



IASF Fundamental Event Guidelines

This document aims to provide fundamental guidelines and recommendations for best practices that enhance the safety of all star events around the globe.

Applicants agree to uphold the fundamental guidelines and continue to work towards implementing additional best practices as the growth of the industry in their market permits.

Fundamental Guidelines:

1. Implementation of IASF Safeguarding practices including:
 - a. Ensuring staff, coaches, volunteers and all adult personnel that have direct interaction with minor aged athletes have a current National background check/working with children credential on file.
 - b. A system in place to verify the age of rostered athletes.

2. Minimum Event Requirements:
 - a. 9 mats recommended for cheer divisions.
 - b. Floors placed on a raised stage must have a minimum clearance of 2 feet surrounding the edge of the floor. Additionally, must ensure the clearance meets the requirements of the event insurance provider. Event production should consider the relative height of the stage and ensure adequate clearance to maintain the safety of the athletes.
 - c. Event liability insurance that offers adequate coverage in the event of an athlete injury.
 - d. Must have an actionable Emergency Action Plan that encompasses each area where athletes may reside, warm-up or compete.
 - e. Event (or portion of the event) must follow the IASF Cheer and Dance Legality Rules, with best effort to utilize an IASF Certified Legality Official. Qualification events may have additional scoring and rule requirements.
 - f. Should provide adequate warm-up time for each team, with the interval between end of warm-up rotation and commencement of competition performance considerate of athlete safety.
 - g. If a team has completed the warm-up rotation and a significant delay occurs, the event producer should have a process to ensure the well being of the athletes (i.e. additional warm-up, access to hydration, etc).

- h. Athletes should have reasonable access to hydration (i.e. instructed to bring their own water, water provided, etc).
 - i. Policy on concussion management and serious injuries sustained on-site at the event and return to play requirements for the injured athlete/coach. This policy should be informed by local/regional/national sports best practices.
3. Recommended Best Practices (*encouraged but not required*)
- a. Requirement of coach credential with education component.
 - b. IASF Certified Legality Official participating in adjudication of safety rules.
 - c. Implementation of the IASF score sheet and use of trained/experienced IASF panel judges.
 - d. Utilization of IASF divisions, with regional variations that respect the goal of appropriate athlete development and age groupings.
 - e. Background check on file for all adjudicators, or proof of membership to regional/national association that requires a current background check.
 - f. First aid/athletic therapist on-site, monitoring warm-up and competition facilities.
 - g. Hydration stations provided during/after warm-up rotation.
 - h. Event performance times should follow their country's recommended competition time frame. For countries without this recommendation, performance times should fall between 7:30 AM and 11:00 PM and be considerate of the age of the athlete.

Resources:

[IASF Safeguarding Policies](#)

[IASF Cheer Rules](#)

[IASF Certified Cheer Legalties Officials](#)

[IASF Panel Adjudication Training](#)

[IASF Score System](#)