

# **SYF RULES - CHEER**

## **Divisions for 2021**

**The following divisions will be offered for the 2021**

- season 1. Halftime Division**
- 2. Competition Division (level I)**
- 3. Competition Division (level II)**
- 4. Competition Division (level III)**
- 5. Competition Division (Non Tumbling)**

**Divisions for 2021 – Teams will pick 1 of the following to compete in. Brief description is below**

**Halftime Division: Designed for teams who do not compete outside of SYF. Teams could be new to cheerleading and don't have any experience putting together a routine for competition. So bring a halftime and perform against other teams. Skills that can be performed are Level 2 or below. 1:30 MAX time limit. Routine can be performed to MUSIC OR CHEER OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.**

**Competition Division Level I: Designed for teams who are new to cheerleading. Routines are limited to 2:30 max time limit. Skills need to follow ROUTINE 1 GUIDELINES. Routine can be performed to MUSIC OR CHEER OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.**

**Competition Division Level 2: Designed for teams who have experience with competition type cheerleading. Level 2 teams would be teams that compete outside of SYF at events like JAMZ, USA, UCA, etc. Routines are limited to 2:30 max time limit. Skills need to follow ROUTINE 2 GUIDELINES. Routine can be performed to MUSIC OR CHEER OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.**

**Competition Division Level 3: Designed for teams who have experience with competition type cheerleading. Level 3 teams would be teams that compete outside of SYF at events like JAMZ, USA, UCA, etc. Routines are limited to**

**2:30 max time limit. Skills need to follow ROUTINE 3 GUIDELINES. Routine can be performed to MUSIC OR CHEER OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.**

### **Division sizes and splits**

**Halftime Division (3 + team members)**

**Competition Division Level I – Small (5 - 12 members) / Large (13 + members) Competition Division Level II – Small (5 - 12 members) / Large (13 + members) Competition Division Level III (5 + team members)**

**Competition Division Non Tumbling (5 + team members)**

### **Additional Rules for Showcase and League competitions**

**Minimum time limit – none**

**Maximum time limit competition division 2:30**

**Maximum time limit halftime division 1:30**

**Use of a cheer in competition division – Allowed, but not required Use of a cheer in halftime divisions – Allowed, but not required Stepping off of the floor – No penalty**

**Use of poms, signs, flags – Allowed**

**Fingernail length – checked and monitored by own team for safety Jewelry – checked and monitored by own team for safety Music format – needs to be in an mp3 or similar format Music must be able to work offline**

**All music must have an adult who IS FAMILIAR WITH HOW YOUR MUSIC WORKS.**

**In case of injury, the event director can stop the routine for the injured athlete.**

**If a routine is stopped for an injured athlete, that athlete MAY NOT perform again that day EVEN IF THEY FEEL**

## **BETTER.**

**Any section of skill required by the score sheet and not performed by a team will result in a score of zero for that category**

### 2021 Level 3

#### **Partner Stunts**

1. Partner stunts higher than shoulder stand level must have a separate, continuous spotter for each person over shoulder stand level.
2. The bases of any extended stunt must have both feet on the ground
3. A spotter is required for single base shoulder level stunts in which the feet of the top person are in the hands of one base. (This spotter may assist under the sole of the foot.)
4. In stunts requiring a spotter, a spotter:
  - \*Can't provide primary support for a top person.
  - \*Must be in a position to protect the top person's head, neck and shoulders
  - \*Spotters must have their attention focused on the top person. Momentarily looking away in order to assess safety factors (another stunt, etc.) is allowed as long as their focus returns to top. \*May not have their hands behind their back.
  - \*May not support under the heel or sole of the top person's foot in a single based extended stunt. \*They may hold at the ankle of the top person and/or the wrist of the base.
5. In all Quick Tosses, the following rules apply:
  - a. No one can apply force under the foot. (Example Toe Pitch). If force is applied under the foot and there is a release, the rules in the "Tosses" section apply.
  - b. If landing on the ground, a catcher must control the top person back to the ground and the top person must land with at least one foot on the ground.
  - c. If landing in a cradle, one additional catcher is required.
  - d. The top person cannot travel over or under another person.
  - e. The top person cannot be caught in a single base horizontal position.
6. The total number of twists in a dismount from a stunt cannot be greater than 1 1/4 rotations. 7. Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids. 8. All cradle dismounts from partner stunts require an additional spotter in position to protect the head, neck and shoulders of the top person.
9. In all dismounts to catchers who are not the original bases, the following conditions must be met:
  - a. The top person must be cradled by two catchers and a head-and-shoulders spotter/catcher.
  - b. The new catchers must remain close to the original bases.
  - c. The new catchers must be in place and not involved in any other skill when the release is initiated.
  - d. The top person may not perform any skill (twist, toe touch, etc.) following the release.
10. Unless listed below, a release stunt must either be cradled or connected to at least one bracer. a. Helicopters are allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:
  - i. The top person makes no more than a 180-degree rotation (half-turn).
  - ii. Four bases must be in position during the entire release.
  - iii. There must be a base at the head/shoulder area during the beginning and end of catch.
  - iv. The bases are not allowed to change positions during the release.
  - v. The top person must begin and end in a face up position.
  - vi. The top person cannot perform a twisting skill.
- b. A log roll is legal provided it does not involve more than one complete rotation and the top

