



THE CHEERLEADING WORLDS 2012



The International All Star Federation (IASF) and the United States All Star Federation (USASF) only host two competitions a year – The Cheerleading Worlds and The Dance Worlds. The event producers of premier championships sponsor their best teams to compete at these international competitions. Cheer and dance teams from all over the world may qualify to compete in the applicable Senior Club or International Club divisions/categories.

In 2012, each paid and partially-paid bid to The Cheerleading Worlds will cost the sponsoring event producer approximately \$7,000 to \$25,000 for each team they send. Given this, and the fact that many event producers are giving multiple bids, it is easy to see that these event producers are allocating substantial resources to support the teams that participate in their respective competitions. These event producers feel so strongly about the caliber of the teams in these divisions at their competitions that they want them to represent their respective company at The Cheerleading Worlds.

Dates

NEW DAY: Friday April 27, 2012 Prelims & U.S. Worlds Trials:

Teams entered in the following divisions will compete on **Friday April 27, 2012:**

Prelims: Senior Small (At Large Bids ONLY)

Senior Small Coed (At Large Bids ONLY)

U.S. Worlds Trials: ALL Teams from USA entered in International Divisions

- International Open (All Girl) Level 5
- International Open Coed Level 5
- International Open (All Girl) Level 6
- International Open Coed Level 6

Saturday, April 28, 2012 Semi-Finals

Sunday, April 29, 2012 Finals

Location

The Walt Disney World ® Resort
Orlando, Florida, USA



Tentative Schedule of Events

NOTE: Event details and venues are subject to change.

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

- Teams arrive at The Worlds Village and register with the Worlds staff to receive tickets, Worlds credentials, room keys and other information concerning the weekend's events.

Thursday, April 26, 2012

- Teams arrive at The Worlds Village and register with the Worlds staff to receive tickets, Worlds credentials, room keys and other information concerning the weekend's events.
- International Cheer Union (ICU) opening ceremonies and competition at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex
- **NEW DAY:** 6:00 pm – VIP Gala (MANDATORY - 2 Gym Owners/ Coaches per team)

Friday, April 27, 2012

- Teams arrive at The Worlds Village and register with the Worlds staff to receive tickets, Worlds credentials, room keys and other information concerning the weekend's events.
- **NEW:** Cheer Worlds Preliminary Competition and U.S. Worlds Trials at a location TBD.
Senior Small (At Large Bids ONLY), Senior Small Coed (At Large Bids ONLY) and ALL U.S. Worlds Trials teams will be compete.
- **NEW:** Dance Worlds Preliminary Competition and U.S. Worlds Trials at Epcot's World Showplace Pavilion
- ICU World Cheer & Dance Championships held at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex

Saturday, April 28, 2012

- Cheer Worlds Semi-Final Competition at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex
- Dance Worlds Preliminary and Semi-Final Competition at Epcot's World Showplace Pavilion

Sunday, April 29, 2012

- Cheer Worlds Final Competition and Awards at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex
- Dance Worlds Final Competition and Awards at Epcot's World Showplace Pavilion
- Private Block Party at a Disneyworld Theme Park TBA

Monday, April 30, 2012

- Teams Depart

NOTE: Event details and venues are subject to change.



General Information

NEW DAY: 2012 VIP Gala (Coaches Reception and Awards Ceremony)

The IASF & USASF will host this very special and exclusive function on Thursday, April 26, 2012. It is MANDATORY for two representatives (gym owners and/or coaches) from each team participating in either The Cheerleading or Dance Worlds to attend. The event is hosted at no cost for the two representatives from each team. Transportation will be provided from the host hotels to Epcot's World Showplace and is scheduled to begin at approximately 6:00 p.m. Please make travel arrangements to Orlando accordingly to ensure your representatives are there on time.

Note: If you have additional coaches and/or gym owners that would like to attend, additional tickets for this function will be available on a first come/first served basis. See the Ticket Order Form in The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds Information and Registration Packet.

Television Coverage

The 2012 Cheerleading Worlds will be nationally televised on the ESPN and ESPN2 networks. Because of the format of the show, not all finalist teams or winners of all divisions will be shown on the telecast.

Online Coverage on IASFWorlds.org

Be sure to tell all of your friends and family that there will be coverage on Saturday and Sunday of The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds on www.IASFWorlds.org. Results will be posted throughout the weekend, as well as behind-the-scenes photos capturing the event.

