

NECA ALL-STAR CLASSIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

SAFETY GUIDELINES

The USASF Guidelines and Rules for the 2009-2010 season will be followed for all star teams. Teams are encouraged to perform skills at their ability level. It is the coach's responsibility to know the limitations of their teams and the restrictions of the division they have entered. Coaches should continually check the USASF guidelines for clarifications and rule changes. The USASF guidelines may be downloaded at www.usasf.net.

DIVISIONS AND AGE REQUIREMENTS

1. NECA Divisions & Age Requirements (See Chart).
2. NECA reserves the right to combine divisions when there are less than 3 teams entered.
3. The age of competitors as of August 31, 2009 will be the age used for this event (exception max. sr. 5/31/09).
4. Coaches MUST CARRY proof of age for each team member. Age eligibility requirements must be available upon request. Approved documents are birth certificates or state/fed ID.

CROSSOVERS

Crossovers are allowed for an additional registration fee per crossover (see registration form). NECA will make every effort to enable cheerleaders to compete on multiple teams however we can not guarantee the "rest period" between competition & warm-ups. Changes to the practice order and/or order of appearance will not be made once they are posted online. Absolutely no changes in the order of appearance will be allowed on the day of the competition.

TIMING & ROUTINE FORMAT

1. Cheerleading and Dance teams will have a maximum of 2 minutes and 30 seconds to compete. Stunt Groups will have a maximum of 1 minute to compete.
2. Timing will start with the first organized movement, voice, or beat of music.
3. All introductions (tumbling, entrances, chants, etc.) are considered part of the routine and are timed as such. Point deductions will be assessed for going over the time limit.
4. Teams should not perform any skills, chants, etc. upon exiting the mat.
5. Routines must be appropriate and suitable for "family viewing". Crude or suggestive movements will result in point deductions and are at the discretion of the head judge.

MUSIC

1. Cheer, Dance, & Top Gun Stunt routines should be performed entirely to music.
2. All music must be appropriate and suitable for "family viewing".
3. Teams must have a representative to play their music and must bring 2 copies of their CD.
4. To avoid problems with CD compatibility please follow the IMPORTANT instructions below:
 - Music must be furnished on a high quality CD designed specifically for music.
 - Do not use CD-RW disks.
 - Record all music in CD format. MP3 CD's should not be used.
 - Test the compatibility of your CD prior to the event in SEVERAL CD players such as your car, home stereo, boom box, etc.
5. Always bring a "back up copy" of your CD in case your original is damaged.
6. In case of music disruption teams should continue with their performance unless a tournament official stops that performance.

INTERRUPTION OF PERFORMANCE

1. If it is the opinion of the tournament official that a team performance is disrupted due to a failure of the tournament equipment, the team will be allowed to start from the point at which the failure occurred without penalty.
2. If it is the opinion of the tournament official that a team performance is disrupted due to failure of the team's equipment, supplies or method, the team will be allowed to start from the point of the disruption ONE TIME using a new CD. A penalty may be assessed at the discretion of the judges panel.
3. All decisions are at the discretion of tournament director and/or head judge.
4. NECA and/or facility medical staff reserves the right to stop a performance due to injury if deemed necessary.
5. Should NECA stop a performance due to injury, the team must either forfeit or continue from that point in the routine, without the injured athlete. The team will not have additional practice time and must continue as soon as the injured participant has left the floor.

COMBINATION OF DIVISIONS

The competition director reserves the right to combine divisions if there are less than 3 teams in any division. Coaches must recognize that a combination of divisions is possible and that there will be no "extension" of the deadline above as a result of combination of divisions.

COMPETITION SURFACE

Cheerleading and dance teams will perform on a 54' by 42' foot spring floor. The practice mat will be a 54' by 42' foot floor with a separate spring tumbling strip for tumbling warm-up. Safety is of great importance and therefore no stunting and/or tumbling is allowed outside these designated areas.

SPORTSMANSHIP

NECA believes strongly in the importance of good sportsmanship and expects all participants, coaches, parents, and/or spectators to treat each other in the highest regard. The following rules will be in effect from the time each individual enters the facility until the time that they leave.

1. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their teams at all times.
2. Participants, coaches, parents, and/or spectators are to display sportsmanlike behavior at all times.
3. Penalties will be assessed for "unsportsmanlike" behavior which may include but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Approaching judges, event staff, coaches, spectators, and other cheerleaders in a disrespectful manner.
 - b. Declining to follow instructions of event staff and/or site personnel.
 - c. The use of profanity or obscene gestures (either on or off the competition surface).
 - d. Chanting or shouting negative remarks at other teams, cheerleaders, staff, and/or spectators.

