



Cheer and Dance Routine Stoppage Guidelines

ROUTINE STOPPAGE OVERVIEW

A routine may be stopped by:

- Competition Officials
- Club Owner/Coach from the performing team
- Injured athlete/athlete in distress
- USASF Certified Legality Official Stopping a Routine

An athlete in distress may also create a potential safety hazard to other athletes because of the inability to hold, support, spot, or catch. For the safety of all athletes competing, a routine should be interrupted/stopped in cases of:

- Obvious Injury (i.e. An athlete lands a skill and falls to the floor but doesn't get back up.)
- Perceived Injury (i.e. An athlete is crying, keeps grabbing injured area and/or does not resume their role in the routine within approximately 5 seconds of questionable injury.)
- Athlete in distress leaving the competition floor
- Bodily Fluids, including but not limited to vomit, blood (i.e. An athlete has a nosebleed while competing.)
- Uniform Malfunction (See below for suggested protocols)

NOTE: If a routine is interrupted/stopped at any time, it will be at the Competition Officials' discretion whether that team will be allowed to perform again at a later time.

Should an unintentional exposure occur during a team's performance, the following steps will take place

- Stop the music.
- Provide directions over the loudspeaker for the team to return backstage.
- Cover the exposed athlete should time permit while on stage.
- Provide a general announcement over the loudspeaker to the effect that those who may have recorded the performance should delete any images or videos from their electronic device, including phones, to comply child safeguarding regulations

JUDGE ACTIONS

Legality Officials Record the time at which the routine was stopped (ex. 1:27 mark) and the reason for stopping the routine



RETURN TO COMPETITION

Athletes:

An injured participant MAY NOT return to the competition floor unless the Competition Officials receive clearance from ALL the representatives listed below:

- Competition medical personnel attending to that participant.
- Parent/Guardian (if present).
- Head coach/Club owner of the competing team.

In the event of a suspected head injury, the participant cannot return to perform without clearance from a licensed medical professional that has training related to head injuries.

If an athlete is returning to perform ALL athletes' safety MUST be considered. (i.e. Can the injured athlete properly base, brace, lift, be lifted, etc. without concern for the safety of the athletes being supported and/or supporting the injured participant?)

Teams:

If a team is allowed to perform again following a routine interruption, the second performance routine must be performed in its entirety full out but judging resumes from the point at which the injury/interruption occurred as determined by the Competition Official.

Scoring and point deductions accumulated (if applicable) to that point carry over.

If a team is permitted to perform again but fails to perform the routine in its entirety the team will receive comments, but no scores for the routine and be moved to an exhibition team.

ATHLETES LEAVING THE FLOOR

No deductions are issued for athletes leaving the floor due to injury, sickness or nosebleeds.