

To: Principals and Cheerleader Coaches
From: Greg Stahl and Davine Davis
Re: Admission of Cheerleaders -- State Wrestling (NEW – 2023)

The MSHSAA is requesting your assistance in proper admission of cheerleaders as intended by the MSHSAA and the Spirit Advisory Committee. The limits that are set for admission are not unique to wrestling or any sport. They are designed around the nature of the sport, the facility limits and equality between sports. (Reference: Spirit Manual).

With these thoughts in mind the following instructions are to be followed for cheerleader admittance at the State Wrestling Championships.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHEERLEADERS AND CHEER COACHES

1. The Cheer Coach event pass should be claimed at the Will Call Entrance. **The entrance is located on the north side of the Mizzou Arena at Will Call/North Pass Gate entrance.**
2. If different sponsors will be supervising during different days/sessions, they must have the Cheer Coach event pass. It is the SCHOOLS responsibility to make arrangements to see that the Cheer Coach event pass is made available to the next coach.
3. The validated event pass will admit a Cheer Coach and a maximum of eight (8) cheerleaders **dressed** in matching uniforms.
4. **Only Cheerleading Groups as registered appropriately in Sideline Cheerleading with MSHSAA and accompanied with a school approved/certified coach will be recognized as a Cheerleading Squad for admittance purposes.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- a. **Cheerleaders and coaches must enter together, as a group.**
- b. No replacement of the pass can be made if it is lost.

(NEW – 2023) – NO ADMISSION TO THE EVENT FLOOR FOR STATE FINALS MATCHES

Due to the adding of Classifications for Wrestling, the state tournament format has changed substantially in comparison to past years. These necessary changes to the state tournament format results in the necessity to have all 8 wrestling mats out on the event floor during ALL rounds of the state tournament, including the state finals matches. This results in there not being adequate or safe floor space for cheerleaders nor would there be any area or space available at mat side for all mats that will be used during the state finals.

The presence of cheerleaders at mat side during state finals matches in future years will be dependent and driven by the state tournament schedule and format used in future years.