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CHEERLEADING

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CHEERLEADING COMPETITION

NOTE: ALL NEW RULES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES ARE UNDERLINED.

The membership of the OSSAA voted in November of 1987 to include cheerleading as a governed activity. During the 1988-89 school years the OSSAA staff and Board of Directors established specific rules and regulations for the cheerleader programs. The inclusion of cheerleading under the OSSAA governing rules allows principals to use the established rules to regulate their individual programs in regard to such areas as eligibility, conduct, relations with members, attendance, participation, etc. The guidelines for this program were established under the auspices of a committee comprised of active administrators and past and present cheerleading coaches.

The OSSAA Board of Directors voted effective July 1, 1991, that the cheerleading competition would be considered an athletic rather than a non-athletic event. All OSSAA athletic eligibility requirements and regulations apply to competitive cheerleading. (NOTE: Students must meet the minimum standards set forth by the OSSAA rules and policies regarding athletic competition.

PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of this competition to promote and support the concept of "Cheerleading as an athletic based activity," the purpose of which is to lead and direct the cheering of students and adult fans in support of a school event. The term "athletic-based routine" is to emphasize the athletic skills involved in the performance of cheerleading routines. Music, dance, and sexually suggestive movements are not considered appropriate for cheerleading competition. Cheerleading activities should promote cooperative spirit and good sportsmanship among all present at an event. Cheerleaders are recognized as playing a vital role in the promotion of school spirit. The final responsibility for determining what individual cheerleaders and cheerleader squads are capable of performing must rest with the coach. Not every cheerleader or cheerleading squad has the ability to perform the gymnastic skills or partner stunts which are permitted according to this rule book. It is the goal of this competition to simulate a game situation. Coaches must recognize individual and squad ability levels and limit the activities accordingly.

Rules Meeting

July 27 – Coaches Clinic – 9:15 a.m.

EDUCATION-BASED ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

The National Federation of State High School Associations and the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association recognize the numerous potential benefits of participation by students in education-based activities. While education-based activities may differ between the stakeholder groups, all should be centered on optimizing the student's scholastic activity experience. Students will change, develop and expand abilities over time; coaches, administrators and parents should not only be cognizant of the fluid process, but also foster a safe, positive environment in which development can occur. Education-based activities must always be viewed as an evolving and unpredictable path.

The NFHS and the OSSAA recognize the influential role played by coaches and directors in all activities, and therefore emphasis should be placed on those individuals to instill and reinforce fundamentals and best practices, not only to minimize risk but also to promote an environment in which a student has the opportunity to reach his or her full potential. The common goal for all the stakeholders involved with education-based activities should be to make the experience enjoyable and rewarding for the all.

While our position is not intended to squelch dreams of achieving a college scholarship or professional or Olympic glory, we do place emphasis on the student's entire scholastic activity experience with the goals of enhancing participation, reducing injury risk, and optimizing performance and success (however defined) during the student's high school career. The ultimate goal; Producing an individual who is competent, confident, connected to his or her peer group and community, and of high character. This essential principle is at the core of the scholastic activity experience and is fundamental to the mission of the OSSAA and NFHS.

EFFECTIVE SUMMER 2019

SUMMERTIME DEAD PERIOD

The dead period will occur during the week in July that includes the 4th of July each year. The dead period will be nine (9) days in length and begin the weekend preceding or including the 4th of July and the weekend following the 4th of July.

School athletic facilities may not be used by enrolled or pre-enrolled students during the dead period in connection with any athletic activity governed by the OSSAA. Contact between coaches, assistant coaches and sponsors in any athletic activity governed by the OSSAA for the purpose of coaching, training, or instructing and any secondary-level students is prohibited by this Policy.

Summertime policies, including beginning and end of season restrictions, can be found in OSSAA Board Policy XI in the Administrator's Handbook.

Violations of the summertime dead period policy will result in the coach or sponsor being suspended from the first half of the regular season in that athletic activity. School personnel not designated as a coach or sponsor in violation of the summertime dead period policy will result in the head coach being suspended from the first half of the regular season in that activity.