- person is not in contact with a person in a release stunt.
- i. In a single-base log roll, the top person must rotate toward the base and begin/end in a face-up position.
  - ii. In a multi-base log roll, the top person may begin and end face-up or facedown.
  - c. A free standing tick-tock that begins at shoulder level is permitted
  - d. A top person in a horizontal position shoulder height or below or in a cradle may be released to a loading position or stunt shoulder height or below.
11. Non-braced suspended splits in a transition are allowed provided all of the following conditions are met: a. The top person must have both hands in continuous contact with post or with both bases hands. b. When transitioning to the split without continuous hand-to-hand contact:
1. There are a total of four bases that support the top person.
  2. At least three of the bases must support under the legs of the top person. The fourth base may support under the legs or make contact with the hands of the top person.
12. Single-based stunts in which the top person is parallel to the performing surface and the bases' arms are extended must have a continuous spotter at the head and shoulder of the top person. (I.e. Bird, Side T, Single- Based Flat back, etc.)
13. Dismounts to the performing surface from shoulder height or above must have assisted landings. If the dismount involves a skill (e.g. toe touch, twist, etc.) the assistance must be from two bases or a base and spotter. This assistance must be sufficient to slow the momentum of the top person.
14. A swinging stunt is legal provided all the following conditions are met:
- a. A downward movement is only allowed from below shoulder height.
  - b. The top person is face up.
  - c. The top person begins from the performing surface or a stunt that is below shoulder height.
15. Single-based split catches are prohibited.
16. Tension drops are prohibited

## Inversions

- 1 Unless allowed under the rules in this section, a top person must not be in an inverted position.
- 2 Suspended rolls are allowed provided:
- a Two people on the performing surface control the top person with continuous hand-to-hand/arm contact to a stunt, two-person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
  - b A single base or post controls the top person with continuous hands-to-hands contact to a stunt, two-person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
  - c A single base/post suspended roll that ends on the performing surface requires a spotter.
    - i If caught in a cradle, load or stunt, the new catchers are in place and are not involved with any other skill when the suspended roll is initiated.
    - ii The feet/ankles of the top person are released.
- 3 Braced flips or rolls in a pyramid are allowed provided all the following conditions are met:
- a The top person begins in a multi-base loading position, stunt, cradle, or on the performing surface.
  - b The top person does not begin in an extended inverted position.
  - c The top person maintains continuous hand-to-hand/arm contact with a bracer on each side.
  - d The bracers are in double base preps with a spotter.
  - e The top person is between or in front of the bracers.
  - f At least three catchers (one base and two spotters or two bases and one spotter) who were the original bases/spotters catch the top person in a loading position, stunt or cradle, or assist the top person to the performing surface. If the flip ends in a cradle, the bracers

- may release the top person once she/he begins to descend and is no longer inverted.
  - g The top person ends in a non-inverted position.
  - h The top person does not perform more than one and one quarter ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ) flipping rotations and no more than one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) twist.
  - i The bases/catchers remain stationary except as necessary for safety adjustments.
- 4 In all other inversions:
- a An inverted top person is allowed to pass through an extended position, but must not pause or stop while extended.
  - b In inversions where the base of support begins and remains below prep level:
    - i At least one base or spotter must be in a position to protect the head/neck of the top person.
    - ii The base or spotter must maintain contact with the top person's upper body (waist and above, including arms/hands) until the top person is no longer inverted or his/her hands are on the performing surface. The contact must be sufficient to stabilize/control the top person's position.
  - c In inversions where the base of support begins at or passes through prep level:
    - i At least two people on the performing surface must be in a position to protect the head/neck of the top person.
    - ii The bases/spotters must maintain contact with the top person's upper body (waist and above, including arms/hands) until the top person is no longer inverted or his/her hands are on the performing surface. The contact must be sufficient to stabilize/control the top person's position.
    - iii EXCEPTION: In a fold over stunt, the top person may initiate the inversion without upper body contact.
    - iv The top person must not go directly to an inverted position on the performance surface from a prep or higher.
  - d Dismounts from inverted stunts to a cradle or an upright position on the performing surface are allowed provided the top person begins in a static or "pump and go" position (i.e., handstand) and does not perform any skill (e.g., toe touches, twists, etc.).

