

# **HARFORD/BALTIMORE COUNTY** **CHEERLEADING LEAGUE**

## **POLICY**

### **ARTICLE I – BYLAWS**

#### **SECTION 1- NAME**

The name shall be Harford/Baltimore County Cheerleading League (HBCCL). HBCCL will consist of participating Recreation Centers who pay their dues each year. The squads will consist of 3-5, 5-7, 6-8, 7-9, 8-10, 9-11, 10-12, 11-13 and 12-14. All squads will pay dues.

#### **SECTION 2- PURPOSE**

The purpose of the League is to govern and coordinate the HBCCL, adopt and enforce the rules and regulations, and administer to the needs of the program with cooperation of the HBCCL member.

1. Funds. This is a non-profit League. All monies raised through the program will be used for the improvement of the program as a whole. Money not spent will be turned over to the HBCCL general fund.
2. Administration. The Executive Board and the Board of Directors of the HBCCL are the administration and will govern the league.

#### **SECTION 3- DISSEMINATION OF ORGANIZATION FUNDS**

In the event of the dissolution of the HBCCL, the equity will be distributed to all recreation councils calculated by the number of squads in each recreation center.

#### **SECTIONS 4- FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of this year league shall begin on January 1<sup>st</sup> and end on the following December 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **SECTION 5- OFFICERS**

The executive board of the HBCCL shall consist of four (4) elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and one (1) non-elected, but assumed position (Competition Coordinator). All Officers are subject to the same rules as the board members to maintain office.

1. **President** - He/She shall preside at all meetings. He/She shall have full supervision of the league affairs. He/She shall call special meetings, select time and date, sign or counter-sign all contracts or other instruments authorized by the governing board. He/She shall appoint necessary committees, and shall vote in the event of a tie in all matters concerning HBCCL

since he/she is solely responsible for all matters concerning this organization. He/She shall be responsible to oversee and audit all books and financial matters. He/She can contract an independent organization to conduct an audit of the financial records. He/She serves on the Executive Board.

2. **Vice-President** - He/She shall preside in all matters concerning the HBCCL in the absence of the President. He/She serves on the Executive Board.
3. **Secretary** - He/She will issue notices of all meetings there-of, prepares reports. He/She maintains an accurate up to date mailing list for the program, and performs other duties as are incidental to this office. He/She shall provide copies of minutes to all executive board members and board of area directors. He/She shall notify all members of the board to all general meetings set forth date, time, and place of meeting. He/She serves on the Executive Board.
4. **Treasurer** - He/She shall be the fiscal and monetary officer of the HBCCL. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the League and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the HBCCL. The bank account will be opened and maintained with three or four Executive Board Member signatures. He/She shall be required to render an accurate account of all monies when the Executive Board of Director's calls upon him/her to do so. He/She shall submit a written final report at each meeting. Checks will only be issued by the Treasurer and only by the President and Vice-President in his/her absence. All checks must be signed by two (2) people on the Executive Board either the President or Vice-President, secretary and the Treasurer. If a check is issued to an Executive Board member, two other board members must sign the check. He/She serves on the Executive Board.
5. **Competition Coordinator** - the previous year's Hosting Area Director will fill this position. That director will work closely with the current Host Area's director to assist in making a wonderful HBCCL competition. He/She will immediately notify the President of HBCCL of any situation that arises on any matters concerning the competition, and will give a report at the monthly HBCCL meeting. He/She serves on the Executive Board.

## **SECTION 6 –TERMS OF OFFICE**

Upon resignation or removal of any Executive Board Member from their office, the remaining Board and Board of Directors will nominate and elect a new Executive Board Member to office by simple majority vote. In the event of negligence a majority can vote the Board Member out.

All financial records will be turned over to the President by the start of the new fiscal year. An audit and distribution will be conducted during the month of January (before the meetings begins in February).

1. The Officer's term this organization shall be from January 1<sup>st</sup> of a given year to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the same year.
2. All officers shall be elected for one (1) year.
3. All board members are there because they were voted on by their recreation programs or by HBCCL.