I. GAME DAY COMPETITION

GAME DAY ENTRY DEADLINE AND FEES

- A. Registration: Opens: July 16, 2018. Entries must be received by August 24, 2018. The Game Day Entry Form can be found on the OSSAARankings.com website. Registration for Game Day is \$100.00 per squad. Your school administration will take care of sending the fee with the participation invoice for your school, please so not mail the entry fee separately. One squad per school is allowed to register. Registration is on a first come come, first serve basis; however, all entries will be time-stamped for acceptance. If entries do not fill the allotted spots per classification, (for example if 4A fills its team allotted number and 2A does not, the first team time-stamped in 4A will be added to the 4A classification). A total of 96 squads will be allowed in the Game Day competition.
- B. Game Day will be held on November 3, 2018 for all classifications. The Game Day Competition will be held at Moore High School, 300 N. Eastern, Moore, OK.
- C. Awards will be given to the Champion and Runner-Up in each classification. Twenty-five (25) individual medals will be awarded to the Champions and Runners-Up.

GAME DAY CLASSIFICATIONS AND SQUAD SIZE

Schools entered in the Game Day Competition will be divided into divisions based on the A.D.M. of the high school. Athletic and non-athletic activities will be reclassified in the fall of each year based on the most current A.D.M. figures if the A.D.M. for all schools is finalized at least two weeks prior to the release date concerning pairings for a particular activity.

A. CLASSIFICATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

CLASS 6A—LARGEST 32 SCHOOLS

CLASS 5A—NEXT 48 LARGEST SCHOOLS

CLASS 4A—NEXT 64 LARGEST SCHOOLS

CLASS 3A—NEXT 64 LARGEST SCHOOLS

CLASS 2A—ALL REMAINING SCHOOLS

- One team per school
- Maximum of 25 participants per squad
- No separate classification for Co-Ed
- Mascots and flag runners may not be involved in the execution of cheer skills. All participants on the floor count toward the total number of 25.

GAME DAY GUIDELINES

- A. Traditional sideline uniforms required. Athletes used in each of the preliminary rounds may vary by routine, but there will be no substitution allowed in the final round. The use of crowd-leading tools such as signs, poms, flags and/or megaphones are permitted. Practicality should be considered in all elements.
- B. The competition floor will be matted. All participants must stay on the matted surface.
- C. All Cheer Coaches must attend the Cheer Rules Meeting, or complete the Rules Meeting on-line prior to the competition. The on-line meeting will become available by August 1 of the current school year. All coaches MUST be AACCA certified if the squad is going to stunt. All OSSAA Cheer Competitions will be conducted in compliance with the NFHS Rules for safety. A rule book will be sent to the coach at each member school.
- D. The order of competition will be determined by the OSSAA.
- E. One of the calculated risks that a coach must accept is that he/she, his/her players, or the judges may make mistakes during the course of the competition. The OSSAA Board of Directors has established a policy of NOT HONORING A PROTEST based upon a rule situation or a situation which involved judgments on the part of the judges. The decision of the judges will be final. The OSSAA will not review tapes of the competition for the purpose of changing the judges' decisions.
- F. Judges will turn the score sheets into the site manager at the end of competition for each class. A copy of the score sheets will be given to the coaches after the respective division completes. Coaches may not discuss sheets with judges or OSSAA Representative at any time during the competition. The tally sheets and order of finish will be available from the site manager after the completion of each class.
- G. **For indoor activities:** Boom boxes or any type of device that plays music, sounds, or voices, and noise makers of any kind such as air horns, cow bells, etc. will not be allowed to function/operate. This will also apply to pre-game/contest and post-game contest activities. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games/contest.
For outdoor activities: Noise makers are allowed at outdoor activities unless they interrupt the normal game/contest procedure of announcers, bands, cheer squads, drill teams or any other game/contest related activities. The game officials have the authority to stop the use of any noisemakers or disruptions that interrupt the normal game/contest procedures. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games or contests.
- H. No banners, emblems, or placards will be permitted in the spectator area.

- I. If the cheer routine is interrupted by an injury to one of the participants the coach may choose to finish the routine from the point of interruption or choose to take the score earned to that point, without any deduction for the minimum time limit not being met.
- J. Head coaches are allowed on the floor during competition while their squad is participating provided they are wearing a floor pass. The coach must be situated in an area where they will not disrupt the competition. Two additional coaches with a floor pass will also be allowed on the floor, no injured squad members or any additional personnel will be allowed on the competition floor.