## Pyramids

- 1 The top person in a pyramid must receive primary support from a base or be connected to a bracer who is on a base.
- 2 In braced pyramids, at least one bracer of each pair must be at shoulder height or below. EXCEPTION: Extensions may brace other extensions.
- 3 Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
- 4 If a person in a pyramid is used as a brace for an extended stunt, that brace must not be supporting a majority of the top person's weight.
- 5 In a Released Pyramid Transition the following rules apply:
  - a. The top person must be in hand/arm to hand/arm contact with at least one bracer during the entire transition.
  - b. The top person and each bracer at prep level or higher must have a separate spotter.
  - c. The top person may not be supporting his or her weight on any other body part of the person(s) assisting (i.e. Shoulders of the bracer).
  - d. The released top person and bases make no more than a  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn around the bracer in a continuous movement in which the top person remains above the original base(s). The top person must be continuous in motion and cannot be supported so that they pause during the transition.
  - e. The top person must be caught by original bases.

## Tosses

The rules in this section only apply to tosses where someone is under a foot, e.g. basket tosses, elevator/sponge tosses, etc

1 In all tosses:

- a. No more than four tossers are allowed.
- b. Must be caught in a cradle.
  - 1) The cradle must include at least three of the original tossers.
  - 2) One of the catchers must be at the head and shoulders.
- c. The toss may not be directed so that the bases must travel to catch the top person. (The bases can turn/rotate under the toss.)
- d. The top person must not land in an inverted position.
- e. The top person may not hold any objects (poms, etc.) during the toss.
- f. The top person cannot travel over or under another person or through a prop.
- g. The total number of twists cannot be greater than one and one quarter rotations.

2. Toe pitch tosses are prohibited.

## **Tumbling and Jumps**

1 Dive rolls are prohibited.

2 Flips greater than one rotation are prohibited.

3 Twists greater than one rotation are prohibited.

4 A forward three-quarter flip to the seat or knees is prohibited.

5 A back flip from a tumbling pass into a cradle is prohibited. However, rebounding from a back handspring into a cradle is allowed.

6 Landings for all jumps must bear weight on at least one foot. (Example: A toe touch jump to the seat, knees, or landing with both feet back, or to a push-up position is prohibited.)

7 Knee drops are prohibited without first bearing weight on the hands.

8 Drops to a prone position (i.e. pushup) on the performing surface are illegal.

**Airborne skills without hip over-head rotation may not jump from a standing or squatting position backwards onto your neck, shoulders and hands. (This rule only refers to a type of entrance into the “kip-up/rubber band” skill.)**

## 2021 Level 3 Non Tumbling

### Partner Stunts

5. Partner stunts higher than shoulder stand level must have a separate, continuous spotter for each person over shoulder stand level.
6. The bases of any extended stunt must have both feet on the ground
7. A spotter is required for single base shoulder level stunts in which the feet of the top person are in the hands of one base. (This spotter may assist under the sole of the foot.)
8. In stunts requiring a spotter, a spotter:
  - \*Can't provide primary support for a top person.
  - \*Must be in a position to protect the top person's head, neck and shoulders
  - \*Spotters must have their attention focused on the top person. Momentarily looking away in order to assess safety factors (another stunt, etc.) is allowed as long as their focus returns to top. \*May not have their hands behind their back.
  - \*May not support under the heel or sole of the top person's foot in a single based extended stunt. \*They may hold at the ankle of the top person and/or the wrist of the base.
5. In all Quick Tosses, the following rules apply:
  - f. No one can apply force under the foot. (Example Toe Pitch). If force is applied under the foot and there is a release, the rules in the "Tosses" section apply.
  - g. If landing on the ground, a catcher must control the top person back to the ground and

