



Canadian Finals & Face Off Invite

Qualifications

Canadian Cheer is proud to once again host the two most coveted invite-only events in Canada. Please read below to learn how to qualify for an invitation to either Canadian Cheer Worlds Face-Off or Canadian Finals.

Table of Contents

FACE OFF QUALIFICATION.....	2
How to Qualify for the 2025-2026 season.....	2
Prizing Canadian Cheer Worlds Face-Off.....	2
CANADIAN FINALS QUALIFICATION.....	3
How to Qualify for the 2025-2026 season.....	3
Designated Qualifying Canadian Cheer Events and Invite Allocation.....	3
Crossovers at Canadian Finals.....	4
Frequently Asked Questions.....	5
When will invitations be announced?.....	5
What does “Best performing teams” mean?.....	5
How will additional invites be awarded?.....	5
Roster Changes/Substitutions.....	5
Can Level 4.2 & Non-Tumble teams qualify for Canadian Finals?.....	6
Invite Eligibility.....	6
Days of Competitions.....	6
Prizing Canadian Finals.....	6
Scoring.....	6
Disqualification.....	7

FACE OFF QUALIFICATION

How to Qualify for the 2025-2026 season

- Earn an invite from participation at a designated Canadian Cheer qualifying event. The number of invites allocated to each event is outlined below.
- Receive a Wild Card invite.
- Faceoff Invites from a qualifier events will be awarded on February 25th, 2026 via our social media platforms (@cdncheer)
- WildCard invitations will be awarded on March 4th, 2026 via our social media platforms (@cdncheer)
- 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 Face-Off invitation. This documentation MUST be received by the time the team is checked in to compete
- The opt-in option will be included in the revised Bid opt-in form which will be sent out by email in the fall

EVENT	# of INVITES	QUALIFYING METHOD
CFTC	Up to 5	Top scoring teams in any level 5-7 (including NT)
Cheerfest BC	Up tp 3	Top scoring teams in any level 5-7 (including NT)
Ontario Championship	Up tp 5	Top scoring teams in any level 5-7 (including NT)
Wildcards	Up to 5	-Top scoring teams in any level 5-7 (including 6 & 7NT) from any Canadian Cheer events in the 2025/26 season -Teams who would like to be considered for a Wild Card invite are still required to Opt-In - Teams who do not have a Canadian Cheer event in their province may compete virtually at any Canadian Cheer event that offers virtual participation in order to be considered for a Wild Card invite

Prizing Canadian Cheer Worlds Face-Off

- Each team will receive a commemorative banner with their team & gym name
- Teams placing 1st - 6th will receive a cash prize ranging from 1500-5000\$
- Fan Favorite winners will receive a cash prize

CANADIAN FINALS QUALIFICATION

How to Qualify for the 2025-2026 season

- Receive an invite at designated Canadian Cheer qualifying events/Event Partners, number of invites allocated to each event is outlined below .Canadian Finals Invites will be awarded on-site at designated Canadian Cheer qualifying events/Event Partners.
- Receive a Wild Card invite in March 2026.
 - The exact release date is TBD (*see Wild Card details below*)
- 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.
- If you are attending a Partner Event a different “opt-in form” is used. Please fill it out by clicking [here](#).
- *By opt-in in, you confirm that your team meets the eligibility requirements and will participate in the event.* This documentation MUST be received by the time the team is checked in to compete.

Designated Qualifying Canadian Cheer Events and Invite Allocation

EVENT	# of INVITES	QUALIFYING METHOD
		*See the FAQs section for inclusion of NT & 4.2 teams
Big East Showdown	15-18	Top 3 in levels 1- 4 & 3 additional invites guaranteed <i>Up to 3 additional invites from next placing teams from any level</i>
Border Showdown	15-18	Top 3 in levels 1- 4 & 3 additional invites guaranteed <i>Up to 3 additional invites from next placing teams from any level</i>
Quebec Championship	4-7	Top team in levels 1- 4
CheerFest	3	Best performing teams in any level 1-4
Cheer for the Cure	3	Best performing teams in any level 1-4
Ontario Championship	3	Best performing teams in any level 1-4
Wildcards	3 unused invites from other events will be given out as Wildcards	-Best performing teams in any level 1-4 from any Canadian Cheer events in the 2025/26 season -Best performing teams who competed at one of our partner events -Teams who would like to be considered for a Wild Card invite are still required to opt-in - Teams who do not have a Canadian Cheer or partner event in their province may compete virtually at a Canadian Cheer event that offers virtual participation in order to be considered for a Wild Card invite

Other Considerations for Wild Card Invites:

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.

