

UPDATED: JANUARY 12, 2026

BC SPORT CHEER PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS POLICY

1) Definitions

- a) Within the bounds of this policy, the below terms are defined as follows:
 - i) “Organization” – refers to the BC Sport Cheer Association, or its representatives, including but not limited to, board of directors, staff, contractors, and committee members.
 - ii) “Coach” – refers to the Coach of a team performing at the event.
 - iii) “Judge” - refers to the qualified officials who have been chosen by the event producer.
 - iv) “Panel Manager” – refers to the person who provides judging management at an event including on stand management of judges and coordination. They also verify the quality of scoresheets, comments, scoring ranges , legalities, deductions and completeness.
 - v) “Score Check Manager” – refers to a position who is responsible for overseeing any questions from coaches regarding scores/rules and will provide checks and balances.

2) Rules

BC Sport Cheer follows the rules set forth by IASF (all star) and ICU (scholastic and collegiate).

3) APPROPRIATENESS

- a) BC Sport Cheer follows all Uniform policies as approved by Cheer Canada, please see Cheer Canada’s [Image Policy](#) for more information
- b) All facets of a performance/routine, including both choreography and music selection, should be appropriate and suitable for family viewing and listening. Please review the lyrics and sound effects of your routine music in advance to avoid potential warnings and or deductions
- c) Hair style is to the coaches’ discretion.

4) AGE GRIDS:

- a) Exceptions to age grids: we will not offer any exceptions to age grids at this time, however, will allow teams who don't meet division requirements to exhibition.

5) DIVISIONS

- a) BC Sport Cheer will only offer recognized Cheer Canada divisions.
- b) BC Sport Cheer will only split divisions of 10 or more teams, using the Cheer Canada recommended considerations:
 - i) Similar size teams within the split
 - ii) Similar number of teams in the split
 - iii) Mixed gender teams and number of males on a team can be considered when splitting divisions in Open categories
 - iv) Programs with multiple teams within an age division may compete against each other.
 - v) Crossovers between these two teams in the same division are not permitted.
- c) School teams are NOT to compete in the all star division.

6) SCHOLASTIC DIVISIONS

- a) Scholastic athletes may cross-over to all star teams.
- b) There is a maximum of 10% (rounding up) of athletes that may compete if they attend a local school that does not offer a school cheer program.
 - i) Note: you cannot cross over from one school to another school if both schools offer cheer programs.
 - ii) Allowed athletes from grade 8 direct feeder schools are not included in the above 10%. This will allow High Schools to compete fairly against those schools who may be 8-12 already.
- c) BCSC may grant exemptions to the “10% rule” for BCSC member scholastic teams that meet all of the following criteria:
 - i) The principal school must meet one of the following conditions:
 - (1) Has never competed in BC, or
 - (2) Has not competed in BC in the past 5 seasons, or
 - (3) Has competed in 1–2 seasons in the past 5 years and is still in the early stages of program development

*If needing this criteria, please provide details below for review by the BCSC Board of Directors.
 - ii) Athletes from outside the principal school must attend schools within the same school district.
 - iii) The athletes from outside the principal school must not have a competitive cheer program at their own schools.
 - iv) Athletes may not compete on multiple scholastic teams within one single season (September to May).

- v) Athletes from outside of the principal school must not compete with an all-star program in the same season (September to May).
- vi) Athletes from all outside schools must get permission from their school administration prior to joining the team at the principal school.
- d) If your school program offers two teams, there is a maximum of 25% (rounding up) of your athletes that may cross-over to both teams.

7) REGISTRATION:

- a) Registration deadlines: earlybird, on time and late. Once the late registration date has passed, we are unable to take further registrations.
- b) Athletes not registered in our registration system will be charged the non-BCSC member rate.
- c) BCSC reserves the right to maintain a waitlist.

8) AWARDS

- a) Sweaters: all ranking teams that place first will receive a sweater, including divisions that only have one team in their division.
- b) The sizes on your registration are the sizes of sweaters that will be handed out if you win first place in eligible divisions.
- c) If an athlete or coach is a crossover on more than one team, they are only eligible for one Champion sweater.
- d) Medals will be awarded to first, second and third place ranked teams, and a participation medal will be distributed to non-ranked divisions.
 - i) Exception: Teams who are exhibiting will not receive medals.

