

Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association

Membership Policy



Policy Adopted – December 2, 2019
Policy Reviewed – April 3, 2023



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For full membership breakdown please refer to the Bylaws, part 5: Membership

The SCA is the provincial governing body for the sport of cheerleading and performance cheer (dance: pom, hip-hop, and jazz) in Saskatchewan, as recognized by SaskSport and Cheer Canada. Our goal as the provincial recognized sport governing body is to focus on the safety and development of our athletes, coaches, and judges. Our values include inclusion, integrity, safety, and sportsmanship. Cheer Canada is the recognized national sport organization for cheerleading and performance cheer. The SCA operates under the umbrella and guidance from our NSO, Cheer Canada, and on best practice principles for PSO's as set by SaskSport. The SCA is here to help with all aspects of the sport, including certifying coaches, assistance with running events by providing judging services, and ensuring a certain safety standard for all participants.

SCA members have access to all of the programs, services, protection, and funding provided by the SCA, and by extension Cheer Canada. There are many benefits for teams and organizations who are members of the SCA, including:

- 1) **Coaching Certification:** All SCA-member teams are required to have certified coaches. A certified coach will have obtained first aid training, concussion training, Respect in Sport certificate, online sport-specific rules testing, and hands-on certification for applicable levels and/or activity they are coaching. This certification comes with access to free and subsidized clinics for the sport-specific training, as well as first aid training, concussion training, NCCP training, taping clinics, etc. This certification and access to training for coaches ensures the team coaches have proper certification in place and adhere to industry-wide safety standards.
- 2) **Membership Assistance Program Funding:** The Membership Assistance Program (MAP) is funded by SaskSport through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund (SLTF) for Sport, Culture and Recreation by the proceeds derived from the sale of lottery tickets in Saskatchewan. MAP grant amounts are allocated to Cheerleading Saskatchewan based on a formula, which includes our total number of individual members, total amount of membership revenue generated by Cheerleading Saskatchewan, the number of fully certified active member coaches and the number of fully certified active member officials. MAP grant amounts allocated by the SLTF to Cheerleading Saskatchewan fluctuate yearly based on our numbers as stated above. MAP Funding is open to ALL teams that are members of the SCA and is to be used to stimulate participation of cheerleading within the province of Saskatchewan. **MAP funding can be used towards the purchase of licensed music/tracks.**
- 3) **Athlete insurance:** Each SCA participant who has purchased a membership has access to sport accident insurance. This insurance offers athlete's coverage for injury and dental when participating in any aspect of our sport. Although schools also have insurance, sport accident insurance provides athletes with additional coverage that may not be provided by the school - such as travel with-in Saskatchewan. This insurance covers all activities including practices, parades, cheering at other sport events, competitions, pep rallies, show cases, etc.
- 4) **Sanctioned Competitions:** the SCA offers event sanctioning, which includes competition sanctioning. This sanctioning provides the host with FREE liability insurance to cover the event. In addition, competition sanctioning ensures that competitions are held to a specific safety standard, keeping participants safe throughout the event. This includes proper mats, warm up area, height requirements, competition space, injury protocol, etc. Sanctioned competitions are also able to use the SCA for judging services.



- 5) **Judging Services:** the SCA trains many judges on multiple platforms. This training takes days of classroom time, exam requirements, showcase and practice scoring, as well as a screening process. Judges are SCA members, and as such, are protected by the SCA (legally and liability wise) at SCA sanctioned events. Certified judges are discouraged from working at events that are not sanctioned by a cheerleading governing body, such as a provincial sport organization or a national sport organization. In addition, the SCA provides judging services to sanctioned events. These services include scoresheet preparation, scheduling judges, tabulation and awards calculation at the event, judges' payment, and on location results printing service. With-out these services, that we have developed and perfected over the past fifteen years, a competition would be at risk of incompetent/inconsistent scoring and lengthy wait times for results.
- 6) **Grants and Other Funding:** the SCA offers volunteer coaching grants, annual athlete scholarships, leader awards, subsidized and fully-funded athlete development camps, and athlete leadership conferences, among other funded opportunities.
- 7) **Paid Worlds Bid:** The SCA offers PAID bids to cheerleading and performance cheer (dance) high school worlds at SCA Provincials each year. Worlds is held at Disneyworld in Orlando Florida each February and is a fantastic opportunity for our athletes. The paid bid covers all competition costs including registration, transportation to, from, and on the resort, and accommodations at worlds. The only cost to the team and athlete is the flights and individual food cost. The bids are awarded in March of each year, for the following February – giving the team almost a full year to fundraise and save money for this opportunity. One of the Saskatoon dance teams received the performance cheer bid last season.