## **SECTION 7- OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

Official Business shall be conducted only in the presence of a quorum, which shall consist of at least three (3) members of the Executive Board and one-third (1/3) of the Board of Directors or their alternates. Only the Directors can speak although the meetings are open to the public. Any person who interrupts the HBCCL meeting will be asked to leave the meeting.

1. Guests wishing to discuss a subject must contact the president to request time on the agenda, with their attendance approved prior to the meeting they attend.
2. Conflict of Interest – Any potential conflicts of interest must be disclosed to the Board of Directors. The Board will vote on whether or not the conflict is acceptable.
3. The league will not host a website with information communicating the league's business/information.
4. All personal information required by the league is confidential and will not be used or given out for any individual purposes.
5. The Board of Directors in a simple majority vote shall approve all financial matters. The Executive Board may not decide on it's own to increase expenditures without the board of directors approval. If a circumstance arises and executive board member purchases or increases expenditures with his/her own money, a reimbursement check may not be written without the board of directors' approval.
6. Any checks returned for any reason will have an additional fine of \$50.00.
7. The HBCCL Executive Board is responsible for giving out HBCCL By-Laws, Game Rules, Competition Rules and Level Divisions to each area Director. It is then up to each area director to pass on this information to their area's coaches. The HBCCL executive board will not accept responsibility for a squad not being informed from their area director.

### **SECTION 8- VOTING RIGHTS**

A Board Member is the individual elected or appointed director/coordinator by their area to maintain voting rights he/she must attend every meeting or send his/her alternate. If an alternate is sent, the area's director/coordinator must send or have on file a written proxy for voting rights. Each area is limited to one vote.

1. Each director can proxy for any area but will receive only one (1) vote per meeting, not the number of proxies they hold (directors will only get one vote per meeting). An area may only use a proxy twice in a calendar year.

### **SECTION 9- ELECTIONS**

Nominations for the executive officers will take place at the October meeting. The election of the Executive Board shall take place at the November meeting.

### **SECTION 10- MEETINGS**

HBCCL shall begin its regularly scheduled monthly meetings beginning in February and continuing through November at the current President's home site. Nominations for officers will be taken at the October meeting and elections will be held at the November meeting. Nominees must have attended three meetings. Newly elected board members will take office on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

1. A December meeting will be held if the HBCCL competition is held after the scheduled

November meeting or if there is any unfinished HBCCL business that needs to be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

2. The President can call a special meeting at any time.
3. After two (2) absences, excluding special meetings called by the President; the Secretary will submit that member's name to the President. The board member will then be notified of the consequences for failure to attend the third meeting.
4. Failure to attend the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) meeting, a majority vote from the board members that are present will result in denial of the area to participate in that year's HBCCL competition.

## **SECTION 11- AMENDMENTS**

### Amendments to By-Laws

1. All amendments to these By-Laws shall be proposed in writing. This should be submitted at all general meetings.
2. All amendments shall be adopted upon a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## **SECTION 12- CRITERIA FOR NEW AREAS**

1. Your Area must first be a part of the HBYFL (Harford-Baltimore County Football League)
2. Your fields must be inspected by HB Cheerleading for
  - Field conditions
  - Parking
  - Bathrooms
3. If an area was affiliated with another group they must furnish the name of the Organization, Phone Number and contact person for the group you were last affiliated with.
4. You must submit in writing your registration procedures and proposed practices times and locations.
5. You must petition to be part of the HBCCL by reading our by-laws, competition rules, NFHS rules, and level divisions. They must agree in writing to abide by all the rules.
6. New members that join HBCCL will be on probation for 2 years for evaluation of their program.
7. The month of May will be the cut off date for new areas wishing to join HBCCL
8. The Harford Baltimore County Cheerleading League will be limited to 18 areas within our league
9. New Areas voted into the HBCCL must be a member of the HBCCL for at least 2 years before hosting the annual league competition, unless no other areas submit a bid.

