music may be used as long as they follow the music licensing rules. Ability to play routine from a CD will not be available.
- Please keep your routine music in your possession until you are called to enter the starting area. You will hand carry your music to the sound table.
- Advisors/Coaches/Directors are asked to remain at the sound station while their squad performs and to take their music with them at the conclusion of the performance. Representatives will be asked to press “play” and “stop” for their routines.
- There will be no music checks permitted on the main sound system.
- 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 [www.varsity.com/music](http://www.varsity.com/music)

## **General Information**

### **SECURITY**

Due to heightened security concerns, all bags are subject to search upon entry into any Anaheim Convention Center venue. **Bags must not be left unattended at any time.** Teams must be in possession of all personal items at all times during the competition (except while performing). The United Spirit Association will not be responsible for any items that are left unattended by a representative of your organization at any time (including during your performance). Unattended bags are subject to immediate removal by security.

Team signs may be brought to the competition, but may not be taped on any painted surfaces. Air horns, or other excessive noisemakers are not permitted in the convention center.

Throwing of any type of item onto the performance floor and/or the use of laser-type devices in any venue is grounds for immediate removal from the competition and individuals will be subject to prosecution.

Personal video cameras will be permitted, but we ask that you please film only your own team. Any individual who does not adhere to this request may be asked to leave the venue. Camera tripods will not be permitted at any time during the competition. Unauthorized videotaping of any team is subject to immediate removal from the competition venue.

The use of telephoto lenses on cameras and/or the use of tripods is prohibited.

### **DRESSING ROOMS**

There is a small dressing room designated for athletes in Hall A that may be used for costume changes only. No belongings may be left in this space, and teams may not remain in the dressing room unless actively changing costumes. Numerous restrooms are located throughout the Convention Center, however, please refrain from changing in these locations. Neither the Anaheim Convention Center nor USA Nationals will be responsible for any lost or stolen items.

### **FOOD**

Concession stands will not be open at the Convention Center on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. However, food trucks will be available outside of the venue and there are many eating establishments within walking distance of the convention center. **Outside food and drink are not permitted in the Convention Center.**

### **SOUVENIRS**

A complete line of exclusive USA Nationals souvenirs will be on sale Sunday at the Convention Center. Major credit cards are accepted. There will be a line to enter the store with a maximum capacity adhered to at any given time. We ask for your patience as the line to enter may be lengthy at times. We recommend coming to the store early in the day and to have a good idea of what you are interested in purchasing prior to arrival.

### **VIDEO**

Individuals are permitted to video the routine from their own team. Video-taping of multiple teams in a division is not permitted.

Personal video cameras will be permitted, but we ask that you please film only your own team. Any individual who does not adhere to this request may be asked to leave the venue. Camera tripods will not be permitted at any time during the competition. Unauthorized videotaping of any team is subject to immediate removal from the competition venue.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Action photos will be taken by Universal Event Photography throughout each team's performance and may be accessed through the QR code provided on-line or through the flyer in the informational e-mail.

The use of telephoto lenses on cameras and/or the use of tripods is prohibited.

## **MEDICAL CARE**

A FIRST AID station is located in the Convention Center and will be staffed throughout the weekend with a registered nurse. First aid staff will also be on duty during the competition at all venues.

Should you need medical assistance, please contact a USA or Anaheim Convention Center staff member.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Located at the Arena Box Office.

## **PARKING – ALL CASHLESS – ONLY CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED**

Please allow an additional 30 to 40 minutes for traffic and parking. Parking will be impacted over the weekend and cars may be directed to off-site lots.

### **Anaheim Convention Center**

CARS: Enter the Convention Center parking area from Katella.

The parking fee at the Convention Center is \$20.00 and is good for one entry ONLY. This fee is subject to change. It is not valid for in/out parking. The parking receipt must be visible on the vehicle dashboard.

The parking ticket is not transferable.

BUSES: Buses will enter from the back of the Convention Center, off of West Street. Parking personnel will direct you to the drop off area and appropriate exit or parking area. Parking fees for buses is \$30.00 and is good for one entry ONLY. Overnight parking of vehicles is prohibited.

**Parking fees are subject to change.**