



***2019***



The NZCU NATIONALS are held year about between Auckland and Wellington. This provides a more fair and equal opportunity for everyone to stay closer to home and not travel as far every second year. This year it will be held in Wellington.

## EVENT INFORMATION AND HIGHLIGHTS

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**WHEN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019

**WHERE:** ASB Sports Centre, 72 Kemp St, Kilbirnie, Wellington 6022

- Full 9 Strip Competition Floor
- 1-Day Event for Schools, Specialty Divisions
- 2-Day Event for Club Cheer Team Divisions
- NZCU Certified Judges
- Level Grand Champions & Overall Grand Champions for Cheer Teams
- Bids to International Events
- NZCU Vendors selling Cheer Merchandise
- Discounted NZCU Member Prices
- Coaches Receive Free Entry

## PLANNED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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**SATURDAY** Cheer specialty & Awards. Day One Club Cheer Divisions

**SUNDAY** Day Two Club Cheer Divisions, School Divisions & Awards

\*NB: if the number of speciality entries are extremely high, they may be split over Saturday and Sunday morning to ensure that the competition does not run into the late hours of Saturday night.



## VENUE AND SPECTATOR INFORMATION

ASB Sports Centre, 72 Kemp St, Kilbirnie, Wellington 6022



### VENUE PARKING

Free Parking - there are 317 free onsite carparks. Other parking is available in neighboring streets.

### FOOD AND DRINKS

Café — providing fresh, flavoursome food and refreshments. This is a child-friendly meeting place with seating for up to 100 people. The café also caters for functions within the centre.

**SPECTATOR TICKETS:** \$10 per day, Under 5's Free

All seating in General Admission on first in, first served basis. No reservations will be available for seating. Tickets available upon entry via cash or Eftpos.

Venue admission for spectators will open no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of the event. This includes waiting in the foyers. Please bear in mind that this venue has other sporting events on throughout the weekend, so please be respectful of those entering the venue for other events.





## REGISTRATION

Registration is via Reg Champ: [www.regchamp.com/nzcu](http://www.regchamp.com/nzcu)

\* If you have previously used Reg Champ for other events – You can transfer your existing athletes and team entries over. You will require the Account number, password and your email address (for the account that you previously created).

Registration opens 24th July, Information on how to register is located on our website [www.nzcu.org](http://www.nzcu.org).

Completed registration AND payment must be received by NZCU on or before 15th September 2019 to be eligible for the On-time payment price.

After this date late payment fees will apply.

No registrations will be accepted after 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Participation in this event is open to any clubs, schools and individuals.

However, to participate in any challenges during the weekend, you must be a registered athlete of the event.

To participate in the Cheer Specialty Division you must qualify at a regional NZCU competition. Please refer to Specialty Item section in this handbook for criteria.

### Specialty Item registration and payments

Please make sure that you register **ALL** of your specialty items that you hope to gain/or already have qualification for at the point of registration. This must be done before the close off date of 15<sup>th</sup> September - this is so the NZCU is aware that you are anticipating these entries.

Payment for any specialty items registered and qualified prior to CheerFactor are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> September (for on-time registration pricing). After this date and no later than the 6<sup>th</sup> October – all other items will be charged at the late payment rate.

#### *Exception:*

Any speciality registrations waiting on qualification from Cheerfactor; Payments are due 1 week post the event – no later than 6<sup>th</sup> October. Any specialty items that gain qualification at this event that have not already gained qualification prior, will be charged at the on-time fee rate.





## PRICING

### On-time Pricing

Registrations and payment received on or before 15<sup>th</sup> September.

DIVISION	NZCU MEMBER	NON-NZCU MEMBER
Club Cheer	\$100/Athlete	\$120/Athlete
School Cheer	\$30/Athlete	\$45/Athlete
Cheer Specialty	\$20/Athlete	\$30/Athlete
Club Crossover	\$30/Athlete	\$40/Athlete

### Late payment

Registrations and payments received after 15<sup>th</sup> September and no later than 6<sup>th</sup> October.

