PROPOSAL FOR A NEW DANCE SCORESHEET

A FAIRER, MORE ACCURATE AND TRANSPARENT SCORING SYSTEM FOR ALL-STAR DANCE

ICC

INTERNATIONAL CHEERLEADING COALITION

RAISING THE STANDARD. TOGETHER.

THE SCORESHEET

ROUTINE EXECUTION — TOTAL (55)

GENRE SPECIFIC EXECUTION	10
SKILL TECHNIQUE / ATHLETICISM	10
CLEANLINESS	10
DYNAMICS OF MOVEMENT	10
SPACING	10
COMMUNICATION	5

ROUTINE DESIGN — TOTAL (40)

VISUAL EFFECTS	10
ROUTINE STRUCTURE	10
MOVEMENT COMPOSITION	10
DIFFICULTY OF SKILLS (5) DIFFICULTY OF CHOREOGRAPHY (5)	10

OVERALL — TOTAL (5)

OVERALL EFFECT	5

TOTAL SCORE (100)

Breaking down the scoring areas

Routine execution and dancer performance should carry greater value than choreographic design.
This ensures that the importance of improving dancers' technique and execution remains the priority rather than the talent of the coach/choreographer. However, this scoring more effectively scores the overall design of a routine with separate areas.
The following areas give a full, fair and balanced assessment of an all-star dance routine that effectively compares each team that performs.

GENRE SPECIFIC EXECUTION

similar to: 'category style execution'

Here we will score each team specifically by the genre they are competing in. Assessing how effectively teams execute the fundamental elements of their chosen genre. Each genre will list the key execution elements that will specifically drive score.

Hip Hop	Pom
• Authenticity of PRESENTED hip hop styles. Teams are NOT required to present numerous styles within the hip hop genre but for the ones they do show we must see authentic execution of the style.	• Clean, sharp and precise placement and execution of motions. Poms should be used throughout the routine and create **multiple** visual effects using the poms.

Jazz	Lyrical
• Crisp movement with clean lines. High energy with authenticity of selected Jazz style. Emphasis is placed on strength, alignment, technical elements (turns, leaps etc.) and communication.	• Movement that is complementary to the music through lyrics, mood and nuances. Use of extension, release, breath and technical elements (turns, leaps etc.) The routine and performance quality should effectively communicate emotion and tell a compelling story.

Breaking down the scoring areas

SKILL TECHNIQUE (POM/JAZZ/LYRICAL) / ATHLETICISM (HIPHOP)

Judges will credit: execution, not difficulty, of correct approach, execution and completion of elements such as, but not limited to: leaps, turns, lifts, partnering etc.
We acknowledge that there is no specific skill requirement for Hip Hop. Therefore we will assess the use of choreography that demonstrates high-level athleticism (movements requiring significant strength, power, control, and technical skill). Examples may include floorwork, footwork, tricks, lifts and partnering.

CLEANLINESS

Here we will assess the teams synchronisation and uniformity. Consistent unison and timing by the team. Uniformity of team movement within choreography and skills. We will understand and acknowledge that each style has a different level of sync/uniformity required. For example: Pom and Jazz should demonstrate a superior level of placement and timing whilst Lyrical and hip hop allow for more freedom of movement and individuality.

DYNAMICS OF MOVEMENT

Assessment of the quality and intent of movement execution. Showcasing: **Musicality**, Groove, Texture, Control, Intensity and Strength.

SPACING

Consistent and even positioning of dancers throughout all formations and transitions that provides clarity of intended staging and pictures. Looking at both static and transitional movement. Teams will be assessed on the frequency and severity of spacing errors.

COMMUNICATION

Ability to convey a unified message and connect with the audience throughout the performance. Includes: expression, emotion, interaction within the team, energy, and entertainment value. Judges will consider the team's consistency and stamina.

Breaking down the scoring areas

Routine design encompasses the overall construction and choreography of a routine. Routines are required to be visually pleasing with the use of a number of formations, transitions and a full use of the performance space.

VISUAL EFFECTS

Visual impact of choreography through levels, layering, ripples, directions and focus points. Visuals should include creative group/partner work, level changes, groundwork, opposing motions, contagions, etc

ROUTINE STRUCTURE

Use of varied formations & creative ways to move from one formation to another to allow for quick & seamless transitions. Adequate use of the performance floor.

MOVEMENT COMPOSITION

Creativity and originality of movement phrasing. Variety of movement through full body use. Incorporation of musical variations including syncopation, accents and dynamics. **Musicality.**

DIFFICULTY

For Pom, Jazz and Lyrical divisions, the difficulty score will be divided equally between difficulty of skills and difficulty of choreography. Hip Hop teams will be assessed solely on the difficulty of movement.

SKILLS

Advanced level style specific elements such as, but not limited to, turns, leaps, jumps, lifts, partnering, etc. Appropriate utilisation of the team's ability level with emphasis placed on utilising a majority of the team members versus utilising the same feature dancers throughout.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Level of difficulty implemented through movement such as, but not limited to weight changes, varied intricate movement, isolations, tempo changes, etc.

OVERALL EFFECT

This is where we give our judges a chance to score the performance as a whole. It is based on each judge's individual overall impression.

Judging & Scoring Allocation

HOW THE SCORE IS CALCULATED

40% of the scoresheet is averaged across all three judges, while the remaining 60% is allocated to specialist judging categories.

For accurate scoring and feedback on specific areas each judge will be in charge of their own scoring areas. These areas are considered less subjective and can be assessed against clearly defined criteria.

JUDGE 1 TEAM EXECUTION		JUDGE 2 ROUTINE SHAPING		JUDGE 3 SKILL LEVEL	
CLEANLINESS	10	VISUAL EFFECTS	10	SKILL TECH/ ATHLETICISM	10
SPACING	10	ROUTINE STRUCTURE	10	DIFFICULTY	10

ALL JUDGES

GENRE EXECUTION	10
DYNAMICS OF MOVEMENT	10
MOVEMENT COMPOSITION	10
COMMUNICATION	5
OVERALL EFFECT	5

These categories allow all judges to provide a score for the routine as a whole by looking at both execution and choreography. The ‘more subjective’ areas of the scoresheet are averaged across three judges to allow for more fairness and accurate scoring. This also reduces the influence of any single judge on the final outcome.

PREVENTS A SINGLE JUDGE DETERMINING THE OUTCOME AS IT BALANCES AVERAGES AND ACCURACY

Benefits of the proposed system

MORE ACCURATE SCORING

Judges focus on fewer categories, allowing greater attention to detail.

IMPROVED TRANSPARENCY

Coaches better understand what drives their score.

BETTER FEEDBACK

More meaningful commentary for athlete development.

GREATER CONSISTENCY

More reliable scoring across events and divisions.

REDUCED SINGLE-JUDGE INFLUENCE

More balanced reflection of accurate scoring