



CHEERLEADING

TECHNICAL HANDBOOK

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

DEPARTMENT
WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS
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INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY
SPORTS
FEDERATION



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1. HISTORY

Cheerleading officially entered the FISU World University Championships programme in 2014. The first World University Championship has been successfully organised in 2018 in the city of Łódź, Poland, with the record of participation of the 2018 Championships season. The 2020 Championship Cheerleading event was scheduled to take place in Wonju, South Korea, but has regrettably been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The second edition of the FISU World University Championship Cheerleading took place once again in 2024, marking the first event after the pandemic. Split, Croatia, served as the host city, boasting a lively atmosphere and unmistakable enthusiasm, culminating in a spectacular celebration.

2. STATISTICS

EDITION	YEAR	COUNTRY	CITY	COUNTRIES	ATHLETES			OFFs	TOTAL
					M	W	TOT		
1	2018	POL	Łódź	13	94	300	394	91	486
2	2024	CRO	Split	13	50	221	271	52	323

3. GENERAL SCHEDULE

DAY -3	DAY -2	DAY -1	DAY 1-2	DAY 3	DAY 4
A	A	GTM / OC	C	C / CC	D

Legend: A – Arrivals / CC – Closing Ceremony / C – Competition / D – Departures / GTM – General Technical Meeting / OC – Opening Ceremony

For Cheerleading, the competitions shall last 3 days

4. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

4.1. GENERAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -6 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

The General Entry is the first stage of the registration process, where delegations are invited to register, through the NUSFs, for the Championship indicating a general interest in participating in the event.

Teams and athletes are not required to submit any documentation or undergo a selection processes.

The submission of a General Entry Form is non-binding, indicating only initial interest by the NUSF but not final commitment

4.2. QUANTITATIVE ENTRY (DEADLINE: -3 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

During the Quantitative Entry the NUSF delegation commits to participate and confirms the delegation composition in terms of numbers and although it does not yet provide individual details, it requires the NUSFs to submit an accurate count of delegation members.

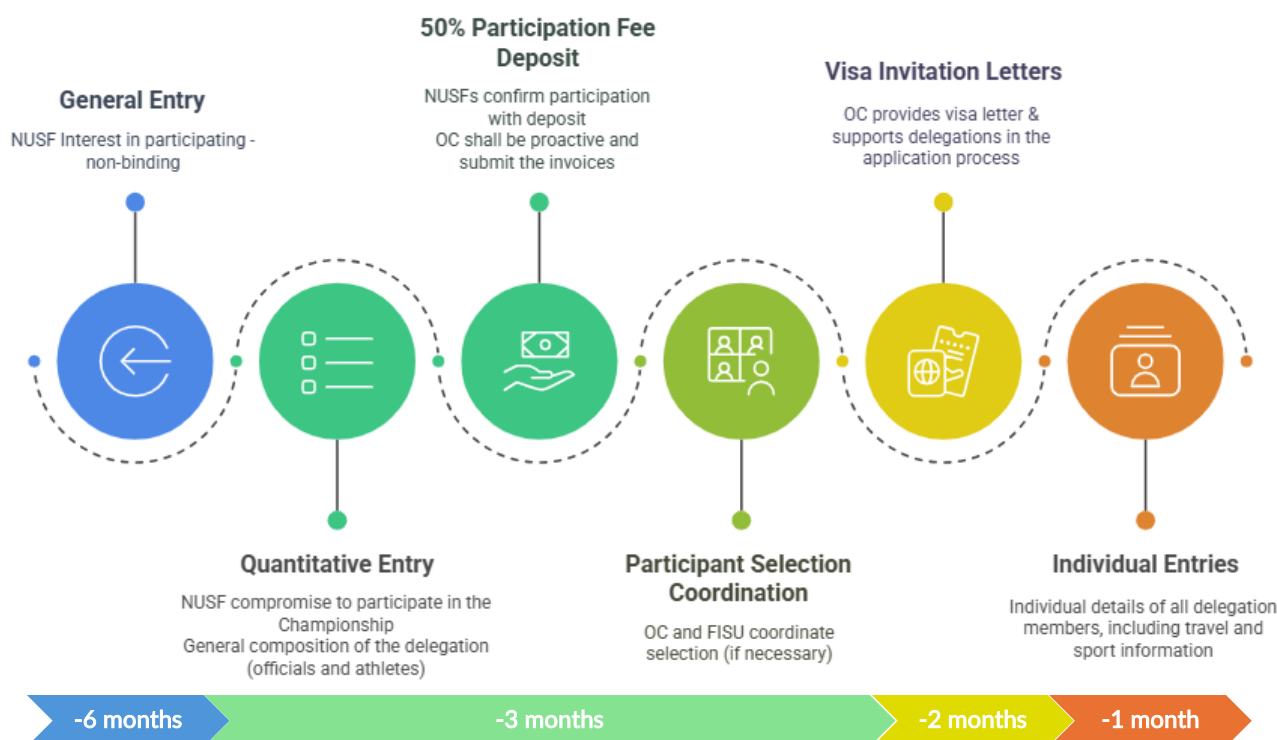
At this stage, a 50% payment of the participation fees is due and must be settled by the Quantitative Entry deadline. By proceeding with the payment, the delegation confirms its participation in the Championship.