Video On Demand

Let the rest of your "Gym Family" watch you compete at Worlds! The 2012 Cheerleading and Dance Worlds Video On Demand is a one year subscription service that allows access to video on demand of the event for one low price for the year. Watch all of the routines in all three venues from both days of competition as many times as you like for an entire year! Be sure to tell all of your friends and family to watch your team compete against the best teams from around the world. Coverage begins on Friday, April 27th on www.IASFWorlds.org.

FREE Action Moments Photography (AMP)

AMP will have FOUR Cameras on every Worlds stage capturing over 300 action shots of your athletes during each performance. Every Worlds athlete and coach will receive a FREE Photo Disc of all pictures taken during their performance(s) following the conclusion of their division. Coaches or Gym owners will receive them when they pick up and sign for their score sheets.



The Cheerleading Worlds 2012 Divisions – NEW!!

The preliminary performance orders for all Cheerleading Worlds Divisions will be randomly selected and webcasted LIVE on April 12th. In divisions requiring a Semi-Final round, all Paid and Partial Paid bid teams moving directly into the Semi-Final round will be randomly selected for order of performance on the live webcast. Check the USASF.net website for more details to come. During all of The Cheerleading Worlds preliminary and semi-final rounds, each team's score will be announced following their performance during the earliest break in their division's performances.

NEW: Senior Club Divisions - Level 5: (Senior Small & Senior Small Coed)

For these two traditionally very large divisions; all At Large Bid competitors will compete first in a Preliminary Round. **NEW:** This round will begin early Friday morning, April 27, 2012 at a location TBD.

NEW: The top 10 teams will move on to compete in the Semi-Final round on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at the ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex. The Semi-Final round will be comprised of the top 10 of the Preliminary teams, plus all of the Partial Paid and Paid bid teams that are registered in that division.

NEW: The top 10 of the Semi-Final teams will move on to the Finals, which will be held on Sunday, April 29, 2012 at the ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex. The Semi-Final performance order for all divisions will be reverse seeded based off Friday's preliminary results and inserted in the first 10 open spots before the Partial Paid and Paid bid teams that move directly into the Semi-Finals. The performance order for finals will be reverse seeded based off the Semi-Final results.

All Other Senior Club Divisions - Level 5, (Senior Medium, Senior Medium Coed, Senior Large and Senior Large Coed): All teams entering these divisions must compete in the Semi-Final round on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex.

NEW: The top 10 teams from each of the Senior Club Divisions, will progress from the Semi-Final round to the Finals on Sunday, April 29, 2012 at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex. The performance order for all divisions will be reverse seeded based off the Semi-Finals results.

Competition officials reserve the right to amend the order of event and/or divisions in Prelims and Semi-Finals based upon final competition registration.

Senior Divisions – Level 5:

- **Senior Small:** 12-18 years, No males, 5 to 20 members
- **Senior Medium:** 12-18 years, No males, 21 to 30 members
- **Senior Large:** 12-18 years, No males, 31 to 36 members
- **Senior Small Coed:** 12-18 years, 1 to 4 males, 5 to 20 members
- **Senior Medium Coed:** 12-18 years, 1 to 6 males, 5 to 30 members
- **Senior Large Coed:** 12-18 years, 1 to 18 males, 5 to 36 members

Senior Division Awards – The USASF/IASF will award the top 10 teams in all 6 Senior divisions at The Cheerleading Worlds.

International Divisions – Levels 5 & 6

NEW 2012 WORLDS CHANGES: International Open Divisions – Levels 5 & 6

Over the past 7 years international participation at The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds has grown from 3 non-U.S. based teams representing 2 countries, to over 120 teams representing over 40 countries outside of the U.S. The combined efforts of all involved in the USASF/IASF over the last few years have brought much needed change and opportunity for industry growth, both in the United States and across the globe. It is an understatement that “The Cheerleading and Dance Worlds” would exist in name only without the participation of international member event producers and all star gyms/teams from dozens of countries. An important component to ensure continued involvement from non-U.S. teams at the Cheerleading Worlds is to increase, and make more equitable, their voice in the governance of international divisions.