- the top person must land with at least one foot on the ground.
  - h. If landing in a cradle, one additional catcher is required.
  - i. The top person cannot travel over or under another person.
  - j. The top person cannot be caught in a single base horizontal position.
17. The total number of twists in a dismount from a stunt cannot be greater than 1 1/4 rotations.
18. Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
19. All cradle dismounts from partner stunts require an additional spotter in position to protect the head, neck and shoulders of the top person.
20. In all dismounts to catchers who are not the original bases, the following conditions must be met:
- e. The top person must be cradled by two catchers and a head-and-shoulders spotter/catcher.
  - f. The new catchers must remain close to the original bases.
  - g. The new catchers must be in place and not involved in any other skill when the release is initiated.
  - h. The top person may not perform any skill (twist, toe touch, etc.) following the release.
21. Unless listed below, a release stunt must either be cradled or connected to at least one bracer.
- a. Helicopters are allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:
- vii. The top person makes no more than a 180-degree rotation (half-turn).
  - viii. Four bases must be in position during the entire release.
  - ix. There must be a base at the head/shoulder area during the beginning and end of catch.
  - x. The bases are not allowed to change positions during the release.
  - xi. The top person must begin and end in a face up position.
  - xii. The top person cannot perform a twisting skill.
- b. A log roll is legal provided it does not involve more than one complete rotation and the top person is not in contact with a person in a release stunt.
- iii. In a single-base log roll, the top person must rotate toward the base and begin/end in a face-up position.
  - iv. In a multi-base log roll, the top person may begin and end face-up or facedown.
- c. A free standing tick-tock that begins at shoulder level is permitted
- d. A top person in a horizontal position shoulder height or below or in a cradle may be released to a loading position or stunt shoulder height or below.
22. Non-braced suspended splits in a transition are allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:
- a. The top person must have both hands in continuous contact with post or with both bases hands.
  - b. When transitioning to the split without continuous hand-to-hand contact:
    1. There are a total of four bases that support the top person.
    2. At least three of the bases must support under the legs of the top person. The fourth base may support under the legs or make contact with the hands of the top person.
23. Single-based stunts in which the top person is parallel to the performing surface and the bases' arms are extended must have a continuous spotter at the head and shoulder of the top person. (I.e. Bird, Side T, Single- Based Flat back, etc.)
24. Dismounts to the performing surface from shoulder height or above must have assisted landings. If the dismount involves a skill (e.g. toe touch, twist, etc.) the assistance must be from two bases or a base and spotter. This assistance must be sufficient to slow the momentum of the top person.
25. A swinging stunt is legal provided all the following conditions are met:
- a. A downward movement is only allowed from below shoulder height.
  - b. The top person is face up.
  - c. The top person begins from the performing surface or a stunt that is below shoulder height.
26. Single-based split catches are prohibited.
27. Tension drops are prohibited



## Inversions

- 5 Unless allowed under the rules in this section, a top person must not be in an inverted position.
- 6 Suspended rolls are allowed provided:
- d Two people on the performing surface control the top person with continuous hand-to-hand/arm contact to a stunt, two-person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
  - e A single base or post controls the top person with continuous hands-to-hands contact to a stunt, two-person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
  - f A single base/post suspended roll that ends on the performing surface requires a spotter.
    - iii If caught in a cradle, load or stunt, the new catchers are in place and are not involved with any other skill when the suspended roll is initiated.
    - iv The feet/ankles of the top person are released.
- 7 Braced flips or rolls in a pyramid are allowed provided all the following conditions are met:
- a The top person begins in a multi-base loading position, stunt, cradle, or on the performing surface.
  - b The top person does not begin in an extended inverted position.
  - c The top person maintains continuous hand-to-hand/arm contact with a bracer on each side.
  - d The bracers are in double base preps with a spotter.
  - e The top person is between or in front of the bracers.
  - f At least three catchers (one base and two spotters or two bases and one spotter) who were the original bases/spotters catch the top person in a loading position, stunt or cradle, or assist the top person to the performing surface. If the flip ends in a cradle, the bracers may release the top person once she/he begins to descend and is no longer inverted.
  - g The top person ends in a non-inverted position.
  - h The top person does not perform more than one and one quarter ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ) flipping rotations and no more than one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) twist.
  - i The bases/catchers remain stationary except as necessary for safety adjustments.
- 8 In all other inversions:
- a An inverted top person is allowed to pass through an extended position, but must not pause or stop while extended.
  - b In inversions where the base of support begins and remains below prep level:
    - iii At least one base or spotter must be in a position to protect the head/neck of the top person.
    - iv The base or spotter must maintain contact with the top person's upper body (waist and above, including arms/hands) until the top person is no longer inverted or his/her hands are on the performing surface. The contact must be sufficient to stabilize/control the top person's position.
  - c In inversions where the base of support begins at or passes through prep level:
    - v At least two people on the performing surface must be in a position to protect the head/neck of the top person.
    - vi The bases/spotters must maintain contact with the top person's upper body (waist and above, including arms/hands) until the top person is no longer inverted or his/her hands are on the performing surface. The contact must be sufficient to stabilize/control the top person's position.
    - vii EXCEPTION: In a fold over stunt, the top person may initiate the inversion without upper body contact.
    - viii The top person must not go directly to an inverted position on the performance surface from a prep or higher.
  - d Dismounts from inverted stunts to a cradle or an upright position on the performing surface are allowed provided the top person begins in a static or "pump and go" position

(i.e., handstand) and does not perform any skill (e.g., toe touches, twists, etc.).

