



## General Rules/Regulations & Code of Conduct

### **Division Info:**

Please study the division and categories carefully. There will be NO program changes on the day of competition. If one team member is too old for the division selected, your team will be disqualified. If you entered in a category in error, your team will be forced to forfeit with an overall score of zero and no refund will be granted.

### **Division & Category Information:**

Division is defined by the age of the participant.

Category is defined as the type of performance you select.

### **Performance Order:**

Receipt of registration will determine the order of performance. The first received shall perform last. The last registration received will perform first. Adjustments may be required due to team or division conflicts.

### **Second Category:**

Teams are permitted to compete in a second category at no additional charge.

Teams may not compete in the same category twice.

### **Cross Competitors:**

Cross competitors are those that compete on more than one team. This is allowed by Ivory Arts Inc; however they must meet the following criteria:

Be included on each team's roster

Be included in each team's numerical count

Submit full payment for each team they compete with

Submit all waivers and compliance forms for each team, marking the cross competitor box.

### **Ivory Arts Inc & Bay Area Cheer and Dance Competition Code of Conduct:**

We require the following to be adhered to during the event. This will ensure a positive experience for everyone involved.

Any disorderly behavior by coaches, participants, parents or spectators will result in removal from the event.

Ivory Arts Inc reserves the right to refuse service to or disqualify any individual or team.

Questions or concerns that affect a team's performance must be presented only by the coach of the respective team to an Ivory Arts official.

Protests of any kind will only be accepted in writing. Resolutions will not be made at the event.

The above is to be followed without question. We expect that all teams, coaches, and spectators choose to represent themselves in a positive manner. Staff members of Ivory Arts Inc have no control or input

regarding the judges final scores, results or outcome of the competition. It is our hope that this will be a pleasant and memorable experience for all.

**Music:**

Music may be on a cassette or CD. Music must be recorded at the beginning of the tape/CD with no other music recorded. Bring an extra tape/CD in case of lost or damaged media. Label your music with your teams name and phone number in case of loss. An adult advisor must be present at the sound booth prior to your teams' performance to cue the music.

Profanity, vulgarity or suggestive lyrics are prohibited and will result in disqualification.

**Minimum team members:**

All teams must have a minimum of three members to perform.

**Changes to Divisions or Categories:**

Division/level/category changes must be submitted in writing 14 days prior to the event and approved by Ivory Arts Inc. You will receive notification of receipt of the change immediately, regardless if the change was approved or not. Teams that make changes after submitting their registration will result in a change in the performance order based on the new information.

**Late Fees:**

Registration received after the deadline will be assessed a \$10.00 per participant processing fee (providing availability and approval by Ivory Arts Inc). Call the Ivory Arts office at 707-644-4569 for prior approval. All late fees must be submitted at the time of registering.

**Performance Information:**

A tentative performance schedule will be posted approximately one week prior to the event. Please do not call the office for your performance time. The website is [www.ivoryartsinc.com](http://www.ivoryartsinc.com).

**Payment Information:**

You may pay by Team/Gym/Organization/School check, or money order. No personal checks will be accepted. Make all fees payable to: Ivory Arts Inc. Upon receipt you will receive an email confirmation. All future correspondence will be sent to the contact person's name on the registration form.

*A \$30.00 'returned' check fee is charged for each dishonored check.*

**Cancellation Policy:**

All payments are non-refundable. If a participant cancels (regardless of the reason) you cannot apply that person's payment to another team. However, if a participant cancels from your registration and you replace that person with a new participant for your team, you can apply that payment for the new participant.

**Interruption of Performance:**

If the interruption is due to the fault of the equipment of Ivory Arts Inc, teams may restart from the beginning or at the point of interruption. If interruption is due to the failure of the teams' equipment, supplies, music, or staff the team may either continue or withdraw from the competition. Ivory Arts Inc reserves the right to stop the performance due to an obvious injury. In the case that an injury results in the interruption of the teams' performance, the team will be allowed to re-group before performing their routine again. Performance must be repeated during the time allotted for their division/category.

**Inappropriate Music/Choreography:**

Age appropriate choreography and music must be used. Penalties will be assessed for profanity, vulgarity and suggestive music and choreography.

**Reasons for Disqualification:**

Teams with illegal competitor(s) will be disqualified. Reason for disqualification include, but are not limited to, inappropriate choreography/music (at the discretion of an Ivory Arts official), over-age competitor(s) , more or less competitors than allowed on the floor, participants not listed on the official roster, and/or illegal competitor(s) listed on the official team roster.

If a team is found with unregistered competitors, the team will be disqualified. Teams registered and performing in the incorrect divisions will be disqualified. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Ivory Arts Inc reserves the right to disqualify any team.

**Formal Entrances:**

To ensure the flow of the program Ivory Arts Inc prohibits performing an organized or choreographed entrance prior to the start of a routine. A quick team huddle is permitted. Spirited entrances are allowed; teams should not take longer than 10 seconds to set-up.

**Time Limits:**

The time limits for all categories are as follows:

Show Cheer	2 minutes 30 seconds	
Performance Cheer	2 minutes 30 seconds	(mount & non-mount)
Dance Performance	2 minutes 30 seconds	
Song/Pom	2 minutes 30 seconds	
Jazz	2 minutes 30 seconds	
TURF	2 minutes 30 seconds	
Duel/Battle	2 minutes 30 seconds	(30 & 15 second intervals)

## Categories & Divisions

**Show Cheer Routine Specifics:** Performance using music, cheer or any combination thereof. Music must be incorporated into the performance. Music may be used for a segment, half, or the entire performance. Gymnastics skills and stunts are required. Poms, megaphones, signs, and banners are encouraged. Tear away uniforms or removal of clothing is prohibited.