9) REFUNDS

- a) Refunds may be requested for any reason. However, the following may be considered as exceptional circumstances:
 - i) Injury or Medical Condition: A participant who sustains a season-ending injury or develops a medical condition preventing them from participating may be eligible for a refund upon submission of appropriate medical documentation.
 - ii) Cancellation of Program or Event: If BCSC cancels a program, event, or season for any reason, participants will be entitled to a full or partial refund, as determined by the organization.
 - iii) Change in Schedule: If there is a significant and unforeseen change in the program's schedule that renders a participant unable to continue, they may be eligible for a partial refund.
- b) For refund inquiries and submissions, please email the BCSC executive director at info@bcsportcheer.ca.
- c) All cancellations of an entire team will be based on the following timelines less \$100 administration per TEAM.
 - i) If more than 8 weeks notice is given a full refund less the administration fee
 - ii) If more than 6 weeks notice is given 50% refund less the administration fee
 - iii) If more than 4 weeks notice is given 25% refund less the administration fee
 - iv) If less than 4 weeks notice, no refund is given
 - v) Refunds will NOT be awarded for a no-show, drop out, or scratch at the competition with less than 4 weeks notice

- d) If an individual athlete is removed from the roster, and NOT substituted, the following timelines will apply:
 - i) If more than 8 weeks notice is given a full refund less \$10 administration fee
 - ii) If more than 4 weeks notice is given a 50% refund
 - iii) Less than 4 weeks no refund is given
- e) BCSC reserves the right to deny refund requests that do not meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this policy.

10) ATHLETE SAFETY/SCREENING:

- a) At least one coach per team is required to have certification to the level of the team. At least one coach accompanying the team in warm-up must be credentialed to the level of the team and must remain with the team at all times. (i.e. you can not send a level 3 coach to accompany a level 5 team through warm-up)
- b) In order to accompany a team into the warm-up room, you must have an up to date BCSC-issued ID card, identifying you as a Coach, CIT, JCIT, Admin, or Volunteer.
- c) If you are a Program Photographer, and you would like to have access to the photography zone, please fill out this [Media Pass Request](#). Application for credentials does not guarantee approval.
- d) You will be required to have a valid Criminal Record Check, and the [Request for CRC](#) letter is available on our website.
- e) Photographers without a Media Pass will be asked to leave. Please note that photographers will only be authorized for the specific programs they identify in the form.
- f) All coaches must meet the Cheer Canada Coaching requirements
- g) All Volunteers, CITs, JCITs, Owners, and Admins must meet the BCSC minimum requirements

11) EVENT REQUIREMENTS:

- a) The Event Host is required to provide at least two first aid responders. At all times, one responder must be located in the warmup area and one must be located in the competition area near the performance floor.
- b) BCSC must comprise their judging team with a minimum of 60% Cheer Canada certified judges.
- c) BCSC must have a documented Health and Safety Plan that includes an Emergency Action Plan, and be available onsite by request.
- d) BCSC must meet the minimum requirements for a competition floor:
 - i) 42 feet x 54 feet
 - ii) The mats must be set vertically from front to back and securely taped together.
 - iii) If the performance floor is built on a stage, they require an additional four feet of clearance.
- e) Each team must receive a minimum warm-up time of eight minutes in aggregate of all warm-up areas.

12) UNPLANNED ATHLETE REPLACEMENT:

- a) A program may replace a missing member of a team with another athlete from their program even if not listed on the event's Official Event Roster.
- b) If the replacement does not meet the age requirements for that division then the team's performance will be for exhibition only.

- c) A team is limited to a maximum of 3 replacements. If a team requires more than 3 replacements, then the team's performance will be for exhibition only.

13) SCORE APPEAL OVERVIEW

- a) Confrontation of judges, BC Sport Cheer staff, directors, or event producers is inappropriate.
- b) Coaches are not permitted to approach the judges' stand, nor are they allowed to enter the judges' room.
- c) Coaches, athletes, parents, etc. may not approach any judges regarding scoring, rules, or competition results. This includes phone calls, text messages, in-person conversations, and social media. Such actions could result in unsportsmanlike conduct deductions or disqualification.
- d) Coaches can only appeal the results of their team. Requests for review of other teams' routines will not be tolerated and could result in unsportsmanlike conduct deductions for the requesting team.

