

Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association

Sanctioned Events Policy



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Revisions in **RED**, approved December 2, 2019



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Definitions

The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) “Association” – Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association (SCA)
- b) “Event Producer” – The party responsible for organizing an event/competition. This party shall be the ones responsible for retaining the services of SCA judging.

Purpose

This document will outline both the required elements for a sanctioned competition in Saskatchewan, as well as other pertinent information. In order for competition events to be successfully sanctioned within Saskatchewan, all SCA bylaws must be followed. In addition, the SCA has also compiled some recommendations and guidelines to help event producers receive sanctioning and to run a successful competition.

Scope and Application of this Policy

Any SCA sanctioned event in Saskatchewan must adhere this policy.

Sanctioned Events

1. A “Sanctioned Event” includes all games, competitions or sport demonstrations run by the SCA or by a member club authorized by the SCA, including related training at the event site and at club premises. Social activities and fundraising activities including those involving liquor are also covered providing it is sanctioned by the SCA.
2. All SCA and member games, demonstrations and related training (practices, clinics, etc.) at the event sites and at club/school premises are considered sanctioned as long as they abide by all SCA bylaws and policies. Social activities and fundraising activities may be sanctioned upon special request from the SCA.
3. All SCA run competitions, clinics, conferences and camps are considered sanctioned events.
4. Event producers must hold a current SCA Membership in order to host an SCA sanctioned event. The event producer shall have their membership purchased by the required deadline OR prior to the commencement of the competition, whichever occurs first.
5. All event producers must apply for SCA competition sanctioning by filling out the “SCA Competition Sanctioning Form”. Competitions shall be sanctioned by a board approved SCA authorized Executive. All competitions must be sanctioned by the SCA prior to the event.
6. In order to be considered an SCA sanctioned event, the competition must require all competing Saskatchewan teams to hold a current SCA membership and must adhere to the SCA bylaws and policies, **including but not limited to the Competition Injury Policy and the Music Policy.**
7. The SCA reserves the right to send a sanctioning officer to all SCA sanctioned competitions. The sanctioning officer will sit in on the judges meeting and will be present during the competition. If the sanctioning officer finds any aspect of the competition to be unsafe, they have the right to pull the sanction if the issue or behavior is not corrected. The role of the sanctioning officer is to ensure the safety for all SCA members as the SCA owns that responsibility.
8. **An SCA authorized Executive** will inform event producers of the SCA’s role and requirements, as well as ensure that all teams competing are current SCA Members.

Eligibility to Attend Sanctioned Competitions

1. All competing Saskatchewan teams must hold a current SCA membership for all participants, which includes athletes, coaches and advisors. All SCA member participants must adhere to the SCA bylaws and policies.
2. Teams from outside of Saskatchewan do not need to purchase an SCA Membership to attend an SCA sanctioned event but **MUST** adhere to the SCA bylaws and policies and must bring a certificate of



insurance (COI) with them (such as a letter from the team's school or from an insurance agency for all-star teams) naming the SCA as "an Additional Insured."

Sanctioned Competition Safety

1. A certified professional medical advisor (i.e. Saint John's Ambulance, athletic therapist) needs to be provided by the event producer and must be present for the duration of practice and competition and equipped and ready to handle emergencies. The Safety Judge reserves the right to cancel or postpone an event if medical advisors are not in attendance. He/she must be present in the competition area for all practice mat and competition times, and must have adequate supplies readily available.
2. The warm-up area must include properly adhered, ~~carpeted gymnastics flooring~~ carpet bonded foam for stunting/tumbling. The mat strips must be securely taped together ~~and to the floor if able to~~.
3. The competition floor will be at least 42' long and wide and must be fully covered with ~~carpeted gymnastics flooring~~ carpet bonded foam. The mat strips must be securely taped together (and to the floor if necessary).
4. It is mandatory that all competitions **with multiple sessions** have a minimum performing surface of 54' X 42'.
5. 'Center center' and 'front center' locations must be clearly marked with tape prior to the first designated use of the floor. ****moved this from recommended to mandatory)**
6. If the competition floor is sprung, it is mandatory that a sprung carpeted gymnastics strip is provided in the warm-up area.
7. **It is mandatory that if the competition floor is on a built stage, the stage must have a minimum 4' of additional supporting surface beyond the 54'X42' performance floor. NOTE: If an event producer has a decline border surrounding their performance surface, the length of the decline may be included in the mandated 4' clearance area.**
8. **It is mandatory that the ceiling height in the warm-up area and in the competition area must allow ample space above the height of the highest skill performed (recommended minimum 20' ceiling height).**
9. Event producer must be able to provide a method of **efficiently** cleaning warm-up and performance mats of bodily fluids. **It is recommended that this procedure is documented and all required cleaning materials are easily accessible.**
10. All SCA sanctioned competitions must retain the services of judges who have been certified by a recognized cheerleading body (SCA, Cheer Canada, ACA, IASF, ICU, etc.)

SCA Sanctioned Competitive Divisions

1. Cheer Divisions – School and All-Star cheer divisions will follow the Cheer Canada mandated Age Grids, Cheer Rules, & Glossary which dictates routine requirements and limitations. School and All-Star cheer divisions will be scored using Cheer Canada Scoresheets and Scoring Methodology or an SCA approved scoring methodology (**IASF, etc.**). School and All-Star cheer divisions will follow the Cheer Canada recommended image policy.
2. Dance Divisions – School and all-star dance divisions will follow Cheer Canada mandated Age Grids, Dance Rules & Divisions, which dictates routine requirements and limitations. School and All-Star dance divisions will be scored using the Cheer Canada Dance Scoring Methodology or an SCA approved scoring methodology. All dance divisions will follow the Cheer Canada recommended image policy.
3. **It is the responsibility of the Event Producer to communicate with registered participants what scoring system(s) will be followed. This information should be communicated no less than 30 days prior to the event.**



Recommendations

1. It is recommended that event producers have a refund policy in place and that the policy is communicated to the registrants. A guideline for a refund policy is as follows: fees will not be refunded if a team decides to withdraw from the competition after the registration deadline has passed.
2. It is recommended that the competition floor will have a minimum clearance of 4' on the supporting surface before any obstruction. NOTE: If an event producer has a decline border surrounding their competition surface, the length of the decline may be included in the mandated 4' clearance area.
3. It is recommended that the competition floor be "sprung" and if it is, it is mandatory that a sprung, carpeted gymnastics strip be provided in the warm-up area.
4. It is recommended that the warm-up area includes a floor at least 42' long and wide and that it matches the length and width of the competition surface.
5. It is recommended that event producers advise teams attending of the type of music player that will be available to them at the competition **no less than 30 days prior to the event**. Music needs to be positioned so that coaches/advisors have a clear view of the competition mat while pushing play. A knowledgeable worker should operate music systems.
6. If the event producer is requesting the use of SCA resources, it is recommended that these requests be submitted as soon as possible via the judging request form (available at www.sca.ca). SCA resources (i.e. judges) will be assigned to competitions on a first come first serve basis.
7. It is recommended that event producers adhere to the SCA judging policies and retain the services of SCA certified judges.