This deposit serves as a participation guarantee, and is non-refundable in case of withdrawal, with refunds subject to FISU General Regulations and any OC-specific cancellation policies

4.3. INDIVIDUAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -1 MONTH TO THE EVENT)

The Individual Entry is the final step in FISU event registration. The NUSF must provide all relevant data and documentation for each delegation member.

The remaining 50% of the participation fees is paid in full to the Organising Committee by this deadline. Failure to do so may result in non-participation in the Championship, unless specifically approved by the Organising Committee



5. SPORT REGULATIONS

The Cheerleading competitions shall be organised in accordance with the most recent university technical rules of the International Cheer Union (ICU), unless otherwise stated. In case of dispute in the interpretation of the rules, the English text shall be regarded as authoritative.

The competitions shall last 3 days as indicated in the General Schedule (Section 3) and the competition programme shall be proposed by the Organising Committee Competition Manager and confirmed by the FISU TCC, including the following events:

5.1. COMPETITION EVENTS

EVENTS (MEN's & WOMEN's)		
University Coed Premier	University Coed Elite	University Pom
University All Female Premier	University All Female Elite	University Jazz
University Hip Hop Doubles	University Pom Doubles	University Hip Hop

The OC shall conduct the draw directly after the official registration in the presence of the FISU Technical Committee Chair (or his/her representative). Each completed master sheet shall be signed by the FISU Technical Committee Chair.

The draw shall be carried out using the ICU-approved computerised random process. Entries for the draw shall come from the FISU Games Management System.

After the draw is completed and signed by the FISU Technical Committee Chair, copies for each participating country shall be made available.

Day 1: Semifinal – All teams

Day 2: Semifinal – All teams

Day 3: Final – The minimum top 5 teams in each division

The final schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the Organising Committee, based on event registration, to ensure the best possible experience for athletes and all attendees

5.2. CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Day 1: All teams – 50% of a 100% Semifinal total score

Day 2: All teams – 50% of a 100% Semifinal total score

Day 3: Based on the results from 100% of the Semifinal scores (from Day 1 & Day 2), the minimum top 5 teams in each division will compete in the Day 3 Finals. Semifinal scores do not carry over to the Finals.