DIVISION	NZCU MEMBER	NON-NZCU MEMBER
Club Cheer	\$105/Athlete	\$125/Athlete
School Cheer	\$35/Athlete	\$50/Athlete
Cheer Specialty	\$25/Athlete	\$35/Athlete
Club Crossover	\$35/Athlete	\$45/Athlete

Registration is not final until payment is confirmed.

A refund, less 25% admin fee will be available to any team/individual withdrawing 2 weeks prior to the event.

No refunds will be available for withdrawals less than 2 weeks prior to the event.





## DIVISIONS

### CHEER DIVISIONS & RULES

(located on our website [www.nzcu.org](http://www.nzcu.org))

- Cheer teams must follow USASF/IASF Safety Rules Version 2019-2020
- NZCU Age Grid 2019
- IASF divisions 2019-2020
- Scholastic Divisions
- University Scoring

\*Senior and Open divisions may be combined if there are not sufficient entries this also applies to Senior Coed and Open Coed divisions.

### NZCU NOVICE

LEVEL 1	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Tiny L1	6yrs & younger	Female/Male	6 - 32
Mini L1	8yrs & younger	Female/Male	6 - 32
Youth L1	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior L1	8 - 14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior L1	10 - 18yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Open L1	12yrs +	Female/Male	6 - 32

### CLUB CHEER

LEVEL 1	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Tiny	6yrs & younger	Female/Male	6 - 32
Mini	8yrs & younger	Female/Male	6 - 32
Youth	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior	8 - 14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior	10 - 18yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Open	12yrs +	Female/Male	6 - 32





LEVEL 2	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Youth	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior	8 -14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior	10 - 18yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Open	12yrs +	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior Non Tumbling	10 – 18yrs	Female/Male	6 – 32
Open Non Tumbling	12yrs +	Female/Male	6 - 32

LEVEL 3	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Youth	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior	8 -14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior & Senior Coed	10 - 18yrs	Female Only - Female/Male	6 - 32
Open & Open Coed	12yrs +	Female Only - Female/Male	6 – 32

LEVEL 4	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Youth	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior	8 -14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior & Senior Coed	10 - 18yrs	Female Only - Female/Male	6 - 32
Open & Open Coed	12yrs +	Female Only - Female/Male	6 – 32

LEVEL 4.2	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Youth	5 – 12yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Junior	8 – 14yrs	Female/Male	6 - 32
Senior & Senior Coed	10 - 18yrs	Female Only - Female/Male	6 - 32
Open & Open Coed	12yrs +	Female Only - Female/Male	6 - 32

LEVEL 5 & 6	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Junior	8 -14yrs	Female Only	6 – 32
Senior & Senior Coed	12 – 18 yrs	Female Only - Female/Male	6 – 32
Open & Coed	12yrs +	Female Only - Female/Male	6 – 32

LEVEL 7	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Open	17yrs & Older	Female/Male	6 – 30





SPECIAL CHEER	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Special Needs	Any Age	Female/Male	Unlimited

SCHOOL	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Level 1-2 Non Tosses	Primary / Intermediate	Female/Male	6-32
Level 2-3 Tosses	Primary / Intermediate	Female/Male	6-32
Level 1-2 Non Tosses	Highschool/Uni Age	Female/Male	6-32
Level 2-3 Tosses	Highschool/Uni Age	Female/Male	6-32

Schools may enter regular club divisions if they choose.

### Routine Time Limits

Cheer Team:	2.30 minutes
Novice Team	2.00 minutes
Specialty items:	1.00 minute

### Specialty Items

- All specialty items must follow USASF/IASF Safety Rules Version 2019-2020
- NZCU Age Grid 2019 applies & NZCU Specialty Scoring System will be used.
- All Group Stunt, Individual & Duo Cheer Specialty items are required to follow the NZCU age grid, no exceptions apply.
- All Partner Stunt Specialty items are required to follow the NZCU age grid, however the NZCU Out of Age Division Policy exemptions are permitted to be applied.

