

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF
CHEER AND POM COACHES

**SPRING
DISTRICT
MEETING**



Current WACPC Executives



- Ryan Mittelstaedt President
- Lisa Gerdman Vice President
- Tera Gullicksrud Treasurer
- Hayley Wolfe Secretary
- Lindsay Wakefield Vice President Elect



SPORTS UPDATE BREAKOUT



ROOM 1

- **CHEER**

ROOM 2

- **DANCE**

- Return to main room after updates



DANCE UPDATES - COMPETITION STRUCTURE & EVENTS

Varsity Sectionals

For the 2026/2027 season we will be transitioning to 2 SECTIONALS vs Regionals

Reason for the change:

- Equalizes the state geographically (based on Pom Divisions 1-6, regardless of Pom performance)
- Improved competitive balance across the state
- Goal for 27/28 is to utilize 3 sectional locations



DANCE UPDATES - COMPETITION STRUCTURE & EVENTS

Varsity Sectionals

- While not every team competes in pom, the majority do. By Structuring sectionals this way, it creates a more balanced opportunity across divisions and eliminates regionals where only a small number of teams in a division realistically had a chance to qualify.
- Sectionals creates a more equal level of competition and qualifying potential between the 2 sectionals for teams.



Previous

NORTHERN (DC Everest)			SOUTHERN (Middleton)			Difference in Qualifiers	TOTAL		
Division	Routines	Qualifying	Division	Routines	Qualifying		Division	Routines	Qualifying
D1 Pom	10	5	D1 Pom	12	6	1	D1 Pom	22	11
D2 Pom	8	4	D2 Pom	14	7	3	D2 Pom	22	11
D3 Pom	12	6	D3 Pom	11	6	0	D3 Pom	23	12
D4 Pom	11	6	D4 Pom	13	7	1	D4 Pom	24	13
D5 Pom	14	7	D5 Pom	7	4	3	D5 Pom	21	11
D6 Pom	12	6	D6 Pom	12	6	0	D6 Pom	24	12
D1 Hip Hop	12	6	D1 Hip Hop	15	8	2	D1 Hip Hop	27	14
D2 Hip Hop	10	5	D2 Hip Hop	14	7	2	D2 Hip Hop	24	12
D3 Hip Hop	13	7	D3 Hip Hop	3	2	5	D3 Hip Hop	16	9
D1 Jazz	14	7	D1 Jazz	20	10	3	D1 Jazz	34	17
D2 Jazz	13	7	D2 Jazz	18	9	2	D2 Jazz	31	16
D3 Jazz	16	8	D3 Jazz	7	4	4	D3 Jazz	23	12
D1 Kick	8	4	D1 Kick	5	3	1	D1 Kick	13	7
D2 Kick	7	4	D2 Kick	7	4	0	D2 Kick	14	8
D3 Kick	6	3	D3 Kick	6	3	0	D3 Kick	12	6
	166	85		164	86				171

Sectionals

NORTHERN (DC Everest)			SOUTHERN (Middleton)			Difference in Qualifiers	TOTAL		
Division	Routines	Qualifying	Division	Routines	Qualifying		Division	Routines	Qualifying
D1 Pom	11	6	D1 Pom	11	6	0	D1 Pom	22	12
D2 Pom	11	6	D2 Pom	11	6	0	D2 Pom	22	12
D3 Pom	11	6	D3 Pom	12	6	0	D3 Pom	23	12
D4 Pom	12	6	D4 Pom	12	6	0	D4 Pom	24	12
D5 Pom	10	5	D5 Pom	11	6	1	D5 Pom	21	11
D6 Pom	12	6	D6 Pom	12	6	0	D6 Pom	24	12
D1 Hip Hop	13	7	D1 Hip Hop	14	7	0	D1 Hip Hop	27	14
D2 Hip Hop	12	6	D2 Hip Hop	12	6	0	D2 Hip Hop	24	12
D3 Hip Hop	13	7	D3 Hip Hop	3	2	5	D3 Hip Hop	16	9
D1 Jazz	17	9	D1 Jazz	17	9	0	D1 Jazz	34	18
D2 Jazz	12	6	D2 Jazz	19	10	4	D2 Jazz	31	16
D3 Jazz	13	7	D3 Jazz	10	5	2	D3 Jazz	23	12
D1 Kick	8	4	D1 Kick	5	3	1	D1 Kick	13	7
D2 Kick	7	4	D2 Kick	7	4	0	D2 Kick	14	8
D3 Kick	4	2	D3 Kick	8	4	2	D3 Kick	12	6
	166	87		164	86				173

DANCE UPDATES - COMPETITION STRUCTURE & EVENTS

Considerations in Current Discussion

- We are looking at ways to alleviate new and unexpected travel challenges for programs affected
- This includes looking at ways to offer some form of financial aid as well as evaluating the lineup order with travel times in mind.