## **SECTION 13- EXPECTATIONS & CONSEQUENCES**

All participants will show respect to each other, coaches and to all squads. (Keep in mind that you are representing your area and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated).

1. The Board of Directors will vote on disciplinary action.
2. If an area has an issue with another area, call that area's director to try to work out the problem first. If the problem is not resolved then that issue may be brought to the Executive Board.

## **SECTION 14- RULE AND REGULATION REVIEW**

Rules and Regulation will be reviewed every 2 years.

- These by-laws will be reviewed during the 2011 season.

## **ARTICLE 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **SECTION 1- WHEN ITEMS ARE DUE**

1. **Information /Rec Contact Form-** Information /Rec Contact Form must be turned by the March meeting completed. Any area that does not turn in the sheet will be fined \$25 per month.
2. **Annual dues-**Annual dues are \$25.00 per squad. Dues are payable to the HBCCL Treasurer by the August meeting. If dues are late, there will be a \$25.00 fine per month, per squad, until the dues are paid in full. If annual dues and fines are not paid in full by the September meeting, the board of directors will vote on disciplinary action.
3. **Practice Schedules-** A practice schedule is due at the August meeting for outside practices. When an area goes indoors or has any permanent changes to their practice schedules, another practice schedule must be handed in to the president with in seven days of the change. Any area that does not turn in schedules will be fined \$25.00 per month, per squad. Any minor changes to the schedule must be emailed to the Executive Board. Failure to notify the Executive Board will result in the same fine.
4. **Competition Rosters-** Competition rosters are due at the October meeting (completed).
5. **Per Cheerleader Fee-** The per cheerleader fee is due at the October meeting, made payable to the hosting area.

### **SECTION 2- SEASON GUIDELINES**

1. No organized practice will be permitted before August 1<sup>st</sup>. Organized practice will be defined as – organizing fifty (50%) percent or more of the team/ squad to provide instruction, choreography, stunting sequences, cheer skills etc. Penalty for violation of this rule will be removal/ability to participate in that season’s HBCCL Championship Competition.
2. As long as a camp is held after August 1<sup>st</sup>, you are not in violation of the practice time (if you don’t go over the 10 hours of practice per week per squad). A camp may be held before August 1<sup>st</sup>, as long as it’s open to anyone and the groups are not broken down into squad ages. Notification in writing must be submitted to the league president if an area is holding a camp. If notification is not received by the board prior to the start of the camp a fine will be imposed.
3. Practice shall be limited to 10 hours per week before Labor Day.  
Practice shall be limited to 6 hours per week after Labor Day.  
The HBCCL week is the same as a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday)
4. If a team is found to exceed practice time limits, that team will be disqualified from competing in the HBCCL Competition.
5. Off-season is defined as the day after the HBCCL Competition until May 31st. Extended season competitions will not prohibit cheering at any of the play off or championship football games.
6. The off-season is also referred to as extended season.
7. Areas may hold their off-season registration during the HBCCL season, but may not hold any 5

- organized off-season practices until that season begins.
8. Any individual participating on a JV or Varsity Cheerleading team or an all-star squad between August 1<sup>st</sup> and HBCCL's competition day is ineligible to compete at the HBCCL Competition, with the exception of Special needs teams. Non-compliance will result in team disqualification from the HBCCL Competition.
  9. All-Star and high school try-outs can be held prior to the HBCCL competition; however, no HBCCL cheerleader can practice and/or participate on that team until the HBCCL competition is over.
  10. If any area knowingly has a cheerleader on two rosters/teams and they are caught (up to one year later) then there could be a fine and/or penalty. The fine and/or penalty would be determined and voted by the Board of Directors.
  11. No cheerleader can participate/compete on more than one age group and/or squad.
  12. Attendance for practices will be monitored on a recreation level. During inclement weather the area director should follow their recreation council's policy for this subject.

### SECTION 3- ROSTERS

All rosters (including the alternate roster) and level divisions are due at the October meeting, if a director is absent due to an emergency situation, then they will have 48 hours to get their rosters to the President. A fine of \$25.00 per roster will be assessed per week until the fine is paid in full. Fines not paid within the thirty days will be assessed a \$25.00 per week, per squad until the fine is paid.

