



February 6-7-8th, 2026

Palais des congrès de
Montréal,
Level 2 –
Rooms 220B-C-D-E

1001 Place Jean-Paul-Riopelle,
Montréal, QC

NEW • DEDICATED AWARDS ROOM

Select awards will be presented in a dedicated awards room, creating a more streamlined and elevated awards experience. The full awards schedule will be shared shortly.

GOLDEN BUZZER

The original Canadian Golden Buzzer Awards – **WOW** our judges and get the golden buzzer.

- * All Golden Buzzer recipients will receive a golden buzzer pin.
- * Golden Buzzer Champions will receive a banner and prize.

WORLDS BIDS

4 Partial Paid
8 At-Large Bids

SUMMIT & YOUTH SUMMIT

2 At-Large Summit
2 At-Large Youth Summit

INVITATIONS TO AIA GLOBAL TOURNAMENT

ATHLETE & COACHES APPRECIATION GIFTS

Gifts will be available following performance #1.

COACHES INFORMATION

TEAM REGISTRATION/HELP DESK

The team registration/help desk will open one hour prior to competition start time on February 6-7-8th.

PRACTICE ROOM

Teams should report as per the schedule. At the desk, athlete count, email address and Quebec coach's certification will be verified.

COACHES VERIFICATION (Quebec based teams)

As per **Cheer Quebec** policy, one certified coach must be present with their team from the beginning of warm-up to the end of performance. We will be validating coach certification prior to entering the practice room. **Please ensure you have a certified coach present.**

WORLDS TEAM VERIFICATION

All athletes will need to show a photocopy or digital copy of their ID showing their photo and name, preferably a passport. However, a driver's license or two pieces of ID combined will also be accepted. Please do not bring originals to the venue. Verification will take place prior to your first practice room rotation/performance.

ATHLETE & COACH WRISTBANDS

Athlete and Coaches wristbands will be mailed to clubs mid January.

Each team is entitled to TWO coaches / chaperones to accompany the team, but they must be pre-registered with their team. Additional Coaches bracelets can be purchased ahead of time at a cost of \$45. Spectators cannot purchase a coach bracelet.

Clubs entering specialty divisions should ensure that their coaches are covered in their clubs' team registrations.

Athletes and coaches will need to have their admittance bracelets on before entering the competition venue as well as the athlete only section and warm-up areas. Please ensure your athletes keep their bracelet on all weekend.

Please note that it is up to clubs to arrange distribution of bracelets to their athletes.

FREE PHOTOS & VIDEOS

COACHES VIP ROOM

Follow signage at venue, a VIP room will be available with light refreshments. Only those wearing a coach's bracelet will be granted access

ATHLETE DESIGNATED AREA

There will be areas designated for teams to sit. Teams are not to set up in the spectator areas.

Important Note: Athletes should arrive at the venue ready to compete, dressed, hair and makeup done. We will have a few pop-up change stations available.

Please note we are not responsible to supervise your personal effects

PARKING + ACCESSIBILITY

There are plenty of paid parking spaces available around the Palais des congrès. The venue is also easily accessible by public transit via the **Place-d'Armes metro** station.

EQUIPMENT

There will be a fully sprung competition sized (54x42) cheerleading floor with 9 strips. The practice area will also have a 3 fully sprung competition (54x42) sized floors with 9 strips.

SPOTTERS

Spotters are not provided at the event. If a team wishes to provide their own spotters, they must ensure that they are wearing a plain white or black t-shirt to differentiate them from the performing team, and they must have an admittance bracelet. All rules for spotters are as per the Cheer Quebec technical rules.

FIRST AID

There will be a team of qualified first-aid responders on site in both the practice room and competition area. Taping is provided for a fee.

SPECTATOR TICKETS

Spectator tickets will be sold ONLINE ONLY. Tickets will be scanned at the venue and exchanged for an access bracelet, please refer to website for details

<https://www.sapphireproductions.ca/cheerfest>.

Doors open for spectators 1 hour prior to competition start time.

