

# FUTURE CHEER - COMPETITION DIVISIONS & AGE GRID 2017-2018

Athlete age for the entire 2017-2018 season is determined by their age as of

**31ST AUGUST 2017**

Minimum number of athletes to constitute a cheer team is 5. For dance this is 4.

## ALL STAR CHEER DIVISIONS

ALL STAR CHEER DIVISION	AGE	FEMALE/MALE	# ON TEAM	LEVELS
TINY	3-6	Female/Male	5-32	1
MINI	5-8	Female/Male	5-32	1, 2
YOUTH	5-11	Female/Male	5-32	1, 2, 3, 4
YOUTH	5-11	Female/Male	5-38	5R
JUNIOR	5-14	Female/Male	5-32	1, 2, 3, 4, 5R
JUNIOR	5-14	No Males	5-38	5
JUNIOR COED	5-14	1 or more Males	5-38	5
SENIOR	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	Female/Male	5-32	1, 2
SENIOR	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	No Males	5-32	3, 4
SENIOR COED	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	1 or more Males	5-32	3, 4
SENIOR	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	Female/Male	5-32	4.2
SENIOR	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	Female/Male	5-38	5R
SENIOR X SMALL	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	No Males	5-14	5
SENIOR SMALL	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	No Males	15-22	5
SENIOR MEDIUM	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	No Males	23-32	5
SENIOR LARGE	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	No Males	31-38	5
SENIOR X SMALL COED	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	1-2 Males	5-14	5
SENIOR SMALL COED	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	1-5 Males	5-22	5
SENIOR MEDIUM COED	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	1-8 Males	5-30	5
SENIOR LARGE COED	12 years with at least one 15 years or older.*	1-19 Males	5-38	5
INTERNATIONAL OPEN 5	14 years and older**	No Males	5-24	5
INTERNATIONAL OPEN SMALL COED 5	14 years and older**	1-4 Males	5-24	5
INTERNATIONAL OPEN LARGE COED 5	14 years and older**	5-12 Males	5-24	5
INTERNATIONAL OPEN 6	17 years and older**	No Males	5-24	6
INTERNATIONAL OPEN SMALL COED 6	17 years and older**	1-4 Males	5-24	6
INTERNATIONAL OPEN LARGE COED 6	17 years and older**	5-15 Males	5-24	6
OPEN	17 years and older	Female/Male	5-32	1, 2, 4.2
OPEN	17 years and older	No Males	5-32	3, 4
OPEN COED	17 years and older	1 or more Males	5-32	3, 4
OPEN RESTRICTED	17 years and older	0-4 Males	5-32	5R
OPEN	17 years and older	No Males	5-38	5, 6
OPEN COED	17 years and older	1 or more Males	5-38	5, 6
UNIVERSITY***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	Female/Male	5-38	1, 2, 4.2
UNIVERSITY***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	No Males	5-38	3, 4
UNIVERSITY COED***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	1 or more Males	5-38	3, 4
UNIVERSITY RESTRICTED***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	0-4 Males	5-38	5R

UNIVERSITY***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	No Males	5-38	5, 6
UNIVERSITY COED***	17 years and older & must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	1 or more Males	5-38	5, 6
SPECIAL NEEDS CHEER	ALL AGES	Female/Male	Unlimited	2****

#### NOTES:

\*Teams planning to compete for a Worlds bid in a senior division should note that there is an age cap of 18 for these divisions at the world championships. Uptake and development of these divisions will be reassessed for the 2018-19 season, with the potential of bringing in the upper cap of 18 year old for LEVEL 5 ONLY.

\*\*For INTERNATIONAL OPEN teams only:

The eligible age for the athletes will be determined by the "calendar year of The 2018 Cheerleading Worlds ®" (December 31, 2018) for its age cut-off date. A calendar year is considered January 1st – December 31st.

International Open Level 5 teams: An athlete must be at least 14 years of age on or before December 31, 2018.

