



The US National Junior Teams are comprised of some of the most talented teams in America with athletes between the ages of 12 and 16. The teams compete at the International Cheer Union (ICU) World Cheerleading Championships each April. This past year, both the US National Junior All Girl Team and the US National Junior Coed Team took home world championships, receiving **GOLD** medals for their performances!

NEW for 2019: US National Junior Team Selection Process

For the selection of the 2019 US National Junior Cheer Teams, we are looking to select a team in a regional area. We will add additional members to the selected team to allow them to practice and join the US National Junior Team. Additional members must live within close proximity to the selected team. We are looking to select a coach to form a regionalized team. This coach may use their current team but are allowed to fill the team to complete the roster of up to 28 athletes. The coach must have proven experience and success competing at the national level.

If invited to represent the US National Junior Team, the submission process will consist of the following:

- Complete an online application and coaches will go through interview process.
 - Not all candidates will be interviewed
- Submit video of current routine in its entirety through Dropbox, youtube, etc. or email to tnash@usacheer.org
- Teams must excel in partner stunts, pyramids, tumbling and baskets.
- The ICU Championships allow a minimum of 16 athletes and a 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, 2002 – December 31, 2007 would be age eligible for the 2019 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 2019, 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 is partnered with a fundraising company to assist the team with their efforts. In addition, we will assist your team in the fundraising campaign. This opportunity is a way to get family, friends and the community involved in donations for your team to represent the USA. You are welcome and encouraged to do fundraisers at home with your school. Estimated costs for each individual is approximately \$850. Items that go into costs are, but not limited to, transportation, hotel rooms, competition fees, food, apparel and uniforms.
- Team selections will be announced on January 22, 2019.
- Once selected, USA Cheer will coordinate dates to send a member of our coaching staff to work on choreography for the ICU routine and will work alongside your current coaching staff.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 23, 2019 – ICU Opening Ceremonies (Teams must arrive to Orlando by April 22nd)
- April 24, 2019 – ICU Junior World Championships (Teams may depart April 25th)
- April 25 – 26, 2019 – ICU Premier World Championships
- April 26, 2019 – ICU Closing Ceremonies

**Please Note: The Executive Director and National Team Director for USA Cheer reserve the right to individually select a team to represent the US Junior National 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.*