

Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association

# Sanctioned Event Crossover Policy



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Revisions in **RED** – Updated July 15, 2024



## Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association Sanctioned Event Crossover Policy

### Purpose

This policy is intended to clearly identify the expectations and rules for teams competing at Saskatchewan Cheerleading Association (SCA) events. It exists to promote the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship, and is in alignment with the International Cheer Union's stance on preventing game and match fixing and to protect the integrity of the sport:

"Sports Integrity: To preserve the fundamental character of sporting competition as an honest test of skill and ability; to act on and off the field in ways consistent with preserving the social and economic value of sport."<sup>1</sup>

### General Rules

1. Recreational/Performance only athletes are exempt, this applies to athletes performing demos which are not judged and do not receive any awards or placements.
2. Scholastic teams are exempt and do not count as a crossover teams for All Star athletes.

*As per Cheer Canada Crossover Rules:*

3. Athletes cannot cross between Novice, Prep and All Star.
4. An individual athlete may not be permitted to crossover from one program to another within the same event.
  - 4.1. **EXCEPTION:** An athlete may crossover to another program's level 7 team if their initial program does not offer level 7 or level 7NT.
    - 4.1.1. **CLARIFICATION:** Athletes must verify their initial program will permit crossing to another program's level 7 team. This SCA policy does not supersede individual club policies about competing with another program.
5. An individual athlete is limited to compete on no more than three teams during an event, with the following caveats:
  - 5.1.1. Scholastic teams do not count as crossover teams at the same event;
  - 5.1.2. **ICU style teams, such as Team Saskatchewan, do not count as crossover teams at the same event;**
  - 5.1.3. Participation to assist a performance or demonstration team (as in the case of special abilities, parent team, or assisting on the floor with very young athletes) does not count as a crossover team;
  - 5.1.4. Participation in an individual tumbling, partner stunt, or stunt group does not count as a crossover team; and,
  - 5.1.5. Participation in a cheerleading team(s) and performance cheer team(s) do not count as a crossover restriction at the same SCA Sanctioned Event.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://cheerunion.org.ismmedia.com/ISM3/std-content/repos/Top/2013\\_Website/About%20Us/Documents/ICU\\_Rules\\_Competition-Fixing.pdf](https://cheerunion.org.ismmedia.com/ISM3/std-content/repos/Top/2013_Website/About%20Us/Documents/ICU_Rules_Competition-Fixing.pdf)

## Level Restrictions for Crossovers

6. Competitive All Star athletes may not participate/compete on two (or three) teams if the separation between any of the levels the athlete is on exceeds 2 levels at the SAME event from the SAME program at a single SCA Sanctioned Competition.
  - 6.1. **CLARIFICATION:** Athletes may cross freely between levels 1 to 3, levels 2 to 4, and levels 5 to 7. See Rule #6 regarding worlds-level athletes crossing to non-worlds level teams.
  - 6.2. **EXCEPTION:** When a program has a level 6 worlds team, but no level 4 team, athletes may cross from level 6 teams to level 3 teams, while abiding by the worlds-level rule #6. The program may have a level 5 team.
  - 6.3. **EXCEPTION:** When a program has a level 7 worlds team, but no level 5 team, athletes may cross from level 7 teams to level 4 teams, while abiding by the worlds-level rule #6. The program may have a level 6 team.
  - 6.4. **EXCEPTION:** Athletes may cross between level 6.0 and level 3 teams, while abiding by the worlds-level rule #6, due to the similar nature of level 5 and 6 stunting, and because there is no level 5.0 option for non-tumbling worlds teams.
  - 6.5. **EXCEPTION:** If a program has less than 125 athletes total at their program (a small gym), then they may request permission from the SCA to cross between more than 2 levels if the percentage of out of level athletes crossing to or from a team is 50% or less. It is presumed that gyms with more than 125 members have enough athletes to be able to build level-appropriate teams. To request consideration for an exception email [executivedirector@sca.ca](mailto:executivedirector@sca.ca).
  - 6.6. **EXCEPTION:** If an athlete is required to fill in on a team that otherwise would not be able to compete as in the case of injury or illness, then an exception can be made by emailing [executivedirector@sca.ca](mailto:executivedirector@sca.ca). Exceptions may be granted depending on the timing of the request, and requests should be sent as early as possible. The SCA board of directors may decide to accept or reject the exception due to the specific circumstances around the timing or the impact of the replacement. The decision of the Executive shall be final.
  - 6.7. **EXCEPTION:** As per alignment with the inter-program crossover rule that an athlete may cross to another program for level 7 only; this will not affect this crossover policy as they are not from the same program, however said athlete is still only permitted to perform on no more than 3 teams total, other than the exceptions identified in Rule #4.
  - 6.8. **EXCEPTION:** Separate physical gym locations within the same program will be considered as their own program for the purpose of crossovers.
    - 6.8.1. **CLARIFICATION:** Two gym locations from the same program may operate as individual gyms and qualify for the small gym exception (#5.5), but then they are bound by the inter-program crossing rules (#3.1, #4, #5.7)
7. Crossovers from worlds-level teams (levels 5, 6, 7) are limited to 25% of their team roster when crossing down to other competitive levels (3 and 4)
  - 7.1. **CLARIFICATION:** Level 3 and 4 teams with crossover athletes from worlds-level teams (levels 5,6,7) may have a maximum of 25% of their roster comprising of worlds-level athletes.
    - 7.1.1. **Example 1:** A level 5 team has 16 athletes, 25% of the team is 4 athletes, therefore 4 athletes from this team may cross down to a level 3 or level 4 team.
    - 7.1.2. **Example 2:** A level 3 team 20 athletes and has crossovers from worlds-level teams from their program. 25% of the team is 5 athletes, therefore this team may have a maximum of 5 athletes from worlds-level teams on their team.



