## ARTICLE 1

Amendments

**Section 1**: Alterations or amendments to these rules shall be considered at any meeting called by the Board of Directors held between January 1st and March 1st.

Season

**Section 1:**

- The official GBCYFL Cheer and Dance competitive season shall conclude on April 30 of each calendar year.
- A mandatory league-wide dead period shall occur from May 1 through May 31.
- During this dead period:
    a. No team practices,
    b. conditioning sessions,
    c. choreography sessions,
    d. camps
    e. organized team activities

  **Violation of the dead period will result in ineligibility for the upcoming cheer and dance season, subject to board review. Team practices and organized activities for the upcoming season may begin no earlier than June** 1.

## ARTICLE 2

Cheer Coordinators/Coaches

**Section 1**: The Head The Cheer Coordinator of each division:

- has the right to choose coaches.
- The Cheer Coordinator is responsible for his/her cheer squad/dance team's actions immediately prior, during and after each scheduled game and competitions. This includes the conduct of the coaches as well.

**Section 2**: The district Cheer & Dance Coordinator, all cheer/dance The Cheer Coordinators, and all coaches over the age of 18 must:

- hold a current USA Cheer Membership (Professional or Coach). This certification is renewed every June 1st, and all must be certified to participate in practice, games, and competition.
- Any coach under the age of 18 must be supervised by a USA Cheer certified individual at all times.

**Section 3**: Injury Reporting Requirement

- Any injury that requiries removal from a practice, game, performance, or competition shall be reported to the Team District Chairperson and League Officials within twenty-four (24) hours.
- Injuries involving emergency medical services, head injury, or hospitalization shall be reported
- immediately

## ARTICLE 3

Eligibility

**Section 1**:

- Any athlete found ineligible will be removed from the squad/team immediately.
- Cheerleading squads and dance teams must perform at all scheduled games, which includes post season games, including, but not limited to playoffs, consolation, and championship games.
- Any exception to this must be approved by the Director of Cheer and Dance at least 48 hours prior to game day.

**Section 2**: The League Director of Cheer & Dance will determine athlete eligibility, have ability to call meetings of the Board of Directors over eligibility, and has the authority to determine athlete eligibility in emergency case for one game only. Decision can be overridden by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE 4

GameDay Performance

**Section 1**: Halftime Performance Procedures

Field Entry and Order of Performance

- At halftime, both the home and visiting cheer teams shall take the field together.
- The home team will perform first, followed immediately by the visiting team.
- If dance teams are present, the home dance team will perform first, followed by the visiting dance team.

Field Exit Requirement

- No cheer or dance team shall leave the field until all halftime cheer and dance performances (if applicable) have been completed. This requirement ensures fairness, sportsmanship, and consistent halftime procedures across all GBCYFL districts.

Hello Cheer Requirement for Competition Eligibility

- Each cheer team must perform a halftime "Hello" cheer during the regular season to remain eligible for participation in the GBCYFL cheer competition.
- Failure to perform the required Hello cheer must be reported in writing to the Director of Cheer & Dance Operations on the day of the occurrence.

**NOTE: Cheer squads and dance teams are required to perform even if there is not a football team in their division.**

**Section 2**: Cheer athletes can choose to

- Register for competition cheer only.
- Register for Competition and sideline cheer.
- Register for sideline only cheer.

**Section 3**: GAME DAY SITUATION

Cheerleading squads and Dance teams will be:

- Judged during their performances throughout the season.
- Each district will form a committee of 4 people. Each person will be responsible for 1 cheer division (baby Bullitts, little Bullitts, peewee, juniors).
- Each person will judge every team at a random game throughout the season and submit the scores to the director of cheer at least 2 weeks prior to the All-County.
- These scores will be combined and then averaged to determine a Game Situation Champion.
- Squads will not know when they will be judged. The winner will be announced at the GBCYFL Competition and presented with an award. This competition does not relate to GBCYFL Competition in any way.

**ARTICLE 5**

**Section 1**
Cheer Each district may field one (1) cheer squad in each of the following divisions:

- Juniors
- Peewee
- Little Bullitts
- Baby Bullitts

The minimum number of athletes required to form a squad is five (5).

- If a division has fewer than five (5) athletes, divisions may combine to form a squad.
- If a single team division reaches twenty-five (25) athletes, the team may choose to split into two (2) teams within that division. Competition cheer teams with more than thirty-six (36) athletes must split into two (2) teams.

