



# 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INDIANA CHEER CHAMPIONSHIP

## **JUNIOR HIGH, FRESHMAN AND JUNIOR VARSITY CHEER COMPETITION**

**Saturday, October 22, 2011**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Westfield High School**

The Junior High, Freshman and Junior Varsity competition is a one-day event. The competition will begin with Junior High team competition and awards. Freshman and Junior Varsity teams will compete following the Junior High awards ceremony.

## **VARSITY PRELIMINARY ROUND**

**Saturday, October 29, 2011**

**10:00 a.m**

**Pendleton Heights High School**

All Varsity teams will compete at one site. No awards are presented at this contest, but a ceremony will be held to announce the teams advancing to the State Finals.

## **VARSITY STATE FINALS**

**Saturday, November 5, 2011**

**11:00 a.m.**

**New Castle High School Fieldhouse**

All Varsity State-Finalist teams will compete, with no scores carrying over from the previous week. State Champions will be named in each Varsity and Coed Division. Finals for five Stunt Group Competition finalists and an exhibition performance by the Individual All-State Team will also be a part of the event.

**Entries MUST be received by Monday, September 26, 2011**

## **CONTEST RULES / INFORMATION**

*Rules/Information new to the 2011 competition are italicized.*

### **SAFETY:**

1. All coaches entering a squad **MUST** attend a Rules Interpretation meeting prior to the competition.
2. All team and individual routines must comply with the 2011 - 2012 National Federation of High School Association (NFHS) Rules.
3. In addition to the NFHS Rules, squads competing in Jr. High divisions are prohibited from performing all tosses and double twisting dismounts in accordance with published updated cheerleading rules from The American Association of Cheer Coaches and Administrators (AACCA). *Rules regarding tosses have been clarified to cover every type of toss that can be performed, whether it is a single based toss to a stunt (Toss to Hands) or a multi-based toss to a cradle (Basket Toss or Elevator Toss).*

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Participating schools must be a paid member of the IASP Department of Student Programs.
2. Each cheerleader must be an active member in good standing of the school he/she represents, and be a full season 2011-12 cheerleader for a school sports team (football, basketball, volleyball, etc.) When the cheer coach and the principal sign the entry form, they are each verifying this requirement. One game does not constitute a full season.
3. A cheerleader can be on the roster for **ONLY** 1 team. If after the roster submission deadline, a coach would like a cheerleader to compete on a 2nd team (i.e. a JV cheerleader filling a hole on a Varsity squad), the coach must submit that request to IASP via email and also a mailed paper copy signed by the principal or athletic director. Each request will be considered on an individual basis. Changes/additions will **NOT** be accepted the day of competition.
4. Varsity squads who qualify for the State Finals must compete with the same roster as the Preliminary Round, unless a roster change has been approved by the IASP office. Exceptions may be approved for cheerleaders dealing with medical or academic eligibility issues.
5. Squads may be combined; however, squads who combine must compete in the higher division. For example, a Freshman squad and Junior Varsity squad that combine must compete in the Junior Varsity division.
6. The coach will register each team member through an online registration form to be posted on September 1, 2011 at [www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx](http://www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx). Registration must be completed online by October 7, 2011 (Junior High, Freshman and Junior Varsity teams) and October 14, 2011 (Varsity teams). Coaches should register all squad members that might compete, including alternates.
7. Performance order at all competitions is done by random draw. If there is a same-day scheduling conflict, the coach may contact the IASP office and make them aware of this conflict by faxing a request, signed by the principal or athletic director, before the schedule has been posted. IASP will try to accommodate the school through scheduling.
8. A coach/adult designee must accompany each team. It is the responsibility of that person to check the squad in at the registration table upon arrival. Please be advised, due to liability issues, coaches will **NOT** be allowed to bring the Physical Sign-Off Form to the preliminary site, rather they must be on file in the DSP office by Sept. 24, 2011.
9. IASP requires a Physical Sign-Off Form to be signed by the school principal, athletic director and cheer coach stating that all registered team members have a current IHSAA Physical form on file at the school.