SKILL RESTRICTIONS

- A. No basket, sponge or elevator tosses are allowed. (Cradles are dismounts)
- B. No inversions
- C. No twisting dismounts from stunts
- D. Single-leg extended stunts are limited to liberties and liberty hitches
- E. No running tumbling
- F. Standing tumbling is limited to ONE skill. A back tuck is the most elite tumbling skill allowed.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Each team will showcase their best sideline and crowd-leading material in the following categories:

- Fight Song
- Band Dance
- Crowd Leading

CROWD LEADING RULES AND RESTRICTIONS

One (1) minute time limit. No music allowed.

Time will begin with the buzzer sound, then the team will take the floor. A chant or sideline can be used as transition to the floor. Performance should have an emphasis on crowd involvement. Performance should be completed before time limit.

FIGHT SONG RULES AND RESTRICTIONS

One (1) minute time limit. Marching band music only.

Up to three CONSECUTIVE eight counts may be incorporated with stunts, tumbling, and/or jumps. If repeated, incorporation must repeat EXACTLY as initially performed.

BAND DANCE RULES AND RESTRICTIONS

One (1) minute time limit. Marching band music only.

Emphasis on crowd appeal and practicality, no stunts or tumbling permitted.

FINAL ROUND

- A. Finalists will be determined by preliminary round scores, which do not carry over into the final round. Each team will showcase their best sideline and crowd-leading material in a game day presentation that will include an announcer-led situational game day element. The use of crowd-leading tools such as sign, poms, flags and/or megaphones are permitted. Practicality should be considered in all elements.
- B. Three (3) minute time limit. Teams will set up and take the floor. NO ORGANIZED ENTRANCES. Time will begin with the first beat of the band dance music.
- C. The final round is one continuous performance demonstrating the compilation of the Game Day elements performed in the preliminary round plus a situational element.
- D. The final round is performed in this order: Band Dance, (situational element) Crowd Leading, Fight Song.
- E. Following the completion of the band dance, the announcer will give the squad a game scenario indicating an offensive or defensive situation in a football game. Teams should show their definitive understanding of the situation with an offense or defense crowd-leading response, which transitions the squad into the crowd leading portion of the finals.
- F. Following the crowd leading portion the squad will complete their fight song routine.
- G. Each portion of the finals should have a designated beginning and end with spirited crowd interaction between.

SKILL RESTRICTIONS

- A. No basket, sponge or elevator tosses are allowed. (Cradles are dismounts)
- B. No inversions
- C. No twisting dismounts from stunts
- D. Single-leg extended stunts are limited to liberties and liberty hitches
- E. No running tumbling

- F. Standing tumbling is limited to ONE skill. A back tuck is the most elite tumbling skill allowed.

II. COMPETITIVE CEER

COMPETITIVE CHEER DATES, ENTRY DEADLINE, AND FEES

- A. Entry must be received by August 24, 2018. The entry form is located on the OSSAARankings.com website, The Regional competition will be held for all classes on September 15, 2018 and the State Competition will be held on September 22, 2018. Regional sites will be determined in August, the State Competition will be held at the Mabee Center at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis Ave. Tulsa, OK.
- B. It is the responsibility of the participating schools to obtain rules updates and training for the cheerleading coach. All Cheer Coaches must attend the Cheer Rules Meeting, or complete the Rules Meeting on-line prior to the competition. The on-line meeting will become available by August 1 of the current school year. All coaches MUST be AACCA certified. All OSSAA Cheer Competitions will be conducted in compliance with the NFHS Rules for safety. A rule book will be sent to the coach at each member school.
- C. The entry fee will be \$50.00 per squad. Do not send the entry fee with your entry form. Your school will send the fee with the participation invoice for all activities.

