

# 2019 ICU Pan American Championships



## TEAM CANADA CHEER & PERFORMANCE CHEER

The Cheer Canada High Performance Committee is looking for Canada's best to represent our country at the 2019 ICU Pan American Championships in San Jose, Costa Rica. The Pan American Championships are held every two years with this being the second Championship. The event is scheduled to be held on October 19-20, 2019.

Cheer Canada hopes to use the Pan American Championship to provide additional opportunities for athletes to represent their Country. It is our hope to utilize this Championship as an opportunity for athletes to wear the maple leaf and represent their country at this Championship. There will be no preference given to All-Star Clubs or School teams, regionally representative teams or those from one organization. We would like to ask that the Team Canada Program, and the potential formation of regional teams, does NOT become a recruiting tool between cheer clubs. Gym Owners — please cooperate with other gyms and please, ensure that your coaches, athletes and parents understand the ramifications of overt recruitment. If forced to do so, unscrupulous recruiting practices may result in negative consideration by the adjudication committee.

### Cheer Canada is calling for applicants in the following divisions:

#### Junior Pan American Championships Divisions:

##### A). Team Cheer

**Cheer Canada** can select *one* of the following **All Girl** Divisions:

1. All Girl Advanced (equivalent to Level 4)
2. All Girl Elite (equivalent to Level 5)

**Cheer Canada** can select *one* of the following **Coed** Divisions:

1. Coed Advanced (equivalent to Level 4)
2. Coed Elite (equivalent to Level 5)

**Note:** Each nation can enter one (1) All Girl Division (Advanced or Elite) and one (1) Coed Division (Advanced or Elite).

##### B). Team Performance Cheer

**Cheer Canada** can have only *one* (1) entry **per discipline**:

1. Team Cheer Hip Hop
2. Team Cheer Freestyle Pom

**Note:** Crossover of teams into each discipline is allowed as needed for each country.

#### Pan American Championships Divisions:

##### A). Team Cheer

**Cheer Canada** can select *one* of the following **All Girl** Divisions:

1. All Girl Elite (equivalent to Level 5)
2. All Girl Premier (equivalent to Level 6)

**Cheer Canada** can select *one* of the following **Coed** Divisions:

1. Coed Elite (equivalent to Level 5)
2. Coed Premier (equivalent to Level 6)

**Note:** Each nation can enter one (1) All Girl Division (Elite or Premier) and one (1) Coed Division (Elite or Premier).

**B). Team Performance Cheer (3 divisions)**

**Cheer Canada** can have only *one* (1) entry *per discipline*:

1. Team Cheer Hip Hop
2. Team Cheer Freestyle Pom
3. Team Cheer Jazz

**Note:** Crossover of teams into each discipline is allowed as needed for each country.

**C). Team Performance Cheer Doubles (2 divisions)**

**Cheer Canada** can have only *one* entry *per discipline*:

1. Doubles Team Cheer Hip Hop (2 athletes)
2. Doubles Team Cheer Freestyle Pom (2 athletes)

**Note:** Each nation can only have one (1) entry per nation per discipline.

**Time of Routine- Junior Pan American & Pan American Divisions**

**A). Team Cheer - All Girl and Coed:**

1. Cheer Portion: Can be placed in the beginning or middle of routine. Cheer portion minimum time requirement is thirty (30) seconds. Maximum time between Cheer and Music portion: Twenty (20) seconds.
2. Music portion: Two minutes, thirty seconds (2:30)

**B). Team Performance Cheer - Hip Hop, Freestyle Pom and Jazz:**

1. Music portion: Two minutes, fifteen seconds (2:15)

**C). Team Performance Cheer - Doubles Team Cheer Hip Hop, Doubles Team Cheer Freestyle Pom:**

1. Music portion: One minute, thirty seconds (1:30)

**Cheer Portion of Routine- Junior Pan American & Pan American Divisions**

**(Team Cheer All Girl and Coed Divisions)**

Based on importance of separation of cheerleading from other sports; making it a unique sport globally, a cheer will be included in the beginning or middle of routine. Use of native language (including sign language) in the cheer, and also using a more national pride style cheer is encouraged. The Cheer portion of the routine is worth 10 points (of 100 points) and is based on the ability to lead the crowd for the team's nation, use of signs, poms, flags, megaphones and practical use of stunt/pyramids to lead the crowd.

**Team Size/Number of athletes per team- Junior Pan American & Pan American Divisions**

1. Team Cheer – All Girl and Coed Divisions: Minimum 16 athletes, maximum 24 athletes
2. Team Performance Cheer – All Team Cheer Hip Hop & Freestyle Pom Team Divisions: Minimum 16 athletes, maximum 24 athletes
3. Team Performance Cheer- Team Cheer Jazz Division: Minimum 18 athletes, maximum 24 athletes
4. Team Performance Cheer Doubles – Team Cheer Hip Hop, Doubles Team Cheer Freestyle Pom Divisions: Two (2) athletes

### **Age of Athlete- Junior Pan American Cheerleading Championships**

- 1. Team Cheer All Girl & Coed Advanced Divisions** (equivalent to Level 4):  
12-16 years of age within the year of the Pan American Championships
- 2. Team Cheer All Girl & Coed Elite Divisions** (equivalent to Level 5):  
12-16 years of age within the year of the Pan American Championships
- 3. Team Performance Cheer Hip Hop, Freestyle Pom Divisions**  
12-16 years of age within the year of the Pan American Championships

**Note:** As a guideline for all teams, Junior Pan American athletes born on or between 1 January 2002 - 31 December 2007 would be age eligible for the 2019 Junior Pan American Championships. Any team proven to be in violation of the age requirements will be automatically disqualified. Crossovers between all ICU Performance Cheer Divisions and between Junior Pan American and Pan American Performance Cheer Divisions are permitted.

