

2012 MCCA State Cheerleading Competition

Saturday, January 28th, 2012

Roy Wilkins Auditorium, St. Paul

INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

Coaches

MCCA member coaches will be admitted without charge to the event; however all non-member coaches must be preregistered and pay a \$10 fee for the day. Any coaches who are not prepaid and registered will need to purchase a ticket at the spectator door. These coaches will not be given access to the competition floor or the back staging areas. **Please plan accordingly and register all coaches ahead of time.**

Team Members/Alternates

All team members and alternates listed on the team roster who have paid the registration fee will be allowed entrance into the competition. In the event a fee has not been paid for a team member or alternate this must be paid at the team door before they will be admitted. Each team member, including alternates, should complete a waiver form to be on file and be listed on the team roster. Please note the number of team members and alternates you register is the number used when ordering medals.

Parent Volunteers

Due to the age of some of our participants, teams registered for the **Elementary and Middle School Divisions** will be allowed to register and prepay parent volunteers to enter and work with the team. These parents will have access to the areas designated for teams and coaches only and will be the only parents allowed in these areas. Each team registered for this division may register and pay for **1 parent** for every **6 team members**. **This must be done with your team registration, not at the door the day of the event.**

Participant Waivers

The MCCA Participant Waiver can be found on our website and printed off for each of your participants to complete. **All waivers need to be received by Saturday, January 21st 2012 to avoid a \$25 processing fee.** **Waivers can be mailed to MCCA Waivers, PO Box 211277 Eagan, MN 55121 or scanned and emailed to waivers@mccacheer.com.** Coaches please make sure all required information such as insurance company and policy number and the appropriate signatures are complete.

Team Rosters

Please fill out a roster for each team that will be competing. Be sure to include all coaches, team members, alternates, and managers on the form. This form is used to verify total payment due, to verify all waivers are on file and complete, and will be used the day of the competition at check-in. **NOTE: If a change to your roster occurs after submission, the Event Director, Becky Stephens, must be contacted 24 hours in advance of the competition. In the event of a last minute injury, illness, or emergency situation occurring less than 24 hours prior to the competition, notification can be made on site the day of the event.**

Make sure to include grade and birth date for all participants. GPA is optional, but highly encouraged for all High School teams, as we will be recognizing teams who have a average GPA of 3.0 or higher throughout the day. In addition this will enter your team for the RAH Award.

This form must also be signed by your school principal, athletic director or Community Ed Director AND the head coach verifying all team members are eligible to compete.

TEAM CHECK-IN

When you arrive at Roy Wilkins Auditorium, coaches, team members, and parent volunteers should enter and check-in at the 5th Street entrance. MCCA Member coaches, prepaid non-member coaches, prepaid parent volunteers, registered team members, and 1 bus driver will be admitted without charge.

When you check in, you must check in as a team, not individuals. It is highly suggested that teams check-in a minimum of 1 hour prior to their first scheduled report time. At this time all MCCA member coaches, prepaid non-member coaches, and prepaid parent volunteers will receive a pass that must be worn visible at all times. This pass will give you access to the team areas, marking areas, backstage, and competition floor. In addition, coaches will

turn in any missing items not checked off on the checklist and teams will receive a folder containing important information for the day. In the event you have any further questions, you can ask those working the Registration Table.

Coaches and cheerleaders will be directed to the reserved area for teams where they will keep all of their belongings. Please remember to leave your valuables at home. MCCA is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

The Flow Prior to your Performance

All teams will follow this routine prior to performing. It will start about 45 minutes prior to your scheduled performance time. Please be on time.

- 1) Your team will report for a preliminary safety check to help your team avoid any deductions. This will take place inside the doors of the Wilkins backstage area when coming from the team area.
- 2) Your team will have 16 minutes on a 6 strip mat, shared with 3 other teams to warm-up.
- 3) Your team will have two 4 - minute warm-up times where you can warm-up stunts or tumbling prior to your full performance.
- 4) Prior to having your last warm-up time, a final safety check will take place. This is when deductions will be taken for any violations.
- 5) Your team will have a 4 – minute warm-up time on a full size cheerleading floor (9 strips) prior to your performance. This will take place in an enclosed curtained area to provide your team more privacy. When you are finished your team will have about 10 -15 minutes until they take the floor.
- 6) Compete on a 9-strip Cheer Floor.

During your Performance

No one will be allowed to sit directly in front of the mat. Coaches will be able to sit at the announcers table, which is also, where you will play your music. Additional teammates, sister teams, etc will have a reserved section off the front corner of the mat. We need to keep the front clear for photographers, the video taping crew, and other media. Thank you in advance for your cooperation

Music

You are responsible for running the music for your own team(s). The gentlemen who will be running the sound equipment are very good and will help talk each coach through this process. Be sure you watch the schedule and are waiting on deck near the sound equipment table when your team is coming up. Please remember to bring more than one copy of your music. Music can be played on CD or iPod.