Crossovers at Canadian Finals

- Athletes in Canadian Finals may only crossover 1 level up or down attending Canadian Finals
Clarification: Crossovers competing on two teams during Canadian Finals may cross over to another team in the same level however a team can only have a maximum of 2 crossovers in the same level. Note that athletes may not compete on two teams in the same age and level division (ie both teams competing in the U16 level 2 division)
- Athletes are only allowed to compete on a maximum of two cheer teams at Canadian Finals
-
- No schedule changes will be accommodated due to a team having crossovers to another team competing in Canadian Finals
- Teams vying for a Canadian Finals Invite may have a *maximum of 15% of their team* who cross over from a level 5, 6 or 6 NT Worlds Team regardless of their bid status. This cross-over restriction applies whether or not the worlds team competes at any Canadian Cheer events and they may only cross over to a level 4 team.
- If Level 4.2/NT are invited, the following will apply:
 - Exception: L4.2 may only crossover to L2, L3, and/or L4
 - NT will still be held accountable to the one-level cross-over restriction
 - Exception - Athletes who compete at The Cheerleading Worlds in a level 6 Non-Tumbling division may compete in a Canadian Finals division in level 4.2, if level 4.2 is included.

Team Size	# of Worlds Cross Overs (15%)
5-6	0
7-13	1
14-19	2
20-26	3
27-30	4

2025-2026 Canadian Finals Partner Events

EVENT	When & Where?	# of invites	QUALIFYING TEAMS *See the FAQs section for inclusion of NT & 4.2 teams
Imagine Cheer Championships	January 31-Feb 1, 2026 Calgary, Alberta	2	Any best performing teams in any level 1-4
Maritime Meltdown	March 7-8 2026 Truro, Nova Scotia	2	Any best performing teams in any level 1-4
Warman Cheer Classic	March 6-8, 2026 Warman, Saskatchewan	2	Any best performing teams in any level 1-4

Partner Events have their own specific opt-in form, you can fill it out by clicking [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

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.
- Faceoff invites from a qualifier event will be awarded on February 25th, 2026 via our social media platforms (@cdncheer)
- Faceoff WildCard invitations will be awarded on March 4th, 2026 via our social media platforms (@cdncheer)
- Canadian Finals Invites will be awarded on-site at designated Canadian Cheer qualifying events/Event Partners.
- Canadian Finals Wildcard invites announcement date is TBD

What does “*Best performing teams*” mean?

- Teams that have the highest placings in their division/level will be considered.
- If divisions/levels are split across panels or separated throughout the day, judges will be consulted to directly compare the top 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.

How will additional invites be awarded?

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.

- Any level refers to the event producer's ability to select the levels from which the invites are awarded.
 - Considerations for choosing a level include:
 - # of teams already receiving invites in that level
 - Exceptionally strong teams competing in a specific 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.

Roster Changes/Substitutions

- Teams may add up to 2 additional athletes to the total 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.

Can Level 4.2 & Non-Tumble teams qualify for Canadian Finals?

- Canadian Cheer will be including Level 4.2 and Non-Tumble teams in the 2026 edition of Canadian Finals
- These teams will need to demonstrate exceptional skills in their respective levels to be invited
- If invited, Level 4.2 teams will compete against Level 4 teams however the expectations for tumbling will be consistent with Level 2 requirements
- If invited, Non-Tumble teams will compete against same level team (ie Level 3 NT team will compete against Level 3 teams) and % of perfection (by putting their total score out of 100) will be used to rank the competing teams if Non-Tumbling teams are included
- Level 5 NT will not be considered for Canadian Finals due to low participation

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 at the qualifying event
 - 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 by the time team checks in to compete
- 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 2025/26 season.
- Note that there will not be a Non-Ranked option for the 2026 edition of Canadian Finals

Days of Competitions

- Canadian Cheer Worlds Face Off: Friday, April 10th, 2026
- Canadian Finals: Saturday, April 11th, 2026

Prizing Canadian Finals

- Teams placing 1 - 3 will receive a placement banner
- Teams placing 1 - 3 will receive a placement medal for each athlete. Level Champions will receive an iconic jacket (2 jackets included for team coaches)
- Final Champion will receive a custom sized championship ring (2 rings included for team coaches)
- Additional champion prizing available for purchase upon request

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, Finals or Face-Off.
- The Canadian Cheer Scoring Policy will apply unless otherwise stated

- The Cheer Canada score sheet will be used for all speciality events
- 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.