

Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association

Team Saskatchewan Policy



Policy Adopted December 11, 2023

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Purpose

Team Saskatchewan is defined as a team selected by the Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association (SCA) to proudly represent Saskatchewan in their respective division at the Canadian Cheerleading Championships for the current competition season. This policy aims to outline the standards, expectations, and guidelines for coaches and athletes to ensure a unified and successful representation on the national stage.

The Team Saskatchewan Policy relies on coordination with other **SCA policies** including Code of Conduct, Discipline and Complaints, Alternate Dispute Resolution, Best Practices and Sportsmanship, Cheer Coaches Certification, and Performance Cheer Coaches Certification. Individuals shall comply with the terms set out in the respective policies aforementioned herein in addition to those listed in this policy.

Eligibility

Your first duty as Team Saskatchewan is to ensure that you maintain your eligibility. Eligibility may vary from team to team and the specific eligibility rules for each team are outlined in the **Selection Criteria/Guidelines (to be developed)**. There is, however, a common set of eligibility rules that you must abide by. You must:

1. Maintain your current registered member status with the Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association and Cheer Canada.
2. Submit a complete roster including coaches and alternates/substitutes. If including alternates/substitutes, please specify.
3. Have a minimum of two SCA certified coaches (certification must meet the requirements of the level their team will be competing)

Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association Responsibilities

1. **Team selection:** At the Canadian Cheerleading Championships the ICU Stream teams must be provincially represented teams. (example – Team Nova Scotia Junior All Girl Advanced). This can be a club team representing their province or a compilation team. The SCA, following the **Selection Criteria/Guidelines (to be developed)**, will select and approve all teams who will represent Team Saskatchewan.
2. **Props:** The SCA will purchase and own all props required and used by Team Saskatchewan teams, including poms, signs, megaphones, flags and banners. The SCA will track prop usage and maintain a schedule to keep the equipment in good condition.
3. **Uniform and Clothing Design:** The SCA shall design and/or approve all Team Saskatchewan uniforms, track jackets and additional clothing.
4. **Uniform and Clothing Provider:** The SCA is the official Team Saskatchewan uniform and clothing provider. All pieces must be ordered through the SCA including uniforms, uniform pieces, team jackets and any additional clothing designed and/or approved by the SCA.
5. **Competition support:** The SCA will send a minimum of one representative to the Canadian Cheerleading Championships to provide support and assistance to all the teams representing Team Saskatchewan

Team Saskatchewan Responsibilities

The following details your responsibilities as Team Saskatchewan.

1. **Financial Cost:** At the present time there is no funding available for athletes, coaches, or officials; therefore, the trip is entirely self-funded. You may organize fundraisers and sponsorships to assist with the cost.

2. **Registration:** Registration for the Canadian Cheerleading Championships will be the responsibility of the team.
3. **Travel Itinerary:** It is the team leader/head coach's responsibility to create a comprehensive schedule for a successful and enjoyable experience. The itinerary is to be shared with the SCA executive director.
4. **Travel Booking:** It is the team leader/head coach's responsibility to organize travel arrangements for the team. When choosing transportation, consider factors such as the number of participants, equipment requirements, travel distance, and budget constraints. Safety and comfort should always be prioritized for athletes and staff.
5. **Accommodations:** It is the team leader/head coach's responsibility to select and book appropriate accommodations for the team. When choosing accommodations, factors such as location, budget, and amenities should be considered. It is recommended the team selects accommodations provided by the competition host.
6. **Uniform and Clothing:** The team is responsible to order all approved uniforms, uniform pieces, jackets and optional team clothing through the SCA.
7. **Prop Maintenance:** When the team is in possession of the SCA provided props, it is their responsibility to care for and maintain the props. Teams will be held responsible for any damage and/or loss to the any prop pieces and may be required to incur the cost of replacement.

Team Saskatchewan Uniform and Clothing

Team members are required to purchase their Team Saskatchewan uniforms and track jackets. All coaches are required to purchase the Team Saskatchewan jacket. All additional Team Saskatchewan clothing is optional for athletes and coaches to purchase. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that they bring their uniform, jacket and additional clothing with them to the event.

