



# WORLDS INFORMATION PACKAGE



Best of the West is excited to be offering 3 Bids to Worlds!! We are eligible to give out 1 partially paid bid, worth \$5,000USD and 2 at large bids. Below is the information in regards to the bids and how teams will be scored . Should you have any questions after reading this please contact us at info @ bestofthewestcheer.com.

## BEST OF THE WEST SPECIFIC INFORMATION

### JUDGING PANEL

The judging group will consist of: 5-6 SCA certified judges and 2-3 Safety Judges.

### SCORE SHEET

Cheer Canada Scoring Sheets/System will be used for all Divisions. For more information on the score sheets please visit [Cheer Canada](#).

### WEIGHTING OF RUNS

The runs scores will be added together and weighted 50/50. This means both runs count fully to the final score.

### RANKING

Best of the West contains a wide range of qualifying divisions, each with the opportunity to secure a bid to Worlds . As these divisions are not directly comparable , the selection process takes into account multiple factors to determine the recipients of the bids. BOTW does not guarantee bids to the highest raw scoring teams , rather to the team (s) that will best represent BOTW based on scores , deductions and judge recommendations.

In the event of a tie, the following tie breaking steps (in order of priority) shall be followed:

- a. Team with the highest unweighted Performance score
- b. Team with the least overall deductions
- c. Team with the least legality deductions
- d. Team with highest overall difficulty score
- e. Judges will be polled. Majority rules.

### WORLDS BID BANNERS

The worlds bid banners will be given to the teams which accept a Worlds Bid. The banners will be handed out to the teams at the competition however if the team chooses to decline the bid must return the banner to be given to the next team in line for the award.

### PLEASE REVIEW GENERAL WORLDS INFORMATION DIRECT FROM IASF

The following pages are pages 6-12 from the IASF Cheerleading Worlds Registration Information & Competition Guidelines



## THE BID PROCESS

Event producers will 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.

In order to receive a bid to The Cheerleading Worlds or The Dance Worlds, you must be a registered and insured business known as an All Star gym, dance studio and/or a club. Bids are designated for teams from a single **All Star gym, studio or club that have competed and qualified in the IASF Worlds divisions** at an approved IASF Worlds qualifier.

## PAID BIDS, PARTIAL-PAID BIDS

Bids are awarded at The Cheerleading Worlds qualifying events. Each event producer that hosts a Worlds bid-qualifying event has the discretion to select the processes by which the bids are awarded.

- **Paid bid** sponsors may award up to \$25,000 per team or \$650 per athlete and two coaches on a bid-winning team.
- **Partial-paid bid** sponsors may award up to a \$5000 maximum per team or \$325 per athlete and two coaches on a bid-winning team.

**EXAMPLE:** A paid/partial-paid bid-winning team that had two coaches and 31 athletes on the floor at the bid-winning event may be awarded up to \$21,450 (\$650 x 33). Sponsorship funds should not be considered as prize money; instead, they are intended to cover expenses related to the team's participation in The Cheerleading Worlds, such as the Worlds registration package, lodging and transportation to Orlando.

Paid/partial-paid funds are for athletes who will be on the floor during the team's performance at The Cheerleading Worlds. Reserve athletes or coaches brought to substitute for unplanned occurrences are not funded by paid/partial-paid bids. Should a substitute and/or an alternate become necessary after submission of a team's Worlds roster and after travel plans have been approved and confirmed, any additional costs associated with those substitution(s) must be paid by the club.

**NOTE:** In the event of The Cheerleading Worlds being canceled, sponsorship funds must be reimbursed to the awarding event producer. Any additional expenses arising from this situation will be the responsibility of the respective team or club. Event producers shall not assume responsibility for late fees should their representing team fail to meet registration deadlines. Similarly, event producers will not be accountable for additional change fees should the representing team need to make alterations to their initial registration or travel plans.

## AT-LARGE BIDS

At-large bids are generally awarded to runner-up teams or teams scoring next highest to the paid-bid-winning team(s). Recipients of at-large bids must pay for their own Worlds registration packages and all other related expenses.

