



MCCA's Great Minnesota Cheer Off

(NFHS Rules will be followed for this event)

This event was started in 2004 to provide a forum for our sport and sideline cheer teams to be evaluated on what they do. It is designed to be a contest or challenge for non competition cheerleaders. This is not for competitive teams. Although teams that compete in the traditional format can enter if they also cheer for sports teams. Online registration must be completed 10 days prior to the Regional Qualifier. Early registration is highly recommended. Payment should be mailed at the time of registration. Registration is not considered complete until payment is received.

Regional Qualifying Rounds: There will be regional qualifying rounds at various places throughout the state. Although they are called “Regionals” any Minnesota school team can enter any regional. A team can enter as many Regionals as they would like to qualify for the Finals. All teams will be charged the full per team member fee for the first regional and if they choose to attend a second, it will be half price.

Regional Advancement: Any varsity team that accomplishes the following will advance to the state finals:

- 1-3 Teams in a division = 1 team moves to finals.
- 4-5 Teams in a division = 2 teams move on to finals.
- 6-7 Teams in a division = 3 teams move on to finals.
- 8+ Teams in a division = 4 teams move on to finals.
- Any team that finishes with 80% or higher on their score sheet will also move on

Teams that qualify will be announced in random order.

Awards: Awards will be given and distributed as follows:

- Regionals: If you qualify for finals using the format above you will receive an award.
- State:
 - 1-3 Teams in a division = 1st place award.
 - 4-5 Teams in a division = 1st & 2nd place awards
 - 6-7 Teams in a division = 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards
 - 8+ Teams in a division = 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place awards

Divisions:

Non Varsity (JV/Middle School) - Will be held at the Regional level only. (This could be divided up by levels if there are enough entrants.) Places will be awarded at the regional level since only Varsity teams will advance to the State Finals.

Varsity – The cheer off has divided into two classes: Class A (1-1000 students 9-12) and Class AA (1001-4000+ students in 9-12).

Only Varsity teams can qualify for the State Finals. More than one varsity team from a school can enter and qualify for the finals. The teams must specify for which sport they cheer. (eg, girls basketball, boys hockey, soccer, or fall or winter if there is only one squad/team at a school) However, each cheerleader cannot participate in more than one sideline team from a season. (eg,

the same girl could be on the football and basketball squad, but not on the football and volleyball squad.)

Team Size: Any number, may include mascots.

Cost: * \$12 per individual entered in the Regional Qualifying Rounds.

* A \$25 per team late fee will be due if registration is submitted less than a week prior to the Regional Qualifying Round your attending.

*The finals are at no cost for the qualifying teams!

Registration: Registration is online. Fees for multiple teams can be combined into one check from each school/booster club or coach. Please no multiple checks from individual participants.

Format: There are three cheer skills sections: Game Situation Chant, worth 25 points; Time Out Cheer, worth 40 points; and School Song, worth 25 points. There is an overall effect category also worth 10 points. The totals will be averaged so that the total score a team receives is out of 100 points.

Procedure:

1-Enter and stand in a sideline formation.

2-A game situation in the sport of your choice will be read by the announcer.

-Team will perform a sideline chant appropriate for the situation 3 to 5 times through.

- There is to be no stunting/tumbling during this section.

3-After spiring, your team will then be prompted to perform a crowd cheer, it will be timed, no longer than 1 minute in length. The team may use signs, stunts, props, etc.

(Mats will not be provided!)

4-Your team will then be prompted to perform your school song. This can be done with or without music, but you must say the words.

Tumbling, stunts, pyramids are allowed in the floor cheer and school song section only, however they should enhance, not distract from the crowd leading. In this competition, judges are looking at what would be effective at a game. Pom, megaphones, flags, and signs are permitted for each phase of the performance, but not required. There will be no spotters provided and no mats - just like at a real game! Any type of sideline team can enter: Hockey, Wrestling, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, fall or winter sideline team. The situation will be appropriate for your sport.

The following rules apply to all rounds of the Great Minnesota Cheer Off:

1. Current NFHS Spirit Rules

2. MSHSL Rules for participation in extracurricular activities

3. Fingernails must be cut so they are not visible over the finger tips when viewed from the palm side at face level.

4. Hair that touches the shoulders or eyes when unrestrained must be tightly held in a pony tail or braid. This includes hair than can touch an eye when left dangling around face.

Performance:

- All teams that place first at the State finals will be invited to the All Star High School football game held at TCF Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the end of June. If your team places in one of these spots please plan on attending.