

## **Canadian Cheer Event Safety Initiative**

At Canadian Cheer, safety isn't just a priority—it's a shared responsibility. From the competition floor to the stands, every athlete, coach, spectator, and staff member plays a role in creating a safe, respectful, and supportive environment.

We are committed to ensuring that everyone has a positive experience, but it takes all of us. Please follow event guidelines, respect one another, and speak up if something isn't right. Together, we can make Nationals a place where everyone feels safe, valued, and celebrated.

Let's set the standard. Let's do it together.

## Athletic Safety Standards:

- First Aid responders dedicated to each venue area
  - Each athlete area (warm-up, performance) have dedicated Athletic Therapists for athletes
  - Dedicated First Aid responders for spectator areas
- Full size sprung floor tumble track for warm up
- Safe and maintained equipment
- Hydration stations after warm-up and post performance
- Clearly outlined Emergency Response Plan in the case of athlete injury
- Safe sanitization and containment of bodily fluids relating to athletic performance

## **Event Safety Standards:**

- Prohibiting the use of photo zoom lenses allows us to minimize the risk of photographs that compromise the dignity of the athletes
- Professional photography services with extensive review that allows the removal and culling of photographs that don't align with our desire to showcase the athleticism of the sport
- Background checks for event staff in contact with athletes
- Designated "athlete area" for athletes and coaches clearly identified by wristbands and signage
- Ensuring all programs provide a list of coaches/trusted admin that are permitted access to the "athlete area"
- Newsletters to coaches/admin that outline athlete flow, allowing coaches to set appropriate pick up/drop off protocols with their teams' parents
- Protocols that guide staff in the event of a reported missing child
- Use of security guards throughout each venue

## Additional Safety Measures at Premier Events:

- Uniformed and 'plain clothes' police officers on-site at venues during competition times
- Clearly marked 'athlete area' and 'public' areas