Most of the participants at Worlds from countries other than the United States also compete on National teams the day before the Worlds event at the International Cheer Union (ICU) Cheerleading World Championships. However, due to differences in the rules between the two events, these National teams have to remove, change out or alter their routines to be compliant with The Cheerleading Worlds rules for its International divisions. These changes, with less than 24 hours between performances, have been determined to be a potential safety concern. After significant discussion and input of the IASF members and the ICU's national governing bodies (representing over 100 countries), the following **"NEW"** guidelines for The 2012 Cheerleading Worlds International Levels 5 and 6 divisions will be followed:

- **NEW: Competitor's Age - "Year of the Competition"** - ALL International Open Divisions (Levels 5 & 6) will follow the ICU Cheerleading World Championships age requirement (known as the "International Standard") for determining the required age of a competitor. This standard is followed in most sports around the globe. The age of a competitor will be determined based on the date of birth falling during the **"year of the competition."** **Example:** A competitor who turns 14 up until December 31, 2012 will be eligible to compete at the 2012 Worlds in an International Open Level 5 Division.
- **NEW: International Open Coed Level 6 - Number of Males** - International Open Coed Level 6 will follow the ICU Cheerleading World Championships limitation for the number of males permitted on the team. This limitation will now be 1-15 males for International Open Coed Level 6 at the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds. The international community made this recommendation to further encourage the overall safety of level 6 routines (e.g. building of 2 1/2 high pyramids, advanced basket tosses, etc.).

NOTE: The USASF/IASF recognizes that teams and event producers from the U.S.A. must follow the current 2011-12 USASF Age Grid and Guidelines at all Worlds Bid Qualifiers. However teams from the U.S.A. receiving Cheerleading Worlds bids and attending the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds may use substitution/alternate athletes to form a team that matches the new guidelines listed above for the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds for these select divisions. Of course, those athletes would have to follow the same eligibility, substitution and alternate guidelines for The Worlds, including the guidelines requiring a Release Waiver. Again these new guidelines only impact those teams competing in the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds in the all International Open Levels 5 & 6 divisions.

NEW: U.S. Worlds Trials: All teams from the United States (U.S.) receiving bids and entering in the Worlds International Divisions must first compete in The U.S. Worlds Trials beginning early Friday, April 27th. The top 10 U.S. teams in each of the U.S. Worlds Trials divisions will progress to The Worlds International divisions Semi-Finals round, with all teams from non-U.S. countries, held Saturday, April 28, 2012 at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex. **NEW:** Following the completion of the U.S. Worlds Trials divisions the USASF will award trophies to the top 4th – 10th place teams, US Worlds Trials Gold, Silver and Bronze trophies and medallions to the top 3 teams.

The Worlds International divisions Semi-Final rounds held Saturday, April 28, 2012 at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex will include the Top 10 U.S. teams from each of the U.S. Worlds Trials International divisions and all teams from other countries. A maximum of three (3) of the highest scoring teams from “each country” in each International division will progress from Semi-finals to the Finals held on Sunday, April 29, 2012 at ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex. The performance order for all divisions will be reversed seeded based off the Semi-Finals results.

NEW: International Open Divisions – Levels 5 & 6

NEW: The age of a competitor will be determined based on the date of birth falling during the “**year of the competition.**” (see explanation above)

- International Open (All Girl) -14 years and older, no males, 5 to 24 members
- International Open Coed -14 years and older, 1 – 12 males, 5 to 24 members

International Open Level 6 Divisions:

- International Open (All Girl) -17 years and older, no males, 5 to 24 members
- International Open Coed -17 years and older, **NEW:** 1 – 15 males, 5 to 24 members

International Division Awards – The USASF/IASF will award the top 10 teams in all four International divisions at The Cheerleading Worlds.

NEW: IASF Nations Cup Championship: In addition to the USASF/IASF awarding the top 10 in each of the International divisions, the IASF will award the top 5 countries (ranking of nations) in each of those divisions as well. This will be determined by ranking each country’s highest scoring team in the division’s finals.

The Cheerleading Worlds “Paid” Bids

“Paid” bids are awarded to the best teams in one or more of the Worlds Divisions at The Cheerleading Worlds qualifying events. Each event producer that hosts a Worlds qualifying event has the discretion to select the divisions and determine the process by which the bids are awarded.