5.3. DELEGATIONS COMPOSITION

A. Athletes

DIVISIONS	MEN's	WOMEN's
Coed (Premier & Elite)*	16-20 athletes (+2 reserves)	
All Female (Premier & Elite)		16-20 athletes (+2 reserves)
Pom*	16-20 athletes (+2 reserves)	
Hip Hop*	16-20 athletes (+2 reserves)	
Jazz*	16-20 athletes (+2 reserves)	
Pom Doubles*	2 athletes	
Hip Hop Doubles*	2 athletes	
Max. 114 athletes per delegation		

*Gender Mixed Competition

Every athlete and official must possess a valid ICU ID card

A maximum of one team per division per delegation is permitted

At the Technical Meeting, the Head of Delegation or his/her representative shall confirm and sign the official list of competitors accredited by the CIC

B. Officials

TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICIALS	
Coed (Premier & Elite)	Max. 2 coaches
All Female (Premier & Elite)	Max. 2 coaches
Pom	Max. 2 coaches
Hip Hop	Max. 2 coaches
Jazz	Max. 2 coaches
Pom Doubles	Max. 1 coach
Hip Hop Doubles	Max. 1 coach
Delegation Officials	Max. 6 officials
Max. 18 officials per delegation	

6. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

6.1. INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

For the FISU Championship, the ITOs are appointed by the ICU, with the endorsement of FISU. This appointment process considers several critical factors, including the number of participants, the level and availability of NTOs, and the goal to minimise expenses when possible. To achieve cost-efficiency, ICU will aim to nominate ITOs from neighbouring countries whenever feasible. This approach not only fosters regional cooperation but also optimises resources.

A. Number & Roles of ITOs

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
4	Performance Cheer Judging Official (1 for Rules)
4	Cheerleading Judging Official (1 for Rules)
1	Warm Up Area Director
1	Announcer
A total of 10 ITOs are required	

B. ITOs Costs

According to the Collaboration Convention signed between FISU and ICU, the costs of the ITOs are the following:

- ICU covers:
 - ITOs' flights
 - ITO's per-diems
- Organising Committee shall cover:
 - Technical Delegate's accommodation in single room
 - Technical Delegate's meals
 - Technical Delegate's internal transportation
 - ITOs' accommodation
 - ITOs' meals
 - ITOs' internal transportation

6.2. NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Concerning the NTOs, these individuals are appointed by the Cheerleading National Federation or the appropriate governing bodies within a country, under the supervision of the Organising Committee.



A. Number & Roles of NTOs

NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
3	Performance Cheer Judging Official
3	Cheerleading Judging Official
2	Warm Up Area
1	Stage Manager
1	Judges Table Manager
1	Production Manager
1	Music DJ
10	Other NTO Assignments
A total of 22 NTOs are required	

B. Agreement with the NF

Concerning the NTOs participation, it falls outside the scope of FISU or ICU. It is therefore advisable for the Organising Committee to reach an agreement directly with the National Federation. This collaboration will help ensure clarity and alignment on the financial aspects associated with it, including the following:

- NTOs Nomination – Ensure all NTOs possess the necessary qualifications to work in an international event
- Management and distribution of the technical official's clothing/uniforms
- Arrangement of suitable accommodation for the required period, if needed

It is strongly recommended to initiate communication with the National Federation promptly regarding the appointment of these officials. This proactive approach will help avert any potential personnel shortages that may arise from conflicting event dates, thereby expanding the available options and ensuring a more successful engagement

7. SPORT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

7.1. COMPETITION VENUES

- Number of competition venues – 1
- Type of venue – Indoor
 - Performance Cheer (Marley) 12.8m x 12.8m
 - Cheerleading (Foam mat) 12.8m x 16.5m (9 strips)
- Safety zones – 2m from the side lines
- Lighting – 1.500 lux

7.2. TRAINING VENUES

- Number of training venues – 1 with 2 areas
- Type of venue – Indoor
 - Performance Cheer (Marley) 12.8m x 12.8m
 - Cheerleading (Foam mat) 12.8m x 16.5m (9 strips)
- Safety zones – 2m from the side lines