SPECIALTY	AGE	GENDER	# OF ATHLETES
Indi (All Levels)	Tiny, Mini, Youth, Senior, Open	Female/Male	1
Duo (All Levels)	Tiny, Mini, Youth, Senior, Open	Female/Male	2
Trio (All Levels)	Tiny, Mini, Youth, Senior, Open	Female/Male	3
Stunt Group (All Levels)	Tiny, Mini, Youth, Senior, Open	Female/Male	4-5
Partner Stunt (All Levels)	Tiny, Mini, Youth, Senior, Open	Female/Male	2 + spotter

Specialty items must qualify at a regional NZCU competition to compete at Nationals.







## 2019 NZCU Nationals Specialty Item criteria:

In order for you to plan your athletes competition season well in advance the qualification criteria to enter a specialty item at the NZCU Nationals will be as follows-

Specialty items must place in the top 3 of their division and have a minimum final score of 60% of the maximum total points to qualify. Qualification can be gained at any NZCU member event during that current season.

Specialty Items can only register at Nationals for the level they gained qualification in during the season.

Partner Stunt Division: Due to wanting to grow this division, it will be exempt from this criteria and is open to all athletes.

## SCORING

All scoring information is located on our website [www.nzcu.org](http://www.nzcu.org)

**Club Cheer Teams** will be scored using the ASCA Scoring System (NZCU Version).

*For the 2019 season ASCA have kindly let the NZCU use their adapted system, which allows the new rule changes to be followed and adapted to easily this season. We really appreciate ASCA for their on-going support and assistance.*

**Club Cheer – Novice Teams** will be scored using the adapted ASCA scoring System.

*Special thanks to Leigh Lemmen and Zoe Eross for their valued input, knowledge and expertise in creating this document.*

**School Teams** - will follow the NZCU Rules and Divisions for Scholastic Teams and will be scored using the ASCA Scoring System.

**University Teams** will be scored using the NZCU University Scoring System.

**Specialty Items** will be scored using the NZCU Specialty Scoring System.

## COMBINING/SPLITTING DIVISIONS

Where possible the divisions listed may be combined or split to ensure there will be at least 2 or more teams in each division.

## AGE CUT OFF

The age of the competitor as of December 31, 2019 will be the age used for competition purposes throughout the 2019 season for all club divisions.





## Out of Age Division Policy

### Amendment 1

Each team is allowed a maximum of 2 Out of Age Athletes (OAA) at all NZCU Events. The athletes who are OAA must follow the below criteria:

NZCU must be notified no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March Annually, by any and all gyms that have any teams with OAA's in their roster.

OAA's cannot crossover to another team; i.e a 21 year old who competes on a Senior team as an OAA cannot compete on a Senior+ / Open team as a legal aged athlete. i.e. a 12 year old who competes on IASF Open team as an OAA, cannot also compete on a Junior/Senior/Senior+ team as a legal aged athlete. If this scenario occurs a 1 point penalty per athlete per day of competition will be applied to their score. The team that receives the penalty on their scoresheet is determined by the following:

- a) The gym must nominate the team as their legal OAA for the entire year by 31<sup>st</sup> March (as per above).
- b) When registering for competitions the gym must make the EP aware of the second Team the OAA is competing in. This is the team that will have the penalty applied to their score.

NOTE: Given the new rules have now established a level in between the current level 4 and 5, making these levels 4 and 6. An exception is made to allow athletes to cross between levels 4 and 6, on condition the club in question does not have a level 5 team under the new rules.

OAA must only compete in the level specified to NZCU by the gym owner no later than March each year unless;

- a) the OAA became a member of the gym after 1<sup>st</sup> April. This must be communicated to the NZCU within 2 weeks of the athletes starting, to enable the NZCU to update the register.
- b) the team registered suffered an injury and the gym opted to use OAA who is not currently attending the same event with another team. A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE REQUIRED.

In both A and B, the teams are still not allowed to exceed 2 OAA athletes regardless.





## Amendment 1.1

Below are the ages OAA must follow:

The OAA must be within 2 years of either side of age grid by **31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**.