1. A master squad list is the original, limited to 25 girls, as per our bylaws. The alternate list is limited to 5 cheerleaders per squad registered by your recreation program.
2. Any cheerleader on the alternate list can compete on any registered team within your recreation program, as long as the age falls within the guidelines. Any cheerleader on the alternate list is only eligible to compete within the recreation council who registered the list.
3. E-mailing a roster is the same as not having your roster at the meeting.
4. If a director is present at the October meeting the rosters are due. Rosters not turned in (at the October meeting), those teams will not compete in the HBCCL competition for that season.
5. Rosters and level divisions are turned in at the October meeting. A master list and an alternate list must be turned in. These lists are acceptable for the HBCCL Competition. All girls must appear on a master list or an alternate list in order to compete in the HBCCL Competition. A master list is the original, limited to 25 cheerleaders (as per our by-laws). The alternate list is limited to 5 girls per squad registered by your rec. Any cheerleader on the alternate list can compete on any registered team within your recreation program, as long as the age falls within the guidelines. Any cheerleader on the alternate list is only eligible to compete within the recreation council who registered the list.
6. Competition Rosters must include the following-
  - **name**
  - **date of birth**
  - **age as of November 1<sup>st</sup> (of current year)**
  - **school**
  - **grade**
  - **Each roster must have average age calculated at the bottom of page.**
    - A roster will be considered incomplete if the average age calculation is not included.

7. A roster form will be provided to the area director at the beginning of each HB season.
8. A \$25.00 fine (per roster) will be imposed on all incomplete or incorrect rosters. Roster will be considered incomplete if a roster has any empty spaces or the average age is missing at the bottom of the roster. An incorrect roster is any roster that has the wrong information entered for any cheerleader. (calculating the wrong age for a cheerleader is an example of an incorrect roster.) All rosters should be typed.
9. **Determining the Average Age:**
  - Add the November 1<sup>st</sup> age of each squad member.
  - Divide that total by the number of squad members.
  - Example #1: an 11-13 squad has 25 girls with the total November 1<sup>st</sup> age being 315. Divide 315 by 25= 12.6.
  - This squad falls in that age group.
  - Example #2: an 11-13 squad has 14 girls with the total November 1<sup>st</sup> age being 147. Divide 147 by 14= 10.5.
  - If this squad doesn't fall in that age group and adjustments have to be made.
  - Each girl is only permitted to perform on one (1) team in one (1) group. Girls may be one (1) year older or one (1) year younger in their age division as long as the overall average age of the squad meets the guidelines.

## SECTION 7- FOOTBALL GAMES

1. Cheerleaders must attend 100% games including regular season, playoff and championship games.
2. Attendance for all games will be monitored on a recreation level.
3. During inclement weather it will be up to each area's directors to decide whether to cheer. Notification must be given to the opposing director within one hour of the scheduled game, if an area will be unable to cheer. If inclement weather conditions occur rapidly during a game, the opposing coaches will discuss whether to continue to cheer for that game. If a squad fails to show up for a game, fines will be imposed (\$25.00 for the 1st infraction, \$50.00 for the second infraction and the third infraction will result in disqualification from the HBCCL Competition.)
4. An unlimited amount of cheerleaders may cheer on any squad at football games
5. Games the day before a HBCCL area Competition must be cheered for. Games that begin at 8pm those cheerleaders may leave at halftime. Any game scheduled/started after 8:30pm does not have to be cheered for, unless otherwise determined by individual Rec Councils.
6. All participants shall wear a full cheerleading uniform at all games and events. An alternate uniform may be worn as long as the girls are wearing team colors.
7. The 3/5 and 5/7 exhibition teams (non-competing at competitions) do not need to cheer for a full football game. How long those teams will cheer at a game will be determined by their recreation council.
8. Cheerleading is not responsible for attending a game when a football game has a change without at least 48 hours notice. However cheering at a rescheduled game is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory. Cheerleaders will not need to cheer at games scheduled on Sundays or those in which cheerleaders must pay to attend.
9. All areas will use the Football Game Attendance sheets. These forms sheets will assist us in

enforcing fees applied to squads not showing up for games.