Registration and roster procedures:

- Registration deadline is Weigh-In Day.
- Teams may refuse new sign-ups after May 31, but may also choose to keep registration open until Weigh-In Day.
- Once an athlete is turned away, no additional sign-ups may be accepted.
- No athlete shall be turned away due to lack of cheerleading or tumbling experience.

Each team and division must submit two (2) official rosters to the League:

- A Game Day roster
- A Competition roster
- Rosters are due by the second (2nd) Saturday in September, after which no further roster changes are permitted.

Dance

- If a district does not form a dance team by July 1, the district must release any prospective dance participants.
- Districts are not required to conduct or accept dance registrations.

**Section 3**:

- All teams must participate in the GBCYFL-hosted competition (formerly known as All County) in order to be eligible to compete in any competitions outside of the GBCYFL.
- Any team planning to compete a traditional 2.5-minute routine at competitions outside of the GBCYFL must also compete a traditional 2.5-minute routine at the GBCYFL-hosted competition.
- Game Day–only athletes or teams are exempt from this requirement, provided they do not participate in any competitions outside of the GBCYFL.

**Section 4**:

- A cheerleader must compete at the GBCYFL Competition in the age division he/she registered for at the time of sign-up.

- Failure to comply disqualifies the athlete from further competitions after the league's.

**ARTICLE 6**

GBCYFL Hosted Competition. *Formerly known as All County*

**Section 1**:

- The league hosted competition will be held on an open Saturday or Sunday in October or November. The competition will be held at a date and location determined by the League Director of Cheer & Dance and is subject to change by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**Section 2**:

- Any GBCYFL cheerleading squad found practicing after April 30th and before June 1st, will not be allowed to compete in GBCYFL Competition for that year regardless of what squad the cheerleader will be on that year.
- Any Cheer Coordinator The Cheer Coordinator/Coach that breaks this rule is subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors

**Section 3**: Registration

- Each participant must pay a $15.00 competition fee to the GBCYFL for this competition.
- This fee assists in covering facility rental, judges, DJ, and any other costs associated with the competition.

**Section 4**: Judges

- Three (3) judges from outside of Bullitt County, with no affiliation to the athletes competing, will be hired for the competition. No judge may be affiliated with any team district. The League Director of Cheer & Dance will hire three (3) different judges, each year, if possible.
- There will be one (1) timer.
  **NOTE: The League will provide each Cheer Coordinator with the current Rules or link that will be used for competition before by weigh in day if possible.**

**Section 5**:

A. Performance

- All squads will perform a 2 ½ minute routine, or game day routine (with a maximum time of three minutes) which must include a cheer or chant in accordance with UCA/UDA Rules.
- Any squad over the time limit will be subject to penalties; One (1) point deduction for 1-5 seconds, and Two (2) point deduction for 6+ seconds.
- All categories of the scoring sheet must be completed. *Ex. If a jump is not performed in the cheer, the squad would receive a "0" in that area.*
- A copy of the competition score sheets that will be used, will be given the Cheer Coordinators on weigh-in day, if possible.
- Scores will be kept in pen on all score sheets.
- If the final score results in a tie, subtract high scores.
- If still a tie, subtract low scores.
- If this still results in a tie, the teams involved will need to repeat the routine for a re-evaluation by the judges.
- A copy of each team's final score sheet will be available following the end of the competition. In addition, the scores of all teams competing in that same division will be released.
- A team representative must play music. Once the music begins, no restarting of the time will be allowed except for technical difficulties with the sound system. The representative must inform the DJ if the music messes up prior to stopping the routine.

- Personal Appearance and Uniform
  a. Hair and uniform must be the same at the discretion of the Cheer Coordinator.

  b. Uniforms (game day & competition) must be approved by the team boards.
  c. Uniforms must be neat, pressed, and clean.
  d. The length must be proportional to height.
  e. All parts of the uniform must be matched in color and style with some sort of team identification.
  f. Uniforms do not have to coordinate with the dominant team color.
  g. No bare midriffs allowed**. Note: Team decals will be allowed.**
  h. Hair, the length and style are optional (bangs are acceptable but must not obscure vision). We recommend, for safety reasons, long hair must be secured in some way— (dog-ears, pigtails, etc.).
  i. Any accessory must be uniformed as far as possible. Wigs and hairpieces may be worn.
  j. If makeup is worn it must be moderate and not distractive.
  k. Socks and shoes must be neat and clean. Brand may differ, but style and color must be alike.
  l. No jewelry of any type (including earrings) may be worn. This rule is strictly for safety reasons.
  m. Fingernails must be natural, neatly groomed, and all members of a squad wear the same color.
  n. Floor cheer will be governed by the Rules of Cheer.