The “Paid Bid” includes:

All teams awarded a “Paid” bid will be awarded, by the sponsoring event producer, up to a maximum of \$650 times the number of athletes on the floor where the bid was awarded, plus two coaches. For example, a team receiving a bid that had 31 athletes on the floor plus two coaches will be awarded up to \$21,450. This amount will be used towards the team’s USASF/IASF Worlds Accommodation Packages and transportation to Orlando. Additional expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the team/gym.

Event producers will not be responsible for late fees if their representing team does not meet the registration deadline. Event producers will not be responsible for change fees if their representing team has to make changes to the original registration and/or travel.

The Cheerleading Worlds “Partial Paid” Bids

“Partial Paid” bids are awarded to the best teams in one or more of the Worlds Divisions at The Cheerleading Worlds qualifying events. Each event producer that hosts a Worlds qualifying event has the discretion to select the divisions and determine the process by which the bids are awarded.

All teams awarded a “Partial Paid” bid will be awarded, by the sponsoring event producer, \$325 times the number of athletes on the floor where the bid was awarded plus two coaches. For example, a team receiving a bid that had 31 athletes on the floor plus two coaches will be awarded \$10,725. This amount will be used towards the team’s USASF/IASF Worlds Accommodation Packages. Additional expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the team/gym.

“Partial Paid” checks will be made out to the USASF and mailed directly to the gym. That check must be used towards the team’s accommodation packages and must be enclosed with the team’s registration. The gym is responsible for the balance of the team’s competition packages and the balance must be enclosed with the registration as well.

Event producers will not be responsible for late fees if their representing team does not meet the registration deadline. Event producers will not be responsible for change fees if their representing team has to make changes to the original registration and/or travel.

The Cheerleading Worlds “At Large” Bids

“At Large” bids are generally awarded to runner-up teams or the next highest scoring teams to the “Paid” or “Partial Paid” bid-winning team(s). However, each event producer that hosts a Worlds qualifying event has the discretion to select the divisions and determine the process by which the bids are awarded. Recipients of “At Large” bids are eligible to compete at Worlds; however they must pay for their own Worlds Accommodation Packages and all other related expenses.

Event producers should publish the procedures they will follow for awarding bids prior to the start of their qualifying competition. An event producer may not award more than one bid and/or type of bid to the same team.

Bid Limitations

A team may receive no more than one bid to The Cheerleading Worlds, “Paid,” “Partial Paid,” or “At Large,” for any given division. Should a team already have been awarded a bid to The Worlds, decline acceptance of a “Paid”/“Partial Paid”/“At Large, or fail to accept the “Paid”/“Partial Paid” / “At Large” bid by the 72 hour deadline, that bid may be transferred to an alternate team at the sponsoring event producer’s discretion. The sponsoring event producer may not transfer (“hand down”) any “At Large” bids or declined “At Large” bids after 96 hours from the end of their qualifying event. If a team has already accepted an “At Large” bid and opts to compete for another bid, they will be eligible only for a “Paid” or Partial Paid” bid. They will not be eligible for another “At Large” bid unless they decline the first “At Large” bid they were awarded, BEFORE competing for another “At Large” bid. Accepting or declining bids must be done in writing to the sponsoring event producer and the USASF.

Bid Receiving Requirements

- A team that receives and accepts any type of Worlds bid must compete at the Worlds in the same division they competed in at the qualifying event where their bid was awarded.
- The number of participants that “performed” on the competition floor at the qualifying event where the team received their bid may not be exceeded by the number of participants competing in that same division at The Cheerleading Worlds.
- Teams Attending Worlds Requirements:
 - must represent a **USASF** Member Gym/Organization
 - must have **USASF** Member Athletes (Registered & Paid)
 - must have **USASF** Credentialed Coaches to enter the Worlds warm up and back stage areas

Timing Requirements for Bid Acceptance

“Paid”, “Partial Paid” and “At Large” bid winners must accept the bid and complete and return the Bid Winners Acceptance Form to the sponsoring event producer that awarded the bid. The form must be faxed within 72 hours after the last day of the event where the bid was received. This means each team will need to have made up their minds prior to the Worlds qualifying event about whether they are going to accept the bid should they receive one. And if so, who will be going and what the travel specifics will be. The purpose of this tight timing is to control last minute changes that increase costs and make the entire travel experience disorganized. Should a team already have been awarded a bid to The Worlds, decline acceptance of a “Paid”/“Partial Paid”/“At Large, or fail to accept the “Paid”/“Partial Paid” / “At Large” bid by the 72 hour deadline, that bid may be transferred to an alternate team at the sponsoring event producer’s discretion. The sponsoring event producer may not transfer (“hand down”) any “At Large” bids or declined “At Large” bids after 96 hours from the end of their qualifying event.