**Tiny:** Must not be older than 8 years of age.

**Mini:** Must not be older than 10 years of age.

**Youth:** Must turn 3 years or older & must not be older than 14 years of age.

**Junior:** Must turn 6 years of age & must not be older than 16 years of age.

**Senior:** Must turn 8 years old & must not be older than 20 years of age.

**Open:** Must turn 10 years or older.

*\*Special thanks to Andrei Coman and Cheersports for allowing us to utilise their proposed OAA policy as a reference to create this document.*

## Crossover Policy

1. A maximum of 5 crossovers permitted in each team, where each person is only counted as a crossover once, ie not counted in their home team. Which meet the Maximum crossover limit of 5.

Examples;

**Team Orange** has 5 members who crossover to **Team Blue**. Those 5 members home team is **Team Orange** and are only counted as a crossover in **Team Blue**.

Adding to this scenario:

**Team Crimson** also has 2 team members who crossover to **Team Blue** – this makes **Team Blue** have 7 crossovers (5 from **Team Orange** and 2 from **Team Crimson** which exceeds the Maximum number allowed. This would incur a penalty.

In another example;

**Team Orange** has 5 members who crossover to **Team Blue**. Those 5 members home team is **Team Orange** and are only counted as a crossover in **Team Blue**. Which meet the Maximum crossover limit of 5.





## Crossover Policy Continued

Adding to the scenario;

Team Blue has 3 separate home team members who crossover to Team Crimson.

This makes Team Crimson have 3 crossovers (from Team Blue). Team Blue has 5 crossovers (from Team Orange). This is within the maximum permitted as neither of the crossover teams exceed 5.

2. Crossovers are only allowed 1 level up or down.

NOTE: Given the new rules have now established a level in between the current level 4 and 5, making these levels 4 and 6. An exception is made to allow athletes to cross between levels 4 and 6, on condition the club in question does not have a level 5 team under the new rules.

\* Exception: in the event of injury or emergency substitution (within 2 weeks of a competition) if a gym does not have a one level up or one level down team, e.g. they have level 1 and 3 teams and the injury occurs to a level 3 team member, they may opt for the two levels up or two levels down rule.

A medical certificate may be required.

*\*Continued on following page*

3. Teams which exceed the maximum of 5 crossovers will incur a 1 point penalty per athlete for each day of competition – this will be added to their score.

An athlete can only crossover to one other cheer team and cannot crossover in the same division. A school/scholastic/university team is not counted as 'one other team'.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CODE OF CONDUCT

All athletes, coaches, spectators & gym owners must follow the NZCU Events Code of Conduct.

All event attendees must display a high level of sportsmanship before during and after the competition event. Any behaviour that is deemed to be bullying, offensive and disrespectful may result in disqualification of associated team. We aim to provide a safe and encouraging environment, but to achieve this requires a collective effort from all those that attend.





## **ROUTINE INTERRUPTION**

If, in the opinion of the NZCU, a routine is interrupted because of failure of the Event organisers equipment, facilities, etc, then the participant's affected will stop their routine. The degree and effect of the interruption will be determined by the NZCU, and the team will be allowed to continue being scored from a place in the routine to be determined at the sole discretion of the NZCU or the Head Judge.

## **MUSIC**

All performances are responsible for their own music. Ensure you have your music on a device with an auxiliary port. No CD's or USB.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

No flash photography.

## **MEDIA RELEASE POLICY**

The NZCU reserves the right to use any photos or video footage from events in publications and promotions or for commercial use.

Individuals who do not wish to have their images used in publications and promotions should notify the NZCU prior to the event.

## **COACHES NOTES**

All stunts, tumble or other skills where contact with the floor is lost must be performed under the supervision of a credentialed coach and is limited to warm- ups and the competition floor.

All participants, coaches and officials should have an emergency response plan in the event of an injury.

Athletes spotting or assisting another athlete during warm up, this must be done by Qualified Coaches only.

Checking athletes for jewelry, fingernails & team numbers back stage.

Teams are to be accompanied by a qualified coach to the level they are competing, including specialty items.

Coaches must have current & recognised qualifications and be credentialed to the level of the team/specialty item. Credentials will be checked during the registration process.

