

COMPETITIVE CHEER OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS
Cheerleading Invitational Manual

HOSTING AN INVITATIONAL

IHSA member schools agree to enter into contests that follow the rules set forth by the National Federation of High Schools, modified by the IHSA (by-law 2.010). Please go to IHSA.org on the cheer page for a copy of the Competitive Cheerleading Terms and Conditions.

OFFICIALS

Host schools should hire IHSA officials (by-law 2.080). Host schools will need to hire a minimum of 6 officials: 3 panel and 3 technical. Be sure to hire one of your panel officials as your head official. The head official is responsible for quality control and proper assessment of the rubric among the panel officials. Your head official can be a scoring official at an invitational. At larger invitational's you may want to hire two panels of officials.

Per the IHSA recommendations, post contest conferencing between officials and coaches is not permitted. Any questions should be directed to a tournament manager.

OFFICIALS PAY

Recommendations for rate of pay:

Weekend Invitationals:

Base pay of \$200 with a \$50 per hour increase for each hour over 4 hours.

Weekday Invitationals:

Base pay of \$125 with a \$50 per hour increase for each hour over 2 hours.

Inform the head official how officials will be paid and what additional information your school district needs prior to the contest.

FACILITY SET UP

If space allows, a "horse shoe" set up is best. This is a similar set up to the state final. Move the performing surface to one end of your basketball court and the officials' tables to the other. Elevate the panel officials on a platform if possible. An additional table (on the floor) is needed for the technical officials.

9 panels of mat should be rolled out parallel to the shooting lane. Be sure to raise the basketball hoops. A white X may be placed in the center of the mat. Rope off the performance and judging area from the spectators.

Doors to the gym will need to be shut while teams are performing. Please designate people to man the doors.

WARM-UP GYM

The warm-up area needs to have three separate stations: 3 strips for open warm-up, 3 strips for tumbling warm-up, and a full floor for routine warm-up. Time allowed at each warm-up location should follow the IHSA Terms and Conditions. Teams may use each warm-up location at their discretion.

The contest host will need to provide people to work in the warm-up area. It is best to have people at each area to help teams move from one area to the next once their time has expired.

Provide each team with a host school liaison to escort teams from their holding area, through the warm-up process, and to the competition floor.

SCORING PROGRAM/TABULATION ROOM

CCOI recommends the use of TourneyWire; the official scoring program of the IHSA state series. Host schools can secure TourneyWire at www.tourneywire.com by selecting “click here to place your order now” under the header photo.

The host school will need to secure a WiFi connection for the officials to use throughout the day. Each panel official will need a dedicated laptop/computer while scoring the event. The tech team of officials will only need one laptop/computer. If you are using two or more panels of officials, each tech team will need their own laptop/computer.

The host school will need a staff member to run printouts of scoresheets while the event is taking place. TourneyWire will provide you with those instructions.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Timers- Plan to have a minimum of 3 timers with stop watches. 2 timers will time the music only and 1 timer will time the entire routine. The timers will need to be located near the technical officials. After each performance, one of the technical officials will record the time from the timers.

DJ/Sound System- A school sound system is fine to host a contest, however, you will want to be sure you have a MC with cheer experience to maintain the flow of the day. If possible, consider hiring a DJ with cheerleading competition experience. Sound needs to be clear and at a good volume for a full gym. You will want to play music between performances.