### **COMPETITION DIVISIONS:**

1. Team Events (Junior High, Freshman, JV, Varsity, Coed):
  - Junior High Division (Cheerleaders in grade 8 or lower). Junior High teams will compete one time for awards. Teams are divided into two divisions: Small (12 or fewer team members) or Large (13 or more team members.)
  - Freshman Division (Cheerleaders in grade 9 or lower). Teams will compete one time for awards. All Freshman teams will compete in one division.
  - Junior Varsity Division (Cheerleaders in grade 12 or lower). Teams will compete one time for awards. All Junior Varsity teams will compete in one division.
  - Varsity Division (Cheerleaders in grade 12 or lower). Varsity teams will compete at a preliminary competition in order to qualify for the State Finals. Varsity teams are divided into 4 divisions based on the IHSAA Class of their basketball team.
  - Coed Varsity Division (Cheerleaders in grade 12 or lower). Coed teams will compete at a preliminary competition in order to qualify for the State Finals. Coed teams are divided into 2 divisions Small Coed (1 - 3 males) and Large Coed (4 or more males).
  - *If fewer than three squads are entered in any Division, the competition director may choose to combine divisions in order to maintain a competitive balance.*

## 2. All-Girl Partner Stunt Groups (Maximum of 5 Individuals) Competition:

- Finalists will be chosen from routines submitted via DVD entries to the IASP office. The Top 5 scoring teams will compete at the State Finals competition. Any high school group of five or less girls may compete, with no limit to the number of groups from each school. Cheerleaders may only compete with one Partner Stunt Group. Music is required. Words may be used. Score sheets for all groups will be given to coaches.

## 3. All-State Individual Competition:

- The All-State Team will be chosen from routines submitted via DVD entries to the IASP office. All-State Individual competition will be limited to members of the current school year graduating class, but there is no limit to the number of seniors who may compete from each school. Total performance time may not exceed one minute. Music is not required, but if used may not exceed 30 seconds of the performance. A verbal cheer portion is required. Proper use of props is allowed. A judging team will designate the top 12 scoring entries as the All-State Cheer team. Each All-State Team member will be awarded a \$250 scholarship, and an All-State Team patch. Each of the 12 members will be invited to participate in an exhibition performance at the end of the State Finals Competition. Score sheets for all competitors will be given to coaches.

## 4. Academic All-State Individual Competition:

- Senior Cheerleaders who compete in a team event are eligible to apply to be part of the All-State Academic Cheer Team. Nomination forms will be sent to all competing high school coaches on January 6, 2012. Nomination deadline is March 1, 2012. The top 12 Cheerleaders will be selected as the Academic All-Star team. The top scoring individual will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and all other members of the team will receive \$100 scholarships.

## **CONTEST PROCEDURES:**

1. Nine mats will compose the competition floor. A squad may use the entire performance area although it is not required to use all mats.

2. Each team will be assigned a time in a nine mat warm-up area. The warm-up area will be supervised, but no judging will take place there. Warm-up personnel are not judges.

3. Total performance time shall not exceed two minutes and thirty seconds. Music may be used but is not required. If used, music may not exceed 1:45 minutes of the routine. A verbal cheer portion is required; the routine may not consist entirely of music.

4. Pre-performance announcements at all contests will follow the same three-step process:

- Before each performance, the announcer will name the groups "In The Hole", "On Deck", and "Next To Perform". When a team is announced as "Next To Perform", they should move to stand beside the performance floor (either side or back entrances are permitted).
- The announcer will say "X Team, You may take the floor." The team may then move onto the mats, pre-set any props, and get into position to begin their performance.
- The Announcer will say "X Team, You may begin when ready." Timing begins with the first movement or sound, and ends with a wave or signal to the judges.

5. No restarting of time will be allowed. Any repeat or recovery is permitted, but the squad may be assessed an overtime penalty if the time limit is exceeded.

6. Poms, megaphones, signs, and flags are the only props allowed.

7. Qualified judges covering a wide range of cheering styles will be selected. Judges will use the competition score sheets available online at <http://www.iasp.org/dspcheerscoresheets.aspx> . The decision of the judges is final.

8. Those entering the All-Girl Partner Stunt Group and/or All-State Individual category will submit their routine on a DVD to the IASP office. The DVD must be labeled with the entrant's name and school and received no later than October 11<sup>th</sup>. All stated contest rules and NFHS rules apply. Teams may perform their routine as many times as desired to achieve their best effort, however, only one DVD per group will be accepted for judging. Although a professionally filmed DVD is not expected (only one camera should be used) please remember to send a recording with clear audio and visual quality. To make sure entries can be judged, submissions must be on a standard size DVD (not a mini-DVD), and playable on a standard DVD player. Please test your submission on a DVD player, not on a computer. Submissions must be of a continuous one minute routine (not a longer routine edited to fit the time restraints). *Edited submissions will not be judged.* Partner Stunt Group participants and All-State Individual competitors must also be members of a squad participating in a team event.