Spotters

MCCA will provide “Spotters” during all sessions. All teams are required to have spotters on the floor.

Cheerleader Areas

The backstage area and team areas are only for cheerleaders, their coaches, pre-paid parent volunteers, and event workers. No other parents or spectators will be allowed in these areas.

When you are done performing and want to watch the competition, you will need to head upstairs to the balcony area where all the spectators are seated. Due to the fact the venue is so much larger there are no restrictions as to where cheerleaders may be seated. Only if they are supporting a team from their school will they be allowed to be seated in the reserved section on the competition floor. Coaches, please also instruct your teams not to walk around during routines.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Spectators

Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students in grades K-12. Children not in school yet are free. This fee will be charged one time per person. In the event you want to leave and come back you will need to have your hand stamped. You will need both your ticket and hand-stamped to regain admittance.

Busses

Busses can drop off the teams at the 5th Street entrance to Roy Wilkins and then move to the parking area for busses. A map will be provided closer to the event.

Spending Money

Cheerleaders and spectators may want to have money to spend on:

*Food from the concession stands **because no coolers or outside food is allowed in the venue.**

*Purchasing the video (\$30) of the day *****No Video Taping Allowed!*****

*Purchasing a 2012 MCCA State Competition T-Shirt (\$20-25) -proceeds go to Honor Team of Excellence Scholarships!

*Some of the vendors and MCCA will also have fun cheerleading items for sale.

First Aid

There will not be a trainer on site for taping. Red Cross will be present for emergency purposes only.

Scoring

Each judging panel will consist of 6 judges, 3 judges for the Cheer Section of the score sheet and 3 for the Music Section of the score sheet. All scores will be summed together to obtain your total score. Any deductions will be taken off from this total.

In the case of a tie, the team that receives the fewest deductions will win!

If there is still a tie...The team that ranks highest in the Cheer Section will win!

Awards

The number of awards given will depend on the number of teams in the division.

1-3 teams in a division – 1st Place Trophy Only

4-5 teams in a division – 1st and 2nd Place

6-7 teams in a division – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place

8+ teams in a division – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Place

All teams will receive a participation certificate.

Only first place Varsity teams will be awarded individual medals.

AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Following the last performance of the session, we ask all teams to line up in order of performance by division backstage. We will be announcing each team participating in a division to enter the floor one team at a time to form a semi-circle on the mat. The appropriate number of places will be awarded in each division. Following division awards all teams will clear the floor and winning teams will report for a team photo. Smaller divisions will be combined. The purpose of this format is to give recognition to all competitors one last time and to reduce the number of cheerleaders on the floor.

****NEW STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS****

All division champions will be given the opportunity to perform one last time during the GRAND CHAMPIONS Session. The Champions of all **UCA VARSITY DIVISIONS** (Division I Small, Medium, Large, and Super Large, Division II Small, Medium, Large, and Super Large, Co-Ed, Non-Tumbling, and Non-Building) will compete head to head for the STATE GRAND CHAMPS title, trophy and Grand Champion Jackets. All team scoring will start over with all 10 judges scoring each team. The highest and lowest scores will be dropped and the remaining 8 will be combined to create the team score. Champions of all other divisions (Elementary, Middle School, Junior Varsity, 1st Year Competing, and Novice) will be invited to perform.

Order of Competition

Competition order will be determined by the order registration is received (first teams to register go last) and will be posted on the website prior to the competition. Please understand that sometimes adjustments may need to be made to work around conflicts for participants in more than one division. Yet, please also understand that avoiding all conflicts is not always possible. A team will be put into the line up once all of the forms have been received (coach membership, registration form, team roster with AD signature, payment, and waivers)

Rules/Restrictions and Time Limit

MCCA will follow the UCA/AACCA Rules for school teams.

Divisions

Please notice the change in divisions this year! MCCA has worked very hard to provide a fair format.

Make sure that when you send in your registration you are registered for the correct division. **No changes in divisions will be made after the registration deadline of December 17th, 2011.**

MCCA COMPETITION GUIDELINES

School Divisions are determined according to school size. School size is determined by using the enrollment of the school grades 9 – 12 posted on the MSHSL web site. The enrollments are updated every 2 years and can be found on their website at <http://www.mshsl.org/mshsl/enrollments.asp> The Novice division in both JV and Varsity is limited by skill level not the experience level of the team. There will be a separate division for Elementary and Middle School/Jr. High. The divisions are listed on the registration form.

