

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 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, mileage, 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 Friday evening and/or any time Saturday morning between 8am and mid-day lunch break at CheerExpo (TBD - schedule not yet determined). The schedule will not conflict with Senior, Open or IASF Worlds divisions.
- 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 months/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 (Virtually judge a few teams, build a bank, etc.)

HANDS-ON JUDGING AT CHEEREXPO:

The junior judge candidates will have a judges' meeting onsite (time TBD...approx 30 min to 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.

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 optional 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.

The CheerExpo Junior Judges Program is similar to methods 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. It will encourage participants to practice and give tools on how to practice at home to become a proficient adjudicator.

APPLICATION FORM BELOW

CheerExpo Junior Judges Program Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
December 5th, 2025

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