

# B.A.Y.C.L. CHEER COMPETITION RULES

## General Competition Information

- The annual competition will be held on Saturday, November 9th, 2024 at **Hamburg Area High School** located at **701 Windsor Street, Hamburg, PA 19526**.
- Team registration begins at 8:30 am, doors open at 9:00 am. Athletes and Coaches will be permitted in the auditorium before/after their performance. Spectators will NOT be permitted access to this area.

## Payment and Fees

- General admission fee is \$10. Children under 5 are **FREE**.
- Refunds will be issued only if the event is canceled.

## Safety and Liability

- A Medical & Liability Waiver for each athlete must be completed and turned in on the day of competition.
- An Athletic Trainer or EMS provider will be on site for any medical emergencies throughout the competition.
- Absolutely **NO JEWELRY OR GLITTER**. No glitter is allowed on signs or makeup, vinyl products whereas loose glitter is not presented will be accepted.
- Cowbells and blow horns are prohibited at all BAYCL functions.
- Tobacco or animals on school district grounds are prohibited.
- Temporary spirit tattoos are permitted.
- Teams are encouraged to perform skills within their abilities.
- HASD, HYFCA, BACYL Board and competition officials are not responsible for any lost or stolen items and/or injury to participants.

## Rules and Regulations

- The BAYCL Cheer Competition will be following all rules and regulations set forth by the NFHS/USA Cheer.
- It is the coach's responsibility to make sure their team is performing in accordance with the above listed rules and regulations.
- Only the following props are allowed: flags, banners, megaphones, poms, and signs. Flags and/or banners with poles or similar support apparatus may not be used in conjunction with athletes involved in stunts or tumbling. Any props used in a performance may not be stepped on by any performer. Participating team members/coaches may set up props before their performance. Cheerleaders/coaches are solely responsible for placing all equipment on the mat. Stepping on props will result in a .5 deduction.
- Teams / individuals names will be called twice: 1) on deck 2) next to perform.
- Competition will be held indoors.
- Squads may have a maximum of 32 members. If a squad at the same level from the same school is split and the sum of both squads does not exceed 32 members, the squad may not compete against each other. One must be categorized as small and large.
- For stunt off routines, if the sum of both squads does not exceed 32 members then only one stunt off group may participate in the stunt off at that level.

## Conduct and Sportsmanship

- All coaches, athletes and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times.
- Any distasteful behavior may result in penalization of the squad and/or expulsion from the competition.

## Music

- Coaches will be expected to start and stop their own music.
- The DJ is capable of playing routine music from a thumb drive or phone (coaches must provide attachment).

## Competition Floor and Warm-up Area

- Teams will have 5 minutes on a 2 panel mat/skills area and 5 minutes on a full 9 panel floor for warm up.
- The competition floor will be a full 9 panels (54' x 42').

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## Order of Performance/Divisions

- Competition officials reserve the right to combine divisions in the best interest of providing a competitive environment.
- Competition officials reserve the right to create multiple sessions in order to limit the number of spectators and athletes in the building.
- The order of performance will be emailed to league reps by the Wednesday prior to competition.

## Time Limits and Routine Structure

- Organized, formal entrances that involve cheers, or run-ons with jumps, tumbling, or stunts are not permitted. Teams shall enter the performance area in a timely fashion.
- Timing will begin with the first official movement, voices in unison or first sound of music, whichever comes first.
- Timing will end with the with the last organized movement, voice in unison or sound of music. Teams shall exit the performance area immediately following the routine.
- Prior to the start of the routine, all participants must be positioned inside the boundary lines and must be supporting their own weight on the floor.
- If a routine is interrupted by equipment failure or injury, the team will be permitted to perform again, with judging beginning at the point of disruption.
- Traditional routines should consist of the following elements: one Cheer/Sideline not to exceed 1 minute and a music section not to exceed 1 minute and 30 seconds. Total routine length is limited to 2 minutes and 30 seconds. Teams exceeding routine length will result in a .5 deduction.
- Each team may choose to perform a stunt off routine not to exceed 1 minute and 15 seconds. Failure to comply with time restrictions of the stunt off may result in disqualification
- Routines must be appropriate for family viewing. Any vulgar or suggestive movements, words, costuming, or music will result in a .5 deduction. No tear-away uniforms or removal of any clothing is allowed.

## Scoring

- UCA score sheets will be used to judge all performances.
- The judge's individual scores will be added to form a subtotal.
  - Deductions for out of bounds, unsportsmanlike behavior, excessive celebration, time limits, general safety and specific safety violations will be assessed using UCA guidelines.
  - Deductions for individual athlete or stunt falls and bobbles will **NOT** be assessed.
  - Deductions will be subtracted from the subtotal to acquire a final score.
  - Ties will not be broken.
- Sample score sheets will be emailed to coaches upon request.

## Awards and Judging

- Trophies will be awarded to the top 3 teams in each division.
- Judges will be experienced, qualified and impartial individuals with a company affiliate and/or coaching background.
- Decisions made by the judging panel are final and may not be appealed. Penalties are assessed at the sole discretion of the judges. All questions/concerns should be brought to the B.A.Y.C.L. President.