14) DEDUCTIONS

- a) Deductions will be made available to coaches as soon as possible after a team's performance.
- b) Coaches will have 15 minutes from the time the deduction sheet is given to the scorecheck table to fill out an appeal form (Appendix A) for challenges to legalities and infractions.
 - i) Exception: If the coaches are with injured athletes at the first aid station, this time may be extended at the discretion of the score check manager.

15) APPEALS

- a) The Score Check Manager will review the appeal and make a determination. If other deductions are discovered while under review, the score check manager reserves the right to add the deductions to the scoresheet. Coaches will be called to the table to pick up their appeal ruling once it is finished.
- b) The following will void the the appeal, and could result in unsportsmanlike conduct deductions:
 - i) failure to observe time limit
 - ii) approaching or trying to influence a judge's decision
 - iii) seeking an explanation for another team's score
 - iv) deliberate disruptive behaviour by a coach, team or individual.
 - v) Verbally abusing or disrespectfully addressing a judge or competition official, or using profanity
 - vi) submitting a false appeal to gain a competitive advantage deliberately.

16) VIDEO FEEDBACK

- a) Should a coach request a routine review using video feedback, new deductions or infractions viewed during the review will be deducted from the original run's score.
- b) The Score Check Manager is permitted to give legality deductions on Day 2 to teams for skills missed on Day 1. The penalty will be applied to the Day 1 performance and a warning will be issued for the Day 2 performance if Day 1 and Day 2 are not weighted equally.
- c) During the competition, judges are to use the video feedback for clarification purposes only.

17) POST EVENT

- a) For questions or concerns that arise after the completion of the event, the following steps should be taken:
 - i) Within 5 days of the competition, the Voting Member of a Program may submit via email a letter expressing your concerns to the BCSC executive director with a copy to the BCSC president and the Voting Members of your program expressing the concern.
 - ii) The Executive Director will forward your concern to the board of directors or executive members, as applicable, who will consult with the panel manager, score check manager and other persons concerned.
 - iii) The Executive Director will address your concerns within 7 days of receiving the complaint.
 - iv) All concerns and complaints must be addressed in writing.



BCSC Deduction Appeal Request

PROGRAM AND COACH INFORMATION (to be completed by the appealing coach)

PROGRAM: _____ TEAM NAME: _____

DIVISION: _____ LEVEL: _____

COACH NAME: _____ COACH CELL: _____

APPEAL INFORMATION (to be completed by the appealing coach)

SECTION:

- ☐ Athlete Fall
☐ Major Athlete Fall

- ☐ Building Bobble
☐ Building Fall

- ☐ Major Building Fall
☐ Boundary Violation

DETAILS:

COACH SIGNATURE: _____ TIME of SUBMISSION: _____ : _____ AM PM

APPEAL RESULTS (to be completed by the Score Check Manager)

- ☐ ACCEPTED ☐ DENIED ☐ WARNING GIVEN

DETAILS:

SCORE CHECK MANAGER SIGNATURE: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: *I acknowledge the appeal results within this form. Judges are not responsible for providing recommendations to coaches, nor are they responsible for the coach's interpretation or application of explanations provided. I understand that if I am receiving a warning based on the information in the notes above, I will no longer receive a warning in the future, and a deduction will stand and/or be issued. I will not be permitted to appeal this deduction.*

COACH SIGNATURE: _____



BCSC Deduction Appeal Request

POLICIES:

- 1) You have 15 minutes from the time your deduction form has hit the scorecheck table or your inbox, indicated as the time marked on the sheet or received in your email inbox.
- 2) Once completed, this form must be delivered to the Score Check table.
- 3) The Score Check Manager will review the appeal and make a determination. If other deductions are discovered while under review, the score check manager reserves the right to add the deductions to the scoresheet. You will be called to the table to pick up your appeal ruling once it is finished.
- 4) The following will void the the appeal, and could result in unsportsmanlike conduct deductions:
 - a) failure to observe time limit
 - b) approaching or trying to influence a judge's decision
 - c) seeking an explanation for another team's score
 - d) deliberate disruptive behaviour by a coach, team or individual.
 - e) Verbally abusing or disrespectfully addressing a judge or competition official, or using profanity
 - f) submitting a false appeal to gain a competitive advantage deliberately.
- 5) In order for the appeal to be approved, it must be established that the error made by a judge was the determining factor in penalty points being assessed.