## RECEIVING A BID

Bid winners are required to confirm their acceptance within **72 hours** following the conclusion of the bid-receiving event. Consequently, teams participating in a Worlds bid-qualifying event must make critical decisions in advance, including their commitment to accepting a bid, the roster of participants and travel arrangements. This tight timeframe serves the purpose of minimizing last-minute alterations that can escalate expenses and disrupt the overall travel process.

## ACCEPTING A BID

To accept a bid, the club must return the *Bid Winners Acceptance Form* and/or giving verbal approval to the sponsoring event producer with 72 hours after the last day of the bid-receiving event.

Once a team accepts a bid, all required registration materials must be completed by the deadlines noted on page 23 of this guide. Any team holding its registration past the deadline in hopes of receiving a paid/partial-paid bid at a later Worlds bid qualifier, but is ultimately unsuccessful in achieving one, will be charged a late registration fee.

Bids that are not accepted or declined by the deadline may be transferred to an alternate team at the sponsoring event producer's discretion. The sponsoring event producer may not transfer (hand down) any unaccepted or declined at-large bid after 96 hours from the last day of the qualifying event.

## TEAM REQUIREMENTS

IASF Worlds teams:

- must represent an IASF club;
- must be accompanied by an eligible IASF coach to enter warm-up areas; and
- may not compete in the same division at The Cheerleading Worlds and also at a 2024 end-of-season, multi-brand event.

## TEAM BID LIMITATIONS

A team is limited to accepting only one bid for The Cheerleading Worlds within a specific division. If a team has accepted a bid and intends to compete for an **upgraded** bid (e.g., from an at-large bid to a paid bid), no formal declination is necessary. However, if a team chooses to vie for a **similar** bid (e.g., from at-large to at-large or from paid to paid), they must officially **DECLINE** the original bid no later than **11pm EST** on the Friday night before the event begins.

The process to **DECLINE** a bid includes:

1. writing to the sponsoring event producer and
2. writing to the IASF Director, Jibreel Rayam, [jibreel@iasfworlds.com](mailto:jibreel@iasfworlds.com).

## CHEER ATHLETE BID LIMITATIONS

- An athlete may qualify for Worlds with **only one** gym in the same World's season. **Exceptions** will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be presented to the IASF director within 60 days before the World Championships.
- Athletes within the same club are limited to the number of teams on which they are eligible to compete and earn paid or partial-paid bids.
- Once an athlete has competed on a team and earned a paid, partial-paid or at-large bid, they are permitted to move to another team within their club. If their second team earns a bid, they are bound to the second team and may only compete with the second team at Worlds. They no longer are eligible to compete with the first team once the second team is awarded a bid.
- The number of athletes that have already earned a paid/partial-paid bid that are eligible to compete for and be awarded a paid/partial-paid bid on a second team is limited: IASF division teams may have up to four athletes that were previously awarded a paid/partial-paid bid.

## 50% ROSTER, TEAM SIZE POLICY

Rosters may change up to 50 percent within the division you have won your bid in. Fifty percent of the athletes from the original roster that earned the worlds bid, must remain on the roster for the 2024 World Championships

EXAMPLE: A team of 14 athletes can change seven of those athletes after tryouts to maintain the 50 percent. Season 2 programs that have tryouts after receiving their Worlds bid(s), may add to the roster as long as 50 percent of the original roster is maintained.

Programs must notify the EP if their roster changes so a NEW IASF roster can be submitted to the IASF.

## ORIGINAL TEAM MEMBERS

Original team members are athletes who were on the floor AND included on the official team roster associated with the event where their bid was awarded. It is important to ensure your roster is true and accurate before submitting it to the bid-giving event and the Worlds events.

**NOTE:** Exceptions to this policy may be considered for VISA-based countries who are experiencing long waits for visa appointments due to the pandemic. Teams with original team members on their rosters due to VISA complications should contact the IASF for approval.

## SUBSTITUTES, ALTERNATES AT BID-EVENTS

All athletes competing at a bid-qualifying event must be listed on the official roster as active athletes and compete on Day 1. Should a team need to make substitutions on Day 2 of the event, they are allowed to replace a limited number of active athletes with reserve athletes for the second performance. The maximum number of substitutions allowed per team on Day 2 is limited:

### NOTES:

- The team coach is responsible for communicating any replacements or substitutions from Day 1 to Day 2 to the event producer.
- The event producer will note any changes made from Day 1 to Day 2 on the roster that was submitted by the team.
- Day 2 substitutions must meet all athlete eligibility requirements to compete with the said team.
- Athletes that took the floor on Day 1 with the bid-winning team will be considered original team members on the Worlds Roster.
- Reserve athletes that took the floor on Day 2 with the bid-winning team are eligible substitutes on the Worlds Roster.