DIVISIONS AND SQUAD SIZE FOR COMPETITIVE CHEER

- A. Enrolled schools will be divided into divisions based on the A.D.M. of the high school. Athletic and non-athletic activities will be reclassified in the fall of each year based on the most current A.D.M. figures if the A.D.M. for all schools is finalized at least two weeks prior to the release date concerning pairings for a particular activity.
- B. Classification and squad size:
- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 6A | 32 largest schools | no more than 20 |
| 2. 5A | the next 48 largest schools | no more than 20 |
| 3. 4A | the next 64 largest schools | no more than 20 |
| 4. 3A | the next 64 largest schools | no more than 20 |
| 5. 2A | all remaining schools | no more than 20 |
| 6. Small Co-Ed | Classes 2A, 3A, and 4A | no more than 20 |
| 7. Large Co-Ed | Classes 5A and 6A | no more than 20 |
- C. If there are less than 8 squads in the small CO-ED division, then there will only be one division for CO-ED.
- D. A mascot is considered part of the squad and will be counted as a part of the maximum number of cheerleaders allowed.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITIVE CHEER

- A. Teams are limited to 20 squad members; each squad may use up to 5 additional participants as spotters. The spotters may not use motions, perform jumps or tumbling, nor use signs, pom poms or megaphones during the routine. Spotters should dress in similar fashion to the squad participants, but do not have to have the same uniform as squad members.
- B. Competition will consist of a two (2) minute time limit.
- C. The squad must use a minimum of one and one half minutes (1 ½) of the two-minute time limit.
- D. The timing begins after squad has set in formation on the matted area with the first motion, word or skill.
- E. The timing ends with the last word or motion. The squad must use a minimum of 1 ½ minutes of the two-minute time limit.
- F. There will be an official timer at each level of competition.
- G. There will be a designated site manager at each regional site. The site manager's responsibilities are listed under the "Hosting a Regional" section.
- H. There will be no limit to the number of cheers/chants performed during the time allowed.
- I. The area used for competition must be matted. The mats should cover the entire area and should provide a flat, consistent surface with no cracks, obstructions, or untapped seams (54' wide x 42' long). The velcro strips on the competition mats will run sideline to sideline at ALL regional sites as well as at the state site.

COMPETITIVE CHEER RULES

- A. Signs may be used for the purpose of crowd involvement. Pom Poms, signs, flags and megaphones are permitted. All NFHS rules will apply to sign usage. No antagonistic or negative signs will be allowed. Each sign should be one or two words per sign. There is no limit to the number of signs a squad may use. Signs may not be thrown or tossed.
- B. Costumed mascots will be counted as a part of the maximum number of squad members allowed to participate. Mascots used as spotters must have a clear view of the person being spotted; therefore, the mascot head piece must be removed.
- C. Judges will be given the order of finish tally sheet at the conclusion of each classification, at which time judges will be permitted to adjust their respective score sheet, under the supervision of the site manager, and only using an ink pen of a different color than the original writing instrument used in the scoring process.