## CHEER COACH CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Schools must be a member of the Department of Student Programs to participate. Memberships cover all IASP Department of Student Program Activities. Membership Forms are available online at <http://www.iasp.org/dspforms.aspx>
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Mail entry form with payment or school purchase order to meet **entry deadline of Monday, September 26, 2011. Form must be received, not postmarked, by Sept. 26th.** Entry form may also be faxed to Department of Student Programs (DSP) @ 317-894-9807.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Complete the enclosed Physical Sign-Off Form and have your principal and athletic director sign in the appropriate place indicating that a current IHSAA Physical Form is on file at the school office for each team member registered. For liability purposes, this form must be on file in the DSP office by Sept. 26, 2011.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. All coaches entering a squad must attend a Rules Interpretation meeting to be eligible to compete. Rules Interpretation Meetings are available first at the Cheer Coach Conference on July 30, 2011. Additional dates for webinar meetings will be announced on [www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx](http://www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Make sure you have a copy of the 2011-2012 National Federation Spirit Rules Book and refer to it often. A Rules book is provided each coach attending the coaches conference or a Rules Interpretation webinar.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Review all contest rules and regulations contained in this mailing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Each coach will submit a team roster through our website, [www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx](http://www.iasp.org/dspcheerleading.aspx). DSP must have a complete roster in order for your team to compete as this will be used for the competition check-in procedure. Team roster registration form will be posted on September 1, 2011. Registration must be completed online by October 7 for Junior High, Freshman and Jr. Varsity teams and October 14 for High School Varsity teams. Register ALL squad members, including alternates that may compete. The form may be resubmitted in order to make changes before the deadline.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Competition score sheets can be viewed at [www.iasp.org/dspcheerscoresheets.aspx](http://www.iasp.org/dspcheerscoresheets.aspx)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Any questions about the legality of routines can be submitted by email to [hmassingale@iasp.org](mailto:hmassingale@iasp.org). Coaches are encouraged to attach a video clip to illustrate your question. The question will be submitted to the contest's Lead Rules Interpreter, who will send comments back to both the coach and the IASP office.



Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

**2011 INDIANA CHEER CHAMPIONSHIP Registration**

**A Reminder:** You may combine squads to compete as one larger squad; however, you must register in the higher level division. Example: Your school is combining the Freshman and Junior Varsity squads...they will be competing in the Junior Varsity Division.

Please make copies of packet for other Head Coaches (Freshman, JV, Varsity) in your building

**COMPETITION DIVISION:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Jr High Small, Varsity 1A, Small Coed, Etc.)

COACH \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail competition \_\_\_\_\_  
Information to: \_\_\_\_\_ *Home address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, Zip code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Home phone w/area code*

**COMPETITION DIVISION:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Jr. High Small, Varsity 1A, Small Coed, Etc.)

COACH \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail competition \_\_\_\_\_  
Information to: \_\_\_\_\_ *Home address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, Zip code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Home phone w/area code*

**COMPETITION DIVISION:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Jr High Small, Varsity 1A, Small Coed, Etc.)

COACH \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail competition \_\_\_\_\_  
Information to: \_\_\_\_\_ *Home address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, Zip code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Home phone w/area code*

Individual(s) entered for All-State Individual Team

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

All Girl Group Partner Stunt Name

Example: Amanda Brown Group

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



## INDIANA CHEER CHAMPIONSHIP PHYSICAL SIGN-OFF FORM

**NOTE: This form must be completed and returned to the IASP/DSP office by September 26, 2011. Failure to do so will prohibit team participation in the competition! Please print all information.**

School \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

School City \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

The following school personnel certify that current IHSA Physical Forms are on file at the above named school for all of the cheer team members that our school's cheer coach has registered, who will compete at an Indiana Cheer Competition on October 22, October 29 and/or November 5, 2011.

**Principal** \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature*

**Athletic Director** \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed

Athletic Director \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature*

**Cheer Coach** \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed

Cheer Coach \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature*

**\*\*\* Due to liability issues, the enclosed Physical Sign-Off Form must be signed by the school Principal, Athletic Director and Cheer Coach and received in our office by September 26, 2011. THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT COMPETITION SITES.**