DANCE UPDATES - COMPETITION STRUCTURE & EVENTS

JEM State

Location TBD
Date: January
30th 2027

Varsity Sectionals

Northern Sectional
Location: DC Everest
High School

Southern Sectional
Location: Middleton High
School
Date: January 23rd 2027

Varsity State

La Crosse Center
Date: February
5th & 6th 2027



DANCE UPDATES - COMPETITION STRUCTURE & EVENTS

REGISTRATION UPDATES

- Registration is due **December 1st, 2026.**
 - This includes: roster, routines, and MUSIC
- There will be **NO ACCEPTED LATE REGISTRATIONS!**
 - **NEW RULE- No exceptions**
- **Any errors** on the registration checklist must be brought to the organization's attention **by 11:59PM on December 30th, 2026.** Any errors brought to the attention of the organization after this time will not have the line up altered for them after it is drawn.



DANCE UPDATES - DIVISIONS & TEAM STRUCTURE CHANGES

- Enrollment Divisions

Pom Divisions		Open Divisions (Jazz, Kick, Hip Hop)	
Division 1	1525 - Higher	Division 1	1160 - Higher
Division 2	1160 - 1524	Division 2	565-1159
Division 3	850 - 1159	Division 3	564 - Lower
Division 4	565 - 849		
Division 5	360 - 564		
Division 6	359 - Lower		



DANCE UPDATES - DIVISIONS & TEAM STRUCTURE CHANGES

- The **75% minimum rule has been amended to 50% minimum.** Any team's secondary or tertiary routines must have 50% of the athletes from their primary routine on the floor.
- **A team minimum has been reinstated.** The minimum number of athletes on a team is **3**, with the following caveats: a team of 3 can only submit to the team division or the All State Duet/Trio division, but not both; individual athletes are still eligible for the solo All State division. Furthermore, **3** athletes must be rostered. In the event of injury/ineligibility two may take the floor, but one single athlete may not take the floor in the team division.



DANCE UPDATES - RULES, SCORING, & REQUIREMENTS

- **Safety & Education rules quiz is back**
 - required during competition registration with **3 attempts max.**
- The **Athlete Fall penalty** has been **removed.**
- No changes to the wildcard system at present.
- **Scoresheet changes will be finalized at next committee meeting**
 - These are not large changes, so if choreography has begun we would not anticipate it being an issue
 - Clarifications are largely on verbiage to make subsections clearer, with some adjustment of categories but not overall scoresheet content



DANCE UPDATES - AWARDS & RECOGNITION CHANGES

- **No major updates at present**
- We are looking at better ways to recognize solos, duets, & trios at the JEM level
- We will be discussing the All State Parade of Champions in greater detail to determine the best route forward based on feedback
- All State is something the committee is generally evaluating, but large changes to the process are unlikely to occur for this upcoming season. Small changes such as releasing ranking information or applying the wildcard process to All State athletes could still be brought to the table.



DANCE UPDATES - COACHING SUPPORT & EDUCATION

- Updating our website
 - making information clearer
 - regular updates on email and BAND
- Working to develop more resources for Coaches
 - videos for S&E rule explanations
- Mentorship program
 - starting earlier
- Coaches Corners



DANCE UPDATES - SECTIONALS ASSIGNMENT PROCESS

- If Division 5 Pom has:
 - 15 teams closest to the Northern Sectional
 - 9 teams closest to the Southern Sectional
- Then:
 - 3 teams from the Northern Sectional will be reassigned to the Southern Sectional
 - These will be the 3 teams with the shortest distance to the Southern Sectional
- If a division has 24 total teams:
 - 12 teams will be assigned to each Sectional Host Site after equalization



CHEER UPDATES

Competition Structure & Events

JEM Cheer

Hartford Union High

February 13th, 2027

- JEM Cheer State Event!
- Larger spectator seating capacity and added parking availability

Prelims

Elkhorn Area HS

February 20th, 2027

- Two performance gyms utilized to manage event size and length
- One large agility center to run two warm ups
- Gym 1: Traditional & Non-Tumble
- Gym 2: Game Day

State Finals

La Crosse Center

Feb 26th & 27th, 2027

Friday Specialty Divisions

- All State, Stunt Groups, Mascot, College

Saturday Team Divisions

- Team Division Finals

Team Registration Opens October 1st



CHEER UPDATES

Divisions & Team Structure Changes

Game Day Changes

- **Minimum team size: 3 athletes**
- **New Sub-Divisions:** (Game Day ONLY)
 - Small: 3–11
 - Medium: 12–15
 - Large: 16+
- **No coed vs all-girl split**
- All other divisions: sub-divisions remain the same
 - Small 5-11, Medium 12-15, Large 16+

General Structure

- Varsity division splits occur at **20 teams**
Based on school enrollment after registration

Varsity Stunt Group Changes

- **Coed:** One division
- **All-Girl:** Intermediate & Advanced divisions

CHEER UPDATES

Rules, Scoring & Requirements

Safety Rules & Registration

- **Safety rules quiz is BACK:** Required during registration (3 attempts max).
- **No roster collection:** Requirement removed for 2026-2027 Cheer Events.

