



COLLEGE CHEERLEADING AND DANCE TEAM NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP UCA GAME DAY DIVISION GUIDELINES

A VARSITY SPIRIT BRAND

A. COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY TEAM GUIDELINES:

1. The competition is open to all colleges, universities, and junior colleges in the country.
2. Teams may not exceed thirty (30) team members.
3. Teams may add a drumline into their performance. Drumlines can be incorporated in their routine and may enter the floor with the team but may not stand on the performance floor during the performance. They may stand to the side of the back of the floor. Drumlines will not count toward the total number of participants allowed.
4. Teams may add up to 1 (one) mascot in their routine. The mascot must enter the floor with the team and should be used to raise crowd energy and participation. The mascot should not be involved in any stunts / technical skills and / or tumbling and should position themselves away from skills being performed. The mascot will not count toward the total number of participants allowed.
5. Individuals may not represent more than one team at the National Championship.
6. There are FOUR separate UCA Game Day divisions:
 - a. Game Day Division IA (NCAA Division I – FBS) – Male / Female (Max 30 Members)
 - b. Game Day All Girl IA (NCAA Division I - FBS) – Female Only (Max 30 Members)
 - c. Game Day Open Coed (NCAA Division I – FCS, NCAA II, Division III, Jr. Colleges, NAIA and all other schools) – Male / Female (Max 30 Members)
 - d. Game Day Open All Girl (NCAA Division I – FCS, NCAA II, Division III, Jr. Colleges, NAIA and all other schools) – Female Only (Max 30 Members)

B. PARTICIPATION / ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. All participants must be registered full-time students for the fall semester of the college or university that they are representing in competition and official members of that school's spirit team (no club teams or competition only teams). Official members of the school's spirit team is that team recognized by their institution as the actual sideline/courtside spirit team that regularly supports their school athletic teams.
2. Any university or college competing in a Varsity College National Championship shall not permit a student-athlete to represent their school unless the student-athlete meets all applicable eligibility requirements, and the coach and program administrative supervisor has certified the student-athlete's eligibility.
3. A student-athlete may only represent ONE (1) school in a National Championship competition for each academic year. For example, a student-athlete may not compete for one school in January, transfer and compete for another school in April.
4. A student-athlete may not compete in more than **five (5)** National Championships in combined Junior College and/or 4-year college / university.
5. All teams are required to follow the USA Cheer Music Copyrights Educational Initiative and will be required to show proof of licensing, in the form of a printed copy, during registration at the event. For the most up to date music information, visit <http://varsity.com/music>.
6. Traditional game day uniform is required.
7. For additional questions and information regarding student participation / eligibility in the 2018 College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship go to uca.varsity.com and refer to the rules and regulations for the Championship.

C. UCA GAME DAY FORMAT

1. The Game Day Championship showcases what traditional cheerleading is all about – leading the crowd! Teams will be evaluated on their ability to lead the crowd, proper game day skill incorporations, Execution of skills, motion technique and overall routine.
2. The use of crowd leading tools such as signs, poms, flags and/or megaphones is recommended (All are not required).
3. The order for the Game Day Championship will be in random order based on the audio cues and should consist of Fight Song, Situational Sideline (offence / defense) and a Game Day Timeout (similar to what was done at camp).

4. The judges will score teams using the criteria listed on the UCA Game Day score sheet. Each team will be evaluated on a 100 point system. For detailed score sheets please visit uca.varsity.com.
 - a. Fight Song
 1. Should represent the traditional Fight Song your school has always done at games.
 2. Skills should be minimal and practical.
 3. You should start from you sideline formation.
 - b. Situational Sideline
 1. Will be situational for each team performing.
 2. With either an offensive or defensive scenario, the squad will determine which sideline to do based on the cues.
 3. The teams are encouraged to use spirit raising props such as signs, poms and/or megaphones.
 4. Skills should be minimal and practical.
 - c. Game Day Timeout (similar to what was done at camp)
 1. Similar to a 60 second extended band chant that is designed for crowd interaction and involves crowd response.
 2. This is the best time to showcase your squad's energy, leadership, visual appeal and connection to the crowd.
5. All teams attending the UCA College Cheerleading Championship will follow the AACCA Guidelines. Rules are subject to change by AACCA. For the most recent safety rules and information, <http://cheerrules.com/aacca-college/>.
6. Skills must be practical for Game Day and executed with strong technique while providing a visual effect that influences the crowd's participation.
7. The incorporation of skills will be allowed with the following restrictions:
 - a. Flips into or from partner stunts and pyramids will be prohibited.
 - b. Twisting stunts and dismounts may not exceed 1 ¼ rotation.
 - c. Flipping tosses are permitted with zero twisting rotations.
 - d. No twisting tumbling is allowed.
8. Any deductions or violations will be taken off of the final averaged score. For more information on scoring, score sheets and judging criteria, please visit uca.varsity.com

D. TIME LIMITATIONS AND COMPETITION AREA

1. Total Time is limited to 3 minutes.
2. Each section should have a beginning and end. Note: Spirited crowd leading interaction between each section is encouraged to continue the game day feel.
3. If a team exceeds the time limit, a penalty will be assessed for each violation. Three (3) point deduction for 1-5 seconds over, Five (5) point deduction for 6-10 seconds over and Seven (7) point deduction for 11 seconds and over.
4. Approximate floor size will be fifty four feet wide by forty two feet deep (9 strips).
5. Any team member stepping outside the performance area will cause the squad to receive a point-five (.5) penalty per occurrence.
 - a. The white line is considered a warning mark.
 - b. A penalty will be assessed when any ONE full hand, foot or body part touches outside of the performance surface.
6. Signs or props may be placed or dropped outside the competition area by a team member who must remain inside the competition area. If a sign or prop is thrown outside the competition area, that team will receive a one (1) point deduction for each violation.

E. TOURNAMENT FACILITY AND COMPETITION

1. UCA reserves the right to determine if a preliminary, semi-final or final round will be necessary. All divisions with only one round prior to the finals will be classified as a semi-final.
2. There will be a minimum of 50% of the teams that will advance from each round of competition.
3. The competition is scheduled to be held at ESPN's Wide World of Sports® Complex.
4. The tournament officials shall have the right to alter the time and location of the competition in the event changes become necessary due to inclement weather, facility problems, television production requirements, or any other situation deemed by the tournament officials to be essential to the successful execution of the championship.
5. Friday will be the kick off of the Game Day Championship with the Cheer Game Day Division IA Coed and Division IA All Girl Divisions.
6. Sunday will be the competition for the Game Day Dance Divisions, Game Day Open Coed and Game Day Open All Girl Divisions.

F. AWARDS AND PRIZES

1. All teams in the final round of competition will receive a trophy.
2. Teams who rank first, second, or, third place will additionally receive a gold, silver, or bronze medallion.
3. Teams will be featured on Varsity TV for the following season as the Game Day National Champions.

For a complete copy of all Championship Rules and Regulations please go to uca.varsity.com