

JAMZ YOUTH POLICIES

These guidelines apply to all Youth Cheer & Dance Divisions

Changes for the 2020-2021 Season are in red

WHEN DO DIVISIONS COMBINE?

JAMZ reserves the right to combine/delete divisions based on participation. For example, teams in upper level youth divisions: If there is a lack of participation in the selected division – your team may be required to omit the element(s) allowed under the upper level youth divisions and move to a lower level. Example: The extended single leg stunt allowed in youth level 3 division must be omitted to abide by youth level 1 rules. Coaches will be notified of this type of division change PRIOR to competition.

WHEN DO DIVISIONS SPLIT?

SMALL/LARGE DIVISIONS: At JAMZ events, teams will compete based on age and skill level (as listed in the divisions). After registration is complete, divisions may be split into small and large based on equal distribution of small and large teams. If there are **TEN (10) OR MORE TEAMS IN A DIVISION**, JAMZ reserves the right to split into small and large. Small and large numbers will be determined by the natural break. Natural break is calculated by finding the average participant number of the teams in that division and splitting accordingly.

After splitting into small/large, if more than 12 teams fall to one side, the division will be split into small, medium and large by dividing the division into thirds (while keeping 'like participant numbers' in the same division).

In a division there are not Ten (10) or more teams registered but show a clear natural split based on athlete registration - JAMZ may split the divisions into small/medium/large based on athlete variances in team sizes - ensuring no team is in a division by themselves. Example: 8 teams registered for a division. 6 of the 8 teams have 9-10 athletes. The remaining 2 teams have 20-30 athletes. JAMZ may split the division.

The natural break is calculated using the original number of participants registered. Once the draft schedule is publicized, the boundaries of the split divisions are set for the event. You may only add athletes up to the split boundary maximum listed for your division stated on the draft schedule. You may drop athletes as necessary; however, your team will remain in the same division as posted on the draft schedule even if the adjusted number of athletes would qualify your team for the smaller division.

JAMZ reserves the right to move or keep any team within a division or category.

N/A DIVISIONS: At any JAMZ event, if there is only one team registered in a non-affiliated (N/A) division at the time the draft schedule is created, that division will be combined with another N/A division within a two-year age gap (providing other divisions are present; i.e. if N/A Division 8 Show Cheer Level 1 only has 1 team registered, they will be moved to N/A Division 10 Show Cheer Level 1). If there is not another age division within a two-year age gap, there will be no change.

DIVISIONS ARE NOT GUARANTEED

JAMZ RESERVES THE RIGHT TO COMBINE/DELETE DIVISIONS BASED ON PARTICIPATION. All divisions listed are not available at every regional championship. For teams in upper level youth divisions: If there is a lack of participation in the selected division – your team may be required to omit the element(s) allowed under the upper level youth divisions and move to a lower level. Example: The extended single leg stunt allowed in youth Level 3 division must be omitted to abide by youth level 1 rules. Coaches will be notified of this type of division change PRIOR to competition



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ROSTER REQUIREMENTS

YOUTH TEAMS:

- Coaches will enter the names of all athletes in the JAMZ online registration System.
- Youth Teams will NOT be required to submit their League Rosters to JAMZ.
- Each Youth League Coach MUST bring their Official Team 'books' to each JAMZ Championship.
- The books MUST contain the following 7 items for each competitor to verify they have been affiliated with your Youth Football Team for the entire football season.
 1. League Name
 2. Team Name
 3. Athlete Name
 4. Birthdate - Proof of Birth (i.e.: Certificate)
 5. Photo ID
 6. Parent/Guardian Information
 7. Signature of League Official

In the event of a protest, a JAMZ official will request to see your 'books'. Not having this information available may result in **disqualification**. Youth teams are required to qualify for JAMZ Nationals at a regional event. If a JAMZ Regional is not within 100 miles of your city, a team may qualify via score sheet or video submission.

YOUTH NON-AFFILIATED (NA) TEAMS:

- Coaches will enter the names of all competing athletes in JAMZ online registration system
- No additional roster will be mandated
- Coaches are allowed to update their roster by adding athletes as the season progresses.
- Coaches are required to bring proof of athlete's age to every event. i.e. legal ID or birth certificate

NA Youth teams are required to qualify for JAMZ Nationals at a regional event. If a JAMZ Regional is not within 100 miles of your city, a team may qualify via score sheet or video submission.