Team Definitions:

School Category –A School team is a group representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. **All School teams must have a signed proof of affiliation and liability insurance from their school district.** All participants on the team must be eligible to participate in extra curricular activities in accordance with the MSHSL eligibility rules.

Varsity Team- A varsity team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, all participants must be in the 7th to 12th grade at that school.

Co-Ed- A Co-Ed team is a varsity group with **one or more males** representing a school district that assumes liability for that team.

Non-Building Team- A Non-Building team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team agrees to perform a routine with no partner stunts, pyramids or tosses. All team members must be in 12th grade and below.

Non-Tumbling Team- A Non-Tumbling team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team agrees to perform a routine with no tumbling. All team members must be in 12th grade and below.

Novice Team- A Novice team is a group representing a school district, which assumes liability for that team, and that team, agrees to limit their routine by skill level to USASF level 2. **There are novice categories in Varsity and JV.**

1st Year Competing - A 1st Year Competing team is a group representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. The school must have not participated in the MCCA State Competition for 5 or more years to be eligible.

Junior Varsity – A JV team is a group that consists of non-varsity competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. All team members must be in 7th – 12th grade in this division. **The division will be split into two divisions if participation warrants it.**

Middle School/Jr. High – A Middle School/Jr. High team is a group that consists of non-high school competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. Team members in this division must be in the 9th grade and below. **The division will be split into two divisions if participation warrants it.**

Elementary – An Elementary team is a group that consists of non-high school or non-middle school competing members representing a school district that assumes liability for that team. Team members in this division must be in the 6th grade and below.

MCCA COMPETITION RULES:

For School teams, MCCA adheres to the UCA/AACCA guidelines and rules and will be judged with the UCA Score sheet. These can be viewed at www.varsity.com.

Appearance Rules for **all** participants:

Hair must be pulled away from the face (at least half up) with no loose hairs that can touch the eyes.

No loose glitter.

No jewelry.

Nails must not be visible above the fingertip when viewed from the palm at face level.

Participants on a high school team must be 7th – 12th graders.

Participants who are considered the spotters for a stunt must be attentively spotting. Deductions will be given for inattentive spotting.

Participants must begin the routine with at least one foot on the ground.

Participants cannot participate on more than one school (see definitions above) competing team.

Participants on both All-Star and School teams must pay two registration fees.

School Routines have a time limit of 2:30 with up to 1:30 allowed for music.

DISQUALIFICATION:

Any team that does not adhere to the terms and procedures outlined in this informational packet or violates the MCCA Coaches Code of Ethics will be subject to disqualification from the competition, will automatically forfeit any right to any awards presented by the competition, and may also forfeit the opportunity to participate in a competition the following year.

The MCCA State Competition will run in THREE Sessions.

MCCA will NOT start sessions early.

(These times are approximate and may change depending on the number of registrations received)

SESSION ONE: LATE MORNING

All Division II, Novice, Junior High/Middle School, and Elementary Teams AND ALL School Stunt Groups

Due to the fact we do not know how many will be in each session exact times will be provided shortly after the registration deadline. The times listed below are approximate:

10:00 AM Marking Times for Session One Begin

9:00 AM Doors open for spectators

11:00 AM Session One Begins

Once all teams have performed, trophies will be awarded! That will end this session and coaches should pick-up their score sheets as they leave from the Announcers Table.

All-State Team Performance and Recognition

(Prior to awards for Session 1)

2:30 PM

***Recognition of the Honor Team of Excellence, Scholarship Recipients, Sportsmanship Cup, RAH Awards, Coach of the Year, and Courage Awards.**

SESSION TWO: MID-AFTERNOON

All Division I, Co-Ed, Non-Building, Non-Tumbling, and JV Teams

Due to the fact we do not know how many will be in each session exact times will be provided shortly after the registration deadline. The times listed below are approximate:

2:45 PM Marking Times for Session Two Begin

9:00 AM Doors open for spectators

3:30 PM Session Two Begins

Once all teams have performed, trophies will be awarded for this session. That will end this session and coaches should pick-up their score sheets as they leave from the Announcers Table.

SESSION THREE: EVENING

All Division Champs – Grand Championships

6:30 PM Marking Times for Session Three Begin

6:45 PM Session Three Begins

REFUND POLICY

There will be no refunds due to inclement weather or after the registration deadline of December 17th, 2011.

REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

Please mail the items below to:

MCCA State Competition

PO Box 211277

Eagan, MN 55121

- _____ Registration Form
- _____ Payment in full (Payable to MCCA)
- _____ Team Roster with AD or Directors Signature
- _____ Participant Waivers (can be emailed to waivers@mccacheer.com)