



## 2022 Rule Change Summary

### Cheer

Change From	Change To
Old Formatting	Included Cover Page, Table of Contents. See date change at footer to reflect October 2022
Title: Competitive Cheer Sport Rules	<b>CHANGE:</b> Cheer Sport Rules
<p>2. OFFICIAL EVENTS</p> <p>2.1 Competitive Cheer</p> <p>2.1.1 Individual Skills Competition</p> <p>2.1.2 Team Competition</p> <p>2.1.3 Unified Sports Team Competition</p>	<p><b>CHANGE:</b> Separation of Cheerleading &amp; Performance Cheer in 2.1 Competitive Cheer.</p> <p>2.1. Competitive Cheer: The range of events is intended to offer competition opportunities of all abilities. Programs may determine the events offered and, if required, guidelines for the management of those events. Coaches are responsible for providing training and event selection appropriate to each athlete's skill and interest. The following is a list of official events available in Special Olympics.</p> <p><b>2.1.1. CHEERLEADING (Skill Levels: Introductory-Intermediate / Competition Format: Routine, Game Day)</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1.1 Individual Skills Competition</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1.2. Team Competition (Includes Doubles &amp; all Team sizes. See ICU Rules)</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1.3. Unified Sports Team Competition</b></p> <p><b>2.1.2. PERFORMANCE CHEER (Genres: Pom, Hip Hop, Jazz, High Kick, Mixed / Competition Format: Routine, Game Day)</b></p> <p><b>2.1.2.1. Individual Skills Competition</b></p> <p><b>2.1.2.2. Team Competition (Includes Doubles &amp; all Team sizes. See ICU Rules)</b></p> <p><b>2.1.2.3. Unified Sports Team Competition</b></p>



<p><b>2. OFFICIAL EVENTS</b></p> <p>2.2 Non-Competitive Cheer: A Special Olympics Program may choose to offer a non-competitive cheer option which provides the opportunity for cheering and performing at Special Olympics competitions, special events and community - based events such as walks, races, high school games, etc. Providing non-competitive cheer opportunities can help generate awareness and contribute to the growth of a Competitive Cheer program.</p>	<p><b>ADD:</b> Addition of events under Non-competitive cheer.</p> <p>2.2 Non-Competitive Cheer: A Special Olympics Program may choose to offer a non - competitive cheer option which provides the opportunity for cheering and performing at Special Olympics competitions, special events and community - based events such as walks, races, high school games, etc. Providing non - competitive cheer opportunities can help generate awareness and contribute to the growth of a Competitive Cheer program. <b>The following is a list of official events available in Special Olympics.</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1 CHEERLEADING (Skill Levels: Introductory-Intermediate)</b></p> <p><b>2.2.2 PERFORMANCE CHEER (Genres: Pom, Hip Hop, Jazz, High Kick, Mixed)</b></p>
<p>Previous Section 3 – Individuals Skills Competition moves to Section 6.</p>	<p><b>ADD:</b> Section 3 – Team Size</p> <p><b>3. TEAM SIZE</b></p> <p><b>3.1. Team Size: Team roster size can be adjusted based on individual program and event organizer preferences. For Cheerleading &amp; Performance Cheer. SOI recommended team sizes are as follows:</b></p> <p><b>3.1.1. Individual: One (1) athlete.</b></p> <p><b>3.1.2. Doubles: Two (2) athletes.</b></p> <p><b>3.1.3. Small: Minimum of four (4) and maximum of fifteen (15)</b></p> <p><b>3.1.4. Large: Minimum of sixteen (16) and maximum of twenty-four (24)</b></p>
	<p><b>DELETE:</b> Section 4 – Team Competition</p> <p><b>ADD:</b> Section 4 – Divisioning</p>