## Pyramids

- 6 The top person in a pyramid must receive primary support from a base or be connected to a bracer who is on a base.
- 7 In braced pyramids, at least one bracer of each pair must be at shoulder height or below. EXCEPTION: Extensions may brace other extensions.
- 8 Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
- 9 If a person in a pyramid is used as a brace for an extended stunt, that brace must not be supporting a majority of the top person's weight.
- 10 In a Released Pyramid Transition the following rules apply:
  - a. The top person must be in hand/arm to hand/arm contact with at least one bracer during the entire transition.
  - b. The top person and each bracer at prep level or higher must have a separate spotter.
  - c. The top person may not be supporting his or her weight on any other body part of the person(s) assisting (i.e. Shoulders of the bracer).
  - d. The released top person and bases make no more than a  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn around the bracer in a continuous movement in which the top person remains above the original base(s). The top person must be continuous in motion and cannot be supported so that they pause during the transition.
  - e. The top person must be caught by original bases.

## Tosses

The rules in this section only apply to tosses where someone is under a foot, e.g. basket tosses, elevator/sponge tosses, etc

- 1 In all tosses:
  - a. No more than four tossers are allowed.
  - b. Must be caught in a cradle.
    - 1) The cradle must include at least three of the original tossers.
    - 2) One of the catchers must be at the head and shoulders.
  - c. The toss may not be directed so that the bases must travel to catch the top person. (The bases can turn/rotate under the toss.)
  - d. The top person must not land in an inverted position.
  - e. The top person may not hold any objects (poms, etc.) during the toss.
  - f. The top person cannot travel over or under another person or through a prop.
  - g. The total number of twists cannot be greater than one and one quarter rotations.
2. Toe pitch tosses are prohibited.

## Tumbling and Jumps

- 1 Dive rolls are prohibited.
- 2 Back handsprings are prohibited.
- 3 Flips and skills with no hand support are prohibited.
- 4 Twists are prohibited.
- 5 A forward three-quarter flip to the seat or knees is prohibited.
- 6 A back flip from a tumbling pass into a cradle is prohibited.
- 7 Rebounding from a back handspring into a cradle is prohibited.
- 8 All Tumbling skills that do not IMMEDIATELY finish into a loading skill or stunt are prohibited.
- 9 Examples of prohibited skills are: Cartwheels, Round off, Back handsprings, tucks, etc
- 10 Landings for all jumps must bear weight on at least one foot. (Example: A toe touch jump to the seat, knees, or landing with both feet back, or to a push-up position is prohibited.)
- 11 Drops to a prone position (i.e. pushup) on the performing surface are illegal.

Airborne skills without hip over-head rotation may not jump from a standing or squatting position backwards onto your neck, shoulders and hands. (This rule only refers to a type of entrance into the “kip-up/rubber band” skill.)

## 2021 Level 2 and Halftime Rules

### Partner Stunts

1. Partner stunts higher than shoulder stand level must have a separate, continuous spotter for each person over shoulder stand level.
2. The bases of any extended stunt must have both feet on the ground
3. A spotter is required for single base shoulder level stunts in which the feet of the top person are in the hands of one base. (This spotter may assist under the sole of the foot.)
4. In stunts requiring a spotter, a spotter:
  - a. Can't provide primary support for a top person.
  - b. Must be in a position to protect the top person's head, neck and shoulders
  - c. Spotters must have their attention focused on the top person. Momentarily looking away in order to assess environmental safety factors (another stunt, etc.) is allowed as long as their focus returns to top.
  - d. May not have their hands behind their back.
  - e. May not support under the heel or sole of the top person's foot in a single based extended stunt. They may hold at the ankle of the top person and/or the wrist of the base or any combination thereof.
5. **Partner stunts have the following limitations**
  - a. **Extensions/Qp's are allowed**
  - b. **Freestanding liberties are allowed. All other extended body positions on one leg are PROHIBITED**
  - c. **Twisting skills are limited to ½ of a twist while building a stunt**
  - d. **Transition and dismount skills are limited to 1 full twist and can't go above shoulder level**
  - e. **No release skills**
  - f. **Inversions allowed below prep level**
6. The total number of twists in a dismount from a stunt cannot be greater than 1 rotation. **TWIST MUST BE DONE AT SHOULDER HEIGHT OR BELOW. NO EXTENDED TWISTING DISMOUNT.**
7. Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
8. All cradle dismounts from partner stunts require an additional spotter in position to protect the head, neck and shoulders of the top person.
9. In all dismounts to catchers who are not the original bases, the following conditions must be met:
  - a. The top person must be cradled by two catchers and a head-and-shoulders spotter/catcher.
  - b. The new catchers must remain close to the original bases.
  - c. The new catchers must be in place and not involved in any other skill when the release is initiated.
  - d. The top person may not perform any skill (twist, toe touch, etc.) following the release.
10. Unless listed below, a release stunt must either be cradled or connected to at least one bracer.
  - a. Helicopters are PROHIBITED
  - b. A log roll is legal provided it does not involve more than one complete rotation and the top person is not in contact with a person in a release stunt.
    1. In a single-base log roll, the top person must rotate toward the base and begin/end in a face-up position.
    2. In a multi-base log roll, the top person may begin and end face-up or facedown.
  - c. A free standing tick-tock that begins at shoulder level is PROHIBITED
  - d. A top person in a horizontal position shoulder height or below or in a cradle may be released to a loading position shoulder height or below.
11. Non-braced suspended splits in a transition are allowed provided all of the following conditions

are met: a. The top person must have both hands in continuous contact with post or with both bases hands. b. When transitioning to the split without continuous hand-to-hand contact:

1. There are a total of four bases that support the top person.
  2. At least three of the bases must support under the legs of the top person. The fourth base may support under the legs or make contact with the hands of the top person.
12. Single-based stunts in which the top person is parallel to the performing surface and the bases' arms are extended must have a continuous spotter at the head and shoulder of the top person. (i.e. Bird, Side T, Single- Based Flat back, etc.)
13. Dismounts to the performing surface from shoulder height or above must have assisted landings. If the dismount involves a skill (e.g. toe touch, twist, etc.) the assistance must be from two bases or a base and spotter. This assistance must be sufficient to slow the momentum of the top person.
14. A swinging stunt is legal provided all the following conditions are met:
- a. A downward movement is only allowed from below shoulder height.
  - b. The top person is face up.
  - c. The top person begins from the performing surface or a stunt that is below shoulder height.
15. Single-based split catches are prohibited.
16. Tension drops are prohibited

## **Inversions**

1. Unless allowed under the rules in this section, a top person must not be in an inverted position.
2. Suspended rolls are allowed provided:
  - a. Two people on the performing surface control the top person with continuous hand-to-hand/arm contact to a stunt, two-person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
  - b. A single base or post controls the top person with continuous hands-to-hands contact to a stunt, two person cradle, loading position or the performing surface.
3. A single base/post suspended roll that ends on the performing surface requires a spotter.
  - a. If caught in a cradle, load or stunt, the new catchers are in place and are not involved with any other skill when the suspended roll is initiated.
  - b. The feet/ankles of the top person are released.
4. Braced flips or rolls in a pyramid are PROHIBITED
5. In all other inversions:
  - a. An inverted top person is not allowed to pass through an extended position.
  - b. In inversions where the base of support begins and remains below prep level:
    1. At least one base or spotter must be in a position to protect the head/neck of the top person.
    2. The base or spotter must maintain contact with the top person's upper body (waist and above, including arms/hands) until the top person is no longer inverted or his/her hands are on the performing surface. The contact must be sufficient to stabilize/control the top person's position.
  - c. In inversions where the base of support begins at or passes through prep level is PROHIBITED
  - d. No inverted stunts (extended or prep level) allowed.

## **Pyramids**

1. The top person in a pyramid must receive primary support from a base or be connected to a

bracer who is on a base.

2. In braced pyramids, at least one bracer of each pair must be at shoulder height or below. EXCEPTION: Extensions may brace other extensions.
3. Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
4. If a person in a pyramid is used as a brace for an extended stunt, that brace must not be supporting a majority of the top person's weight.
5. In a Released Pyramid Transition the following rules apply:
  - a. The top person must be in hand/arm to hand/arm contact with at least one bracer during the entire transition.
  - b. The top person and each bracer at prep level or higher must have a separate spotter.
  - c. The top person may not be supporting his or her weight on any other body part of the person(s) assisting (i.e. Shoulders of the bracer).
  - d. The released top person and bases are not allowed to turn while twisting any skill.
  - e. The top person must be continuous in motion and cannot be supported so that they pause during the transition.
  - f. The top person must be caught by original bases.
6. Stunts are limited to Extensions/QP stunts and Liberties with Hitch variation. Other body position such as heel stretch, arabesque, etc are PROHIBITED
7. Liberties require a brace on one side at prep level or below
8. Extensions do not require connection.

## Tosses

The rules in this section only apply to tosses where someone is under a foot:  
elevator/sponge tosses

- 1 In all tosses:
  - a. No more than three tossers are allowed.
  - b. Must be caught in a cradle.
    - 1) The cradle must include the three original tossers.
    - 2) One of the catchers must be at the head and shoulders.
  - c. The toss may not be directed so that the bases must travel to catch the top person.  
(The bases can turn/rotate under the toss.)
  - d. The top person must not land in an inverted position.
  - e. The top person may not hold any objects (poms, etc.) during the toss.
  - f. The top person cannot travel over or under another person or through a prop.
  - g. The total number of twists cannot be greater than one rotations.

## 2. NO BASKET TOSSES OR TOE PITCH TOSSES ALLOWED

## Tumbling and Jumps

1. Back Handsprings are allowed
2. Dive rolls are prohibited.
3. Flips are prohibited..
4. Layouts are PROHIBITED
5. Tumbling without hand support is PROHIBITED (Exception: Aerial)
6. Twists are prohibited.
7. A forward three-quarter flip to the seat or knees is prohibited.
8. A back flip from a tumbling pass into a cradle is prohibited. However, rebounding from a back handspring into a cradle is allowed.
9. Landings for all jumps must bear weight on at least one foot. (Example: A toe touch jump to the seat, knees, or landing with both feet back, or to a push-up position is prohibited.)