10. Mascots can be used for at football games.

**Beginning of the Game-**The HOME team's cheer representative (squad's coach) must greet and welcome the Away team's cheer representative at the opposing (away) team's side, before the end of the first quarter of the game. At that time, each coach will sign the other's game attendance sheet.

### **During the Game-**

1. Location-All cheerleaders and coaches should be located behind the 25-yard line on their appropriate side, AND at least one foot away from the out of bounds line. This is done to keep the cheerleaders from colliding with the football players crossing the sidelines into out of bounds.
2. Yard markers and "the Chain gang"-They are not in your way, You are in theirs. This is a football game. Do not move the Yard markers. This will cause potential problems for your football team from the officials. Move out of the way for the "Chain gang". They have a very important job of marking the downs and yardage needed by a football team so they can keep control of the football to make a touchdown.
3. Sideline Spirit Rising
4. Is reflective of the traditional and primary role of cheerleaders. This form requires cheerleaders to concentrate on communicating with the crowd to solicit their active participation in the school's cheers and chants.
5. Attention- It is up to the cheerleading coaches to ensure their cheerleader's attention is toward the action taking place in the game at all times. Maintaining constant vigilance to the development of the game play not only helps to reduce potential hazards but it also assists the cheerleaders in selecting the appropriate cheer or chant for the particular game situation.
6. Safety-There are external factors beyond the control of the cheerleaders that may represent potential safety hazards. Be aware of your surroundings. Yard markers, ice chests, tables, benches, megaphones, wires, chains, wandering children, etc.
7. In the event of a down (injured) football player, the cheerleading squad will kneel down on one knee until the situation is resolved. If the player has a serious injury the coaches may remove the cheerleaders from the field and must return when game resumes.
8. Stunts and Pyramids-Can only be performed during the game, when the football players are at the opposite end of the playing field and at half time. Coaches should only let the cheerleader's stunt if the conditions are acceptable (as per your program guidelines).
9. Cheering
  - a. Each squad will take turns calling cheers
  - b. No team should cheer while the other is cheering
  - c. No team shall mock (poke fun at) the opposing team.
  - d. It is allowed to occasionally let the cheerleaders face the crowd with their backs to the playing field.
  - e. If there are no opposing cheerleaders, the cheerleaders may cheer to their crowd and occasionally to the football players, as long as all safety requirements are met.
10. Half-time performance-Location- Both Coaches (away and home) will discuss half-time procedures on a game-by-game basis.
11. Stunts and Pyramids-Stunts, Pyramids and Tumbling are allowed provided that:
  - There are enough spotters
  - Weather conditions have not made the performing surface slippery or dangerous.

12. If the performing area is not satisfactory the squads will modify their routines for cheers, chants and dance only.
13. Performance time is kept below 3 minutes.
14. You are not interfering with a “special event” taking place during half time, such as homecoming, raffles; outside group was invited to perform.
15. All teams are required to perform a half-time routine. Routines must be preformed for the opposing team.
16. You may not practice any routine, stunt or dance sequence during a game. For a visiting team, practice is limited to one hour before a game.
17. Break Time- Ultimately, it is up to each Area’s By-laws to dictate how long a squad’s break can be. However, it is not unreasonable to allow a minimum 15 minute break after the half-time routines. Don’t forget the cheerleader’s job is to cheer at the football game not just perform at half time. Cheerleaders must stay for the duration of the game.
18. Squads must be back to cheering before the end of the third quarter.