International Open Level 6 teams: An athlete must be at least 17 years of age on or before December 31, 2018.

For all other divisions, the athlete's age for the entire season is determined by their age as of 31st August 2017.

\*\*\*University divisions

All members are 17 years old (on August 31st 2017) or older and 90% of the team are current students at the named university. 10% of the team can be past students/alumni, if they have graduated from the named university within the past 4 years. University divisions will be offered at all Future Cheer events for the 2017-2018 season. Any team entering a University division at any Future Cheer event will be required to submit a copy of each registered athletes official University photo ID card prior to the event. ID cards will also be checked on admission to warm-up.

\*\*\*\*SPECIAL NEEDS TEAMS

Special Needs teams are limited to level 2 rules, in addition to no basket tosses permitted.

Future Cheer recognises the concern with fielding teams of a broad age range and highly recommends that All Star programs be vigilant in monitoring participants of various ages on the same team and that, whenever possible, a team's composition is made up of participants of similar ages.

The athletes who perform a routine must remain the same from start to finish and MAY NOT be replaced by another athlete at any time during the performance.

#### CROSSOVERS:

An individual may crossover from one programme to another within the same event, to one additional team only, regardless of level. An athlete CANNOT compete on two teams within the same division. If an athlete crosses to another programme, they will pay the first entry fee for that additional programme's entry, not the crossover fee.

EXAMPLE 1 - Suzie competes on JR4 and IO5 for FC Allstars; she also competes on S3 for Future Flames - ALLOWED.

EXAMPLE 2 - Liam competes on S2 and OC3 for FC Allstars; he also competes on IOC5 and O2 for Future Flames - NOT ALLOWED.

For the 2017-18 season, an athlete is limited to crossing over to 2 additional cheer teams from their programme per competition. Crossover limitations do not include athletes that cross over from cheer to dance/stunt groups/individuals.

#### EXHIBITION PERFORMANCES:

Requests to exhibition at an FC event must be received in writing by the on-time deadline for the event that a team wishes to perform at. Each request will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

## PREP CHEER DIVISIONS

PREP CHEER DIVISION	AGE	FEMALE/MALE	# ON TEAM	LEVELS*
TINY PREP	3-6	Female/Male	5-30	1
MINI PREP	5-8	Female/Male	5-30	1, 2
YOUTH PREP	5-11	Female/Male	5-30	1, 2, 3
JUNIOR PREP	5-14	Female/Male	5-30	1, 2, 3
SENIOR PREP	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	Female/Male	5-30	1, 2, 3

**NOTES:**

\*With modifications as outlined in the 2017-18 USASF Cheer Safety Rules

All teams are combined female/male - prep teams will not be classified as co-ed, regardless of the number of males on a team.

Prep Cheer divisions follow the same rules for splitting by team size as All Star Cheer Divisions.

Crossovers between Prep Cheer and traditional All Star Cheer Divisions are not permitted at the same event.

Please refer to the USASF 2017-2018 Cheer Safety Rules for modifications. The specific page number is referenced in the Table of Contents of the USASF 2017-2018 Cheer Safety Rules.

## **COMBINING AND SPLITTING DIVISIONS – ALL STAR AND PREP CHEER DIVISIONS**

The USASF provides guidelines for COMBINING and/or SPLITTING divisions in the best interest of providing a competitive environment. Whenever possible, there should be at least 2 teams in any given division and level. The guidelines listed herein will provide the basis for how this will be accomplished. There will be instances, however, where there are not permissible combinations thus having a division that may only have one team.

Definitions for this section:

**May** means that Future Cheer is **permitted** to combine or split but is not required. Anything that reads **may** is left to the discretion of Future Cheer.

**Must** means that Future Cheer is **required** to combine or split if the division meets the criteria set forth in the guidelines.