COMBINING TEAMS

You may combine (2 or more) teams from the same youth organization with the following provisions:

1. The Combined team ONLY includes members from the SAME youth organization
(ex: Starbucks Jr. Pee Wee & Starbucks Pee Wee)
2. The Coach must bring the entire office team books from all teams whose members make up the new combined team competing at JAMZ events.
3. No additional team members may be added.
4. You will compete in the appropriate division based on the age of the oldest team member of the combined teams.

MUSIC POLICY

At JAMZ all teams must ensure that all their performance music complies with US copyright laws. JAMZ does not require teams to use a specific music provider or producer, but it is the responsibility of each individual team to ensure their own US Copyright law compliance. Teams that have questions regarding whether their music is in compliance with copyright laws should seek counsel and advice from their music provider, music producer and/or relevant knowledgeable legal counsel. The use of music in the sports of cheerleading and dance is a very small component of the total routine elements. While teams may choose to incorporate music in their routines, there are teams who choose to incorporate NO music - beats only, a small segment of music or all music. Regardless, the use of music or lack thereof does not define a routine.

**** See Music Requirements on the next page for additional important information.**



JAMZ MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

All performance music will be held to the same standard. Should any part of the music be recorded at different sound levels, then the volume will be based off of the loudest sound effect

Teams with only one copy of music will forfeit the use of their music on the final warm up floor as the music rep is sent to the DJ booth. Bring multiple copies!

All music must be recorded on a high-quality CD or downloaded onto an MP3 device
USB drives are not permitted.

- It is the Music reps responsibility to start the track from the correct time, 0:00:00
- It is the Music reps responsibility to start/pause the music

Using MP3's/Phones:

1. Device **MUST** have headphone jack, free and clear of any debris.
 - Using a device that requires an adapter as a headphone port is prohibited and will most likely cause the music to stop during the routine. (Even with using a certified Apple Dongle). If using a device with an adapter is the only choice, then music interruption will be the fault of the team.
 - JAMZ WILL provide all other necessary audio connections and sound equipment.
2. All cases **MUST** be removed from device.
 - If case is not removed before the DJ receives the device, then the DJ will remove it. JAMZ and their Audio Staff will not be held responsible for damaged phones/cases.
3. It is **NOT** recommended to play music from YouTube or other streaming services.
 - Music may stop due to lack of signal strength at venue.
4. Use the device settings to make sure auto lock feature is set to never.
 - Music rep must know password if device locks.
 - If device locks music playback may be interrupted.
5. The MP3 device should be fully charged at all times.
6. If using phone set to airplane mode.
7. Music rep is responsible for making sure proper connection is made between device and audio cable, including adapters.
8. Once device is connected to audio cable, raise volume to 100%

Using CD's:

1. It is recommended to have multiple copies of your music. (CD and MP3)
2. All music **MUST** be recorded as an audio file on a high quality CD, do not use DVD's.
3. Use one CD per routine
4. Music rep is responsible for knowing which CD and track to play before entering sound booth.
5. If CD is scratched and music skips during the routine, it is your music reps choice to stop the music; however, it does NOT mean your team gets to perform again.



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CROSS COMPETITORS

Cross Competitors; Due to unforeseen circumstances* that alter the original schedule at an event, a cross competitor(s) may not receive a full 20 minutes between performances. (*Injury, team dropping or moving to another division due to coach error that would have resulted in DQ) The 20 minutes does not apply to Coaches. Athletes may not cross compete from an All-Star to a Youth team at the same event.

2ND PERFORMANCE

Teams are allowed to compete in a second category. However, teams are NOT allowed to compete in the SAME CATEGORY twice. The second category MUST contain at least 70% of the SAME participants as the first category and no added participants. The second performance is a flat fee. If your team chooses to do a second performance the rates are as follows

Regionals: \$50 Per team

Nationals: \$200 Per team

Second performances added after the on-time registration deadline will be full price. No exceptions.

****Second performances added after the on-time deadline will require a new team created and cross competitor fees paid for each athlete.**

Important Note: JAMZ Cannot guarantee more than 20 minutes between team's 1st and 2nd performance times. JAMZ does not guarantee time for coaches that are involved with multiple teams.

REGISTRATION NOTES

Performance order is determined by the date of registration and full payment is received. First to pay in full - Last to Perform.