7.3. EQUIPMENT

A. Venue Equipment

- Sound system in both areas
- Video screen on the main venue

Please refer to the Minimum Requirements document for more detailed information

8. TRAININGS

The Organising Committee is responsible for coordinating and communicating the training schedule to each delegation, ensuring appropriate access to facilities based on the sport and competition schedule. Some of the factors to be considered are:

- Create a training schedule based on the indications of the FISU TCC
- Consider the usage of the main competition venue, if needed and appropriate
- Provide hydration and basic medical assistance for training sessions
- Share a detailed training plan with each delegation at least 48 hours before their arrival
- Ensure training venue availability throughout the Championship

Please refer to the Section 5.2.3 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Trainings

9. MEDICAL SERVICES

A. FISU Requirements

- First aid and Emergency Medical care
- Medical transportation
- OC on-call first aid medical services shall be available on a 24-hour basis
- A minimum of two ambulances per venue should be available and on duty from the start of warm-up until at least 45 minutes after the final competition of the day



B. Participants Medical Insurance

All participants must have valid travel medical insurance, covering:

- 24/7 Emergency Assistance
- Emergency Medical Expenses
- Medical Evacuation/Repatriation
- Trip Cancellation/Interruption
- Accidental Death or Injury

The OC is solely responsible for providing first aid, emergency medical care, and transportation to the designated hospital. All other medical costs shall be borne by the participant's insurance

Refer to Section 3.4.1 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Medical Services

10. DOPING CONTROL

A. FISU Requirements

- The requirements regarding the number and type of doping tests, as well as the total number of tests to be conducted, can be found in the *FISU Doping Test Requirements* document. This information is available exclusively to the Organising Committee.
- The OC Doctor or Head of the Medical area shall coordinate the doping testing and contact the FISU CMI to clarify the moment or disciplines in which the tests will be carried out.
- All doping tests costs (including collection, transportation, laboratory analyses) shall be borne by the Organising Committee.

B. Athletes Selection

- Athletes are eligible for testing once accredited until departing from the official event accommodation.

Please refer to Section 3.4.2 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Doping Control

11. PROTOCOL, SPORT PRESENTATION & AWARDING

11.1. MEDALS TABLE

CHEERLEADING						
DISCIPLINE	WOMEN			MIXED TEAM		
	G	S	B	G	S	B
Coed (Premier & Elite)				22	22	22
All Female (Premier & Elite)	22	22	22			
Pom				22	22	22
Hip Hop				22	22	22
Jazz				22	22	22
Pom Doubles				2	2	2
Hip Hop Doubles				2	2	2
TOTAL	22	22	22	92	92	92

A. FISU Requirements

The Organising Committee is responsible for providing the medals as shown in the table above. Medals must be awarded for all individual and mixed team events. The top three athletes/teams in each discipline (individual and mixed relay) are eligible for medals.

The table below provides a comprehensive overview of the total number of medals awarded across all competition disciplines. Please note that extra/reserve medal sets and the FISU set are not included in these figures.

CHEERLEADING MEDALS	
Gold	114
Silver	114
Bronze	114

The Organising Committee must provide FISU with a set of medals of the event

B. Recommendations & Considerations

It is crucial to have additional sets of medals on hand as a contingency. Some medals may be defective and may need to be replaced.

Medals are not mandatory for Officials in Cheerleading



11.2. SPORT PRESENTATION

Sports presentation is vital for elevating a Championship from a competition to an unforgettable experience. It encompasses everything from music and lighting to commentary and fan engagement, creating a unique atmosphere that engages the audience.

In case there is a big screen in the venue for the spectators, some educational video (provided by ICU) regarding the rules of the sport can be displayed at the beginning of the competition day

A. FISU Requirements

- **Audio Elements**
 - Sound System: A high-quality sound system is essential for announcements, music, and commentary, ensuring clear communication and an engaging atmosphere.
 - Microphone: Essential for general announcements such as schedule, results, teams introduction, general information, and others.
 - Thematic Music: Curate an energetic playlist to be played during introductions, warm-ups, and medal ceremonies to elevate the excitement.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Live Announcements: Make timely announcements regarding event schedules, divisions results, and teams backgrounds to keep the audience informed and engaged.
- **Teams Introduction**
 - Ceremonial Introductions: Develop exciting and personalized introductions for the teams, showcasing their achievements and backgrounds.

