

SECTION XI - CHEERLEADING

1. Rules

The rules of the Alberta Cheerleading Association (ACA) shall govern ASAA Cheerleading. The ASAA may modify these rules as required.

2. Eligibility

- A. There are four categories for competitive purposes (alternates are not included in these totals)
 - i. High School Division I – 4-28 members
 - ii. High School Division II – one male – 4-28 members
 - iii. Co-ed Team – two or more males – 4-28 members
 - iv. Game Day (trial for 2018/19 season) – 4-28 members
- B. Participants may compete with only one school Cheerleading team in any given school year, but one school may have one team in each competitive category. Teams may compete in one competitive category as well as Game Day.
- C. A school's Cheerleading team shall be the same group that cheers for the school during athletic contests throughout the year. Association Cheerleading competitions are designed as an enhancement to the season and it is not intended that cheerleaders separate themselves from supporting the interscholastic athletic program.
- D. Students from more than one school within the same Zone may form a single competitive team. Participation of this nature may only occur with the consent of the participating school Principals, the Athletic Directors and the respective Zone.

3. Representation to Provincials

- A. Each Zone may select a **maximum of two teams in each category** to attend Provincials. In the event that all ACA tie-breaking methods have been exhausted at a Zone championship, all teams placing with the top two scores will qualify to compete at the Provincial Championship. In the event that a category has fewer than six teams registered, the ASAA Commissioner in concert with the ACA judging director will review the Zone competition scores and invite the next highest ranking team(s) until six berths are filled. This process will occur for each category. If a category still has fewer than three teams registered, that category will be cancelled for the immediate Provincials.
- B. In addition to 3.A. above, the host school automatically qualifies to compete in each category that the school is registered in at the Provincial competition, allowing for a maximum of three teams (see 3.A for the allowance for tied teams) from their Zone in each

classification if the host school does not make the top two in their Zone championship.

4. Scoring

- A. The ASAA Cheerleading Provincial competition is a two-day best total points competition. One competition is to be held on the Friday afternoon and the second on the Saturday afternoon.
- B. School Cheer teams will be judged using the ACA School score sheets.
- C. Scoring Process: All penalties given during the competition routine will be deducted from the total score to calculate the team's final scores.
- D. Tie Breaker Policy:
 - i. The team with fewer penalties
 - ii. If the teams are still tied, they will be considered tied in the final rankings
 - iii. In the event that all ACA tie-breaking methods have been exhausted at the championship, awards will be given to all teams with the top three scores.
- E. At the Provincial competition an award (plaque) shall be given to the best novice team in the competition according to the following criteria:
 - i. The team is competing in their first Provincial competition within the last decade.
 - ii. The team has the highest score of the eligible teams in any category.
 - iii. In the event of a tie, tied teams will all receive plaques.
 - iv. In the event that there is no team competing in their first Provincial competition, teams that are competing in their second Provincial competition in the last decade will be considered.
- F. SCORE CHECK: All Provincial Championships will have a Score Check station in place.
- G. All judging decisions are final. If there is a concern regarding the judging results, the following steps should be taken:
 - i. If a designated Score Check system is in place at an ACA-sanctioned event, all appeals relating to scores from the event should be directed to the Score Check Judge on the day of the event.
 - ii. Direct verbal confrontation of the judges or Technical Coordinator is considered inappropriate and such actions could result in suspension from future ACA-sanctioned events.

5. Officials

- A. Teams will be judged by a minimum of three (3) Panel Judges and one (1) Safety Judge/Timer for each panel. There will also be one (1) additional Score Check Judge for a Score Check station. Where possible, an additional Safety Judge will also be present during warm-up times to advise on any rule infractions. In the event that there is only one panel of judges, a second Safety Judge must be assigned so that there are two Safety Judges present at all

host school with the advice of the Cheerleading Commissioner and the ACA Technical Coordinator based on the number of teams competing. Judges for Zone and Provincial competition shall be chosen by the ACA Technical Coordinator.

- B. The ASAA recognizes the ACA as the official training and certifying agency for the Cheerleading judges in Alberta. The ASAA Cheerleading host will use only ACA- approved judges at the ASAA Provincial Championships. These judges must have participated in an ACA recognized judges clinic within the current competitive season.

6. Medical

- A. A medical advisor (e.g., St. John's, athletic therapist, etc.) shall be provided at Provincial competition by the host Committee.