MUSIC – PROCEDURE TO SUBMIT MUSIC IN ADVANCE

Please email your music files to **info@sapphireproductions.ca** by January 23rd. Prior to sending, please RENAME your music file with your team number (located in the left column on the schedule), your program name and team name.

Example: 15 ABC Cheer Gym Teamname.mp3

These music files will be arranged in a playlist to ensure the correct music plays for your team on the competition floor. We will test the file to ensure its' compatibility with our system prior to the event to help prevent any music mishaps onsite. If you send in your music, you will not be required to have a coach present at the music station during the performance.

Once called onto the floor the music will play once your team appears to be set. If you have any special instructions, please include them in the email with your music file. Your music will not be shared, and all music will be deleted from our files once the event is over.

Coaches who do not provide their music in advance are responsible for bringing their music to the DJ booth before their team's performance and bring any adaptors that may be required (Ipod connection, Iphone connection, USB-C connection, etc.). We recommend that teams have at least 2 copies of their music. Sapphire Productions will not be held responsible for any technical problems (i.e. malfunction of cell phone, CD, cords/wires/adaptors, USB key, sending of incorrect music).

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

VENVI Studios will be on site taking photos of teams. The event will be filmed by HFT Communications.

You will be able to access these photos and videos, FREE OF CHARGE courtesy of SAPPHIRE Productions on <https://sapphireproductions.smugmug.com>, a few days following the event.

Sapphire Productions have exclusive rights over the videotaping and photography of the event. It is prohibited to videotape or take photos of performances for resale or distribution.

FOOD & VENDORS

There will be many vendors set up on site to sell athletic apparel and other items. It's always wise to have CASH on hand since most only accept this method of payment.

There are many restaurants available inside the Palais des congrès de Montréal, found within its Galeries du Palais (Level 1).

Food will not be allowed in the competition venue.

AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT

Cheerfest Championship is an international event offering an exclusive Travel Package, which includes many seasonal outings for teams to experience a Montreal Winter. If you would like find out more about the package and available activities, please contact danielluna05@yahoo.com

PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS

We will be following all Public Health Regulations in place at the time of the event.

VOICE CRITIQUES

A unique feature to our event is that teams will be provided with voice critique of their routine by prominent professional judges. This is valuable and actionable feedback allowing you to tweak your performance for day 2 and for your future competitions.

Following your performance a link and password will be sent to you to access your team's critique.

JUDGING / SCORE SHEETS

Scoring

Scoring for all 2 run teams will be weighted 40% for the 1st Run and 60% for the 2nd run.

Methodology

Judges will evaluate according to the IASF technical rules and scoring system of system of Cheer Canada. A computerized scoring system will be used.

Process for Contesting Deductions/Legalities

Legality and Deduction sheets **will be emailed to clubs for review** as soon as they are available. Coaches will have 10 minutes from the moment this email is sent to contest any deduction or penalty.

Note that only deductions and penalties can be contested.

If the coach wants to challenge deductions or legalities, here are the steps to follow:

- You may contest **by completing and submitting the on-line review request form**, the link will be in the email
- Once the request is received the reviewing judge will review the deduction in question.
- Once the judge has completed the review coaches will be asked to approach the score check area to meet with the reviewing judge.
- A maximum two coaches per team, will be called by the reviewing judge to discuss the review request and will have a maximum of four minutes to do so.
- If the review results in a change in score, the new score sheets will be emailed to the coaches with the updated score.
- Please note that if you have requested a verification of penalties, your entire routine could be reviewed, and this could result in new deductions.

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You can also view the video of your team's performance at the score check area. Note that Zero Deduction pins will also be available for teams at the score check area.

Reminder: coaches and judges must **remain calm and respectful at all times**. The official may grant a deduction for unsportsmanlike conduct to the team in question or the team may be disqualified.

Coaches CANNOT request a review of a competing team or a team that is not theirs.

The IASF rules and Cheer Canada scoring system will be available at the Review table for you to consult, and a TV with a video review. Coaches cannot monopolize this video system.

Results

Completed/Full score sheets will be sent to clubs by email following the awards and the results will be posted on the website.