B. Recommendations & Considerations

- **Audio Elements**
 - DJ: Enhances the atmosphere and overall experience of a sports competition, by creating and maintaining energy, motivating the athletes and engaging the crowd.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Engaging Commentary: Hire knowledgeable commentators who can provide insights about the teams and techniques. This adds depth to the viewing experience.

11.3. CHEERLEADING PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL

A. Teams Awarding

In Cheerleading, the awarding process differs significantly from that of many other sports. Unlike traditional competitions where winning teams are announced prior to the commencement of the awards ceremony, Cheerleading adopts a more suspenseful approach. Teams enter the podium area without any prior knowledge of their placements, creating an atmosphere of anticipation and excitement.

The master of ceremonies plays a pivotal role in this process, first revealing the team that has secured 3rd place. Following this announcement, the tension mounts as the 2nd place team is identified. Finally, the 1st place team is celebrated in grand fashion. As their scores and final placements are announced, the teams step forward to take their respective positions on the podium.

12. SERVICES

The Organising Committee should provide a variety of services for the event, including:

- Ice
- Laundry
- Wi-Fi

Please refer to the Section 3.11 of the General Handbook for more detailed information on all services

12.1. ICE

The supply of ice is one of the most common requests from participating delegations, particularly for injury treatment and recovery purposes.

- The Organising Committee must supply ice for treating injuries during both practice and competition, as part of the medical coverage for the event. It does not cover large quantities of ice needed for recovery treatments, such as cryotherapy.

The Organising Committee secure a reliable ice provider on standby, anticipating the request from teams and establishing clear procedures for ice procurement, including pricing and how to access this service

12.2. LAUNDRY

Laundry services are essential for many sports, particularly in long-duration competitions and team sports, where athletes may require frequent changes of clothing.

- Laundry services must be provided in all Team Sports Championships and in all sports with more than four competition days.
- Self-Service or Full-Service Laundry can be considered (hotel/accommodation and external services included in the latter)

Self-Service is the preferred option, giving more flexibility and control to the teams. If not, it is important to negotiate reduced pricing and adjust the timing for collection/delivery of uniforms with the provider

12.3. WI-FI

Wi-Fi is an essential service for university students, as it serves as a critical infrastructure that fosters communication and supports their academic responsibilities.

- Participants can easily access real-time information about event schedules, results, and updates. This allows them to plan their day effectively, ensuring they don't miss out on key events and activities.
- Participants can engage with live broadcasts, social media updates, and other digital content related to the event.
- For many students, academic responsibilities continue even during events. Wi-Fi connection ensures they can access study materials and educational resources, maintain communication with professors, and keep up with online courses.

Wi-Fi should be provided free of charge for all participants at the event, both at the accommodation sites and at the competition venues



13. GENERAL TIMELINE

TIMELINE	ACTIONS
Event -12 months	• Coordination Visit ◦ Venues visit and Equipment approval (FISU TCC) • Competition programme approval (FISU TCC) • Venue medical plan approval (FISU TCC)
Event -6 months	• General Entries (NUSFs)
Event -3 months	• Quantitative Entries (NUSFs) • 50% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • ITOs & NTOs list (FISU / ICU)
Event -1 months	• Individual Entries (NUSFs) • 100% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • Final Bulletin (OC / FISU / FISU TCC)
Event -1 day	• Accreditation and participants list confirmation (NUSFs) • Technical Officials Meeting (ITOs / NTOs / TCC / OC) • General Technical Meeting (NUSFs / OC / FISU)
EVENT	
Event +1 week	• Send all documents and media to FISU (OC)
Event +1 month	• Final Report to FISU (OC)

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