



Updated: 9/22/2011

THE JAM BRANDS 2011-2012 CHEER & DANCE REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES

1. Cheer teams must have at least 5 members. Dance teams must have at least 4 members. Please refer to specific divisions in order to see the maximum number of team members allowed in each division. Group stunts may have 4 or 5 members.
2. Mascots are welcome to perform as members of their squad but must adhere to all rules and regulations expected of team members.
3. Time Limits:
 - Cheer Teams – 2 minutes and 30 seconds
 - Dance Teams – 2 minutes and 30 seconds
 - Partner/Group Stunts - 1 minute and 30 seconds*
 - Cheer Individuals - 1 minute and 30 seconds*
 - Crowdleader Individuals - 1 minute and 30 seconds*
 - Dance Solos/Duets/Trios - 2 minutes and 30 seconds*
 - Cheer Duets/Trios/Quads - 1 minute and 30 seconds*
 - Power Jumpers – 45 seconds*
 - Power Tumblers – 1 minute and 30 seconds*
 - Mascots - 1 minute and 30 seconds*

** Divisions listed above may not be offered at all JAM Brands events.*

There are no minimum time requirements on any type of routine. Timing and judging of routines will begin with the first organized movement or the first note of music. Timing will end with the last note of music or when the ending motion or pose is held. Introductions, spell-outs and/or organized entrances are considered part of the routine and are timed as part of the performance. All participants should walk/spirit onto the floor and immediately start their routine after placement of any props. Cheer team performances can consist of any combination of cheer and music.

4. The main performance surface will be approximately 44 feet deep by 56 feet wide. (The exact size of the performance floor could vary slightly by event.) A marly dance floor (approximately 40 feet deep by 49 feet wide) may be used for dance performances. For safety purposes, we require everyone to perform their routine on the performance surface. There is no deduction for stepping off the surface. Executing a skill off the surface will be treated as a rule infraction and will result in a 2.5 point deduction.
5. The Exhibition Division was created for teams who do not meet the performance or division requirements as set forth by The JAM Brands. Please call for more information. Any team may choose to perform in the Exhibition Division. Exhibition teams are required to pay the same registration fees as the other teams. Please call each individual Brand you will be attending for more information.

6. Coaches are allowed to sit on the stage/performance floor for Tiny, Exhibition & Special Needs divisions only. Coaches are not allowed to be on the stage/performance floor for any other divisions. (Exception: Cheer routine spotters. See *Spotter Guidelines* for details.) Coaches can always stand in the designated coaches' area or preferred seating area in front of the performance floor (if applicable). Also, no team is allowed to place "space markers" (i.e. something to show where the athletes should stand) on the performance floor except for Tiny, Exhibition or Special Needs teams. If space markers are placed by anyone outside of these divisions, this will be considered a rule infraction and will result in a 2.5 point deduction.
7. All routines must be suitable for viewing by audiences of all ages. Vulgar or suggestive music or material is not allowed and will result in a 2.5 point deduction for each incident. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures, implications or lyrics. Vulgarity will be determined at the discretion of the judges and/or event directors.
8. Senior/Senior Coed Combination Scoring Procedure:
In keeping with the rules set forth by the USASF, we will combine L3, L4, L4.2 and L5 Restricted Senior teams with Senior Co-Ed teams when there are less than two teams registered in either division. When these divisions are combined, teams will be judged on the 'standard All-star Score Sheet' and not the 'Co-Ed Score Sheet,' ensuring that teams are judged fairly and consistently. If, at any time, leading up to the event, the divisions are un-combined, teams will be judged on their respective score sheet (Co-Ed on the 'Co-Ed Score Sheet' and Senior on the 'Standard Score Sheet').

Spotter Guidelines

In an effort to provide a safe performance environment, The JAM Brands allows programs to provide their own routine spotters. We feel allowing programs to provide trained and knowledgeable routine spotters on the floor that are familiar with the performances and areas of the performance that may need "special attention", the overall safety of the competition environment is improved. The JAM Brands will **NOT** be providing routine spotters. It will be up to the discretion of the coach how many routine spotters, if any, they choose to use. Please pay special attention to the stipulations and suggestions below:

DEFINITION OF ROUTINE SPOTTERS: Routine spotters are individuals affiliated with the performing program that are voluntarily provided by the performing program as a safety precaution for the routine. Routine spotters cannot be uniformed members of the competing team and must adhere to all "Rules for Routine Spotters."