### **Age of Athlete- Pan American Cheerleading Championships**

- 1. Team Cheer All Girl & Coed Elite Divisions** (equivalent to Level 5):  
14 years or older within the year of the Pan American Championships
- 2. Team Cheer All Girl & Coed Premier Divisions** (equivalent to Level 6):  
17 years or older within the year of the Pan American Championships
- 3. Team Performance Cheer Hip Hop, Freestyle Pom and Jazz Divisions:**  
14 years or older within the year of the Pan American Championships
- 4. Team Performance Cheer Doubles Hip Hop, Doubles Freestyle Pom Divisions:**  
14 years or older within the year of the Pan American Championships

**Note:** Crossovers between all ICU Performance Cheer Divisions and between Junior Pan American and Pan American Performance Cheer Divisions are permitted.

### **Performance Surface**

- 1. Team Performance Cheer -Hip Hop, Freestyle Pom, Jazz; and Doubles Divisions:** Marley performance floor or a wooden parquet floor surface. (minimum surface area of 42 feet x 42 feet or 12.8 meters x 12.8 meters)
- 2. Team Cheer- All Girl and Coed:** No spring floor, standard foam mat surface. (9 strips/42 feet x 54 feet or 12.8 meters x 16.5 meters). Note: For the reason of accessibility, cost, and ICU objective of grassroots growth of cheerleading within every nation, a standard foam mat was selected for the Team Cheer All Girl and Coed Divisions.

### **Cross-Overs (athletes participating in multiple divisions)**

Based on the number of national teams anticipated in the 2019 ICU Pan American Cheerleading Championships, crossovers between Performance Cheer divisions and categories will be allowed.

### **Residence of Athletes**

All athletes are required to be a minimum of six (6) month consecutive permanent resident of their respective nation on the 2019 Pan American Championships date of competition.

### **Application and Submission of Routine Video(s) are open to Cheer Canada Members only**

- Complete Application form before 11:59pm on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019
- Complete Video to be uploaded before 11:59pm on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019
- Submit \$200 Application Fee per program

- Complete Roster including alternates/substitutes (Team leader must confirm all athletes are age eligible) ONLY athletes who are intended to be competing/travelling with the team should be on the roster.
- Provide link to “Private” YouTube Video for Adjudication
- NOTE: Programs are permitted and encouraged to submit one video per dance category. For example, one team may submit one video for hip hop and one video for freestyle pom.
- NOTE: Cheer Canada admin will verify that each athlete and coach is a registered member of Cheer Canada

**Video should include:**

- Routines with Music must provide a link to a “Private” YouTube Video for Adjudication
- Submit a Full Routine — that complies with ICU requirements
- Routine Choreography should follow ICU requirements and style
- Show only your best skills with a level of mastery — clean and solid
- Ensure entire routine is visible in video, judges can only judge what they can see
- The environment for filming and athlete attire should be neutral and un-branded in order to prevent team identification. We will be presenting numbered videos to the judges without titles or labels. Therefore, please refrain from adding titles or intros to videos
- Common yet plain attire (shirts/shorts) and filming in a generic facility like a gymnasium would be preferred to ensure there is no positive or negative bias during the adjudication process
- Total Video length should be less than 4 minutes, after 4 minutes, the video will be stopped Judging will be completed by May 24<sup>th</sup> and teams notified by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

An impartial judging panel will be assembled and will be comprised of a minimum of five (5) judges from across the country who are ICU level 2 Cheer trained and certified; with respect to the Performance Cheer judges they have equivalent certification. Judges shall use the ICU judging criteria to evaluate each video submission.

Following the selection of our Teams, these teams will receive support and advice from Cheer Canada Officials and ICU judging experts from within Canada.

Please know that while some logistical support and advice will be provided regarding the trip to Costa Rica, the travel arrangements and all other aspects (including competition entry fees) of the trip will be the responsibility of the teams. Cheer Canada will not be providing any financial support.

**The following is a projected summary of costs incurred by a team travelling to ICU Pan American Championships.**

Description of Cost	Estimated Cost per athlete **Please note these are only estimates and do not include shipping and taxes**
Team Canada Uniform	\$150 CDN (Cheer); varies for Performance Cheer
Team Canada Apparel Package (track suit, shorts, t-shirts, bra top, bag)	\$200 CDN
ICU Pan American Championship Entry Fee	\$45 USD
Airfare	\$1000 - 1300 CDN
Accommodation & Local transportation package (including transportation to/from airport, to the competition venue & any additional official events)	TBD by Pan American Championship host (ICU PanAm host to provide 3 options – lower priced, middle priced & higher priced)
ICU Pan American Optional Tourist Package	TBD by Pan American Championship host

**Good luck to all! We look forward to receiving amazing videos from all parts of Canada.**