**May not** means that Future Cheer is **prohibited** to combine or split the division.

### **WHEN TO COMBINE DIVISIONS**

#### **PERMITTED COMBINATIONS:**

- Junior Co-Ed Level 5 & Junior Level 5
- Senior Co-ed Level 3 & Senior Level 3
- Senior Co-Ed Level 4 & Senior Level 4

A combination applies to single registrations in EITHER division:

- If there is one co-ed registration and/or one all-girl registration, the division **may** be combined.
- After the division is combined, Future Cheer **must** follow the mandatory split guidelines if applicable.

#### **Senior All-Girl Level 5 Divisions (at bid or non-bid giving events)**

*Level 5 Senior XSmall, Senior Small, Senior Medium and Senior Large*

When registrations leave a division with a single team, Future Cheer will look at all possible combinations to ensure competition across divisions. Future Cheer **may** combine divisions in one or more of the following permissible combinations:

- XSmall & Small
- XSmall, Small & Medium
- XSmall & Medium (if no small teams are registered)
- Small & Medium
- Small, Medium & Large
- Small & Large (if no medium teams are registered)

#### **Senior Co-ed Level 5 Divisions (at bid or non-bid giving events)**

*Level 5 Senior XSmall Co-ed, Senior Small Co-ed, Senior Medium Co-ed and Senior Large Co-ed*

When registrations leave a division with a single team Future Cheer **may** combine divisions in one of the following permissible combinations:

- XSmall & Small
- XSmall, Small & Medium
- XSmall & Medium (if no small teams are registered)
- Small & Medium
- Small, Medium & Large
- Small & Large (if no medium teams are registered)

## **International Divisions: Co-ed Divisions Only (at bid or non-bid giving events)**

When registrations leave a division with a single team Future Cheer **may** combine divisions in one of the following permissible combinations:

- International Open Small Co-ed Level 5 & International Open Large Co-ed Level 5
- International Open Small Co-ed Level 6 & International Open Large Co-ed Level 6

### **PROHIBITED COMBINATIONS:**

- **Senior Level 5 XSmall** and **Senior Level 5 Large** size teams **may not** be combined into one division.
- **International Open (All-Girl)** and **International Open Co-ed** divisions **may not** be combined into one division.
- **Teams of different levels may not** be combined into one division.
- **Teams of different ages may not** be combined into one division.

## **WHEN TO SPLIT DIVISIONS:**

### **SPLIT PARAMETERS:**

(A) If it is not possible to implement the mandatory split for any given division, Future Cheer may move to the any of the next permissible splits so long as there will be at least two teams in each division.

(B) If the mandatory split is implemented, and Future Cheer chooses to implement an additional split, they may choose to implement any or all of the additional splits so long as they follow the guidelines as outlined below.

### **PROHIBITED SPLIT:**

**International Open divisions** are not permitted to be further split by team size.

### **ORDER OF SPLITTING: *Specific to divisions that are permitted to split by co-ed/all-girl and team size***

#### **Senior Restricted 5 and Senior Level 4.2**

Future Cheer will split divisions first by co-ed and all-girl (when applicable) and then by team size (small or large). Both these splits are mandatory if they apply.

#### **Junior Restricted 5**

Future Cheer will split division first by team size (small or large) and then by co-ed and all-girl (when applicable).

## **MANDATORY CO-ED SPLITS**

***Co-ed splits only apply to the divisions listed below. If the division is not listed below, a co-ed split is NEVER an option:***

**When to use the co-ed split:** When there will be 2 or more teams in each respective division

#### **Senior Restricted Level 5**

· First Split (if possible): Co-ed | All-Girl · Second Split (if possible): Team Size · Optional Splits, when applicable

#### **Senior Level 4.2**

· First Split (if possible): Co-ed | All-Girl · Second Split (if possible): Team Size · Optional Splits, when applicable

#### **Junior Restricted Level 5**

· First split (if possible): Team Size

· Second Split (if possible): Co-ed | All-Girl · Optional Splits, when applicable

**For Junior Restricted Level 5:** If a division cannot be split by size (i.e. 5 total teams comprised of 4 small and 1 large), but can be split into co-ed and all-girl divisions with at least two teams remaining in each division, then Future Cheer **may** make this split at their discretion, despite not having split the division into small and large. **This is an optional split.**

**For Senior Restricted Level 5 or Senior 4.2:** If either division cannot be split by co-ed and all-girl but can be split by team size with at least two teams remaining in each division, then Future Cheer **must** make this split.

