CHEER & DANCE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Are cheer and dance sanctioned TSSAA sports?

   No, TSSAA does not sanction cheer and dance. However, the association sponsors an annual state championship for our member schools to provide an opportunity for the participating students to compete and be recognized for their skill, hard work, and dedication to their schools.

2. Are there any TSSAA requirements for cheer or dance coaches?

   Cheer coaches must complete the TSSAA online rules meeting for cheer each year. Cheer coaches will access this online meeting through the TSSAA Portal. Dance coaches do not need to complete any TSSAA meetings. There are no other TSSAA coaching requirements for cheer or dance.

   Please ask your AD to add you to the school's TSSAA Portal. This will give us up to date contact information and is our main method of communication with member schools and coaches.

3. Do the TSSAA eligibility rules apply to students participating in cheer and dance?

   No, requirements for participation are determined by each school administration.

4. Does TSSAA establish tryout procedures that schools must follow?

   No, school coaches and administrators determine how tryouts will be conducted for their school and how their teams will be selected.

5. Who do I contact if I have a question about Varsity Spirit competitions or camps?

   Cheer:
   Jesse Hulet, State Director
   662-380-3533
   jhulet@varsity.com

   Dance:
   Ashley Creasey, State Director
   901-619-2618
   acreasey@varsity.com

6. Where can I find information about the TSSAA state championships?

   Once the competition date and location is set, it will be announced on the Cheer and Dance pages of tssaa.org and emailed to member schools. Competition divisions, rules and regulations, and registration instructions will also be posted as soon as they are available.

7. Does the TSSAA Dead Period apply to cheer and dance?

   No, cheer and dance are not sanctioned sports, so the TSSAA Sports Calendar does not apply. However, school administrators may choose to require cheer and dance to follow the Dead Period restrictions.

8. Is there an official rules book for cheer and dance?

   TSSAA uses the NFHS/USA Cheer Spirit Rules book. Your school can access a digital copy here: https://tssaa.org/rules-books-for-coaches. Additional copies may also be purchased from nfhs.com or usacheer.org.

9. Are cheerleaders and dancers covered under TSSAA Catastrophic Insurance?

   Yes, provided the students are participating in school practice under the supervision of a school coach or at a TSSAA event. Students are not covered while practicing at private gyms or studios or while participating at competitions or events outside of TSSAA.