JUDGING AND AWARDS

1. Judges will be qualified and impartial persons with experience in all areas of cheerleading to include gymnastics, stunting, cheer, and dance.
2. Skill violations will be assessed by a USASF credentialed judge.
3. Decisions of the judges are final and may not be contested once placements are announced.
4. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES are cheerleaders, coaches, or spectators allowed to approach the judges in order to question scoring decisions.
5. **AWARD PHOTOS:** All teams must remain in full uniform to participate in the awards ceremony. In the case of the top gym winners athletes must look completely uniform to be able to participate in the team picture. Sweatshirts, t-shirts, jackets, etc will not be considered uniforms. Athletes not in uniform will not be allowed to participate in team photo.
6. The number of trophies and/or medals awarded in each division is determined by the tournament director. All teams will be recognized.
7. The TOP GYM will be awarded a SILVER CUP and \$6,000. The second place gym will receive \$3,000.00 and the third place gym will receive \$1,000.00.
8. FIRST PLACE teams competing in divisions where there are 3 or more teams will receive a full team bid from "All American Cheer and Dance" to the Pro Bowl.
9. SECOND & THIRD PLACE teams competing in divisions where there are 5 or more teams will receive a full team bid from "All American Cheer and Dance" to the Pro Bowl.
10. FIRST, SECOND & THIRD PLACE TOP GUN groups competing in divisions where there are 5 or more groups entered will receive "All American Cheer and Dance" bids to the Pro Bowl.
11. Teams with less than 5 participants or who are not yet in 4th grade are not eligible for bids.
12. Every FIRST, SECOND, & THIRD place team will receive a \$500.00 camp scholarship to a 2010 NECA overnight camp of their choice.

PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

Penalties for skill violations will be assessed by a USASF credentialed judge and will be approved by the tournament director. Penalties for violation or infraction of any of the rules and regulations outlined in this brochure may be given by the head judge, tournament director, and/or company president. Harmful or flagrant disregard for "NECA Classic All-Star Rules and Regulations" may result in disqualification from the competition and will automatically forfeit the right to any points, prizes, registration fees, or awards. All decisions of the judges are final and may not be contested after they are announced. Penalties/Disqualifications may result from but are not limited to the following:

1. Infraction of USASF Safety Guidelines and/or level violations
2. Infraction of General Competition Rules or Age Requirements
3. Exceeding the appropriate time limit or team members
4. Unsportsmanlike conduct including disrespect to tournament officials or spectators
5. Inappropriate moves, gestures, or music
6. Use of profanity

Deductions will be made for each infraction.



NECA "TOP GYM" RULES & SCORING

To be eligible for NECA "TOP GYM" and the affiliated cash awards you must have a minimum of 4 teams entered and competing in the event. Teams must consist of at least 12 participants to be able to accrue points towards "top gym". Gyms may enter more than 4 teams for more opportunities.

The top four scores from each eligible gym will be added together and averaged to determine the NECA "TOP GYM" winner. Ties will be broken by the head judge & event producer. All decisions are final. Teams that are ineligible to earn points towards top gym are top gun stunt groups, dance teams, open teams, parent teams, or special needs teams.

CONTESTING ELIGIBILITY

The head coach may contest the eligibility of another team's members prior to the event. The deadline for contesting eligibility is Monday, March 22nd 2010. The coach contesting eligibility must submit their challenge in writing and produce their own eligibility documents at the time of the challenge.

Anonymous requests will not be accepted. The team being contested will be informed of the challenge and the challenger and will be asked to produce eligibility documents to the competition director by Friday, March 26th 2010. The eligibility of both teams will be verified prior to and upon arrival to the event. No challenges will be heard after Monday, March 22nd 2010.

