



The US National Junior Teams are comprised of some of the most talented teams in America with athletes between the ages of 12 & 16. Teams compete at the International Cheer Union (ICU) World Cheerleading Championships each April.

NEW for 2020: US National Junior Team Selection Process

For the selection of the 2020 US National Junior Cheer Teams, we are looking to select a team based around a regional area. All members and coaches must live within close proximity to the selected area because of practice scheduling. The selected coach may choose members from their current team but will also be able to select members from the regional area to form the US National Junior Team. All team members selected will be at the discretion of the Director of US National Teams and the Director of US National Junior Teams. Each team will consist of 28 members and up to three coaches for the US National Junior All Girl & Coed Team.

To apply for the US National Junior Team, the submission process will consist of the following:

- Complete an online application at www.usacheer.org
- Select coaches will go through interview process (*Not all candidates will be interviewed*)
- Submit an interview and skills video via email to tnash@usacheer.org highlighting partner stunts, tumbling and baskets. ****Please see skills video requirements and formatting:***
 1. Each video must ONLY include athletes who will be age eligible for the 2020 competition.
 2. Videos must follow the format below, any videos not following this format will not be eligible for consideration for the US National Junior Team.

Video Requirements: Four sections required in the following order:

1: Interview

A 30-60 second introduction about yourself. Please explain the area you are from and the potential makeup of the team. In addition, explain why you feel you should be the selected team.

2: Partner Stunts

This section can be up to one minute highlighting a variety of partner stunt skills. It is recommended to use multiple groups during this section. Please follow all USA Cheer/AACCA safety guidelines for High School. It is also recommended to show as many stunts and a variety. No pyramids or baskets should be shown in this section.

3: Tumbling

This section can be up to 45 seconds highlighting a variety of tumbling skills including standing and running tumbling. Please include elite level group tumbling, along with any specialty passes that eligible members may have.

4: Basket Tosses

This section can be up to 30 seconds highlighting a variety of allowed tosses. Please follow all USA Cheer/AACCA safety guidelines for High School.

Requirements for submitting video:

To be eligible for consideration, submit your video no later than **Monday, November 4, 2019** to tnash@usacheer.org via YouTube video link. Please follow the link below for instructions on how to create video link if you have not done this before. It is our recommendation to make it a private link.

<https://www.lifewire.com/making-youtube-videos-1082488>



- The ICU Championships allow maximum of 24 athletes on the competition floor
- For ICU, all members of the team must be between 12 and 16 years of age within the year of the Junior World Championships. *Note: As a guideline for all teams, ICU Junior World Championship athletes born on or between January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2008 would be age eligible for the 2020 Junior World Championships. Any team proven to be in violation of the ICU age requirements will be automatically disqualified. **PLEASE NOTE:** If the athlete is 16 years of age in 2020, they will qualify even if they turn 17 years of age before competition.*
- Teams will be required to fundraise; all travel and competition costs must be paid by your team. USA Cheer has fundraising ideas and a platform to assist your team with their efforts. You are welcome and encouraged to do fundraisers at home with your school(s). Estimated costs for each individual are approximately \$1000. Items that go into costs are, but not limited to; transportation, hotel rooms, competition fees, food, apparel and uniforms.
- Team selections will be announced **Tuesday, December 3, 2019**
- Once selected, USA Cheer will coordinate dates for the Junior Directors to complete choreography as well as required practice dates and times for Orlando.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- ICU Opening Ceremonies – Monday, April 27, 2020
- ICU Junior World Championships – Monday, April 27, 2020
- ICU Premier World Championships – Tuesday/Wednesday, April 28-29, 2020
- ICU Closing Ceremonies – Wednesday, April 29, 2020

**Please Note: The Director of US National Teams for USA Cheer reserves the right to individually select a team to represent the US National Junior Team if there are a small number of teams that apply. In addition, if submission entries lack the skill level to be competitive, a team may not be selected. We also reserve the right to appoint a team if the selection panel finds that submitted teams lack in any or all areas to be competitive.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Nash".

Tony Nash
Director, US National Teams
USA Cheer
tnash@usacheer.org