



USA Federation for Sport Cheering

# Overview of Competitive Cheer as a Sport in California

*Spring 2018*

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# Background

USA Cheer is responsible for the growth and oversight of all disciplines of Cheer within the United States.

- Cheer has evolved into a highly skilled athletic activity, but also plays a unique role in schools.
- USA Cheer recognizes the importance of sportsmanship, and the impact that Cheer has in elevating spirit at games, within schools and in the community.
- Cheer is a critical part of the high school experience, and the spirit and leadership elements of the activity require a unique structure within the school.

***Schools have adopted various disciplines of Cheer to uniquely support the needs of sports and activities within their schools.***

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# Competitive Cheer Bill in California

With the passing of the AB949 Competitive Cheerleading Bill, introduced by assembly woman Lorena Gonzales from the 80<sup>th</sup> district, the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) now recognizes competitive cheer as an approved CIF sport with two different formats:

1. Traditional Competitive Cheer (TCC)
2. Competitive Sport Cheer (CSC)

***One of the key objectives of the bill is to ensure that all competitive cheer coaches comply with CIF coaching certification and safety requirements.***

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# Goals in California

## The objectives pertaining to cheer programs

1. Ensure coaches have the best training and safety education available and that participants follow safety guidelines.
2. That cheer programs have the opportunity for athletic participation and recognition for their roles in leadership.

## How can we achieve these goals?

1. Create Awareness – participation and safety
2. Create Opportunities, not limitations
3. Create competitive experiences and opportunities for all schools
4. Keep event expenses for schools minimal



## Types of Cheer in California

Sideline Cheer	Traditional Competitive Cheer (TCC)	Competitive Sport Cheer (CSC)
Does NOT fall under CIF approved sports	Falls under CIF approved sports	Falls under CIF approved sports
No season	No defined season of sport	Spring season
Recommended that coaches comply with CIF Coaching Certification and Safety Requirements	Coaches MUST comply with CIF Coaching Certification and Safety Requirements	Coaches MUST comply with CIF Coaching Certification and Safety Requirements
Cheerleaders cheering for another athletic team at a school site athletic event (Game, match, meet, etc.)	Standard competition routine with <i>subjective</i> judging	Involves head to head competition with <i>objective</i> judging

# ***What does this mean for me and my team?***

- **If you're a Sideline only Cheer team**, this does not affect you at all. Continue the important job raising spirit and school pride on your campus all year long!
- **If you're a Traditional Competitive Cheer (TCC) or (CSC) competitive sport cheer team**, you will have specific sport guidelines for the 2018-2019 season:
  - Must follow CIF safety standards, practice times and sport requirements
  - Adhere to the season of sport for TCC and or CSC.
- **If you want to ADD a new varsity female sport to your high school (CSC) Competitive Sport Cheer** is an option, and a great opportunity for high school females to participate in a Spring sport derived from cheerleading.



# *How to be successful independently yet work cohesively together*

## ➤ **Game Day Preparation**

- Summer camp, pep-rallies, school ambassadors, community relations and more – this is your sideline team – work with principal on adhering to club/activity requirements for this team.

## ➤ **Competition Preparation**

- Work with Athletic Director to define start date for your program with TCC

# *Season of Sport*

As we begin, **Traditional Sport Cheer** will not have a defined season of sport under CIF – however check with your section/district on timeline for TCC in your area. The **Competitive Sport Cheer** season of sport has been identified as a Spring sport.

## **CIF BYLAWS**

- BYLAW 205 – Scholastic Eligibility
- BYLAW 506 – Practice Allowance
- BYLAW 504.M – Sunday Restriction
- BYLAWS 206, 207 – Transfer Rules
- BYLAW 510 – Undue Influence
- BYLAW 703 – Sanctioned Events





## ***Freshman Contact Rule***

- **Sideline Cheer – check with Principal/Activity director for club**
- **Traditional Competitive Cheer (TCC) – section specific for timeline**
- **Competitive Sport Cheer (CSC) – should all be current students- check with your section/district for recruiting rules and timeline**

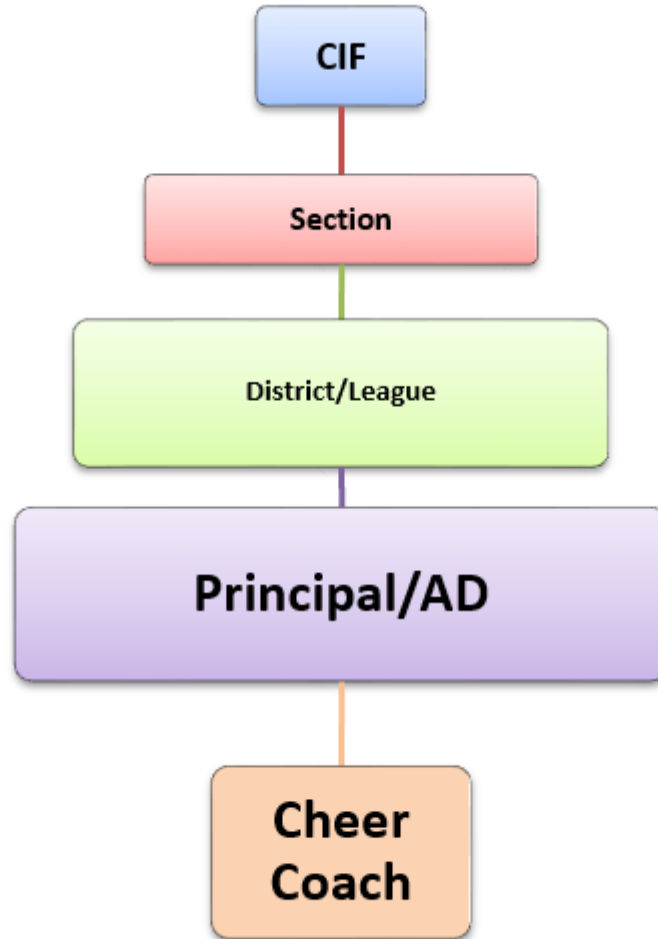
# *Dead Periods*

➤ **Section & Sport Specific -**

➤ **Example from Sac Joaquin Section**

➤ [http://static.psbin.com/q/6/qdqqo9r9ub17mm/18-19\\_calendar\\_2page.pdf](http://static.psbin.com/q/6/qdqqo9r9ub17mm/18-19_calendar_2page.pdf)

# Line of communication:



# What Section do you belong to?



## California CIF Sections



Learn more at CIF about your section: <http://cifstate.org/landing/index>

# Educate yourself:



- ❖ This link below has been made public by the CIF for Competitive Cheer
- ❖ [http://cifstate.org/sports/competitive\\_cheer/index](http://cifstate.org/sports/competitive_cheer/index)
- ❖ Locate your sections bylaws for your specific regulations for sports and specifically talk to your AD/District about cheer specific guidelines



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