JAMZ REFUND POLICY

JAMZ refund policy is as follows. Please check our website for the "Pay by" date for each event. All refunds are issued in the manner that they were received. Please allow 3 weeks to process the refund. All refunds will be automatically processed when you click on MAKE EVENT CHANGES in your online system and delete the athlete. If a refund is due, it will automatically process. Once you delete the athlete and SAVE it will tell you how much is being refunded to you.

100% Refund = Pay by – X/XX

50% Refund = AFTER the Pay by

0% Refund = After the Payment DEADLINE date

WHAT IS YOUTH OPEN?

JAMZ offers the division Youth Open Theme Dance at JAMZ Nationals. You can be Youth or NA to enter this division as long as you follow the age guidelines.



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AGE CHECKING/ELIGIBILITY

Registered Coaches of teams are allowed to question/lodge a complaint regarding the age and/or eligibility of another team's athlete. The request to verify or check the age or eligibility of another team must occur before the close of the competition day. No verification of the athlete will occur between the "POINT OF NO RETURN" and the team's performance on the competition floor. However, a team may be questioned regarding their athletes eligibility either before the "POINT OF NO RETURN" and after a team's performance. Only registered coaches of a team may lodge a complaint against another team regarding age/eligibility. The team lodging the complaint is REQUIRED to present proof of their team's age and eligibility at the time they are lodging a complaint against another team. Only JAMZ event officials may question or investigate a team's eligibility. All teams should have proper unaltered and clear copies of the Birth Certificates or government issued IDs of ALL athletes that are on the roster for ALL JAMZ COMPETITIONS. Failure to have such identification and/or proof of age could lead to a team's disqualification. All complaints regarding age or eligibility should be lodged with the event director before the close of the competition day.

RULES VIOLATIONS/POINT DEDUCTIONS - REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Registered coaches of a team may request a review of another team's level rules or general safety rules violations only within 24 hours of the completion of the competition day. A rival team MAY NOT request the review of another team's routine for execution point deductions because those deductions are based on the human eye and are not review able for adding additional deductions not viewed live. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY.** Registered coaches may request a review of their own team's execution point deductions/rules violations up to 24 hours after the completion of the competition. However, please be aware any review of your point deductions/ rules violations may result in your team being awarded additional violations that were not viewed during the "live" performance if the video review discovers deductions not originally placed on your team. If the awards ceremony has already been completed and a team is given additional level rules violations or general safety rules violations based upon a lodged complaint within 24 hours of the close of the competition day then placements of teams may be altered ONLY if it effects the Top 3 teams in a division. Nevertheless, JAMZ will not strip any team of top 3 placement once it has been awarded on stage but instead reward dual placements to teams in that division. These rules violations/ point deductions review complaints must be lodged within 24 hours of the completion on the competition day. All complaints should be lodged with the JAMZ Event Director or by emailing rules@ycada.org within 24 hours of the close of a competition day. Please note that a separate policy regarding rules violations/point deductions is in place at JAMZ Nationals and can be found in the 2021 JAMZ Youth Nationals Coaches Memo

LEVEL & DANCE RULES VIOLATIONS EXPLANATION:

ALL COACHES AND ADVISORS should be aware that level rules and general safety violations are judged live by the rules judge on site during a live competition. It is IMPOSSIBLE for a rules judge to 100% detect all violations during a competition day just as it is impossible for officials/referees to detect all violations in other sports. Just because a team has attended a prior JAMZ event, competition, Nationals, regional, or camp and that team's skills or routine received no deductions does not mean that the routine is LEGAL or violation free for that Division or Level. The ONLY way a team can guarantee that their routine is Level Rules or Safety Rules Violation Free is to email their skills or routines to rules@ycada.org and ask for a rules determination. JAMZ WILL NOT withdraw any rules violations because a rules judge at a prior competition, regional, championship, camp or event failed to detect or discover the violation at the previous event. It is the responsibility of ALL Coaches to ensure their routines are free of Level/Dance and Safety Rules Violations and the only way to accomplish such is by emailing their skills and/or routine to rules@ycada.org for a rules determination

PROTESTS

All Event protests must be made by a coach to an Event Official within 24 hours of the start of the awards ceremony.



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REASONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION:

Reasons for disqualification include but are not limited to teams with illegal participant(s), inappropriate choreography/music (at the discretion of a JAMZ official), severe demonstrations of unsportsmanlike conduct, overage participant(s), more or less participants than allowed on the floor, participant(s) not listed on official league roster, and/or illegal participant(s) listed on official league roster. If a team is found with unregistered participants, the team will be disqualified. Teams registering and performing in incorrect divisions will be disqualified.

DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, JAMZ RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DISQUALIFY ANY TEAM.

Youth teams are required to follow their league rules and guidelines in addition to the JAMZ Youth General Rules. These rules and guidelines have been developed from JAMZ youth programs across the country and the Youth Cheer & Dance Alliance - YCADA. The JAMZ Youth General Rules are of a general nature and are not intended to cover all circumstances. JAMZ American Spirit Connection Inc. makes no warranties either expressed or implied that the JAMZ Youth General Rules will prevent injuries to individual participants.

JAMZ INJURY PROTOCOL:

At any time during a competition a coach, music representative, or injured athlete themselves may stop a routine due to an injury on the floor. JAMZ competition and safety officials may also at any time stop a routine due to an injury on the floor that may create a potential safety hazard because of the inability of the athletes to hold, support, spot or catch. For the safety of all athletes competing, a routine may be interrupted if an athlete is clearly injured, if an athlete is questionably injured and does not resume their role in the routine within seconds of questionable injury, or if an athlete leaves the competition floor due to an injury. In the event that a routine is interrupted due to injury, it will be at the Competition Officials' discretion whether or not that team will be allowed to perform again at a later time. If a team is allowed to perform again, they will have to perform the second routine "full out" and be judged from the time music error happened until finish of routine. If a team is permitted to perform again, they will have to perform the second routine "full out" and be judged from the time music error happened until finish of routine. If the team does not perform the routine full out the second time JAMZ has the right to disqualify the team.

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SCHEDULE:

JAMZ will release a Preliminary line up two Tuesdays prior to the event.

Draft Schedule will be released by the **Monday** prior to the event. You will then have 24hrs to make any changes. Final Schedule will be released the **Thursday** prior to the event.

If you have any schedule questions – please email championships@jamz.com



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CHEER CAMP IN A BOX | SUMMER CAMPS 2020:

The 2020 "JAMZ Cheer Camp In A Box" contains instructional videos of skills based on proper skill progressions that may not align at all times with the YCADA Level Rules. While the videos may contain cheerleading skill elements that are listed as proper progression for YCADA Levels 1-4 these skills listed or the titles of the skills may not be LEGAL for a team to perform them at a JAMZ or other competitions following YCADA rules. Teams should at all times read, review and follow the YCADA Level Rules and submit videos of their skills through the YCADA Online Submission Form to ensure their skills are LEGAL for the YCADA Level they are competing in.

SIDELINE PERFORMANCE CHEER CLARIFICATION:

YCADA Sideline Performance Cheer Timing:

Timing for sideline performance cheer will begin on the first organized movement of the team. A team may elect to have a spirited entrance at which point your team's timing will begin from the team's first step onto the competition floor and the judges will therefore evaluate that spirited entrance as well as start the team's timing on the entrance. Other teams may elect to walk onto the floor and set up their poms and signs and then have an official start of their routine. Under those circumstances a team's timing will begin after the team's entrance on the floor and upon the first organized team movement of the cheer/chant after a team's entrance to set up poms and signs. Under these circumstances a team's entrance will not be evaluated by the judges.

MANDATORY FOR 2021 ROUTINE LEGALITY VIDEO REVIEW

MANDATORY - All teams must send a video of their routine to be reviewed for Safety and Levels Rules Legalities before **JAMZ Youth Nationals**, for FREE! After video review, teams will be contacted by the YCADA Rules Team regarding any violations or to certify the routine as legality free. Routines that are certified as legality free are guaranteed that they will not receive a safety legality at the 2021 JAMZ Youth Nationals as long as they perform the same skills, the same way at Nationals as they performed them in the video submitted through this process. Any links to videos teams submit must remain active throughout the conclusion of the 2020 JAMZ Youth Nationals in order to verify videos against actual skills performed on the Nationals stage. Videos will not be reviewed for execution deductions, time limit deductions, or music violations. Remember, the Routine Legality Review Submission is the only ONLY way to GUARANTEE your routine is Safety Violation Free. JAMZ WILL NOT withdraw any rules violations because a rules judge at a prior competition, regional, championship, camp or event failed to detect or discover the violation at the previous event- there are no exceptions made to this policy.