10. Knee drops are prohibited without first bearing weight on the hands.
11. Drops to a prone position (i.e. pushup) on the performing surface are illegal.

**Airborne skills without hip over-head rotation may not jump from a standing or squatting position backwards onto your neck, shoulders and hands. (This rule only refers to a type of entrance into the “kip-up/rubber band” skill.)**

## 2021 Level 1 Comp Rules

### Partner Stunts

1. Partner stunts at prep level must have a spotter.
2. The bases must have both feet on the ground when stunting.
3. A spotter is required for single base shoulder level stunts in which the feet of the top person are in the hands of one base. (This side spotter may assist under the sole of the foot.)
4. In stunts requiring a spotter, a spotter:
  - a. Can't provide primary support for a top person.
  - b. Must be in a position to protect the top person's head, neck and shoulders
  - c. Spotters must have their attention focused on the top person. Momentarily looking away in order to assess environmental safety factors (another stunt, etc.) is allowed as long as their focus returns to top.
  - d. May not have their hands behind their back.
5. Twisting is Prohibited
6. Stunts above prep level are prohibited
7. Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
8. All cradle dismounts from partner stunts require a spotter in position to protect the head, neck and shoulders of the top person.
9. In all dismounts to catchers who are not the original bases, the following conditions must be met:
  - a. The top person must be cradled by two catchers and a head-and-shoulders spotter/catcher.
  - b. The new catchers must remain close to the original bases.
  - c. The new catchers must be in place and not involved in any other skill when the release is initiated.
  - d. The top person may not perform any skill (twist, toe touch, etc.)
10. Release stunts are prohibited
11. Helicopters are prohibited
12. A log roll is legal provided it does not involve more than one complete rotation and the top person is not in contact with a person in a release stunt.
  - a. In a log roll, the top person must rotate begin/end in a face-up position.
13. A top person in a horizontal position shoulder height or below or in a cradle may be released to a loading position.
14. Non-braced suspended splits in a transition are allowed provided all of the following conditions are met:
  - a. The top person must have both hands in continuous contact with post or with both bases hands.
  - b. When transitioning to the split without continuous hand-to-hand contact:
    - i. There are a total of four bases that support the top person.
    - ii. At least three of the bases must support under the legs of the top person. The fourth base may support under the legs or make contact with the hands of the top person.
15. Single-based stunts in which the top person is parallel to the performing surface and the bases' arms are extended must have a continuous spotter at the head and shoulder of the top person. (i.e. Bird, Side T, Single- Based Flat back, etc.)
16. Dismounts to the performing surface from shoulder height or above must have assisted landings. The dismount can't involve a skill (e.g. toe touch, twist, etc.)

17. A swinging stunt is prohibited
18. Single-based split catches are prohibited.
19. Tension drops are prohibited

## **Inversions**

### **No inversions Allowed**

## **Pyramids**

- 1 The top person in a pyramid must receive primary support from a base or be connected to a bracer who is on a base.
- 2 In braced pyramids, bracers must be at shoulder height or below.
- 3 Partner stunts and pyramids may not pass over, under or through other partner stunts or pyramids.
- 4 If a person in a pyramid is used as a brace for an extended stunt, that brace must not be supporting a majority of the top person's weight.
- 5 Released Pyramid Transitions are prohibited
- 6 Single leg extended skills are prohibited
- 7 **EXTENDED PYRAMIDS MUST FOLLOW THESE RULES**
  - a. Must be braced on one side with a stunt at the prep level or below
  - b. Top (flyer) must standing/held on/by both feet – **NO 1 FOOT EXTENDED STUNTS ALLOWED**

## **Tosses**

### **No tosses allowed**

## **Tumbling and Jumps**

- 12 Dive rolls are prohibited.
- 13 Back handsprings are prohibited.
- 14 Flips and skills with no hand support are prohibited. (Exception: **Aerial**)
- 15 Twists are prohibited.
- 16 A forward three-quarter flip to the seat or knees is prohibited.
- 17 Tumbling pass into a cradle is prohibited.
- 18 Landings for all jumps must bear weight on at least one foot. (Example: A toe touch jump to the seat, knees, or landing with both feet back, or to a push-up position is prohibited.)
- 19 Knee drops are prohibited without first bearing weight on the hands.
- 20 Drops to a prone position (i.e. pushup) on the performing surface are illegal.

