

The Spirit Scoop

WACPC Competition Updates & 2025–2026 Season Changes (Updated 8/12/2025)

Updated Divisions & Sub-Divisions

Preset Subdivisions

Small: 5–11 athletes | **Medium:** 12–15 athletes | **Large:** 16+ athletes

All Girl Traditional

All Girl Non-Tumble

All Girl Gameday

Coed Gameday

Small: 1 male | **Large:** 2+ males

Coed Traditional

Coed Non Tumble

No Subdivision Split

Cheer Dance

College Team Updates

- **\$25 per competing athlete** (Minimum \$200/team) for primary routine
 - **Secondary routine fee:** \$100
-

All State Registration Fee Update

- **\$35 per competing athlete**
-

Non-Tumble Routine Updates

Group Stunt Base Score Criteria:

- **All Girl Non-Tumble:** Out of 6 stunts (*7th is a bonus*)
 - **Middle School Non-Tumble:** Out of 4 stunts (*5th is a bonus*)
 - **Coed Non-Tumble:** Out of 6 stunts
 - *3 must be coed-style stunts*
 - *4 coed stunts = bonus*
-

State Scoring & Advancement Updates

- **50%** of all sub-divisions will advance from **Prelims to Finals** | **No auto-qualifiers**
 - **Wildcard Rule:** Teams that earn **75% or more of their total possible score** will advance to **State Finals** in all Traditional and Non-Tumble divisions
-

WACPC Cheer Championship Series

- **JEM Championship**
 - Portage High School | January 10, 2026
 - **State Cheer Preliminary**
 - Hartford Union High School | February 14, 2026
 - **State Cheer Championship**
 - Resch Expo Center | Green Bay | February 20-21, 2026
 - Friday February 20th
 - All-State, Stunt Group, Mascot, College
 - Saturday February 21st
 - Game Day, Traditional, Non-Tumble, & Cheer Dance
-

Cheer Dance Division to Be Eliminated in 26/27

WACPC has made the decision to eliminate the Cheer Dance division come the 26/27 season after a thoughtful and thorough evaluation of its role within the structure of competitive cheer and dance. The Cheer Committee has been monitoring the division over time and noted a consistent decline in participation, which contributed to the decision—but it was not the only factor. We understand this change may be disappointing for those who have invested in and enjoyed competing in the Cheer Dance division.

Please know this decision was made with great care and a focus on the long-term growth and clarity of the sport.

One key consideration was the lack of clear differentiation between Cheer Dance and Pom routines. The two share many stylistic elements, which has made it difficult to define Cheer Dance as a distinct and necessary category. As we work to more clearly distinguish between competitive cheer and competitive dance, it became evident that Cheer Dance no longer fits within that direction.

Additionally, survey results showed that if Cheer Dance were removed, most teams would simply continue with one routine. It's also important to clarify that Cheer Dance could only be entered as a secondary routine—so for those suggesting it could help newer programs get started, that isn't accurate, since teams were required to compete in a primary division already.

It's also worth noting that this decision was not related to budget in any way. Financial considerations did not play a role in the evaluation or outcome.

Cheer Dance is not offered at the national level, and more importantly, it does not align with our broader vision to grow the sport of cheerleading in Wisconsin. We are committed to fostering stronger stunting, jumps, and tumbling—skills that are core to the progression of competitive cheer. We believe focusing our efforts in those areas will create more meaningful opportunities for athletes and help move the sport forward in the most impactful way.