Qualification Standards

- **Wildcard System:** No changes. Scores of 75%+ advance for Traditional & Non-Tumble.
- **State Qualifiers:** Top 50% from prelims qualify. No auto-qualifiers.

Scoring & Guidelines

- Continued review of tumbling scoring and rubric adjustments.
- **Scoresheets:** Expected to be released by mid-June 2026.
- Execution Guidelines coming soon.



CHEER UPDATES

Awards & Recognition

Top 3 Recognition

Top 3 teams receive trophies/medals at State, regardless of division size.

Event Separation

Continued separation of individual events from team events per membership feedback:

- All-State
- Mascot
- Stunt Group

Will all continue to perform on Friday for State!

Future Enhancements

Exploring new STATE experience additions:

- Walk-up songs
- Music for champions during awards



CHEER UPDATES

Coaching Support & Education

Coaches Corners

Monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8:00pm will continue!

- Perfect place to get questions answered!

Aug. 12th, 2026

Sept. 9th, 2026

Oct. 14th, 2026

Nov. 11th, 2026

Dec. 9th, 2026

Jan. 13th, 2027

Mentorship Program

Starting earlier for the 2026–2027 season!

- Watch your emails after July 1st for more information
- Support for BOTH sideline-only and competitive coaches

Website Refresh

We are working to update our website to make information clearer and easier to find.

- Regular updates to come on BAND and/or via email from WACPC
- Also check out our Spirit Scoop Editions!



CHEER UPDATES

Local Event Sanctioning

WACPC Supported Events

Interested in having your local competition recognized as a **Supported WACPC Event**?

- All events must now go through a formal **application process** to ensure quality and safety standards.
- The official application form will be available on the **WACPC Website** by July 1st, 2026.
- Recognition provides enhanced visibility and support for your local cheer community.



CHEER UPDATES

Resources

Stay connected and informed through WACPC platforms:

- **BAND App:** Member-only communication and collaboration
- **Facebook:** *Wisconsin Association of Cheer and Pom Coaches*
- **Instagram:** @WACPC
- **TikTok:** @WACPC
- Submit feedback using the **Cheer Proposals/Concerns Form** on wacpc.com.

Cheer Contacts

NFHS & WACPC Rules

katy@wacpc.com

Judges & Scoresheet Requests

hailey@wacpc.com

General Cheer Questions

lauren@wacpc.com

taylorj@wacpc.com





WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF
CHEER AND POM COACHES

MEMBERSHIP

Membership for 26-27 season will open July 1



Event Dates

Event	Date	Location
JEM Conference	TBD	TBD
Fall Conference	November 13th - 15th, 2026	Wisconsin Dells
JEM Dance	January 30th, 2027	TBD
Dance Sectionals	January 23rd, 2027	Middleton High School & D.C. Everest High School
State Dance	February 5th - 6th, 2027	La Crosse, WI
JEM Cheer	February 13th, 2027	Hartford Union High School
Cheer Prelims	February 20th, 2027	Elkhorn Area High School
State Cheer	February 26th - 27th, 2027	La Crosse, WI
Spring Fling	TBD	TBD



Fall Conferences

- **WACPC Fall Conference**
 - November 13-16, 2026
 - Wilderness/Glacier Canyon Lodge & Conference Center Wisconsin Dells
 - **WACPC JEM Fall Conference**
 - Dates and location TBD
- 



WACPC ALL-STATE

Performance & Purpose

Our 2026 All-State Athletes are heading to the professional ballparks this June!

Catch them at:

- **Milwaukee Milkmen** - June 27th
- **Lake Country Dockhounds** - June 28th

♥ The "Grand Slam" Give Back

We are performing for more than just the applause! A portion of all ticket proceeds sold through the WACPC link is being donated directly to the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Watch our social media accounts for ticket sales soon!

The Goal: To unite the state's All-State athletes while making a "major league" impact.

Registration closed on May 1st, 2026



Supporting
**Children's Hospital
of Wisconsin**

Scholarships & Scholar Athlete

- 141 teams were awarded a total of 1,349 scholar athlete pins!
- 22 total scholarships for \$1,000 each have been awarded.
 - Currently in the process of attending school functions to deliver awards.
 - Formal announcement will be made following the final award ceremony.

Coach of the Year

Dance Coach of the Year:
Lindsey Nowak



Cheer Coach of the Year:
Gabrielle Kolz



Hall of Fame

2025
WACPC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Julie Jacobson & Amy Nass

Application is open year round



ELECTION BREAKOUT