Once a team accepts their bid, the team needs to register by the listed deadline in The USASF/IASF Cheerleading and Dance Worlds Information and Registration Packet. Any team holding their registration in hopes of receiving a “Paid” or “Partial Paid” bid at a later Worlds bid qualifier but who are unsuccessful in achieving this, will be charged a late registration fee based upon the listed completion registration deadlines.

The Cheerleading Worlds Travel Package and Registration

All team registration packets and required documents must be received in the USASF/IASF office by the noted deadlines in The Cheerleading Worlds Information and Registration Packets. PLEASE READ the Registration Deadlines and Payment Policies page. These packets include all of the information, package pricing, forms, and deadlines necessary for The Worlds registration. Extra copies of The Cheerleading Worlds Information and Registration Packets for spectators may be downloaded and printed from the USASF.net website.

Copies of all participants’ birth certificates or passports must be with the team’s coach/representative at all times and readily available upon request from a Worlds official. Copies of your athlete’s birth certificates on a USB/Zip drive are acceptable. (certificates should be .pdf, .jpg or .doc)

NEW: Athlete Membership Timeline Requirement

All “CHEER” participants (original team members, alternates, substitutes) must be a USASF Member Athlete in order to join the team in the warm-up room/area and compete at The Cheerleading Worlds. Athletes who have registered and paid their membership (\$25 per athlete) prior to being awarded a bid will have met the athlete requirement and no additional fees associated with processing athlete membership will be incurred.

Programs that did not enroll their athletes as full members (\$25 per athlete) prior to receiving their bid will be charged a processing fee of \$15 per athlete for not meeting this requirement. All membership and processing fees must be paid prior to March 31, 2012. Starting April 1 programs will be assessed an additional \$10.00 late fee.

IMPORTANT: Each participant's name and USASF Membership ID# will be required on The Cheerleading Worlds' team roster form due by the team's required Worlds Registration deadline. For more information about USASF Athlete Membership, please contact your USASF Regional Director. USASF/IASF Regional Directors' contact information is located on the USASF.net website.

International Teams - All visa requests will be cut off on February 15, 2012 and team registration packets and required documents must be received in the USASF/IASF office by the noted deadlines in The Cheerleading Worlds Information and Registration Packets. PLEASE READ the Registration Deadlines and Payment Policies page.

Coaches/Gym Owners/Organizations:

- Cannot send a team to compete in the "same division" at The Cheerleading Worlds and also at a 2012 "end of season, multi-brand event". (i.e. International All-Levels Championships, U.S. Finals, etc.)
- Must be a current gym member of the USASF and in good standing with the USASF.
- Must be a USASF Credentialed Coach, up to Level 5 (5 stars) in at least one category (tumbling, stunts, tosses), to enter the warm-up room/area at The Cheerleading Worlds.

NEW DEADLINES FOR COACHES CREDENTIALS:

ALL Coaches must be credentialed before they arrive at The 2012 Cheerleading Worlds in Orlando to avoid an administrative fee for late credentialing. Coaches that do not get credentialed before they arrive at The 2012 Worlds, will need to contact Angela Jones at the USASF to schedule an appointment to be Credentialed after they arrive in Orlando. There will be an additional \$100 On Site Administration Fee added to the Credentialing Fee to be USASF Credentialed by appointment at The 2012 Worlds in Orlando. Coaches that do not get credentialed before they arrive at The 2012 Worlds and do not make an appointment to be Credentialed in Orlando, will have to pay an additional \$200 On Site "Walk Up" Administration Fee added to the Credentialing Fee to be USASF Credentialed. NO EXCEPTIONS! Appointments may be made until the close of business on April 24th, 2012 to avoid "walk-up fee". Note: Upon completion, coaches/gym owners/choreographers will receive a picture ID card that will allow access into the warm-up room/area. Only those individuals with valid (unexpired) credentials and who meet the following criteria will be permitted. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- Must be listed as a coach of the performing team on all paperwork received by the USASF/IASF.
- Must be a coach in good standing at the gym they are representing.
- Must understand that they are a representative of the USASF/IASF Event Producer that awarded them the bid ("Paid"/"Partial Paid"/"At Large") at the USASF/IASF Worlds Championship. They agree to act with complete respect, sportsmanship, and graciousness at all times while representing the USASF/IASF Event Producer they represent at the USASF/IASF Worlds Championships. USASF Credentialed Coaches, Gym Owners and Choreographers will be ONLY be permitted "with their team" in the practice area and/or backstage area.