Team Saskatchewan athletes should be aware that they may only wear their uniforms surrounding the Canadian Cheerleading Championships. Any other events or functions must be approved by the SCA by request to the executive director.

Teams are grouped depending on their division – cheer or performance cheer. The SCA will prioritize that all team members on a single team will receive the same uniform; however, some items might vary in style or color based on gender or age category.

Team members will be given a choice of sizes and the SCA will try to ensure that each athlete receives a properly fitting uniform.

Division	Required	Optional
Cheer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCA designed Team Sask cheer style uniform. - SCA designed Team Sask jacket* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team Sask T-Shirt - Team Sask Sport Bra - Team Sask Shorts - Team Sask Pants - Team Sask Hoodie
Performance Cheer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCA designed uniforms/costumes that fit the category description. - SCA designed Team Sask jacket* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team Sask T-Shirt - Team Sask Sport Bra - Team Sask Shorts - Team Sask Pants - Team Sask Hoodie

Note: The SCA reserves the right to change or amend the items that team members receive as required and/or subject to inventory availability.

*Jacket is optional for the 2023-2024 season only

Exchanges and Purchases

Where possible, and subject to the availability of inventory, The SCA will make best efforts to arrange for the exchange of items as requested by the team members if the exchanged item has not been worn. Team members should immediately contact the SCA executive director (prior to the event) to arrange for an exchange of sizes. If it is not possible to make an exchange for a properly fitted item, team members should try to make an exchange with another team member.

It is important that the Team Saskatchewan uniform and clothing order form is completed and submitted to the SCA by the set deadline to ensure timely delivery. The organization may be sent a set of sizers for team members to be properly fitted (where possible).

Brand Awareness

The SCA has an agreement with an official uniform and clothing supplier, and therefore we ask our teams to be sensitive to this relationship when representing Team Saskatchewan at events. Where possible, only the official Team Saskatchewan jackets and clothing should be worn while travelling to/from events, at accommodations, training and especially at the venue. Team Coaches and other staff are aware of this policy and will be prepared to enforce it on-site.

Representing Saskatchewan

Athletes and coaches are required to wear the official Team Saskatchewan uniform items and/or jacket while participating on Team Saskatchewan. Team Saskatchewan uniforms, jackets and optional clothing is for the Canadian Cheerleading Championships and any additional SCA approved events and **wearing these items outside of these events is not permitted** (including unapproved public appearances, unapproved partnerships and / or social media campaigns). Team Saskatchewan jackets and optional clothing may be worn after the completion of the Canadian Cheerleading Championships.

Athletes and Coaches are not to use their selection to recruit athletes to their organization/club; if found in violation of this, sanctions can be levied, and offenders may be banned from future selection.

Families and Friends are invited to partake by purchasing official Fan Clothing to support the teams.

Selling Team Saskatchewan Clothing

The SCA is the only organization permitted to sell Team Saskatchewan clothing. Members of teams selected to represent Team Saskatchewan (coaches, athletes, medical staff, support personnel, etc) are not permitted to sell their Team Saskatchewan apparel while in the program or upon the completion of their time with the program. Individuals who sell their Team Saskatchewan apparel will be removed from the program.

Athletes/teams will not be allowed to use the SCA or the Team Saskatchewan logo to create team apparel or accessories including but not limited to t-shirts, bows, banners, rings, etc. without prior approval from the SCA Board of Directors.

Social Media Guidelines

The SCA expects respectful interaction from athletes on all their personal and our social media channels and our website. These guidelines apply to Athletes, Coaches, Athlete Support Staff and Mission Staff who are representing Saskatchewan as a Team Saskatchewan Member. They apply whether you are interacting with the SCA, posting on behalf of the SCA, or just referencing the SCA on your personal or public accounts.

Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat, TikTok, YouTube, etc.) is an invaluable vehicle for you to connect with your friends, fans, and potential sponsors. We encourage you to share your personal and professional experiences with your audience. The SCA not only tracks our presence in the news, but we also monitor and promote your social media channels. Local, national and international media use social media and Twitter to connect directly to athletes. Your posts can be used as direct quotes in news articles with or without your permission. So, while we encourage you to engage fans,

partner sport organizations and potential sponsors via your social media platforms, please remember you do so as an elite athlete, a member of Team Saskatchewan, and as an ambassador for Saskatchewan.

Guide for Athletes and Coaches

The [SCA Code of Conduct policy](#) is in place to ensure a safe and positive environment by making Individuals aware that there is an expectation of appropriate behaviour consistent with the Code. The Association supports equal opportunity, prohibits discriminatory practices, and is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and fairness. This applies to every tweet, status update, and photo you post or share. Nothing you post is private, regardless of your privacy settings. As such, please post responsibly and avoid disrespectful, harmful, hateful, disparaging, insulting or otherwise negative posts.

When using social media ...

- Develop a personal strategy plan (brand) for your social media presence, including scheduling time to catch up on responding to positive engagers. You are a leader in your sport so please use your voice to inspire others!
- Please avoid giving your competitors advanced knowledge of you and/or your teammates' injuries or illnesses
- Similarly, refrain from revealing your team's new skills before hitting the mat.
- Avoid comments that could be considered controversial, disrespectful and/or offensive to others, including other nationalities and/or cultures.
- Remember underage athletes are looking up to you so avoid posting photos of you and/or your teammates drinking alcohol, smoking, breaking any law, or just generally behaving disrespectfully.
- Keep your communication professional
- Adhere to the branding policies and media requirements of the SCA, your team, Cheer Canada, and the Canadian Cheerleading Championships when competing and demonstrating at events.
- Be kind and respectful to us, your teammates, your opponents, your officials, your hosts, and your event organizers.
- Familiarize yourself with and do not engage in cyber-bullying and cyber-harassment. Avoid membership in controversial on-line platforms or discussions. Report anything you're concerned about appropriately and in a timely fashion.
- Keep tweeting and posting! When done properly, we love it, fans love it and sponsors love it. And don't forget to tag us!!!!

Finally, no matter how private you think your social media is, it isn't, so don't share anything you wouldn't want seen by the world, such as future employers, sponsors, and/or everyone you know..

Sponsorship & Fundraising

Team Sponsorship and/or Team Donors

1. Individual team sponsorships must be approved by the SCA. Sponsorship requests sent out by any Team Saskatchewan team/individual must be reviewed and approved by the SCA prior to solicitation.
 - a. The SCA will provide Team Saskatchewan coaches and administrators with a generic sponsorship letter to be used for solicitation
2. If a sponsor or donor approaches the team directly through personal contacts, details are to be passed to the SCA for consideration and approval.

3. The SCA will assist Team Saskatchewan teams with sponsor recognition through social media, verbal recognition at the Provincial Championships and/or visual recognition at the Provincial Championships provided:
 - a. The team creates and provides the content/material a minimum of two weeks prior to the event/recognition deadline.
 - b. The recognition parameters do not go against any ongoing agreements the SCA may have with our sponsors.

Team Fundraising

1. Team and/or individual fundraisers for Team Saskatchewan must be approved by the SCA.
2. 100% of the funds raised must go towards Team Saskatchewan expenses:
 - a. Event registration
 - b. Mandatory Team Saskatchewan uniforms and jackets
 - c. Travel expenses including flights/ground transport, accommodations, and meals.
3. Team Saskatchewan teams will be given one (1) vendor table to share at the Provincial Championships that they may use for additional fundraising. Fundraisers could include selling items, a raffle, etc. The fundraiser must be submitted to the SCA at least one month prior to the Provincial Championships for approval and must obtain appropriate licensing if required.
***Fundraisers at the Provincial Championships cannot include a 50/50; the SCA reserves the exclusive right to run a 50/50 during Provincials.
4. Team Saskatchewan athletes, coaches and family members will be given priority when the SCA selects individuals to staff Best of the West and the Provincials Championships provided these individuals have expressed an interest and availability to work these events.