## SUBSTITUTES, ALTERNATES AT WORLDS

Each team must submit their official team roster for The Cheerleading Worlds. The club is permitted to replace original team members with substitutes and wild card alternates (reserves) so long as they do not increase the total number of athletes on the team and they follow the guidelines outlined herein.

## SUBSTITUTION RULE

A substitute must be a regular-paid athlete from the same club, on a different team, and have competed on the floor for that club at the same event where the bid was awarded. All substitutes must meet the same eligibility requirements as those of the original bid-winning event. The maximum number of substitutions allowed per team at The Cheerleading Worlds is limited:

- IASF Open Division – 8 (season 1 countries)\*
- IASF Open Division – 12 (season 2 countries)\*
- IASF Global Club Division – 8 (season 1 countries)\*
- IASF Global Club Division – 12 (season 2 countries)\*
- IASF Non Tumbling Division – 10 (season 1 countries)\*
- IASF Non Tumbling Division – 15 (season 2 countries)\*

\*Refer to [IASFworlds.net](https://iasfworlds.net) for season descriptions.

## RESERVE ATHLETES ON THE WORLDS ROSTER

- Alternates, substitutes and reserve athletes on a roster will be considered a potential participant of the World Championships and must pay the registration fee by the time the roster is verified.
- Alternate and substitute athletes (reserves) must meet age grid criteria for the rostered team and are the only athletes eligible to serve as substitutes for that team, if needed for any reason.
- An athlete attending The Cheerleading Worlds exclusively as a reserve athlete may be listed on more than one team roster within the same club.
- Once the reserve athlete is moved to active, they are no longer eligible to serve as a reserve athlete on any other team. The club must notify a Worlds official of the athlete replacement (moving athlete from reserve to active) prior to the team and the athlete taking the floor. Please allow adequate time for a Worlds official to verify eligibility.
- Reserve athletes must be competition-ready and in the venue where the team is competing. If an injury occurs, reserve athletes may be used, as needed, as long as they meet eligibility requirements, are listed on the roster and have been approved during the roster verification appointment. Reserve athletes must report, be ready to warm up and compete with the team, within 15 minutes of the injury.

## CROSSOVERS

Crossovers of athletes between teams from the same club are NOT permitted. Crossovers of athletes between clubs are NOT permitted. Crossovers of athletes between cheer and dance teams from the same or different clubs are NOT permitted. In other words, a performer may represent only one team in cheer or one club in dance.

## U.S.-BASED TEAMS COMPETING IN IASF DIVISIONS

U.S.-based teams competing in IASF divisions must associate their official USASF roster through their member profile to the Worlds bid-giving event. All U.S.-based cheer athletes (original team members, alternates, substitutes) must be athlete members to join the team in the warm-up room and compete at Worlds.

## NON-U.S.-BASED TEAMS

All non-U.S.-based teams must submit a completed International team roster. This document is available to print at [IASFworlds.net](https://www.iasfworlds.net). Copies of each athlete's birth certificate or passport must be with the team coach/representative at all times and readily available upon request by a Worlds official. Proof-of-age documents stored on a USB/zip drive are acceptable.

## PRELIMS, SEMIFINALS, FINALS

Competition officials reserve the right to amend the order of events and/or divisions based upon final registration for The Cheerleading Worlds.

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Competition officials reserve the right to amend the order of events and/or divisions based upon final registration for The Cheerleading Worlds.

- **U.S. teams with at-large bids** in **U18NT-6**, **U18CNT-6** and **IOCNT-6** divisions will compete in a **preliminary round** Friday, April 26, 2024.
- The top 10 prelim teams will advance to the semifinal round on Saturday to compete among paid-bid teams in those divisions.
- Prelim teams advancing to semifinals will be reverse-seeded and spread among the paid-bid teams within the performance order.
- Scores do not carry over from one round to the next.
- The top three teams from each country will advance from semifinals to finals.
- The performance order for finals will be reverse-seeded based on semifinal results.