Splits may only occur when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. **No other division may be split into Co-Ed.**

**With the exception of the divisions listed above, all non-Worlds divisions will split as follows so long as there are at least 2 teams in each division after the split occurs:**

**Mandatory Split** (required to split if 2 or more teams will be in each division): Team Size

**Optional:** Further Split by Team Size

**Optional:** A|B Division Split

## **MANDATORY SPLIT: TEAM SIZE SPLIT [when applicable]**

### **Levels 1-4 & 4.2: SPLIT FOR SMALL | MEDIUM TEAM SIZES**

Future Cheer **must** split the division into Small and Medium divisions when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. The designation of Small and Medium divisions must follow the team sizes below:

Small = 5–22 members  
Medium = 23–32 members

### **Levels 5R & Junior 5 Divisions (ONLY): SMALL | LARGE SPLITS**

Level 5R: Youth, Junior, Senior & Level 5: Junior, Junior Co-ed

Future Cheer **must** split the Level 5R and/or Level 5 Junior Divisions into Small and Large team size when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. The designation of Small and Large divisions must follow the team sizes below:

Small = 5–22 members  
Large = 23–38 members

### **ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL SPLITS [when applicable]:**

Future Cheer may or may not choose to further split divisions in the interest of competition. The splits outlined below are OPTIONAL and may be applied in any order. **No division may be subdivided further if it means that only one team will be left in a division**

## **1. SPLIT BY TEAM SIZE**

### **Levels 1-4 & 4.2: SPLIT FOR XSMALL | SMALL | MEDIUM TEAM SIZES**

Future Cheer **may** split the division into XSmall and Small divisions when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. The designation of XSmall and Small divisions must follow the team sizes below:

XSmall = 5-14 members  
Small = 15-22 members

If the division is unable to be split by Small and Medium because there is only one team with 23-32 members but there are enough teams to split the division into XSmall and Small/Medium, Future Cheer may split according to the following team sizes:

XSmall = 5-14 members  
Small/Medium = 15-32 members

### **LEVEL 5R & Junior 5 Divisions SMALL: SPLIT FOR XSMALL | SMALL**

Level 5R: Youth, Junior, Senior & Level 5: Junior, Junior Co-ed

Future Cheer **MAY** split the Level 5R and/or Junior Level 5 Divisions into XSmall and Small Team size when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. The designation of XSmall and Small divisions must follow the team sizes below:

XSmall = 5–14 members  
Small = 14–22 members

Future Cheer must keep teams of 5-22 members in Small division, unless there are enough teams to split 2 teams each into XSmall and Small

### **LEVEL 5R & Junior 5 Divisions LARGE: SPLIT FOR MEDIUM | LARGE**

Level 5R: Youth, Junior, Senior & Level 5: Junior, Junior Co-ed

Future Cheer **MAY** split the Level 5R and/or Junior Level 5 Divisions into Medium and Large Team size when there are at least **two** teams that will ultimately be registered in each respective division. The designation of Medium and Large divisions must follow the team sizes below:

Medium = 23-30 members  
Large = 31-38 members

Future Cheer must keep teams of 23–38 members in Large division unless there are enough teams to split 2 teams each into Medium and Large

## **2. A/B SPLIT**

If after implementing the mandatory split there are **10 or more** teams in any given division, then Future Cheer **may** split that division further by squad size. Future Cheer will use a name such as “Group A”, “Group B” to denote the split and must clearly define the number of competitors permitted on the team for each of these particular divisions.

