



2027 SPIRIT OF THE WEST CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION GUIDE

The Spirit of The West is back and bigger than ever - now at Lee's Family Forum in Henderson, Nevada! The Spirit of The West is bringing the excitement and production of all-star cheerleading to the world of competitive school cheerleading. SOTW is the perfect opportunity to prepare your athletes before their end-of-season championships!

Arena lights and staging, elevated awards experience, superior judging and an unforgettable atmosphere. Are you ready to experience the Spirit of The West Championships?!

Date and Location

Saturday, January 16TH, 2027

Lee's Family Forum

200 S Green Valley Pkwy, Henderson, NV 89012

Athlete Eligibility

School divisions – entrants must be registered students in the school they are representing and/or full-time spirit leaders of their team. The penalty for an eligibility violation will be disqualification. Athletes from a Varsity team **may not** cross compete to a JV team as an alternate. However, a JV athlete 11th grade and younger **may** cross compete to a Varsity team in the event an alternate is needed.

Insurance/Waivers

Each participant must have his/her own personal insurance. All competitors must submit a Spirit of The West Medical Release and Spirit of The West Appearance Form to be eligible to compete. All releases will be available electronically upon registration in your programs RegChamps portal. All waivers must be completed in your RegChamps portal prior to event day onsite check-in/registration. The host facility, the directors/sponsor, and the Spirit of The West will not be responsible or held liable for any injuries occurring at a Spirit of The West competition.

On-Site Registration Information

All coaching staff should report to the registration table no later than 60 minutes before the start of the division they are competing in. At that time, a SOTW registration specialist will confirm all required items are completed in your RegChamps portal, including, team roster, coaching staff, and all required waivers. All coaching staff over the age of 18 years of age will need to show a school ID card or USA Cheer membership to receive backstage access. All balances must be paid in full before onsite check-in/registration.

Spirit of The West Pricing

Show Cheer / Show Time - \$60 per athlete

GameDay "Friday Night Light" - \$30 per athlete

Sideline Divisions - \$20 per competitor

Group Stunt Performance - \$150 flat rate per group

Each performing team will receive two (2) complimentary coach's entry.

Additional coaching staff will be charged \$10, only. This may be purchased online in your RegChamps portal, or at registration on the day of the event.

Spectator ticket pricing will be based on venue specifics. Spectator ticket prices coming soon.

Spirit of The West Eligible Divisions

Please visit our website for a list of all divisions offered. Teams with 1+ male/s competing in Junior High, JV and Varsity Show Cheer divisions will be considered Coed. The Spirit of The West reserves the right to combine and or split divisions in the interest of competition.

Scoring/Rubrics

Please visit our website for all division scoring and rubric information.

Awards

Each participant will receive a commemorative Spirit of The West medallion. Champions in each division will receive a team Champion banner. Teams placing second and third will receive a team placement banner. For teams that perform zero deduction routines, each participant will receive a Hit Zero pin. Specialty awards will be awarded at each awards ceremony. Grand Champions will be awarded to one Elementary/Junior High team, one Junior Varsity team, and one Varsity High School team. Grand Champions will receive Spirit of The West Champion hoodies! **Only** Show Cheer/Show Time divisions are eligible for Grand Champions.

Safety Rules and Penalties

All school routines and divisions must follow the 2026-2027 NFHS Spirit Rules Book. Points will be deducted from the final team average for violations of safety rules and/or time limits. For specific safety rules for divisions, as well as time restrictions, skill restrictions, and other rules, please refer to the Spirit of The West website. All Star Restriction/Prep divisions must follow the USASF rules and guidelines.

Performance Surface

All competition and exhibition performances will take place on a carpet-bonded foam mat measuring 42' (front to back) x 54' (side to side). All warmup stations before the competition floor will also take place on carpet-bonded foam mats. Stunts and/or tumbling must always be completed on mat surfaces at any Spirit of The West event.

Spotter Policy

The Spirit of The West will provide USA Cheer-approved spotters on the competition floor. Teams will be allowed to provide spotters on the warm-up floors only.

Appropriateness of Outfitting, Choreography, and Music

Uniforms for all team types should be appropriate for the age of the participants performing the routine. Bows should not be excessive in size and shouldn't be a distraction to the performance. All outfitting should be approved by the administration or institution to which the school team belongs. All facets of a performance or routine, including choreography, must be suitable for family viewing. Deductions will be given for vulgar or suggestive choreography or inappropriate signs and/or use of props. All music must be suitable for family listening. Music should be approved by the administration or institution to which the school team belongs. Deductions will be given for music containing swear words, and suggestive/inappropriate behavior.

Media Policy

No commercial recording (audio or visual) or commercial live streaming is allowed in the event venue. Teams will, however, be allowed to bring in personal photographers and/or videographers that have been approved by the administration or institution to which the school team belongs.

How To Handle Event and Performance Questions

Any questions concerning the rules or procedures of the competition will be handled exclusively by the advisor or head coach of the team and will be directed only to the competition director. Such questions must be asked 60 minutes before the team's division start time. Any questions concerning the performance of the team must be made to the competition director immediately after the performance (10-minute window from completion of routine).

For all other information please see Spirit of The West website.

www.spiritofthewestchampionship.com