RULES FOR ROUTINE SPOTTERS:

1. Routine spotters are there to help 'catch' falls and/or mistakes, not to assist or save skills. Routine spotters may only be used for stunts, pyramids and/or basket tosses. Spotting of tumbling is prohibited and will result in a 2.5 deduction for each occurrence.
2. Flagrant contact (anything other than assuring the safety of the athletes involved) by a routine spotter that assists a stunt, toss or pyramid may result in a 2.5 deduction for each occurrence. Point deduction is at the sole discretion of The JAM Brands. The decision of the judges is FINAL.
3. Routine spotters **MUST** dress differently than the team so they are not mistaken for participants.
4. Routine spotters are for safety purposes only. Routine spotters should enter the stage behind their team and exit immediately ahead of their team.
5. The JAM Brands encourages the use of routine spotters, however, they are not required. Use your best judgment as to whether routine spotters are needed for your routine.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ROUTINE SPOTTERS:

1. Routine spotters should look presentable. Remember, the overall appearance of your team and their performance is important. Routine spotters should appear “neat and orderly” in order to minimize distraction.
2. It is strongly suggested that routine spotters be at least 18 years of age.
3. Routine spotters should make every attempt to be ‘inconspicuous’ during the routine. Remember, assisting the skill in any way (other than preventing injury) WILL result in a 2.5 point deduction. It is best to be present for safety reasons, but, unless there is a fall, the spotter cannot do anything that appears to help, assist, or save a stunt.
4. Routine spotters should be trained to know proper spotting technique. Routine spotters should know the routine(s), so that spotting is conducted as safely as possible.

Music

- Please bring TWO high quality copies of your music to the event. CDs or IPODS/MP3 PLAYERS ONLY! No tapes are allowed.
- One representative of your group/individual will be responsible for running the music during the competition. This person must remain at the sound area throughout the entire performance. In the event a routine is delayed/stopped due to the team’s operator error, timing of your routine will continue. No unnecessary team members, parents, etc. are allowed in the sound area. This individual is responsible for making any decisions should a routine interruption occur.
- In the event that a routine is interrupted, the following procedures will be followed:

Music Mishap

- *Due to the failure of JAM Brands equipment/Team’s music equipment:*
If the music skips or cuts out during the routine the coach/designated team representative will need to decide if they want to re-perform their routine again in its entirety. If the team decides to re-perform their routine, the event manager will place them in the next available time slot. This time slot is non-negotiable. The team must perform their routine full out from start to finish, and will be scored on the 2nd performance only. If a team decides not to re-perform their routine, the original routine will be scored in full. Only 2 performances will be allowed per team.

Injury

Injury - Performance Area

- Music may be stopped by a coach/team representative/event staff member if an injury occurs.
- If the music is stopped due to a major injury, the team will be asked to exit the floor while an EMT is attending to the injured participant(s).
- The team will be allotted time to make adjustments to their performance and re-perform their routine at a later time. The time given is up to the discretion of the event manager.
- The routine will be re-scored from the point the injury occurred. All scores received prior to the injury will remain the same.

Injury – Practice Area

Minor injury – cut, bloody nose, etc.

- The team may move to an open area in the practice area to work through their issues, but must perform at their scheduled time.

Major injury – broken bone, head/neck/back injury, etc.

- The team will be allotted time to make adjustments to their performance. The amount of time given will be determined by the event manager and/or the practice area manager (45 minutes max.)

Safety Violations/Review Process

- The appropriate event staff member will attempt to notify the coach or representative soon after the performance to inform him or her that a safety violation has been committed. If the coach or representative believes this is a mistake, he or she will have five minutes to discuss the violation with the event manager or JAM Score representative. All decisions made by the event manager or JAM Score representative are final.
- A coach may point out a rule violation committed by another team to an event manager. In order to provide equal respect and confidentiality to all teams, The JAM Brands will not discuss safety violations or deductions with any individual other than the coach/owner/director of the team that committed the alleged infraction.

Participant Age/Grade Discrepancies:

- Only a coach/owner/director may challenge a participant's age/grade. To challenge a participant's age/grade, the challenge must be immediately brought to the attention of the event manager along with a \$200 (cash or credit) challenge fee per challenged participant. All challenges must be made at the event.
- The event manager will request proof of age/grade for the participant in question. The participant in question must supply official age/grade verification (i.e. birth certificate, driver's license, passport, report card or student ID) to the event manager no later than the Monday following the event at 5:00PM EST. The participant may provide proof to the event manager at the event if it is available.
- If the participant in question IS in violation of age/grade restrictions, the team will be disqualified, and the challenging team will receive their \$200 back.
- If the participant in question is NOT in violation of age/grade restrictions, the challenging team will forfeit their \$200 challenge fee. The \$200 fee will be given to the team that was challenged as compensation for their time spent providing verification.