### **SECTIONS 8- COMPETITION**

1. The maximum number of cheerleaders on a HBCCL competition team is 25 (A team may have no more than 25 girls on the completion floor while competing).
2. No try-outs will be held for HBCCL competition squads. If it is discovered that your Squad/area holds or held tryouts for the HBCCL competition, you will be disqualified from the HBCCL competition for the season and fined \$200 and possibly banned from competing in future HBCCL Competitions.
3. All per cheerleader fees to participate in the HBCCL Competition area due to the hosting area(s) at the October meeting or when needed but must have one month notice. A \$25 per squad fine will be assessed for each week that the balance and fine are not paid in full. This fine is payable to HBCCL.
4. All proposals to Host the HBCCL competition for the current season MUST be submitted in writing and presented to the board members at the April meeting. Proposals will be voted on at the April meeting after the bids are presented.
5. The hosting area will pay for all costs and fees related to the HBCCL Competition including fifty percent (50%) of the panel/safety judge’s fees. HB will issue an invoice to the hosting area for the panel/safety fees. Payment for the judges is due on the day of the HB competition.
6. The HB executive officers will procure the judges for the HBCCL competition.
7. HB will provide the score sheets for the competition.
8. Judges need to be familiarized on the rules. They need to have those weeks in advance to study and know. They should review the rules with the executive board the morning of Competition.
9. No judge should have previously been involved in any competition hosted by a HBCCL member for that season. Any area hosting a competition must submit the names of their judges to the Executive Board by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Failure to do this will result in the HB Board of Directors voting on disciplinary actions before the HB competition.
10. Nobody, including Board members, is to advise the Judges of what they see. An executive board member can only verify to a judge, if it is one of our rules. For the safety and integrity of the competition judges, NO one but the HBCCL executive board will be allowed to talk to the judges.
11. The HBCCL judges will be recommended by a certified judging organization. There will be two alternating three (3) panel judges who score the cheerleaders in all categories and two Safety judges (this is a combination of a legality judge and point deduction judge) who only

take deductions.

12. Each group will be given two minutes and 30 seconds (2 ½ Minutes) to perform. Time starts from the first organized motion. Exhibition squads will have one minute and thirty seconds (1 ½ Minutes) to perform. If a squad goes over time, there will be a 5-point deduction. There is a one minute and thirty second (1 ½ minute) music time limit. If a team is over either limit by 1-5 seconds no point deductions. There will be a 5-point deduction for 6+ seconds over time limit.
13. Each group will be judged in the following areas: As per the HBCCL score sheet.
  - a. Skills & Execution
    - Jumps - 10
    - Tumbling – 10
    - Partner Stunts – 10
    - Pyramids / Basket Tosses – 10
    - Motions – 10
    - Projection/Expression/Showmanship/Voice – 10
    - Dance (Difficulty & Execution) – 10
    - Timing/Transitions/Flow – 10
    - Choreography (Spacing/Formations/Use of Floor) – 10
    - Overall Crowd Appeal / Creativity – 10
      - **TOTAL POINT VALUE – 100**
  - b. Safety deductions will be PER OCCURANCE as follows:
    - Blatant Stunting Bobbles - 0.5
    - Falls Caught by Bases – 3
    - Falls to Ground – 5
    - Tumbling Falls to Hands, Knees or Buttocks – 3
    - Improper Dismount Technique – 3
    - Inattentive Spotter – 5
    - Exceeding Boundaries During Stunting/Tumbling – 3
    - Exceeding Boundaries at Other Times – 0.5
    - Dangerous Use of Props (as defined by NFHS) – 3
    - Appearance/Uniform (hair, jewelry, loss of shoe) – 3
    - Inappropriate/profane music- 10 point deduction
14. Each squad will have 30 seconds to get on the floor and to be ready to start their routine. At least one foot of every cheerleader MUST be on the floor in order to start. If a team member violates this rule, there will be a five (5) point deduction per violation. If the 30 seconds is exceeded there will be a five (5) point deduction.
15. Glitter on any part of the person/uniform or prop is prohibited. There will be a 25 point deduction. (Glitter is considered fine particulars that do not readily adhere to a surface.)
16. Coaching during a team's performance is prohibited. Coaching consists of blatant arm and hand motions and verbal directions (including the universal signs for smile and louder). There will be a 50 point deduction taken by the safety judge.
17. A 25 (twenty-five) point deduction will be taken for each illegal stunt. This deduction would come from the safety judge.
18. We will follow HBCCL Cheerleading Level Divisions for all age groups. Any intentional level division violation will result in disqualification. This decision will be made by the

safety judge.