## **SPLIT EXCEPTION FOR TEAMS FROM THE SAME PROGRAM**

Teams from the same program **regardless of their location** will not have to compete against themselves if they have 2 teams of different size that coincide with the **MANDATORY SPLIT TEAM SIZE** for their respective levels. A mandatory split would occur even it means that a division is left with only one team performing.

**Levels 1-4 and 4.2:** Teams from the same program will not compete against themselves if they have a Small and Medium team in the same division and level. There is NOT a mandatory split for XSmall and Small teams sizes from the same program in the same division and level.

**Levels 5R and Junior Level 5:** Teams from the same program will not compete against themselves if they have a Small and Large team in the same division and level. There is NOT a mandatory split for XSmall/Small or Medium/Large teams sizes from the same program in the same division and level.

NOTE: Teams of the same size from the same program will NOT be split and **must** compete against each other.

# DANCE DIVISIONS

Athlete age for the entire 2017-2018 season is determined by their age as of

**31ST AUGUST 2017**

Minimum number of athletes to constitute a cheer team is 5. For dance this is 4.

DANCE DIVISION	AGE	# ON TEAM	FEMALE/MALE
Tiny	3-6	4 or more dancers	N/A
Mini Small	5-8	4-14 dancers	N/A
Mini Large	5-8	15 or more dancers	N/A
Youth Small	5-11	4-14 dancers	N/A
Youth Large	5-11	15 or more dancers	N/A
Junior Small	5-14	4-14 dancers	0 Males
Junior Large	5-14	15 or more dancers	0 Males
Junior Coed	5-11	4 or more dancers	Males and Females
Junior Male	5-11	4 or more dancers	0 Females
Senior Small	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	4-14 dancers	0 Males
Senior Large	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	15 or more dancers	0 Males
Senior Small Coed	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	4-14 dancers	Males and Females
Senior Large Coed	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	15 or more dancers	Males and Females
Senior Male	10 years with at least one 15 years or older.	4 or more dancers	0 Females
Open/University* Small	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	4-14 dancers	0 Males
Open/University* Large	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	15 or more dancers	0 Males
Open/University* Small Coed	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	4-14 dancers	Males and Females
Open/University* Large Coed	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	15 or more dancers	Males and Females
Open/University* Male	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	4 or more dancers	0 Females
Special Needs Dance	ALL AGES	Unlimited dancers	N/A

## NOTES:

All of the above age divisions will be offered for each of the following styles - Pom, Jazz, Hip Hop and Lyrical/Contemporary. Prop is also offered.

\*University divisions: All members are 18 years old (on August 31st 2017) or older and 90% of the team are current students at the named university. 10% of the team can be past students/alumni, if they have graduated from the named university within the past 4 years. University divisions will now be offered at all Future Cheer events. Any team entering a University division will be required to submit a copy of each registered athletes official University photo ID card prior to the event. ID cards will also be checked on admission to warm-up.

**COMBINING & SPLITTING** — Future Cheer will combine divisions first by size and then by gender.

1. Combining by Small and Large Team Size- If there are fewer than three teams in Small and/or Large in Mini, Youth, Junior Senior and/or Open Divisions within the same Category, Small and Large divisions will be combined. (Example: If there are two teams in Senior Small Pom and five teams in Senior Large Pom, divisions will be combined into Senior Pom).

Small and Large will not combine if it means that a program will compete against itself. (Example: Senior Small Pom and Senior Large Pom teams from the same program will not be combined into one division that would cause them to compete against each other. If a program chooses to register two teams in the same Age, Team Size and Category (e.g. Senior Small Pom), the teams will compete against each other.

When there are 10 or more teams in any Small or Large division, Future Cheer may further split that division by team size, provided a minimum of three teams remain in all resulting divisions.