7.2. **CLARIFICATION:** This rule applies to both the worlds teams with athletes crossing down, and to the other competitive teams (level 3 and 4 teams) with worlds athletes on their roster.

7.2.1. If you assume the teams from Example 1 and 2 above are from the same club, and the club has no other worlds teams with eligible athletes to cross down, this level 3 team can only have a maximum of 4 worlds athletes on their roster, because the level 5 team can only cross down 4 athletes due to their team size.

7.2.2. If this same club also has a level 4 team, but the level 3 team already has 4 athletes from the level 5 team on their roster, the level 4 team can not have any crossovers from the level 5 team, because their maximum allowed to cross down is 4 athletes and this is already being fulfilled on the club's level 3 team.

## Regulation Enforcement

8. It is expected that Event Producers operating within the regulations of an SCA officially sanctioned competition will execute due diligence in managing crossover situations and bring any potential issues to the attention of the executive.

## Consequences

9. A team knowingly and deliberately breaking this policy and who doesn't have a written exception granted from the SCA may be disqualified from the particular competition and refunds will be at the discretion of the Event Producer. If a team breaks this policy, each team the out of level athletes performs on will receive a 10-point deduction from their overall score.

## References Within the Cheerleading Industry

10. Cheer Nova Scotia: <https://www.cheerns.com/home/policies-rules-and-regulations>
11. Canadian Cheer Finals: Athletes participating in Finals may only crossover 1 level up or down to any team attending Nationals and/or attending Canadian Finals.
12. The Summit Crossover Policy: Athletes are not allowed to compete on more than two cheer teams at The Summit. Athletes Level 6 and below may only crossover up or down one level at The Summit (Ex: Level 2 athletes may only crossover to a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 team).
  - 12.1. Exception: L4.2 may only crossover to L2, L3, and/or L4.
  - 12.2. Exception: Level 6 Summit athletes may only crossover to levels 4, 5, and/or 6.
13. IASF Worlds: Crossovers at The Cheerleading Worlds of athletes between teams from the same program are NOT permitted. Crossovers of athletes between programs are NOT permitted. Crossovers of athletes between cheer and dance teams from the same or other programs are NOT permitted.
14. All Star World Championships: Athletes can cross up or down a maximum of 2 levels at ASWC.
15. NCA: Allowed at NCA All-Star Nationals given the restrictions listed below.
  - 15.1. Athletes competing in a USASF standard division may only crossover to an International division if that division is the same level, one level up, or one level down (ex: L2 may crossover to L1, L2, or L3).
    - 15.1.1. Exception: L4 (including L4.2) may crossover to L6 and L6 may crossover to L4 (including L4.2)



## **National Sport Organization**

16. If a policy on crossover athletes is created and distributed at the National Sport Organization level by Cheer Canada, it is recognized that the national policy will overtake the application of the SCA policy, and SCA athletes will abide by the policies mandated by Cheer Canada.

## **Additional Considerations**

17. All teams competing for bids should ensure they are following all rules related to bid eligibility and crossovers.
18. Program Owners are advised to understand and abide by the crossover policies put in place for out-of-province competitions; as they may not reflect the SCA policy.
19. It is recommended event producers in Saskatchewan should specify the crossover rule in their competition handbook for the benefit of out of province teams and to remind SCA members of this policy.