

Cheer & Dance Showcase

Sunday, August 23 – 2:00 p.m. – Orr Building

Class	Class Description	1 st
73704	High School Game Day Cheer	Banner
73705	High School Halftime Dance	Banner

The following rules apply to entries in the Illinois State Fair Cheer & Dance Showcase:

1. Pre-registration for this event is required as number of contestants is limited. To register, click [here](#) or scan the QR code below. Registration opens **April 1, 2026** and the deadline is close of business **July 15, 2026**.
 - a. Registration is open to all Illinois High Schools.
 - b. Entry Limits:
 - i. The maximum number of registered teams per division is 25.
 1. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come basis.
 - c. Number of participants must be provided to secure admission passes for the event.
2. Divisions:
 - a. Game Day Cheer
 - b. Dance Team Halftime
 - c. Time Limits:
 - i. Game Day: 2:30 minutes
 - ii. Halftime: 2:30 minutes
 - iii. Timing will begin with the first choreographed movement or note of music, whichever is first.
 - iv. Timing will end with the last choreographed movement or note of music, whichever is last.
3. Music Guidelines:
 - a. All music used must be family-friendly and age appropriate. No suggestive or use of vulgar language is allowed.
 - b. All music must be accessible from the coach's phone or tablet on the day of the event.
 - c. Each team is required to have an adult or alternate team member at the sound station to play the music. Please make sure that all devices have a headphone jack to connect to the sound system and are fully charged, volume turned up and placed in airplane mode.
 - d. ISF will provide the necessary chords and dongles to play music through provided sound system.
4. Content Guidelines
 - a. All choreography must be family-friendly and age appropriate. No suggestive or use of vulgar movements are allowed.
5. Game Day Cheer Specific Guidelines
 - a. Game Day will consist of Band Chant/Fight Song and Crowd Leading, each with a 1-minute time limit.
 - b. Team shall transition quickly from Band Chant/Fight Song to Crowd Leading.
 - c. No basket or waist level tosses are allowed.
 - d. No inversions are allowed.
 - e. No twisting released dismounts are allowed.
 - f. No stunts or tumbling are allowed during entrance and exit.

- g. The use of signs, poms, flags, and megaphones is allowed for performances. No additional props are allowed.
- 6. Halftime Dance Specific Guidelines
 - a. Halftime Dance may be choreographed in any of the following styles – jazz, pom, kick, or hip hop.
 - b. Dancers must have dance shoes on both feet.
 - c. No running tumbling passes are allowed.
 - d. No props other than poms allowed.
- 7. Sportsmanship
 - a. All participants, coaching staff, and audience members agree to display good sportsmanship throughout the Showcase and Best of Show presentation.
- 8. Best in Show Award:
 - a. A "Best in Show" will be awarded in both the Game Day Cheer Division and the Halftime Dance Division.
 - b. The "Best in Show" recipient will be determined by audience participation, with voting taking place after the presentation of participation awards.

2026 Illinois State Fair Cheer & Dance Showcase Registration