19. Competition will be for age groups: 5-7, 6-8, 7-9, 8-10, 9-11, 10-12, 11-13, and 12-14. It will be up to each area if their 5-7 squads is to perform as a competition squad or an exhibition squad. Decision on such must be made by the October meeting. The age division for groups will be decided by the AVERAGE AGE on the roster determined by the age on November 1<sup>st</sup>. (*See section for determining average age*) ♦ 3-5 squads will perform as exhibition only.
20. Exhibition teams will receive score sheets for information purposes only. (These score sheets will be handed out at the end of the competition to the area director.
21. Neither age division, nor level division can be changed after squad performance placement has been picked at the October HBCCL Board Meeting.
22. Any team competing alone in age division and level division shall compete against a set score. If 200 points or higher is received (2/3 of possible total score) the team will receive First Place. If less than 200 points is received (less than 2/3 of the possible total score) the team will receive Second Place
23. For the safety and integrity of the competition and judges, score sheets will be given out after the final session awards ceremony at the end of the day. A designated area will be assigned to get the score sheets. Score sheets will only be given to the Area coordinator.
24. If a major malfunction of a team's music happens no deductions will be taken. No squad will be permitted to re-perform their routine. The only exception will be if the music malfunction results from the DJ's operating the sound system. The safety judge will make the final decision on this ruling.
25. We shall follow the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Spirit Rules.
26. No one is allowed on the competition floor except the squad performing and designated spotters.
27. No person will be allowed or called up to the judge's area.
28. Cheerleaders and props in the 3-5, 5-7 and 6-8 age division may be placed as a group on the performance floor by the coach.
29. No team should practice anywhere other than at the practice time and area provided to them on Competition day. Penalty for violation will be disqualification of that squad.
30. Only coaches of exhibition teams can sit in front of the performance area to view their squad. Coaches of competition squads must sit be seated to the side of the announcer during their squad's performance.
31. All participants will show respect to each other, coaches and to competition squads. (Keep in mind that you are representing your area and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.) If any area is blatantly disrespectful, the HBCCL Board and Executive Board will vote on the course of action.
32. The HBCCL Board will simultaneously keep the time of the squads for the competition.
33. If an age group has a tie for any placing, we will allow the tie and not break it. The area that performed first at the competition will take the team trophy home that day. The team that performed second will take the individual trophies home that day.
34. If any age group and level has 8 or more teams, they will be randomly split into two divisions - Stars and Stripes.
35. In the event of an injury on the competition mat, the safety judge will determine if the competition should be stopped and will determine when it can restart.
36. If a cheerleader has a hard cast or brace, they must have a physician's release, from the doctor who is treating the condition, before they are able to take the mat. NFHS rules must still be followed.

37. Mascots may not be used in a competition routine.
38. Score sheets and deductions sheets will be reviewed annually for industry updates.

## **SECTION 9- HBCCL CHEERLEADING LEVEL DIVISIONS**

### **Level 1**

1. The following gymnastic skills are allowed: cartwheels, round offs, forward & backward rolls, front & back walkovers, handstands and bridges
2. Only pop cradles and straight drops are allowed. Twist downs are not permitted
3. Tick Tocks are not permitted
4. Basket Tosses are not permitted
5. Extended partner stunts or extended pyramids are not permitted

### **Level 2**

1. The following gymnastic skills are allowed: Those in Level 1, front & back handsprings, running back tucks, running layouts and ariels.
2. No double twists allowed
3. Tick Tocks are not permitted
4. No twisting skills in basket tosses, including log rolls. No helicopter tosses.

Single leg extended stunts are permitted only when in some type of pyramid

### **Level 3**

- Must follow National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) Spirit Rules

***\* Any intentional level division violation will result in disqualification. \****