	<p><b>4. DIVISIONING</b></p> <p>4.1. The purpose of Divisioning is grouping Competitive Cheer athletes or teams by age, gender and ability giving everyone a reasonable chance to win. Refer to SOI Divisioning <a href="https://resources.specialolympics.org/sports-essentials/divisioning">https://resources.specialolympics.org/sports-essentials/divisioning</a>.</p>
<p>5. Unified Sports Team Competition</p> <p>5.1 Team competing in this category should follow the Unified Sports Competitive Model. The ratio of athletes to Unified partners must be 1:1. In the event of an odd-numbered team, there must be one less Unified partner than total number of athletes. Refer to Section 14 of Article 1 for additional clarification of Unified Sports.</p> <p>5.2. Team Size: Team roster size can be adjusted based on individual program preferences. SOI recommended team sizes are as follows:</p> <p>5.2.1. Small: minimum of 4 and maximum of 15</p> <p>5.2.2. Large: minimum of 16 and maximum of 24</p> <p>5.3. Special Olympics Unified partners should not perform any skills above the level of the Special Olympics athletes on the team.</p> <p>5.4. Introductory (Pre-Level 0   Non-Build &amp; Non-Tumble)</p> <p>5.4.1. Routine</p> <p>5.4.2. Game Day</p> <p>5.4.2.1. Sideline</p> <p>5.4.2.2. Time Out</p> <p>5.4.2.3. Fight Song</p> <p>5.4.2.4. Cheer</p> <p>5.4.2.5. Chant</p> <p>5.5. Beginner (Level 0)</p> <p>5.5.1. Routine</p> <p>5.5.2. Game Day</p> <p>5.5.2.1. Sideline</p>	<p><b>CHANGE:</b> Revision of language and removal of routine content of section 5 – Unified Sports Team Competition</p> <p>5. Unified Sports Team Competition</p> <p>5.1 Team competing in this category should follow the Unified Sports Competitive Model. The ratio of athletes to Unified partners must be 1:1. In the event of an odd - numbered team, there must be one less Unified partner than total number of athletes. <del>In the event of an odd-numbered team, there must be one less Unified partner than total number of athletes.</del> Refer to Section 14 of Article 1 for additional clarification of Unified Sports.</p>



<p>5.5.2.2. Time Out  5.5.2.3. Fight Song  5.5.2.4. Cheer  5.5.2.5. Band Chant  5.6. Novice (Level 1)  5.6.1. Routine  5.6.2. Game Day  5.6.2.1. Sideline  April 26, 2019  5.6.2.2. Time Out  5.6.2.3. Fight Song  5.6.2.4. Cheer  5.6.2.5. Band Chant  5.7. Intermediate (Level 2)  5.7.1. Routine  5.7.2. Game Day  5.7.2.1. Sideline  5.7.2.2. Time Out  5.7.2.3. Fight Song  5.7.2.4. Cheer  5.7.2.5. Band Chant</p>	
<p>Section 3 – Individual Skills Competition  3.1 The purpose of the individual skills competition is to allow athletes to train and compete in basic cheerleading skills at the Introductory, Beginner, Novice, or Intermediate category. The skills assessed are motions, crowd leading, and incorporations.  3.2. Motion  3.3. Crowd Leading: Game Day – Sideline  3.3.1. Athlete performs a situational and repetitive chant with motions and simple skills to encourage the crowd.  3.4. Incorporation  3.4.1. Use of poms, signs, or megaphones.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE:</b> Section 6 – Individual Skills Competition (Cheerleading &amp; Performance Cheer)  6.1. The purpose of the individual skills competition is to allow athletes to train and compete in basic <b>Cheer cheerleading</b> skills <b>as follows:</b> at the Introductory, Beginner, Novice, or Intermediate category. <b>The skills assessed are motions, crowd leading, and incorporations.</b>  6.1.1. <b>Cheerleading Introductory, Beginner, Novice, or Intermediate category</b>  6.1.2. <b>Performance Cheer: Pom, Hip Hop, Jazz, High Kick, Mixed genres</b>  6.2. <b>Crowd Leading and/or Crowd Appeal</b>  6.3. <b>Skills Incorporation</b></p>



<p>3.4.2. Use of skills as jumps, tumbling, motions, and dance.</p>	<p>6.4. Scoring will be based on team scoring fundamentals.</p>
	<p><b>ADD:</b> Section 7 – Non-Competitive Cheer (Cheerleading &amp; Performance Cheer)</p> <p>7.1. A Special Olympics Program may choose to offer a non - competitive cheer option, for Special Olympics Traditional and/or Unified Teams, which provides the opportunity for cheering and performing at Special Olympics competitions, special events, all sporting events, and community - based events such as walks, races, high school games, etc. Providing non - competitive cheer opportunities can help generate awareness and contribute to the growth of a Competitive Cheer program.</p> <p>7.2. Non-Competitive Cheerleading: All safety rules apply; team size &amp; composition is open to the discretion of the team director within Special Olympics Guidelines. Team skill levels may range from the Introductory -Intermediate within accordance of the ICU Rules.</p> <p>7.3. Non-Competitive Performance Cheer: All safety rules apply; team size &amp; composition is open to the discretion of the team director within Special Olympics Guidelines. Team skill may range within the genres of Pom, Hip Hop, Jazz and/or High Kick within accordance of the ICU Rules.</p>