- D. Winners will be determined by the total of three of the five judges' score sheets. The highest and lowest judges' sheet will be dropped and the three middle scores will be used. In the event of a tie, all judges' score sheets will be used for the tied squads. If the additional score sheets do not break the tie, the teams will be awarded the appropriate places. Trophies will be awarded to the top two squads.
- E. Squads are not permitted to lead or participate in inciting crowds with chants, cheers, gymnastics, jumps, motions, clapping, etc., at any time other than their assigned performance times. This does not prohibit the parents and/or fans of the squad from cheering for their squad.
- F. All cheerleading attire and movements incorporated in the routine will be in accordance with the State philosophy.
- G. All OSSAA Cheer Competitions will be conducted in compliance with the NFHS Rules for safety. A rule book will be sent to the coach at each member school.
- H. All cheer coaches whose teams are entered in the OSSAA competition must attend a State sponsored Rules Meeting or have verification of the on-line meeting no later than September 1. Penalty for failure to attend will result in suspension of the head coach from all interscholastic competition.
- I. Jewelry will not be permitted. If jewelry is worn, the squad will be disqualified.
- J. Music, dance, and sexually suggestive movements will not be allowed in cheerleading competition.
- K. The competitive cheering surface will be a matted gym floor. (See Rule III, H).
- L. Use of or attempted use of illegal stunts will result in a 10-point deduction per score sheet at the regional competition. If a rule is violated at the State Competition the squad will be disqualified.
- M. Judges for the State Cheerleading Competition must attend a training session on the day of the state competition.
- N. Judges are required to note the specific rule violated on the score sheet when disqualifying a squad. (NOTE: Site managers will inform coaches of their disqualification in a private meeting after their classes have completed competition.)
- O. The performance order for the squads competing at the Regional and State competition will be set by the OSSAA staff prior to the competition. (NOTE: The order will be randomly selected by the OSSAA staff.)
- P. One of the calculated risks that a coach must accept is that he/she, his/her players, or the judges may make mistakes during the course of the competition. The OSSAA Board of Directors has established a policy of NOT HONORING A PROTEST based upon a rule situation nor a situation, which involved judgments on the part of the judges. The decision of the judges will be final. The OSSAA will not review tapes of the competition for the purpose of changing the judges' decisions.
- Q. Judges will turn the score sheets into the site manager at the end of competition for each class. The Regional site manager will mail the judges sheets to the OSSAA office. A copy of the score sheets will be given to the coaches after the respective division completes. Coaches may not discuss sheets with judges or OSSAA Representative at any time during the competition. The tally sheets and order of finish will be posted by the site manager after the completion of each class. These will be posted in an appropriate area.
- R. **For indoor activities:** Boom boxes or any type of device that plays music, sounds, or voices, and noise makers of any kind such as air horns, cow bells, etc. will not be allowed to function/operate. This will also apply to pre-game/contest and post-game contest activities. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games/contest.
For outdoor activities: Noise makers are allowed at outdoor activities unless they interrupt the normal game/contest procedure of announcers, bands, cheer squads, drill teams or any other game/contest related activities. The game officials have the authority to stop the use of any noisemakers or disruptions that interrupt the normal game/contest procedures. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games or contests.
- S. No banners, emblems, or placards will be permitted during Regional or State Competition by spectators.
- T. If the cheer routine is interrupted by an injury to one of the participants the coach may choose to finish the routine from the point of interruption or choose to take the score earned to that point, without any deduction for the minimum time limit not being met.
- U. Head coaches are allowed on the floor during competition while their squad is participating provided they are wearing a floor pass. The coach must be situated in an area where they will not disrupt the competition. Two additional coaches with a floor pass will also be allowed on the floor, no injured squad members or any additional personnel will be allowed on the competition floor.

COMPETITIVE CHEER DATES AND INFORMATION

- A. The locations of the regional tournaments will be determined by the enrollment in the competition.
- B. Schools will not be allowed to move from their assigned regional without valid reason and prior approval through the OSSAA office. The request must be made in a timely manner and made by the school's administration.
- C. Practice or competition in athletics will not be allowed at a site after the site has been announced in any play-off activity except for a regularly scheduled contest or the host school may practice at the site if that is the team's regular practice site.

- D. The Regional competition for all divisions will be held September 15, 2018.
- E. The State Championship will be held September 22, 2018 for all divisions.

VII. STUNT REVIEW

- A. When submitting questions regarding the legality of a stunt, pyramid, dismount or other cheerleading action, please follow the directions listed below:
 1. Using a video camera record your squad performing the action in question. Film the stunt from both the front and side.
 2. Send the recording, along with the appropriate form located on the OSSAA website and \$10.00 (made payable to the OSSAA) to the OSSAA office, P.O. Box 14590, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73113-0590. You may send electronic files to acassell@ossaa.com you must send the \$10.00 fee via regular mail. **Stunt reviews not sent directly to the OSSAA will not be reviewed.**
- B. The OSSAA will view the video and notify you of the legality or illegality of the action in question.
- C. Stunt review requests must be received by September 7, 2018.

VIII. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR COMPETITIVE CHEER COMPETITION

