

NOTICE Important Rule Changes

COACH ELIGIBILITY FOR ICCA EVENTS

1. **All coaches** (head and assistants) must be registered on the ICCA membership list by the fall registration deadline to participate in ICCA events. This includes volunteer and junior high coaches.
2. Every coach must take the current NF/ICCA Spirit Rules meeting to participate in ICCA events. All coaches wishing to participate in **All-State Tryouts, State Championships, and/or Honor Squad must take the Spirit Rules meeting in August (August 5-August 29) to be eligible.** Coaches who have not taken the rules meeting by the August closing date **may not** be allowed to participate as a coach in the above events. Each participating coach must turn in his/her certificate at the end of the rules meeting to the ICCA. Schools who have late coaching hires need to contact the ICCA executive directors for more information.
3. Every coach must take the National Federation concussion video course each year to participate in all ICCA Events. Coaches wishing to participate in All-State Tryouts, State Championships, and/or Honor Squad must complete the Concussion Video Training before the ICCA event registration closes. All participating coaches must turn in the certificate at the end of the training to ICCA.
4. Be in good standing with the ICCA regarding National Federation and ICCA/IHSAA spirit rules violations. Schools/coaches with excessive rules violations may be placed on probation until violations are corrected and maintained.

SAFETY RULES VIOLATIONS

The spirit safety rules are very important for the safety of cheerleaders. Schools must remain/be in good standing at all times with the ICCA regarding the National Federation and the ICCA/IHSAA spirit rules. Schools should work to have **NO** safety violations. Schools who have violations need to work to correct the violation for the safety of its cheerleaders. Schools with excessive safety violations may be placed on probation from ICCA events until violations are corrected and maintained.

Report violations immediately to the ethics director so violations can be handled in a timely manner:

- Violations not reported immediately, or those not actually seen and handled by coaches, will not be dealt with by the ICCA Rules Interpreter.
- Coaches reporting violations **MUST** talk to the coach or administrator of the school in violation **BEFORE** reporting rule violations.
- Only coaches who have viewed the online rules meeting may report violations.

When Rules are Violated:

- When a school is reported for a rules violation the first or second time, both the coach and one of the school's administrators will be contacted.

Continued violation of the National Federation and/or ICCA/IHSAA rules by a school will lead to action taken by the ICCA Board and the school falling from good standing. This action could include (but is not limited to) the school in question not being allowed to participate in ICCA events for a time frame decided by the ICCA board.

The circumstances of the above ruling should be considered very serious as it involves the safety of cheerleaders. When violations overlap from one school year to the next, but the coach and/or administrator remains the same, the board action may occur immediately in a school year and affect the school participating in ICCA events that fall. While a coaching staff or administration change can help a school improve, habitual violations may play a part in the ICCA board decision(s).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DAITH PIERCINGS:

Effective immediately, **Daith piercings will no longer be allowed** for cheerleaders in Iowa. Previously, the ICCA has allowed Daith piercings as long as a physician's note was filed with the ICCA, stating the piercing was helping with migraine headaches. This will NO longer be accepted.

ALL PIERCINGS MUST BE REMOVED, INCLUDING DAITH PIERCINGS, FOR ALL CHEERLEADING EVENTS, INCLUDING PRACTICES, APPEARANCES, PERFORMANCES, AND GAMES.