### NOTES:

- If 40 or more teams compete in a division's preliminary round, 15 will move to the semifinal round.
- If 40 or more teams compete in a division's semifinal round, 15 will move to the final round.

## CANADIAN WORLDS TRIALS

### SEMIFINALS

The **semifinal rounds** for the following divisions will be declared the Canadian Worlds Trials for Canadian teams:

- Saturday, April 27: **U18-5**, **IO-5**, **IOSC5**, and **IOCNT-6**.
- Sunday, April 28: **IONT-6**

The top three Canadian teams will progress to finals and receive trophies and gold, silver and bronze medallions.

### FINALS

The top three Canadian teams from the following divisions will progress to **finals** to compete among the top three teams from other countries as follows:

- Sunday, April 28: **IOCNT-6**
- Monday, April 29: **U18-5**, **IO-5**, **IOSC-5**, and **IONT-6**

## U.S. WORLDS TRIALS

### SEMIFINALS

The **semifinal rounds** for the following divisions will be declared the U.S. Worlds Trials:

- Saturday, April 27: **U18NT-6**, **U18CNT-6**, and **IOCNT-6**. This round will include paid-bid U.S. teams and the top 10 U.S. teams from prelims the previous day.
- Sunday, April 28: **IONT-6**

The top three U.S. teams will progress to finals and receive trophies and gold, silver and bronze medallions. Teams placing fourth through 10th in each division above will receive trophies.

### FINALS

The top three U.S. teams for the following divisions will progress to **finals** to compete among the top three teams from other countries as follows:

- Sunday, April 28: **U18NT-6**, **U18CNT-6**, and **IOCNT-6**
- Monday, April 29: **IONT-6**

## SCORING

Scores DO NOT carry over from the preliminary to the semifinal round, nor from the semifinal to final round.

# ROSTER, MUSIC VERIFICATION

## ROSTER VERIFICATION APPOINTMENTS

### SCHEDULING

- You will receive an email from [admin@iasfworlds.com](mailto:admin@iasfworlds.com) regarding the enhanced safeguard and roster verification process.
- Appointments will be scheduled 9am-6pm, **April 23-26** only.
- No appointments will be offered nor rosters approved on Saturday.
- IASF appointments will be held at the **All Star Resort-Celebrity Hall**.
- All programs must use the link provided in the email to complete the ROSTER VERIFICATION FORM and to upload the required information.
- A verification appointment will be confirmed after all approved paperwork is verified via email.

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

### WHAT TO EXPECT DURING YOUR APPOINTMENT

#### ROSTER VERIFICATION

- Your roster will be checked against the roster that was certified by the bid-awarding event producer. Additionally, the following areas will be reviewed:

##### Athletes

- All athletes listed on the official Worlds roster.
- Correct number of females/males per team.
- Reserve athletes are listed and follow substitution/alternate rules as stated on page 6.
- REMINDER: Athlete IDs will be checked upon warm-up entry.
- REMINDER: ALL athletes on U.S.- based teams in Open divisions (*any division that does not have a top age*) must complete abuse prevention education.

##### Coaches

- All coaches and club owners listed on the official Worlds roster.
  - Coaches and club owners must have coach ID cards and appropriate lanyards for warm-up room entry.
  - ID cards for coaches and personnel will be issued AFTER roster verification to registered adults who are:
    - paid in-full; and
    - listed on the team roster.
  - The minimum age for a coach at The Cheerleading Worlds is 16 years of age.
  - NEW: COACH CREDENTIALING REQUIRED FOR IASF WORLDS CHEER COACHES**  
IASF coach credentials and/or approved coach credentials are required for all IASF Worlds cheer coaches. These credentials should align with or exceed the level of the team they are coaching, which is essential for roster verification. For more details on coach credentialing requirements, please visit [iasfworlds.net/#credentialing](https://iasfworlds.net/#credentialing), where information will be accessible starting Jan. 15, 2024.
  - Club owners who do not possess the appropriate level of building or tumbling credentials may enter warm-up rooms with credentialed coaches but are strictly prohibited from coaching in the warm-up rooms and backstage areas.
- Once verified by a Worlds official, the roster will be locked and considered your official Worlds roster and will be used during the athlete ID check prior to your team entering the warm-up room.
  - Changes made after roster verification must be reported to and verified by your [jibreel@iasfworlds.com](mailto:jibreel@iasfworlds.com).