- A. The awards are based on the entire competitive squad up to 20 using the second semester grades from the previous semester. For students currently in 9th grade, please use grades from the second semester of the student's 8th grade year. (Non-traditional semester: an approximate 18-week grading period used to divide the school year in half.)
- B. Awards will be given for each class based on a 4.0 grading system, computed to the nearest thousandth. If you have a weighted grading system, you must still use the 4.0 system for computing qualifications for this award.
 1. Academic Achievement Certificate - Squads must have a minimum of a 3.25 GPA and rank in the upper 1/3 of their classification.
 2. Distinguished Academic Plaque - Squads must have a minimum of a 3.5 GPA and rank in the upper 20% of their classification.
 3. State Cheerleading Academic Champion Trophy - One squad per class with best GPA.
- C. This award will be given ONLY to cheerleading squads competing in the OSSAA Competitive Cheerleading Competition.
- D. The Application for Academic Achievement Award is located on the forms link of the OSSAA website, www.ossaa.com.
- E. Certificates and plaques will be mailed to the winning schools.
- F. The state championship trophy will be presented to the winning squad at the state championship event.
- G. The application for academic achievement must be postmarked, emailed, or faxed no later than September 7, 2018. Entries received after this date will not be considered.

IX. ELIGIBILITY FOR OSSAA CHEER COMPETITION

- A. All athletic eligibility standards adopted by the OSSAA apply to competitive cheerleading.
- B. Cheerleaders must have a physical on file.
- C. Team Camp - Refer to Board of Directors policy found in the OSSAA Administrator's Handbook.
- D. Amateurism and Awards - Refer to Rule 5 in the OSSAA Administrator's Handbook.
- E. A student's current scholastic eligibility status would not change if an OSSAA play-off contest was delayed into the next week due to inclement weather or other extreme circumstance.

X. HOSTING A REGIONAL CHEERLEADING TOURNAMENT

- A. To host a regional cheerleading tournament, you will need the following facilities:
 1. A seating capacity of 400-600 on one side.
 2. A practice/warm-up area separate from the competition gym.
 3. Mats available to cover warm-up area and competition area (See Rule III, H) (54' wide x 42' long).
- B. The host school will need to hire the following individuals:
 1. A clock keeper to serve as the official timer. The clock will be set on 2:00 and will start when the squad begins its performance. The clock keeper will be provided with a list of the competing schools. The clock keeper will write the time remaining on the timing sheet.
 2. One or two ticket sellers/takers depending on the number of squads participating at your site. A financial report will be sent with tickets. A ticket report will be enclosed with the tickets and should be returned with the financial report, remaining tickets and check for the proceeds. The prices will be \$5.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students in regionals and \$7.00 for adults and \$7.00 for students at the State Competition.
 3. Three official score talliers. The talliers will be responsible for checking and recording the judges' scores for each squad. The tally form will be sent with regional supplies.
 4. An announcer should also be provided.

- C. The host school will:
1. Direct the incoming squads to practice areas. The cheerleading squads performing first will arrive about an hour prior to the beginning of competition.
 2. Provide space for the judges. The judges will arrive at the site 30 minutes prior to the beginning of competition. If at all possible, a room where the judges could meet away from the coaches and crowds would be greatly appreciated. The coaches are not to have direct contact with the judges prior to the competition or after the competition. If your gym is arranged so that the crowd has access to floor seating, please rope off three rows behind the judges where no crowd will be allowed to sit. If you have floor seating and above seating, please do not allow the crowd onto the floor area. If you have the help available, provide someone to help the judges by serving as a "runner".
- D. The site manager will:
1. Meet with the judges and inform them of necessary information.
 2. Will be seated at the scorer's table and be responsible for general management of the tournament.
 3. Be the OSSAA representative and the decision of the site manager will be final and non-appealable.
 4. Will post the tally sheet and order of finish of the squads after the completion of each class. These results will be posted in an appropriate area.

XI. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING TIMER

The squad will be announced. The squad will take its place on the edge of the gym floor. The timing begins with the first motion; jump or skill after the squad has set information on the matted area. The clock stops with squad's last word or motion.

1. Set the clock for 2:00 (two minutes) in a countdown mode.
2. When the squad begins its performance, turn clock on. (Use guidelines above to determine when a performance begins.)
3. Stop clock with the squad's last word or motion.
4. Record time left on clock next to squad's name on the timing sheet.
5. If the squad goes over the 2:00 allotment, make a notation that the squad exceeded its time limit.
6. If the squad is under the 1:30 minimum, make a notation on the time sheet.
7. Reset the clock.

ADVANCEMENT FROM REGIONALS TO STATE

- A. Regional competitions will award a trophy to the championship squad.
- B. The Regional Champion, Runner-up, and all squads receiving 75 or more of the possible 100 points at regional competitions will advance to the state competition.
- C. Trophies will be awarded to the champion and runner-up squads with individual medals being awarded to the champions and runners-up at the State Competition.