Eligible Athletes, Substitutions and Alternates

UPDATED: All athletes participating on a team at The 2012 Worlds must be a registered member of that team's gym during the 2011 - 2012 competition season. Any athlete that has competed on the floor with a team in any level from a gym (Primary Gym), during the Worlds competition season (November 1, 2011 - May 1, 2012), must possess a USASF Gym Release Waiver signed by the owner of that gym (Primary

Gym) before that athlete is eligible to compete with another gym (Secondary Gym) at the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds. The USASF Gym Release Waiver is located on the www.USASF.net website.

On The Cheerleading Worlds Roster, each athlete's name will have to be identified as either an original participant of the team that was on the floor where the bid was received, a substitute or an alternate. All names on the team rosters will be verified by the event producer who awarded the Worlds bid.

The rule that applies to substitutions is as follows:

- A Maximum of 10 substitutions will be allowed per team for The Cheerleading Worlds Championship.

A substitute must be a regular paid participant from another team at the same gym and must have competed "on the floor" with that team from that gym at the same event where the bid was awarded. All substitutes must meet the same eligibility requirements as the original team that was awarded a bid (i.e. age, etc.).

UPDATED - WORLDS ALTERNATES: Of the 10 possible substitutes, one to three of those 10 may be alternates. Alternates are registered members of the same team's gym where the bid was received. Alternates do not have to be rostered or in attendance at the Worlds bid qualifying event where the bid was received.

NEW: International Open & Open Coed - Level 6 Alternates: teams must present a roster at their bid qualifying event that includes names of the athletes performing "on the floor" at that competition. Additionally, the same Open - Level 6 teams can present up to 10 additional names of athletes (eligible substitutes/alternates) that are "members of the gym/program" but do not have the opportunity to perform "on the floor" at that event. Those 10 additional athletes must follow the same eligibility, substitution and alternate guidelines for The Worlds, including the guidelines requiring a Release Waiver.

UPDATED - GYM RELEASE WAIVER:

Any athlete that has competed on the floor with a team in any level from a gym (Primary Gym), during the Worlds competition season (November 1, 2011 – May 1, 2012), will have to have a USASF Gym Release Waiver signed by the owner of that gym (Primary Gym) before that athlete is eligible to compete with another gym (Secondary Gym) at the 2012 Cheerleading Worlds. The USASF Gym Release Waiver is located on the www.USASF.net website.

If a team is found to have made an improper substitution or alternate, this team may:

- Be disqualified.
- Be responsible for repaying the total cost of any funds received through a "Paid" or "Partial Paid" bid.
- Be prevented (along with the entire program from that gym) from being eligible for any type of bid to The Cheerleading or Dance Worlds for the following year.

The USASF/IASF sponsored bids, "paid" or "partial paid," are for team members and two coaches. All sponsored team members must be on the floor during the team's performance at The Cheerleading Worlds. Alternates and/or additional athletes/coaches brought to substitute for unplanned occurrences are not covered under "Paid" or "Partial Paid" bids, will not be funded by the sponsoring event producer and must be eligible for substitution under the aforementioned substitution rules. Should a substitute and or an alternate become necessary after submission of your team's registered roster and after travel plans have been approved and confirmed, any additional costs associated with those substitution(s) must be paid by the gym.

Crossovers

At The Cheerleading Worlds, crossovers of participants between teams from the same gym are NOT permitted. In other words, a participant can only compete on one team from a gym/program.

Crossovers of participants from other gyms will not be permitted.

Crossovers of participants between cheer and dance teams from the same or other gyms are not permitted.

In other words, a performer may represent only one gym in either cheer or dance.

If teams are found to have a crossover, those teams may:

- Be disqualified.
- Be responsible for repaying the total cost of any funds received through a "Paid" or "Partial Paid" bid.
- Be prevented (along with the entire program from that gym) from being eligible for any type of bid to The Cheerleading or Dance Worlds for the following year.

