



## CANADIAN FINALS QUALIFICATION

### How to Qualify:

- Receive an invite at designated Canadian Cheer qualifying events/Event Partners, number of invites allocated to each event is outlined below.
- Receive a Wild Card invite on March 13th, 2024 (*see Wild Card details below*)
- **NEW \*** - *Ensure your program admin has submitted the “opt in” form for the team. All teams must read the rule set and “opt in” to be considered for a Canadian Finals invitation. This documentation MUST be received prior to the awards.*

### Designated Qualifying Events and Invite Allocation:

EVENT	# of INVITES		QUALIFYING METHOD
Big East Showdown	18		Top 4 in level 1- 4 guaranteed <i>Possible additional 2 from next placing teams from discretionary level</i>
Border Showdown	18		Top 4 in level 1- 4 guaranteed <i>Possible additional 2 from next placing teams from discretionary level</i>
Quebec Championship	7		Top team in level 1- 4 guaranteed <i>Possible additional 3 from next placing teams from discretionary level</i>
CheerFest	3		Highest scoring teams in any level 1-4 (excluding 4.2)
CFTC	3		Highest scoring teams in any level 1-4 (excluding 4.2)
Ontarios	3		Highest scoring teams in any level 1-4 (excluding 4.2)
Wildcards	3	*unused invites from other events will be given out in Wildcards	Highest scoring teams in any level 1-4 from Canadian Cheer events in the 2023/24 season

*\*Partner events TBD*

### What does “Highest Scoring Teams” mean?

- Teams that have the highest score in their level will be considered.
- If levels are split across panels or separated throughout the day, judges will be consulted to directly compare the top scoring teams from each panel/session.
- If Level A has stronger scores than Level B, it is possible that multiple teams from Level A will be awarded invites (unless it is specified that each level will receive a specific number of invites such as at Showdowns).

- If Level A and Level B are adjudicated on different panels, it is possible that a team from Level A may receive an invite but have a lower score than the highest scoring team on Level B. Differentiations in top scores between panels will be considered when reasonable.

### **Can Level 4.2 and non-Worlds Level 5 teams qualify?**

- Canadian Cheer will evaluate the participation level of teams in Level 4.2 from events leading up to the Wild Card invitations on March 13th, 2024.
- A minimum of 20 unique teams in level 4.2 will be required to have participated throughout the event season for the level to be considered for inclusion in Canadian Finals (*note: Level 5 is not included in Canadian Finals*)
- We do not anticipate that Level 4.2 will be included in this year's Canadian Finals due to low participation in these levels in comparison to Levels 1-4.
- Level 5 non-worlds is no longer considered for Canadian Finals due to low participation and the removal of "Restricted" Level 5 rule set.

### **What does "Possible additional # from next placing teams from discretionary level" mean and how does this statement affect the qualifying process?**

- This statement means that if the strength of the teams attending the event and the level of participation at the event warrants handing out additional invites, the event may award up to the listed number of additional invites.
- Discretionary level refers to the event producer's ability to select the levels from which the invites are pulled.
  - Considerations for choosing a level include:
    - # of teams already receiving invites in that level
    - Exceptionally strong teams competing at the designated event in that level making the field of play for that level very strong
- Teams will still be selected by score, see details about "highest score" above for further information.

### **Other Considerations for Wild Card invites:**

- Program representation
  - We strive to maintain the high standards required to participate in Canadian Finals while also recognizing the need for diverse program representation.
  - If two teams have very similar scores and skill level, the deciding factor may be the inclusion of a different program.

### **When will invitations be announced?**

- If invites are being awarded at a specific event, the event schedule will outline when the invites are being awarded (ie which awards ceremony). Partner events may indicate the awards times differently so please check with the Event Producer.
- WildCard invitations will be awarded on the specified date via Instagram/social media

**Crossovers:**

- Athletes in Canadian Finals may only crossover 1 level up or down to any team attending Nationals and/or attending Canadian Finals
  - Exception: Worlds athletes may only crossover to Levels 4, 5, and/or 6 with a max of 2\* crossovers from a Finals team to a Worlds team.
- If Level 4.2 is added, these crossover conditions will be modified for L4.2 only
  - Exception: L4.2 may only crossover to L2, L3, and/or L4
  - Exception - Athletes who compete at The Cheerleading Worlds in a Non-Tumbling division may compete in a Canadian Finals division in level 4.2, if level 4.2 is offered.
- Athletes will not be allowed to compete on more than two cheer teams at Canadian Finals.

**Roster Changes/Substitutions:**

- Teams may add up to 2 additional athletes to the total of number of athletes on the floor at the qualifier event.
- In the event that a rostered athlete was injured close to the event and a substitute did not participate on the floor during the qualifier event due to injury/sickness/exceptional circumstance, the rostered total number of athletes will be the basis for determining substitutes and additions.
- Teams may substitute age eligible athletes.

**Invite Eligibility**

- Teams must have completed the entirety of the registration process in order to qualify for an invite, this includes but is not limited to:
  - Full and timely payment of registration fees
  - Full and accurate completion of rosters and waivers
  - Full completion of the coaches code of conduct and associated documents
  - Confirmation of "opt in" for Canadian Finals Invites prior to the start of the qualifier event
- Canadian Cheer reserves the right to remove an invitation from a team should any of the above processes be proven to be incomplete and/or violations of age eligibility or code of conduct is found at any event in the 2023/24 season.

**Days of Competition:**

- Sunday April 14th, 2023

**Awards:**

- Each athlete will receive a commemorative pin
- Teams placing 1 - 5 will receive a placement banner
- Teams placing 1st - 3rd will receive a placement medal for each athlete
- Level Champions will receive an iconic jacket
- Final Champion will receive a custom sized championship ring

**Scoring:**

- Specific details regarding warnings/deductions may be sent out in advance of the event to all registered programs. These details would relate to teams participating in Nationals and Finals.
- The Canadian Cheer Scoring Policy would apply unless otherwise stated.
- The Cheer Canada score sheet would be utilized.
- The top team from each level will be compared by the judges to select the Final Champion.

**Disqualification:**

- Any team that does not adhere to the terms of the competition may be subject to disqualification and the forfeiture of any associated prizing. Additionally, teams/programs may be prohibited from receiving an invitation to the following year, at the sole discretion of Canadian Cheer and its associates.

*Canadian Cheer reserves the right to amend this document, invite event distribution and method of distribution at any time.*