**Airborne skills without hip over-head rotation may not jump from a standing or squatting position backwards onto your neck, shoulders and hands. (This rule only refers to a type of entrance into the "kip-up/rubber band" skill.)**

## **Glossary**

**Base:** A person who is in direct contact with the performing surface and is supporting another person's weight. **Basket Toss:** A stunt in which a top person is tossed by bases whose hands are interlocked. **Bracer:** A top person who stabilizes and/or assists another top person.

**Braced Flip/Roll:** A pyramid in which the top person performs a hip-over-head rotation while in contact with bracers.

**Cradle:** A dismount from a partner stunt, pyramid or toss in which the catch is completed below shoulder height by a base or bases with the top person in a face-up open-pike position.

**Cupie/Awesome:** A stunt in which both feet of the top person are in one hand of a base. **Dive Roll:** A forward roll where the feet leave the ground before the hands reach the ground. **Downward Inversion:** A stunt or pyramid in which an inverted top person's center of gravity moves toward the performing

surface.

**Drop:** Landing on the performance surface from an airborne position.

**Elevator/Sponge Toss:** A stunt in which the top person loads in to an elevator/sponge loading position and is then tossed into the air.

**Extended Stunt:** A stunt in which the entire body of the top person is extended in an upright position over the base(s). Chairs, torches, flat backs and straddle lifts are examples of stunts where the bases' arms are extended overhead, but are NOT considered to be extended stunts since the height of the body of the top person is similar to a shoulder level stunt.

**Flat back:** A stunt in which a top person is held face up or face down, in a horizontal position, with their hips and shoulders in alignment.

**Fold over Stunt:** An inverted stunt in which the top person bends at the waist and is caught on his/her back by multiple catchers while one or both of the top person's ankles/feet remain in the grip of the base(s) (e.g., yo-yo, pancake, etc.)

**Hanging Pyramid:** A pyramid in which the top person's weight is primarily supported by another top person. Examples of hanging pyramids are: a person being suspended between two shoulder stands; a "whirlybird" stunt where one person's weight is being supported by the legs of a top person in a shoulder sit; and a "diamond head" where two persons are suspended from one shoulder stand.

**Helicopter:** A stunt in which the top person is tossed into the air in a horizontal position and rotates parallel to the ground in the same motion as a helicopter blade.

**Inverted:** A body position where the shoulders are below the waist.

**Loading Position:** Bases support a non-extended top person under the foot/feet in preparation for a stunt or toss.

**Log Roll:** A top person in a horizontal position or cradle is popped then twists parallel to the performing surface before being caught by the original base(s) in a horizontal position or a cradle.

**Pyramid:** Connected partner stunts.

**Post:** A person on the performing surface who may assist a top person during a stunt or transition.

**Prep:** A stunt in which one or more bases hold a standing top person at approximately shoulder height.

**Prep Level:** When a top person's bases of support is at approximately shoulder height. **Prop:** Any object which can be manipulated or used as a base (ex: poms, signs, flags, megaphones, etc.)

**Quick Toss/Partner Toss:** A toss technique where the top person begins the toss with at least one foot on the ground. The base(s) can apply an upward force on any part of the body other than under the foot. Quick Toss is the common term when multiple bases are used.

**Released Pyramid Transition:** A pyramid transition in which the top person is connected to a bracer while being released from their bases before being caught in a cradle, stunt or loading position.

**Release Stunt:** A transition from one stunt to another stunt (including loading positions) in which the top person becomes free from all bases, posts and spotters.

**Spotter:** A person who is responsible for assisting or catching the top person in a partner stunt or pyramid.

**Stunt/Partner Stunt:** One or more persons supporting one or more top persons off of the ground.

**Switch Liberty:** A stunt in which the top person begins with one foot on the performing surface, is released from the bases, and then lands in a stunt on the other foot.

**Suspended Roll:** A stunt in which one or more upright bases or posts hold a top person's hand(s)/arm(s) while the top person performs continuous hip-over-head rotation.

**Tension Drop:** A dismount from a stunt or pyramid where the top person(s) are directed toward the ground while their feet are held by the base(s) until just before the landing.

**Tick-Tock:** A stunt that is held in a static position on one leg, the base(s) takes a downward dip and release the top person as the top person switches the weight to the other leg and lands in a static position on the opposite leg. The dip may or may not pass through prep level before release.

**Top Person:** A person who is not in contact with the performing surface and is being supported or stabilized by another person or has been tossed into the air.

**Toss:** A release stunt in which the base(s) begin underneath the top persons foot/feet, execute a



throwing motion from below shoulder level to increase the height of the top person, and the top person becomes free from all bases, spotters, posts or bracers.

**Tumbling:** Gymnastic skills that begin and end on the performing surface, including rolls, inverted extended skills (cartwheels, handstands, walkovers, handsprings, etc.), aerials, twists and flips. NOTE: Jumps, leaps and side rolls on the performing surface are not considered to be tumbling.