## 2. Combining Age and Gender

If there is only one team registered in any Junior, Senior or Open Division within the same category, Future Cheer will combine (in this order), as long as a program is not forced to compete against itself:

Jr Coed with Jr Male, Sr Coed with Sr Male and Open Coed with Open Male

Jr with Jr Coed, Sr with Sr Coed and Open with Open Coed

Jr with Jr Male, Sr with Sr Male and Open with Open Male

Tiny Division - Future Cheer will split the Tiny Division within the same category into Small & Large (as outlined in the grid) if there are 10 or more teams in the division before the split occurs. There must be at least 3 teams in each division once the split occurs.

### AGE DIVISIONS:

The age of the competitor as of 31st August 201 will be the age used for competition purposes throughout the 2017-2018 season for all divisions.

### CROSSOVERS:

Dancer(s) may compete in more than one division and/or category as long as they abide by the age restrictions in all divisions in which they compete.

## STUNT GROUP DIVISIONS

STUNT GROUP DIVISIONS	AGE	FEMALE/MALKE	# ON TEAM	LEVEL
TINY STUNT GROUP	3-6	Female/male	3 to 5 athletes	1
MINI STUNT GROUP	5-8	Female/male	3 to 5 athletes	1, 2
YOUTH STUNT GROUP	5-11	Female/male	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4, 5
JUNIOR STUNT GROUP	5-14	No males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4, 5
JUNIOR COED STUNT GROUP	5-14	One or more males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4, 5
JUNIOR PARTNER STUNT	5-14	Female/male	2 athletes	5
SENIOR STUNT GROUP	10 years with at least one 15 years or older	No males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4
SENIOR STUNT GROUP	12 years with at least one 15 years or older	No males	3 to 5 athletes	5
SENIOR COED STUNT GROUP	10 years with at least one 15 years or older	One or more males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4
SENIOR COED STUNT GROUP	12 years with at least one 15 years or older	One or more males	3 to 5 athletes	5
SENIOR PARTNER STUNT	15 years and older	Female/male	2 athletes	5
OPEN/UNIVERSITY* STUNT GROUP	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	No males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OPEN/UNIVERSITY* COED STUNT GROUP	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within the last 4 years.	One or more males	3 to 5 athletes	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OPEN/UNIVERSITY* PARTNER STUNT	17 years and older. For University divisions must be registered students or alumni within last 4 years.	Female/male	2 athletes	5, 6

### NOTES:

Athletes cannot compete in more than one stunt group in the same division



# CHEER AND DANCE INDIVIDUAL DIVISIONS

**PLEASE NOTE: INDIVIDUALS & SOLOS ARE ONLY AVAILABLE AT CIRCUS SPECTACULAR AND FC BRINGS IT ON, PARIS  
ONLY TWO ENTRIES PER PROGRAM (TEAM) PER DIVISION.**

**ATHLETES MUST BE ENTERED INTO THE DIVISION RELEVANT FOR THEIR AGE. e.g. A Tiny age athlete cannot enter a Mini Cheer Individual in order to perform skills higher than Level 1.**

CHEER INDIVIDUALS	AGE	FEMALE/MALE	LEVELS
TINY	3-6	Female/male	Level 1 skills only
MINI	7-8	Female/male	Up to level 2 skills
YOUTH	9-11	Female/male	Up to level 5 skills
JUNIOR	12-14	Female/male	Up to level 5 skills
SENIOR	15-16	Female/male	Up to level 5 skills
OPEN	17+	Female/male	Up to level 6 skills

Cheer individuals division splits - Future Cheer will split Youth, Junior, Senior and Open cheer individual divisions into male and female if there are at least 3 athletes in each division following the split.

DANCE SOLOS	AGE	FEMALE/MALE	DANCE STYLES
TINY	3-6	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop
MINI	7-8	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop
YOUTH	9-11	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop
JUNIOR	12-14	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop
SENIOR	15-16	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop
OPEN	17+	Female/male	Pom/Jazz/Hip Hop