

Cheer Canada is moving to a comparative scoring system for all All Star teams this season. After trialling the system with International divisions last season, all teams will be moving to a Canadian version of the International All Star Federation (IASF) scoring system. All Star, Prep, and Novice will each have unique scoring systems.

For All Star and Prep teams, comparative scoring is still done much the same way as it was with the previous rubric system, with judges scoring specific elements of the routine. The same factors are still used to define good execution and difficult skills at each level. Score sheets and judging panels are divided still into Building, Tumbling, Overall and Safety categories. One major difference for the comparative scoring system is that scores are not immediately released to coaches, as judges may need to adjust scores up or down as more teams compete in each division, to ensure the correct ranking is achieved.

With comparative scoring, the rankings become more important than the numerical score, which can change significantly from day to day and event to event, as teams are compared against others in their division, and level, at any given event. Unlike the rubric system where a score out of 10 could only be a given score between 9.0-10, the comparative system allows judges to use the full range from 0-10. Teams should expect scores to be lower and scores to be more spread out under this system. There are no required elements or skills, no defined ratios or numbers of skills. This scoring system allows a coach more flexibility to create a routine that highlights their team's strengths.

Deductions for execution errors such as falls and safety/rule infractions carry a greater weight under this comparative system, in part due to the larger range of points available. For example, under the previous rubric system, a single athlete falling during a tumbling element would incur a .25 deduction. Under this system, it carries a 1.0 point deduction. A major building fall, where a top person lands on the floor, carried a 1.25 deduction in the rubric system. With comparative scoring, it will result in a 4.0 point deduction. As with last year, the IASF rules will apply to all Canadian All Star teams.

All Star Score Sheets Overview:

For All Star teams, this scoring system places a heavy emphasis on stunt and pyramid elements. For teams in tumbling divisions who are allowed to throw basket tosses, 100 of the possible 155 points on the score sheet are applied to building categories. Stunt and pyramid difficulty and execution are all equally weighted at 20 points. Toss

execution (5 points) and difficulty (5 points) and building creativity (10 points) round out this score sheet.

Tosses are excluded for all level 1 and Mini level 2 divisions, making their building score sheet out of 90.

The tumbling score sheet carries 20 points: 5 points each for jumps (difficulty and execution are combined); 5 for standing tumbling difficulty; and 5 for running tumbling difficulty. Tumbling execution is combined and scored out of a total of 5. In Levels 1-4, individual tumbling passes are not considered in difficulty, only execution. In these levels, athletes must tumble in groups of 2 or more to receive credit for difficulty. In Level 5-7 individual passes will count towards the difficulty score. Non-tumbling divisions will be scored only for jumps (5 points) on this score sheet.

The overall score sheet carries 30 points, which include 5 points for dance (difficulty and execution are combined) and 5 points for routine creativity, which considers unique, visual and intricate ideas in the routine. Formations/transitions, which considers spacing, patterns of movement, timing, and visual elements throughout the routine is worth 10 points, and overall routine impression and showmanship is worth 10 points.

Global Division teams will have an additional 10 points allocated to their cheer section, with 2 points for each of the following categories: effective material; use of props; crowd leading/energy; skill incorporation; and execution. This is unchanged from last season.

All Star Prep Score Sheets Overview:

All Star Prep is designed to be an introductory, lower-cost option for athletes to be involved in competitive cheerleading. Cheer Canada has designed a different score sheet for these teams, to reflect the desired outcomes for these athletes. Cheer Canada wants to ensure that with the limited practice time Prep athletes have, they can focus on skill development. The emphasis is on execution rather than difficulty and scores for creative elements, while still included, are minimized.

As with All Star, the building score sheet is still heavily weighted, with a total of 65 of the 105 available points on this sheet. For Prep teams, stunt and pyramid difficulty are each worth 10 points, but execution for each category is out of 20 points. The goal of this scoring system is to emphasize developing proper technique for our Prep athletes. Building creativity is worth 5 points on this sheet.

The tumbling score sheet is worth 15 points for Prep teams, with jumps, tumbling difficulty and tumbling execution each worth 5 points. Execution and difficulty are combined for jumps, and running and standing tumbling are combined for both tumbling scores.

The overall score sheet for Prep has 25 points. The only difference from All Star is that routine creativity has been removed from the Prep score sheet.

Novice Score Sheet Overview

This season, Novice teams will not be scored numerically nor will they be ranked against other teams. A new comparative scoresheet has been developed for Cheer Canada Novice divisions to allow judges to provide feedback on the following areas: Stunt execution and pyramid execution (excluded in the tiny novice), jump execution, dance execution and routine impression/showmanship. In no category is routine difficulty considered. Teams will be awarded a rank of Outstanding, Excellent or Superior.