#### MUSIC VERIFICATION

The music verification process requires that you:

- complete a form to declare that your music is copyright compliant and
- show all applicable licenses and receipts as they pertain to your routine music.

# WARM-UP ROOM, BACKSTAGE ACCESS POLICY

- **Worlds team rosters must include** all participants who plan to enter the warm-up room with a team preparing to compete: club owners, coaches, choreographers, athletic trainers, personnel, athletes and alternate/substitute athletes.
- **Failure to produce proper credentials and identification** will prohibit entry into the warm-up area. Unauthorized entry into the warm-up area will result in immediate disciplinary action.
- **Prohibited from entry into warm-up rooms:** Children not rostered as athletes or reserves, VIPs, team photographers and media

## COACH, PERSONNEL ENTRY

- The verified team roster will be used at warm-up check-in each time the team enters.
- Teams should line up in alphabetical order by first name behind the coach.
- Coaches must have a photo of each athlete's passport on their phone to present upon entry.
- Coaches and personnel will be verified first with their IASF ID in hand.
- Coaches must have appropriate cheer coach credentials as detailed on page 10.
- Coaches and club owners must wear Worlds lanyards.

## ATHLETES

Athletes do not need to carry their passports to warm-ups. Coaches and/or personnel should have a photo of each athlete's passport on their phone to present upon warm-up room entry.

- Teams should line up in alphabetical order by first name behind the coach.
- A Worlds official will verify each athlete and their photo against the roster.
- Athletes must wear Worlds athlete lanyards.
- Alternate and substitute athletes (reserves) must meet the age grid criteria for the rostered team.
- Reserve athletes must be registered and paid athletes of The Cheerleading Worlds.
- Reserve athletes must be on the official roster to be allowed in the warm-up room.
- Reserve athletes must be competition-ready and in the venue where the team is competing.
- If an injury occurs, reserve athletes may be used, as needed, as long as they meet eligibility requirements, are listed on the roster and have been approved during the roster verification appointment. Reserve athletes must report, be ready to warm up and compete with the team, within 15 minutes of the injury.

### IF AN ATHLETE SHOWS UP WITHOUT THE PROPER ID

- A Worlds official will take a picture of the athlete.
- The team will be permitted to warm up and take the floor at the scheduled times.
- Following the performance, the team will have one hour to provide proper verification or will be disqualified from the event.

## VISA REQUEST DEADLINE

International visa requests must be received and processed in the Worlds office by **Feb. 1, 2024**.

For visa assistance, send the following information in an excel document to **Karl Olson**, [karl@cheerunion.org](mailto:karl@cheerunion.org): a complete roster with the following information for each applicant:

1. Full name (as it appears in their passport).
2. Date of birth.
3. Role on team (athlete, coach, team manager, etc.).
4. Gender.
5. Embassy location.
6. Specify if an appointment exists.
7. Specify if the request is for a renewal or new visa.

Include a complete IASF team roster and designate which individuals need assistance with visa letter support. Visa requests should be sent by the bid-winning event producers on behalf of the entire team. This should not be submitted by individuals.



# YELLOW, RED CARD IASF DISCIPLINARY PROCESS



## Caution

Unsportsmanlike conduct  
Disrespecting staff  
Violating warm-up room eligibility

## Warning

Aggressive behavior  
Physical or verbal intimidation  
Racially insensitive behavior

## Official Removal

Assault  
Warnings that resulted in a red card  
Two yellow cards

## JURISDICTION

- Athlete/coach check-in
- Warm-up room
- Competition floor
- Score review
- Awards ceremony

## DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

- **YELLOW CARD:** first offense.
- Two **YELLOW CARDS** = **RED CARD**.
- **RED CARD:** Ineligible to participate any further in the event and will have lanyards removed.
- IASF warning is specific to physical or verbal aggression and gives the Worlds official the latitude to warn, remove and/or recommend disciplinary review.