B. Sportsmanship and Pep

- Good conduct toward opponents, officials and students should be enforced.
- Any unsportsmanlike gesture on the part of a cheerleader/dancer will result in five (5) points being deducted from total score at competition.
- Proper language should be always used, including music.
- A copy of the music and certificate of licensing must be
    a. given to both the Director of Cheer & Dance and Chairperson no later than two weeks prior to Competition, for reviewing.
    b. If music is not given, violation could result in points lost at Competition. Judges have the right to deduct points for inappropriate music.
- Attitudes should be respectful in victory or defeat.
- The conduct of an athlete away from the performance area should be always a credit to the uniform and team.
- Overall and continuing pep and enthusiasm throughout the competition should be expressed.
- Chewing gum is not allowed while performing.
- Coaches must be 14 years of age.

- Cheer Stunt Groups
- Each age division will also have a stunt group competition.
- The stunt groups can be made up of a maximum of 5 cheerleaders in the same age group and no less than 3.
- The routine is no more than 18 - 8 Counts with music.
- Only buildings will be scored.
- Cheerleaders can only participate in one (1) stunt group.
- Stunt groups must sign up no less than 4 weeks before the competition.

**Section 6**:

- The entire competition squad must participate if not the squad will be disqualified.
- This does not apply in the case of
    a. Illness
    b. Injury
    c. emergency.
- If a member becomes ill or injured during competition,
    a. he/she may be excused without disqualification of the full squad.
    **b.** League Officials will make this decision. **NOTE: Individual squad's cheer The Cheer Coordinator will have discretion where or not an athlete will be allowed to compete if three (3) practices are missed in the four (4) weeks prior to competition.**

**Section 7**: Admission to the GBCYFL competition will be $10.00/person.
**Section 8**: Prior to dance team(s) performance, the mats must be rolled up.

## ARTICLE 7

**Section 1**: SCORE SHEET HANDLING

- The names of each squad/team are to be written on the score sheets before they are given to the judges.
- The judges must finalize the score sheets in such a manner as to have the score and comments remain as confidential from the public as possible.
- The Director of Cheer should compile the list of results for the announcement of awards.
- The score sheets will be given to the Director of Cheer & Dance and each The Cheer Coordinator will receive a copy of their own score sheet, along with a copy of scores of the others competing in their division. Coaches/The Cheer Coordinators will be able to view their score sheets immediately following the competition.
- A copy of competition tally sheet, for each division, must be turned in to the Board of Directors for filing purposes before the annual Board meeting the following season.

## ARTICLE 8

POST GBCYFL COMP

**Section 1**:

- A cheerleading squad may attend as many competitions as they like, other than the GBCYFL Competition, but this must happen before April 30th.
- The following criteria must be met:
    a. The Team District Cheerleading Coordinator is notified at least four (4) weeks prior to the competition day.
    b. Only members of existing squads are allowed to participate if, prior to GBCYFL competition.
- The roster given to the League Director of Cheer and Dance is the final competition roster and cannot be altered, except for removal of a cheerleader; no substitutions or additions are allowed until after the GBCYFL Competition.
- After the GBCYFL Competition cheerleaders will be allowed to
    a. move up 1 level (as long as age permits per UCA guidelines) but will only be allowed to cheer for 1 team per competition.
    b. NO CROSSOVERS without written permission from the League Director of Cheer & Dance. The parents, coach/The Cheer Coordinator from both teams, and district cheer coordinator must all approve this move.

## ARTICLE 9

Practice

**Section 1**:

- No more than ten (10) hours maximum of practice/scrimmage time during a calendar week when school is in session. This does exclude games, competitions and weekend events. **GBCYFL HOSTED**

**COMPETITION**

- *Formerly known as All County* In the event a football player is also on the cheer/dance team, a maximum of twelve (12) hours is limited.

## ARTICLE 10

Football Players

- A football player, who also wants to cheer/dance competitively, must register as both with the team and is to be on the roster of both by the deadline. This athlete must be active in both sports