JUDGES

- A. There should be five judges per site for Regional Competition. There shall be a minimum of three judges for Regional Competition.
- B. There will be 5 judges at the State Competition and 1 technical judge.
- C. The decision of the judges will be final.
- D. No coach, squad member, parent, or school representative may talk to the judges either before, during or after competition.
- E. Normal conversation that must take place between the host school and the judges is the only exception to be made.
- F. The following criteria will be used in the selection of the judges:
 1. The judges shall be knowledgeable and experienced in cheerleading.
 2. The judges shall be impartial.
 3. The judges shall not be members, ex-members, sponsors, ex-sponsors, coaches, ex-coaches, or affiliated in any manner with competing squads within the same division they are judging.
 4. The judges shall not have been instructors at summer clinics serving the Oklahoma squads for the previous year.
- G. Active coaches shall not be involved with judge selection.

DEFINITIONS, CHEERLEADER SAFETY RULES AND COACHES REQUIREMENTS

Cheer definitions and Cheerleader Safety Rules are listed in the current National Federation Spirit Rules Book. All coaches must be AACCA certified in order for their squad to stunt.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES FOR SIDELINE CHEER AND COMPETITIVE CHEER

III. SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and integrity permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, awareness is expected of the impact on an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.
- B. Cheerleading, more than any other activity can directly influence the behavior of others. It is important the cheer coach, captain and total squad be aware of the sportsmanship guidelines in the spirit rules book.

IV. CHEERLEADING COACH

- A. Cheerleaders, coaches, and sponsors should set an example by being cooperative and helpful to each other.
- B. Instruct the cheerleaders to:
 1. Have positive - not antagonistic - cheers at all times.
 2. Divert the crowd's attention from booing by starting a positive cheer immediately.
 3. Lead the crowd in a round of applause when an injured player leaves the playing area.
- C. During basketball games, instruct cheerleaders to:
 1. Be respectful at all times before, during and after a contest.
 2. Remain silent when the opponent is shooting a free throw. Cheerleaders may not stand in the free throw lane extended at any time.
 4. Cheerleaders should not enter the floor during a 30 second time out.
 5. Meet the opponent's cheerleaders in the middle of the floor for the national anthem.

V. COACHES' ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- A. All coaches must be AACCA certified in order for their squad to stunt regardless of whether the squad enters any competition.
- B. Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership.
- C. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- D. Abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit, regardless of the consequences.
- E. Respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials, never baiting or taunting officials in any way, or seeking out an official during halftime or at the conclusion of a contest.
- F. Demonstrate a mastery of and continuing interest in coaching principles and techniques through professional improvement.
- G. Encourage and respect all athletes and their values.
- H. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- I. Promote ethical relations among coaches.
- J. Fulfill responsibilities to provide emergency health procedures and ensure an environment free of obvious safety hazards.
- K. Encourage the highest standards of conduct and scholastic achievement among all athletes.
- L. Seek to inculcate good health habits, including the establishment of sound training rules.
- M. Strive to develop in each athlete the qualities of leadership, initiative and good judgment.
- N. Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.

VI. PUBLIC CRITICISM OF CONTEST OFFICIALS AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Any school representative who publicly criticizes a contest official, and any contest official who publicly criticizes a school representative in connection with a contest, meet, or tournament is subject to sanctions. The member school represented by an individual who publicly criticizes a contest official may also be subject to sanctions if the school fails to take appropriate action in response to the school representative's public criticism of the contest official. The sanctions could include warning or suspension.

Public criticism includes, but not limited to, comments made to the media or during a broadcast event, and comments made in a public form.

VII. VIOLATIONS OF CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS OR OSSAA POLICIES

When a violation of OSSAA's Constitution, Rules, Regulations, or Policies has been determined to have occurred, the Executive Director is authorized to impose sanctions or remedies, which may include suspending a coach or other school personnel from coaching and/or activity program management responsibilities, or imposing limits or conditions on those coaching and/or activity management responsibilities.