Submitting Videotape/DVD for Legality Review

In an effort to ensure a penalty-free competition, all teams for The Cheerleading Worlds are encouraged to submit a videotape or DVD of the routine they will perform at the Worlds competition. This videotape or DVD should clearly show all stunts and tumbling so that they may be reviewed for legality purposes. Routines will be reviewed by an independent, neutral safety judging panel consisting of members of the USASF Rules Committee and/or its delegates. To secure confidentiality, the results of this review will be communicated only to the participating gym and will not be shared with any other gym or with The Cheerleading Worlds judging panel. Only videotapes or DVDs are acceptable for review. Electronically submitted routines will not be accepted.

Videotapes must be a clean VHS tape with the routine at the beginning of the tape. The tape or DVD must be clearly labeled with the following information:

- Team Name/Division/Level
- Team Representative's Name
- Team Representative's E-Mail Address and Phone Contact
- Videotapes or DVDs are due by April 15, 2012 and must be mailed to the following address:
Attention: Mike Burgess
USASF Rules Committee Chair
11135 Knott Avenue, Suite C
Cypress, CA 90630

Routines received after April 15, 2012 will not be reviewed. You will be notified by April 22, 2012 as to the results of the video review.

Note: Although routines will be reviewed for potential penalties prior to the competition via video submission, this does not preclude a team from being assessed a penalty while at the Worlds competition. The USASF/IASF will have rules judges in the warm-up area and on the performance floor at The Worlds competition to ensure that all rules regarding the competition are followed.

Score Sheets

Score sheets for The 2012 Cheerleading Worlds will be posted online at usasf.net by November 15, 2011.

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

I. CHEER GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. The Cheerleading Worlds competition will follow the most recent version of the USASF General Rules and Age Level Rules Chart. Refer to the USASF.net website for details.
- B. Routine performance time may not exceed two minutes and thirty seconds. Timing will begin with the first movement, voice, or note of music, whichever comes first.
- C. If a team exceeds the time limit, a five point per judge penalty for every 5 seconds over the time limit will be assessed for each violation (i.e. 0-5 seconds = 5 points, 6-10 seconds = 10 points, etc.).
BECAUSE PENALTIES ARE SEVERE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ALL TEAMS TIME THEIR PERFORMANCE SEVERAL TIMES PRIOR TO ATTENDING THE COMPETITION AND LEAVE A SEVERAL SECOND CUSHION TO ALLOW FOR VARIATIONS IN SOUND EQUIPMENT.
- D. All teams who advance to The Cheerleading Worlds may use as many songs in the musical portion of their routine as they like. Each song MUST BE LICENSED ONLY BY ASCAP and/or BMI. This is due to the television network requirements. All music (including entire songs or any portion of a song) must be licensed by either ASCAP and/or BMI to be used in your routine for The Cheerleading Worlds. Any violation of this rule may subject the team to disqualification from the tournament and any associated television programs.
- E. Teams may not use Disney themes nor may they have costumes that resemble a Disney character. However, Disney music that is ASCAP, BMI or SESAC licensed is acceptable.
- F. Participants must start in the competition area and teams may line up anywhere inside the competition area. The competition area will be determined by the tournament director according to the size of the facility being used. Approximate floor size will be 54 feet wide x 42 feet deep (9 strips).
- G. All introductions (tumbling, entrances, chants, spell-outs, etc.) are considered part of the routine and are timed as part of the performance. There should not be any organized exits or other activities after the official ending of the routine.
- H. If a sign or prop is thrown outside the performing area, that team will receive a one point per judge deduction for each violation. Signs or props may be placed or dropped outside the performing area by a team member who must remain inside the performing area.
- I. Any team in violation of the Specific Safety Regulations will be assessed a deduction for each violation. A five point per judge penalty will be assessed for each violation.

II. FOR TEAMS COMPETING IN THE DANCE WORLDS

Refer to The Dance Worlds Information and Registration Packet or the usasf.net or usasfdance.net website!

III. INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE

A. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

- 1. If, in the opinion of the competition officials, a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the competition equipment, facilities, or other factors attributable to the competition rather than the team, the team affected or competition officials may stop the routine.
- 2. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by the competition officials. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If

decided by officials, the team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred. The spot in the schedule where the re-performance is to take place is at the sole discretion of competition officials

B. FAULT OF TEAM

1. In the event a team's routine is interrupted because of failure of the team's own equipment and/or music, the team must continue the routine.
2. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by the competition officials and a possible penalty of 5 points per judge will be assessed. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by the competition officials. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If decided by officials, the team will perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred. The spot in the schedule where the re-performance is to take place is at the sole discretion of competition officials.

C. INJURY

1. The only persons that may stop a routine for injury are: a) competition officials, b) the gym owner / head coach from the team performing or c) an injured individual.
2. The competition officials will determine if the team will be allowed to perform at a later time. If the competition officials allow a routine to be performed at a later time, the spot in the schedule where the re-performance is to take place is at the sole discretion of competition officials. The team may (pending the injury's impact on the routine) perform the routine again in its entirety, but will be evaluated ONLY from the point where the interruption occurred.
3. The injured participant that wishes to perform may not return to the competition floor unless:
 - a. The competition officials receive clearance from, first, the medical personnel attending to that participant, the parent/guardian (if present) AND THEN the head coach/advisor of the competing team.
 - b. If the medical personnel do not clear the participant, the participant can only return to the competition if a parent or legal guardian in attendance signs a return to participation waiver. In the event of a suspected concussion, the participant cannot return to perform without clearance from a medical professional, even with a waiver from a parent or legal guardian.

IV. HOW TO HANDLE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

Any question concerning the rules or procedures of the tournament will be handled exclusively by one designated representative of the team (i.e. gym owner/director, coach or captain) and will be directed only to a competition official. Such questions should be made prior to the team's competition performance. Any questions concerning the team's performance should be made to a competition official immediately after the team's performance.

V. INTERPRETATIONS AND RULINGS

Any interpretation of any aspect of these Rules and Regulations or any decision involving any other aspect of the tournament will be rendered by the Worlds Competition Rules Committee. The Worlds Competition Rules Committee will render a judgment in an effort to ensure that the tournament proceeds in a manner consistent with the general spirit and goals of the tournament. The Rules Committee will consist of the Tournament Director, Head Judge, and either the USASF Rules Committee Chairman or a tournament official designated by the Chairman. The Tournament Director may appoint additional members to those listed above to be members of the Worlds Competition Rules Committee.

VI. FINALITY OF DECISIONS

By participating in this championship, each team agrees that the decisions by the judges will be final and will not be subject for review. Each team acknowledges the necessity for the judges to make prompt and fair decisions in this competition and each team therefore expressly waives any legal, equitable, administrative or procedural review of such decisions.

VII. SPORTSMANSHIP

All participants agree to conduct themselves in a manner displaying good sportsmanship throughout and following the tournament. The directors, coaches and advisors of each team is responsible for seeing that team members, coaches, parents and any other persons affiliated with the team conduct themselves accordingly. Severe cases of unsportsmanlike conduct are grounds for disqualification as explained in this document above.

VIII. DEDUCTIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

Any team in violation of the “General Competition Rules” will be assessed a ten point (10) per judge deduction for each violation. Any team that does not adhere to the terms and procedures in the “General Competition Rules” may be disqualified from the competition and automatically forfeit the right to any prizes or awards presented by the competition. In addition, the team may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in the Dance Worlds the following year.

IX. SCORES AND RANKINGS

Individual judges’ score sheets are for the exclusive use of each particular judge. Each judge has the responsibility and authority to review and submit his or her final scores and rankings prior to the final tally of the scores for all teams. Scores and rankings will be available only to studios/gyms; directors, coaches and advisors at the conclusion of the competition. In the event of a tie, the high and low scores will be added back into the total score. Ties will not be broken, except to determine the Bronze, Silver and Gold places in finals.

X. TELEVISION COVERAGE

The Cheerleading Worlds may be nationally televised. Because of the format of the show, not all finalist teams will be shown on the telecast.

X. APPEARANCES, ENDORSEMENTS AND PUBLICITY

All teams winning titles, awards or prizes agree to have all appearances, endorsements and publicity approved through the USASF office.

XI. RULES

The Cheerleading Worlds follows USASF Cheerleading Rules and Guidelines. They are listed on the www.USASF.net website.

***For more information go to
www.USASF.net or www.IASFworlds.org or call
1-800-829-6237***