**Judging Criteria:** Technical Skills, Building/Stunt Skills, Choreography, Routine Execution and Presentation.

**Performance Cheer Mount:** Cheer(s) are of your choice. Audience participation, megaphones, signs and banners are encouraged. Music or amplified sound is prohibited. Gymnastics skills and stunts are required. Tear away uniforms or removal of clothing is prohibited.

**Judging Criteria:** Technical Skills, Stunt Execution, Choreography, Voice Projection and Overall Presentation.

**Performance Cheer Non-Mount:** Cheer(s) of your choice. Audience participation, megaphones, signs and banners are encouraged. Music or amplified sound is prohibited. Gymnastics skills are required. Stunts are not allowed. Tear away uniforms or removal of clothing is prohibited.

**Judging Criteria:** Technical Skills, Choreography, Voice Projection and Overall Presentation.

**Dance Performance:** Performance must clearly consist of three dance styles, Pom, Funk Hip-Hop, and Jazz. Each team will be judged on **Pom Skills:** Basic cheerleading motions - emphasizing uniformity, synchronization, and strong sharp motions/arm placement as well as ground work, level changes and roll-offs for visual effect. **Funk/Hip-Hop Skills:** Movements comprised of funk/hip-hop street styles with tempo variation. Dance style with an emphasis on uniformity, rhythm, body isolation, creativity, and execution. **Jazz Skills:** Combination of dance movements with an emphasis on use of space, body placement, routine demonstration as well as artistic expression through movement with team uniformity. Technical skill (ex: pirouettes/leaps) are required, and will be credited towards the technical skills score. Routine may display a theme that is predominantly one of these styles, but must incorporate skills from all three styles. Props, poms and costuming may be used but is not mandatory.

**Judging Criteria:** Dance Skill Fundamentals, Routine Execution, Choreography, and Showmanship.

**Jazz:** Performance demonstrating jazz technique and performance skills. Execute any type of jazz dance routine. Teams are required to use a combination of dance movements with an emphasis on technique, body placement, control, style, and synchronization. The performance must also utilize floor as well as artistic expression through movement with uniformity. Props, poms and costuming may be used but is not mandatory.

**Funk/Hip-Hop:** Movements comprised of funk, hip-hop and street styles with tempo variations (ex: break dancing, pop and lock techniques, street style, and high energy cheer style). Dance style with an emphasis on uniformity, rhythm, body isolation, creativity and execution. This performance should focus on athletic skills such as jumps, combination jumps, tricks, trick variations and illusions. Technical skills (ex: pirouettes/leaps) will not be credited in this category. Props and costuming are encouraged but not required.

**Judging Criteria:** Dance Skill Fundamentals, Routine Execution, Choreography, and Showmanship.

**Song/Pom:** Performance may be any type of pom/song leading routine. Music is required for the duration of the routine and poms must be used for at least two-thirds of the performance. Dance style with an emphasis on technique, body placement, control, style, synchronization and use of poms. No other prop is permitted in this category.

**Judging Criteria:** Dance Skill Fundamentals, Routine Execution, Choreography, Showmanship and Use of Poms.

**T.U.R.F\*:** TURF is an acronym for **T**aking **U**p **R**oom on the **F**loor. This style of dancing originated in Oakland, California. Turf dancing requires dancers to perform a skit/story telling by use of pantomime, facial expression, movement and appropriate gestures. The skit must have a beginning, middle, and an end. Usually this style of dance is complimented with Funk/Hip-Hop.

**Judging Criteria: Bring It!**

**Duel/Battle\*:** Duel/Battle is a new category, which allows teams to face off for a total of 2 minutes and 30 seconds, to the same song, alternating with the battling team with two 30 second intervals and one 15 second interval. Each team will have the opportunity to showcase their best dance moves. Dancers will face one another, shake hands and stand ten feet apart. There will be a coin toss to see who goes first. Routines must emphasize the latest street style movements and execution, rhythm, style, creativity and control of these movements. Leaps, flips and handstands are all encouraged.

**Judging Criteria: Bring It!**

**\*While dancers are performing we encourage them to have full self-expression, however, any inappropriate gestures or suggestive dance moves towards other dancers will result in immediate disqualification.**

## Divisions

All teams will compete based on the age of the oldest member on that team. Ivory Arts Inc competition divisions will be split into small and large groups to ensure equal distribution of small and large teams. Small is defined as 5-20 and large is defined as 21-35.

### Name of Division

Youth	IAA
Youth	IA
Youth	II
Youth	III
Youth	IV

### Age

8 years and younger
10 years and younger
12 years and younger
13 years and younger
15 years and younger

### **All-Star Divisions**

Tiny	5 years and younger
Mini Prep	7 years and younger
Mini	9 years and younger
Junior Prep	11 years and younger
Junior	14 years and younger
Senior Prep	16 years and younger
Senior	18 years and younger
Open	18 years and older

### **\*Refer to USASF guidelines for division and safety guidelines**

Jr. High / Middle School

Freshman

Jr. Varsity

Varsity

\*All participants must attend a school in order to be eligible to compete

Recreation	Not affiliated with any school program
TURF	
Duel/Battle	

## **General Safety Rules**

All teams should be supervised during all functions by a qualified coach.

Coaches must require proficiency before skill progression.

Jewelry of any kind is prohibited. Exception: medical ID bracelet.

Dance shoes are acceptable when competing, however, competing in socks only is prohibited.

Pyramids are limited to 2 persons high.

For cheer and/or dance safety guidelines please refer to USASF guidelines.