

OCCA WEEKLY UPDATE #8: 2/10-2/14

COACHES:

Please see below for important judging clarifications.

All head coaches who are attending state should have received the supplemental email from OCCA and will receive updates from OSAA this week. The championship schedule, along with other important information, is found at WWW.OSAA.ORG. Souvenirs are also available for pre-order this year, be sure to pass this information on to your athletes/cheer parents. This information is also found on the OSAA website. If you have not received any emails regarding state, please email: Kelly Foster, kellyf@osaa.org, your email may be listed incorrectly.

If you are interested in reviewing the recorded judges training, please send an email to president@occa.net. Current OCCA Members will receive access if requested.

SAFETY DEDUCTIONS: If you have received a warning or safety deduction this season, please be sure you have corrected the issue for this weekend. If you add skills in this week and are unsure of the legality, please email Haley Thomas (email contact below) **PRIOR** to state. If you need any clarifications, please send the email. It's always best to ask rather than to receive a surprise deduction at state.

SPORTSMANSHIP: Sportsmanship is at the core of this event. EVERY team has worked hard to get to state and EVERY team has gone through the ups and downs of a season. We should be rooting for everyone to perform their best routine of the year. So many eyes are in the coliseum and behind the scenes in team and warm-up areas, be mindful of this and lead by example. The day may not go as planned but that isn't an excuse to show poor sportsmanship. Our judges are humans too, they have feelings, and they want to get it right more than anyone. Sportsmanship violations should've been given in the past but I assure you, the OSAA will deduct for sportsmanship to any coach who is hostile to any official this year. Be mindful of social media posts following the event, everyone reads it and forms their own opinions. Be gracious and again lead by example.

TIME: The time limit for all routines is 2:30. Any routines that go over time **will be** penalized.

- Time deductions are as follows:
 - 1-3 Seconds: 3 point deduction on final score
 - 4-6 Seconds: 5 point deduction on final score
 - More than 6 seconds over: 10 point deduction on final score
- *If your music does not play, the coach should begin counting. Especially if you know you do not have any time to spare. Practice this scenario with your kids in case it happens.*

- *If your music does not play and you go over time as a result, you WILL be given a time deduction. The sound system will be checked to be sure there wasn't an actual technical difficulty. Technical difficulty means the venue lost power or the sound system completely shut down and is unavailable.*

MUSIC: Music is 100% the responsibility of the head coach. The coach needs to play the music or appoint a trusted assistant to play the music correctly. The designated music person should head over to the music table once your team is next to perform. Give yourself time to get situated and to double (and triple) check that everything is in place.

- Take your phone case off when playing music.
- Bring a dongle if you need one. Some events provide one but it cannot be guaranteed.
- Double check that the dongle is completely plugged in. Then check again.
- Play music in airplane mode.
- Download the music to your phone. You may or may not have WiFi access at events. Service can also be an issue at events.
- Make sure your volume is turned up all the way on your phone.
- Have music cued and ready.
- Do not have a random person play your music. The person playing your music needs to be familiar with your routine and the device you are playing the music from.
- Be sure your phone is set to not shut down after a short amount of time and remove the passcode.

JUDGES/PERFORMANCE CLARIFICATIONS:

Overall Scoresheet -

This is subjective.

- Formation and transitions - If a team has great formations, but their transitions are a mess, they should still get credit for their formations. Think of this sheet as 5 and 5. 5 points worth of transitions and 5 points worth for formations.
 - Tips on transitions: If someone has to sprint to a formation or runs across the mat, it is not the right transition.
- Every team needs to be compared to each other. Were motions better, worse or different? Did one team have smooth transitions vs. everyone bumping into each other? Is it simple and basic clean vs. clean and more difficult choreography?
- Helpful feedback as to WHY they are not scoring perfect points.
- Just because a team tumbles or stunts INCREDIBLE, does not mean the categories in the overall routine is incredible. Do not let skills influence the overall scoresheet categories.
- On the flipside. If a team has poor skills (stunts or tumble) execution that does not mean their formations and transitions are bad. Stay in your lane.

Tumbling -

- Moving through the ranges.
 - Just because a team has done the bare minimum to get into the range, does not mean they should move through it.

- Example of bare minimum in standing tumbling
 - 51% of the team does jump - forward roll, then one or two members recycle their BHS to majority. That is a 4.
 - In order to move through what can you do?
 - Have more than 1 or 2 athletes perform the skill to reach the majority.
 - Synchronize passes
 - Add series
 - Add a few next level skills
 - Connect harder skills to the jumps
- Example of bare minimum in running tumbling
 - 1 or 2 members complete the 51% tumbling requirement by Round off BHS. That is a 4.
 - In order to move through what can you do?
 - Have more than 1 or 2 reach majority
 - SYNCHRONIZE PASSES
 - Add series (front walkover before the round off)
 - Add a few next level skills.

Stunts -

- Moving through the ranges.
 - Think beyond your majority and have all possible groups do the skills.
 - Add more range setting skills.
 - Add variety.
 - Add next level skills.

QUESTIONS?

Performance Judging: (score sheets, rubric clarification, questions about score)

Contact: Jenny Gonrowski, perfjudgetrainer@occa.net or occajudgecoordinator@gmail.com

Please note, another team's scores will NOT be discussed. If you have a questions about your score or score sheets, please include a copy of your sheet and a video of your routine in question. The video should coincide with the sheet in question. Example: Please do not send last week's video with this week's score sheet.

Execution based scores are difficult to discuss as the judge is judging based on the day.

Safety Judging: (stunt legality, safety violations received, safety questions)

Contact: Haley Thomas, safetyjudgetrainer@occa.net or orcheertech@outlook.com

If you have a questions about your score or score sheets, please include a copy of your sheet and a video of your routine in question. The video should coincide with the sheet in question. Example: Please do not send last week's video with this week's score sheet. A safety judge is also available at QC table at the larger competition events to discuss violations.

Competition Coordinator: *(general questions about events)*

Contact: Bri McCain, compcoord@occa.net

Competition directors are responsible for their own event. OCCA provides some support but the directors are in charge. If you have feedback or questions about a certain event, please email Bri and she can help you or point you in the right direction.

You are **always** welcome to email OCCAgeneral@gmail.com or president@occa.net if you need anything, feeling stuck or need some ideas!