Scoring Errors:

- In the instance a score is added incorrectly and the error is caught at the event, the team will be properly awarded during the next awards ceremony if possible.
- In the instance a score is added incorrectly and the error is caught after the event, the score and placement will be corrected and results will be changed on the website. All teams involved will be notified and correct awards will be mailed.
- Ties: In the event of a true tie (the tie cannot be broken by taking scores to additional decimal points) The JAM Brands will not break the tie and all scores, placements and awards will stand.
- **ALL SCORES AT EVENTS ARE FINAL...(NO EXCEPTIONS)**

Sportsmanship

The JAM Brands will promote sportsmanship by all who attend our events. Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches, athletes and spectators during the event is not acceptable.

COACHES/OWNERS/DIRECTORS

Much like every sport, when a coach is in discussion with an official, other coaches, athletes and parents/spectators they must maintain proper conduct. Failing to do so at any JAM Brand event can/may result in a 2.5 point deduction, removal of coach, disqualification, etc.

ATHLETES

Much like every sport, when an athlete participates they must conduct themselves with the utmost in sportsmanship and maintain proper conduct at all times. Failing to do so at any JAM Brand event can/may result in a 2.5 point deduction, removal of athlete, etc.

RECRUITING OF ATHLETES/PROMOTING GYM AT JAM BRAND EVENTS

The recruiting of athletes and promoting your gym to explicitly recruit athletes is strictly prohibited at all JAM Brand events. The following are examples of what is not allowed:

- Flyers that are handed out detailing tryout information, gym location, number, web site etc. inside arena/competition area and/or parking lot. (the handing out of inspirations/good luck messages is allowed as long as there is no promotional information other than gym/team name).
- T-Shirts with tryout dates on them. T-Shirts with gym name, logo, website are acceptable as long as there is no reference to recruitment of athletes.
- Coaches, owners, directors, etc. talking to other athletes about attending their gym.

Recruiting of athletes/promoting gym at a JAM Brand events can/may result in a 2.5 point deduction, removal of owners/directors/coaches, disqualification, etc.

Teams may report any issues to event management, but in order for us to assess a point deduction or disqualification, a member of our staff must actually witness such conduct and deem it unsportsmanlike. We cannot make a ruling based on hearsay alone. The JAM Brands staff will not tolerate rude, angry, or disrespectful behavior. This behavior could also result in a 2.5 point deduction.

The JAM Brands Sportsmanship Creed:

The JAM Brands strives to build a fun and family atmosphere for all participants, coaches, and spectators. We value healthy rivalry and encourage team spirit! Participants, coaches, and spectators must represent themselves and their teams with pride at all times. They shall show respect to their competitors on and off the performance floor. With a positive competition atmosphere, The JAM Brands can ensure great events!

Inclement Weather Policy:

All JAM Brands events will go on regardless of the weather conditions. Should an extenuating circumstance arise, please check the website for any updates. The JAM Brands encourage you to exercise caution and make any necessary travel arrangements so that you will not have any problems making it to the event. No refunds will be given on any JAM Brands expenses. Please keep an eye on the local and national weather forecasts so that you are prepared for any inclement weather.

Rule Interpretation

It is the policy of The JAM Brands not to give specific rule interpretations over the phone. All official rule interpretations must be submitted on a DVD, full size VHS videotape or sent via email to:

The JAM Brands

Attn: Rule Interpretations

11500 Champions Way

Louisville, KY 40299

Email: jeremi@thejambrands.com

All videos must contain the following:

1. A front, side and back view of the skill/section in question. Do not send entire routines.
2. A letter stating the question/request.
3. School/Organization name and event(s)/division entering.
4. Contact name, phone number and email address.

All official rule interpretation requests must be received at The JAM Brands office at least 10 days prior to the event the team is attending.

If the skill/section in question is reviewed and cleared, The JAM Brands will provide the coach with a rule interpretation response.

Please bring the rule interpretation response that you receive with you to all JAM Brands events. Only official rule interpretations from The JAM Brands office will be permissible at any JAM Brands event.

Video Review at Events

- No bobble, fall, or fall to the floor infractions will be reviewed.
- Only safety infractions can be reviewed. These safety infractions will only be reviewed on a JAM Brands video reviewing system. These infractions will only be reviewed by an event representative and the coach/director of the team that is being reviewed. No team shot videos will be reviewed.
- All rulings decided at any JAM Brands events are final.