

Sanctioning Committee's Approval Process & Criteria For Tier 1 and 2 Event Producers and & Worlds Bid Eligibility

The USASF/IASF Sanctioning Committee will follow the USASF/IASF Sanctioning Standards and the USASF/IASF Event Producer & Affiliate Memberships requirements. Additionally, the Sanctioning Committee will follow the guidelines, listed below, in deciding which Cheerleading Worlds qualifying competition to sanction among USASF/IASF member event producers that meet the specific Tier Level guidelines but have the potential to conflict from either a date or location standpoint. The Sanctioning Committee cannot unreasonably deny sanctioning and or tier approval for any company that complies with all requirements. The USASF/IASF Board of Directors retain the ultimate final approval authority.

1. The USASF/IASF will sanction championships to give Worlds bids on an annual basis. Each company that applies to be a Tier 1 or 2 member, and award Worlds bids, must submit an application, and all other require forms, before the January 15 deadline each year to qualify initially or to requalify. All companies will be notified of their approved Tier level by March 1 of each year.
2. The date the event producer became a member of the USASF/IASF.
 - A. Priority will be given to members based upon their seniority as member event producers. Member's seniority is based upon the date they publicly became members.
 - B. A member event producer requesting a change in tier and/or location will maintain their priority status as of their membership date with the following exceptions:
 - i. If a Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer with an earlier membership date moves their bid weekend/city for any reason and their event encroaches upon an existing Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer's event who has a later membership date, the "earlier membership date" Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer cannot displace the existing Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer's bid giving event as long as the existing Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer's event has been held on the same weekend/city for 3 of the past 5 years and has been a Tier 1 or 2 event continuously for the past 3 years. A city is defined as an MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). A bid is defined as either a fully paid or partially paid bid to The Worlds.
 - ii. If a Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer with a later membership date desires to move their bid weekend/city for any reason and the move encroaches upon an existing Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer's event who has an earlier membership date, the "later membership date" Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer's request will be denied unless the Tier 1 or 2 Event Producer with the earlier membership date agrees to allow the move.

- iii. Tier 1 or 2 Event Producers who hold their bid event on a weekend that is tied to a specific Holiday weekend or is impinged upon by a specific Holiday (i.e. Thanksgiving, Easter, President's Weekend, Martin Luther King Weekend) or leap year will not be denied the opportunity to award their bids on that same holiday weekend as long as the date change is due solely to a shift in the calendar.
 - iv. If an event producer ceases to give bids in any year (for example by changing from Tier 2 to Tier 3), they can not resume giving bids and displace another Tier 1 or 2 event producer that has awarded bids continuously but with a later membership date from giving bids in a specific city
3. The location of the competition the company desires to give Cheerleading Worlds bids. In order to protect member event producers, the Sanctioning Committee will endeavor to protect existing Tier 1 or 2 Championships in the same/similar market by addressing the considerations below:
- A. The present market size and geographical location relative to existing Tier 1 or 2 Championships. This is a judgment based on the specific market's ability to absorb another Tier 1 or 2 Championship based on the number of all star teams in the market, the number of competitions in total in a market, the proximity of this market to other markets, and other factors that have a bearing on the number of Worlds bids that are appropriate within given markets.
 - B. Tier 1 and Tier 2 Championships will be protected, within a four week window, either side of the current bid giving event, for a 200 mile radius. In addition, Tier 1 and 2 events will be protected for a 500 mile radius from other bid giving events on the same weekend.
- Exceptions:**
- Current Tier 1 and 2 member event producers that fail to comply with the required membership criteria for an applied Tier Level, will have one year to meet all requirements before having their Championship Tier reduced to the Level it justifies by the Tier Criteria.
 - Event producers applying for Tier 1 or 2 inside an existing member company's protected geographical location and date, can appeal to the member company for approval. This approval, if granted, will satisfy the date and distance criteria.
4. The number and tier type bids being given by other event producers in that market.
- A. The committee will consider the present market size and geographical location relative to existing Sanctioned Championships.
5. The date of the Nationals.
- A. The Sanctioning Committee will endeavor to protect existing Sanctioned Championships occurring within a four-week window either side of the requested date.

6. Event Producer and Championship Background – The event producer desiring to give Tier 1 bids will be additionally evaluated based on number of years in business, number of multiple early round locations, number of all star competition participants annually, and the geographical scope of their competitions.
7. Waiting List – An event producer may have the option to reserve, in a specific market pending the incumbent losing their right to give a bid or the market being opened up to more bids in the future, the right to give a bid. This waiting list will be an open record of the USASF/IASF.
8. Appeals Process - If specific situations in a given market indicate the need for these guidelines to be applied differently or for exceptions to be made, the process to address this will be as follows:
 - A. The event producer requesting an exception will write it up and forward the document to the Chairman of the Sanctioning Committee.
 - B. The Chairman will verify the facts in the document and make an initial determination as to whether the proposal has merit. If in doubt, or if the proposal is deemed to have merit, it will be forward it to full Sanctioning Committee for discussion and a vote.
 - C. Any exception requests voted upon positively by the Sanctioning Committee will be forwarded to The USASF/IASF Board for approval.
 - D. Approved exceptions will be recorded and the requesting event producer notified.
9. Eligibility - Bid giving eligibility is contingent on members maintaining their membership in good standing and continuing to give bids each year.
10. Flexibility – The goal for Worlds bids is to be sufficiently flexible to ensure participation by as many event producers as possible while still protecting the value of Worlds bids by not giving so many that they lose meaning, and recognizing the contribution made by the early USASF/IASF supporters whose financial support made the Worlds possible initially.