

# **CheerExpo Junior Judges Program**

## Intro to Judging for Athletes for Sport Longevity

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this program is to build the judging pool in the Atlantic provinces by providing high-level, age-appropriate athletes with experience on a judging panel. These technically experienced athletes are at their peak and are close to, or ready to, retire from cheerleading as an athlete (or have retired in the past couple of years) and may be looking for an opportunity to still be involved in the sport.

**NOTE:** This is NOT a judges' certification. It is an intro to judging with hands-on experience during an actual live event. Candidates will get the full experience of being on the judges stand to see if judging could be their next big cheer passion.

### **BENEFITS & RENUMERATION:**

- a) The Junior Judges program is free of charge for accepted applicants
- b) No meals, milage, payment or remuneration will be given to Junior Judges for their time judging at the event...however....
- c) The CheerExpo Junior Judges Program will cover the cost of the next PSO - Cheer Canada Judges Certification course offered in their home province, for all Junior Judges who finish the program.

Judging cheerleading is very rewarding and can afford the opportunity to travel and meet amazing new friends throughout Canada, the US and the rest of the World. Many judges make a second career of judging and make very good money while visiting cool new locations and judging some of the biggest events on the planet.

### **CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS:**

- a) Must be 17+ during CheerExpo. The schedule will not conflict with Senior, Open or IASF Worlds divisions.
- b) Must have their own team accommodations and be able to arrange travel to and from the venue.
- c) Must have at least 3 years of experience in cheerleading
- d) Must reside in Atlantic Canada (NS, NB, PE, NL)
- e) Must be available during either Friday evening and/or the Saturday mid-day lunch break at CheerExpo (TBD - schedule not yet determined).
- f) Preferably **NOT** a coach or CIT. We are looking for judges who are not intending to coach next season and who will not have any conflicts in the competition session(s) above.
- g) Must be dedicated, mature, responsible and eager to learn how to judge

### **PROCESS:**

In the weeks prior to CheerExpo, Junior Judges will:

- a) Sign a Confidentiality Agreement and Code of Conduct
- b) Be issued approximately 3 light reading assignments
- c) Participate in 1-2 online zoom meetings (approximately 1 hr each)
- d) Complete 2-3 short assignments
  - a. Judge 3 teams virtually
  - b. Build a bank

## **HANDS-ON JUDGING AT CHEEREXPO:**

The junior judge candidates will have a judges' meeting onsite (time TBD...approx 1 hr prior to judging assignment) to go through the process and any last-minute details prior to judging.

Junior Judges will score specialty divisions (Individuals and Stunt Groups) and may potentially rate un-ranked categories (check mark sheets with comments) at CheerExpo (Novice, U8 Prep, etc). All required materials and supplies will be provided (score sheets/system, etc). Junior judges should bring their own reference materials.

This is not shadow judging...the Junior Judges will actually be scoring these divisions! Sheets, comments, rating and scores/ranking (where applicable) will be given to coaches and viewed by athletes.

This method is similar to other sports (like hockey, soccer, etc.) where young adults start off by officiating younger teams or lower-level games under supervision, rather than expecting a new judge to know how to judge the highest levels of the sport prior to ever taking the stand. Again, this program is not a certification...its more akin to a "Take your Child to Work Day" experience with some discussion and guidance in advance.

The experience will provide a strong foundation for the next step...getting certified through the PSO-Cheer Canada Judges Certification.

Junior Judges are also encouraged to practice judge the regular divisions using novice sheets or whichever panel sheet(s) they would prefer from the spectator seats (unfortunately the judges stand will not accommodate all our judging panels and the junior judges at the same time). Junior judges will need to print off their own sheets and provide their own judging materials (pens, clip board, etc.) for this practice session. These sheets will not be passed in or evaluated. This is for personal practice only but is highly encouraged. Being great judge involves continually learning and practicing whenever you get the opportunity.

**APPLICATION FORM BELOW**

# CheerExpo Junior Judges Program Application

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Member PSO: (check one)

\_\_\_\_ Cheer Nova Scotia    \_\_\_\_ Cheer New Brunswick/PEI    \_\_\_\_ Newfoundland & Labrador Cheer Association

Current / Most Recent Cheer Gym and team: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Coach / CIT?    \_\_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_\_ NO

Which score sheet(s) do you think you would be most comfortable with scoring once certified?

\_\_\_\_ Building    \_\_\_\_ Jumps/Tumbling    \_\_\_\_ Overall    \_\_\_\_ Legalities / Deductions

Any other details you would like to share: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Feel free to use a separate sheet to add more cheer experience or any additional details)

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Email completed application to [info@cheerexpo.net](mailto:info@cheerexpo.net)