VIII. **EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

Any time a member school is hosting a planned activity at a school facility there must be an Emergency Action Plan in place. The plan must be shared with any visiting school. An Emergency Action Plan, or EAP, is a formal written plan, developed by the host site, that identifies potential emergency conditions at the event site and prescribes the procedures to be followed to minimize or prevent loss of life and property.

IX. **HAZING**

Hazing incidents have no place in the activity programs of our member schools. The OSSAA encourages each member school to develop procedures to inform their students that this type of behavior is not acceptable and should not be tolerated.

X. **TAUNTING**

Any form of taunting which is intended or designed to anger, bait, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others is subject to penalty.

HISTORY OF STATE CHAMPIONS

YEAR	CO-ED		CLASS A	CLASS 2A
1989	Tahlequah			
1990			Wayne	Hominy
1991			Wayne	Blanchard
1992			Okla. Christian	Hominy
1993			Okla. Christian	Hominy
1994			Okla. Christian	Stroud
1995			Empire	Metro Christian
1996			Afton	Haskell
1997			Wayne	Newkirk
1998	Edmond Memorial		Wayne	Bridge Creek
1999	Broken Arrow		Washington	Heritage Hall
2000	Lawton Eisenhower		Okla. Christian	Heritage Hall
2001	Norman North		Washington	Heritage Hall
2002	Yukon		Washington	Okla. Christian
2003	Bixby		Washington	Okla. Christian
2004	Bixby		Wewoka	Westville
2005	Carl Albert		Commerce	Okla. Christian
2006	Mustang		Quinton	Vian
	SMALL CO-ED	LARGE CO-ED		
2007	Newkirk	Bixby	Hominy	Vian
2008	Keys (Parkhill)	Choctaw		Hinton
2009	NewKirk	Choctaw		Christian Heritage
2010	Keys (Parkhill)	Choctaw		Wewoka
2011	Keys (Parkhill)	Choctaw		Hominy
2012	Bristow	Broken Arrow		Wewoka
2013	Newcastle	Broken Arrow		Community Christian
2014	Bridge Creek	Broken Arrow		Community Christian
2015	Newcastle	Broken Arrow		Warner
2016	OK Christian School	Broken Arrow		Ketchum
2017	Bridge Creek	Bixby		Hinton
YEAR	CLASS 3A	CLASS 4A	CLASS 5A	CLASS 6A
1989	Okla. Christian	Tuttle	Memorial (Tulsa)	
1990	Tuttle	Claremore	Union	
1991	Tuttle	Tahlequah	Edmond Memorial	
1992	Collinsville	Claremore	Westmoore	
1993	Tuttle	Claremore	Westmoore	
1994	Tuttle	Carl Albert	Edmond Memorial	
1995	Tuttle	Woodward	Edmond Memorial	
1996	Tuttle	Woodward	Edmond Memorial	
1997	Tuttle	Claremore	Norman North	
1998	Tuttle	Carl Albert	Westmoore	
1999	Inola	Carl Albert	Choctaw	
2000	Blackwell	Carl Albert	Westmoore	
2001	Deer Creek-Ed.	Carl Albert	Westmoore	
2002	Cascia Hall	Carl Albert	Eisenhower	
2003	Cascia Hall	Carl Albert	Norman North	
2004	Cascia Hall	Carl Albert	Edmond Santa Fe	
2005	Cascia Hall	Claremore	Norman North	
2006	Kingfisher	Chickasha	Putnam City North	
2007	Kingfisher	Carl Albert	Union	
2008	Kingfisher	Cascia Hall	Carl Albert	Putnam City North

YEAR	CLASS 3A	CLASS 4A	CLASS 5A	CLASS 6A
2009	Washington	Tuttle	Deer Creek	Putnam City North
2010	Washington	Bristow	Carl Albert	Jenks
2011	Lincoln Christian	Mt. St. Mary	Deer Creek	Union
2012	Christian Heritage	Okla. Christian	Claremore	Norman North
2013	Washington	Okla. Christian	Carl Albert	Union
2014	Washington	Tuttle	Carl Albert	Edmond North
2015	Washington	Tuttle	Heritage Hall	Edmond North
2016	Washington	Tuttle	Carl Albert	Edmond North
2017	Washington	Tuttle	Bishop McGuinness	Edmond North