Approved Eligibility Documents: Birth Certificate or State/Federal issued ID.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Team registration and warm-up times will be available online at www.cheerneca.com the Monday prior to the event. Coaches should verify times the day before the event.
2. Requests for changes will not be accepted once the order is posted.
3. Teams should arrive at the event at least 1 and ½ hours before their practice time to ensure they have enough time to report to team meeting area, warm-up and stretch, and to allow the competition officials to verify rosters.
4. FIRE CODE REGULATION: Cheerleaders & coaches should enter through the main lobby but MUST NOT ASSEMBLE in the main lobby. This rule will be strictly enforced by the Ryan Center and NECA.
5. There will be a designated TEAM MEETING AREA for all teams in 2010. We thank you for your full cooperation in helping us keep your athletes safe.
6. PARENTS NOTE: please inform parents to obtain an admission bracelet for themselves prior to escorting young children to the team meeting area. Young children should be escorted by an adult/parent to the team meeting area. Parents are not allowed inside the team meeting area however NECA staff will be available to assist parents with locating their child's coach.
7. Teams may not use the same routine/team to enter more than one division.
8. Teams MUST appear for their warm-up or they automatically forfeit their warm-up.
9. Each Team member must have an official, signed copy of the release form in order to participate.
10. Entrants agree that the time, manner, and method of judging shall be solely within the discretion of the competition director and head judge and the decisions of all judges are final and may not be contested.
11. Video Taping of the event is prohibited. The event will be professionally recorded/available for sale.
12. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited from this event.
13. The hanging of team banners is prohibited.
14. Helium balloons are NOT ALLOWED in the facility.
15. Should you need to withdraw your team from the event please make every effort to contact NECA by calling 860-848-0040. On the day of the event please call 888-551-1388.

AGE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The age of competitors as of August 31, 2009 will be the age used for this event (exception max. sr. age as of 5/31/09).

ALL-STAR CHEER DIVISIONS FOR 2009-2010*

| Level 1 | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Tiny | 5 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Mini | 8 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Senior | 18 yrs & younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Level 2 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Mini | 8 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Senior | 18 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Level 3 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBER |
| Mini | 8 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Junior Co-ed | 14 yrs & Younger | 1 or more Males | 5-36 Members |
| Senior | 18 yrs & Younger | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Senior Co-ed | 18 yrs & Younger | 1 or more Males | 5-36 Members |
| Level 4 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Junior Co-ed | 14 yrs & Younger | 1 or more Males | 5-36 Members |
| Senior | 18 yrs & Younger | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Senior Co-ed | 18 yrs & Younger | 1 or more Males | 5-36 Members |
| Level 4.2 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Senior | 18 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Level 5 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 5-36 Members |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Junior Co-ed | 14 yrs & Younger | 1 or more Males | 5-36 Members |
| Senior Open | 18 yrs & Younger | Female/Male (0-4) | 5-36 Members |
| Senior | 12 to 18 yrs | No Males | 5-36 Members |
| Sr. Limited Co-ed | 12 to 18 yrs | 1-4 Males | 5-36 Members |
| Sr. Unlimited Co-ed | 12 to 18 yrs | 5+ Males | 5-36 Members |
| International Open | 14 yrs & Older | No Males | 5-24 Members |
| Int. Open Co-ed | 14 yrs & Older | 1 or more Males | 5-24 Members |
| Level 6 | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Open All-Girl | 17 yrs & Older | No Males | 5-24 Members |
| Open Co-ed | 17 yrs & Older | 1 or more Males | 5-24 Members |
| Special Divisions | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Special Needs | any age | Female/Male | Unlimited |
| Parent Teams | any age | Female/Male | Unlimited |
| Stunt Group | | | |
| NAME | AGE LIMITS | GENDER | NUMBER OF MEMBERS |
| Mini | 8 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 4 - 5 Athletes |
| Youth | 11 yrs & Younger | Female/Male | 4 - 5 Athletes |
| Junior | 14 yrs & Younger | All Female | 4 - 5 Athletes |
| Junior Co-ed | 14 yrs & Younger | 1 Male/1 Female | 2 - 3 Athletes |
| Senior | 18 yrs & Younger | All Female | 4 - 5 Athletes |
| Senior Co-ed | 18 yrs & Younger | 1 Male/1 Female | 2 - 3 Athletes |
| Open | 17 yrs & Older | All Female | 4 - 5 Athletes |
| Open Co-ed | 17 yrs & Older | 1 Male/1 Female | 2 - 3 Athletes |
| ALL-STAR DANCE DIVISIONS FOR 2009-2010* | | | |
| Dance Group | | | |
| DIVISIONS | AGE | CATEGORIES | TIME LIMIT |
| Tiny | 5 Years & Younger | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |
| Mini | 8 Years & Younger | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |
| Youth | 11 Years & Younger | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |
| Junior | 14 Years & Younger | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |
| Senior | 18 Years & Younger | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |
| Open | 14 Years & Older | Open (any style) | 2 minutes 30 sec |

Please Note: teams in special divisions are eligible for exhibition only and will not receive pro-bowl bids, cash prizes or points towards "top gym". The event producer reserves the right to split/combine divisions.