



2008-2009 IHSA STATE COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

On behalf of the Illinois High School Association Board of Directors, the Competitive Cheerleading Advisory Committee, and our member schools, it is my pleasure to congratulate you and your team for qualifying for the 2009 IHSA State Cheerleading Tournament. It is our hope that you are able to enjoy the competition and we appreciate all of the work that you have put forth to be here today. No other state in the country conducts interscholastic competition for schools like we do here in Illinois and we are thrilled that you are able to be a part of the opportunity.

A special welcome and congratulations are extended to all the participants of this year's competition. You should be commended for your hard work, practice and dedication which have enabled you and your school to achieve success. I also want to welcome and congratulate the coaches of all of our competing schools who have trained and prepared these students to reach this level of performance.

Here students have a chance to demonstrate the fruits of their hard work and dedication. As a participant you proudly represent your families, schools and communities in a very visible forum. Thank you for exhibiting what is best in the youth of our society. The sense of community pride shown in these performances is a tangible display of appreciation for excellence demonstrated by our member schools.

The IHSA believes that interscholastic activities enrich the educational experience. Regardless of the outcome of events we ask that you do your best and strive to display the best in sportsmanship and embrace all that can be learned through performance. You have spent many long hours preparing and we wish you the very best and hope you enjoy your day at the IHSA state cheer tournament. You should be able to find in this packet the information necessary to make your trip to State as smooth as possible. Feel free to call our office if you have any questions. Thank you for your support of IHSA and for being a part of the IHSA state experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan M. Knoblauch". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Assistant Executive Director
Illinois High School Association



2008-2009 IHSA STATE COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING Qualifying School Information

This material will enable you to make preparations for your trip to the Cheer State Final at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington and I encourage you to share pertinent information with your parents and fans.

IHSA State Final Checklist Did you...

1. *Confirm your housing by Feb. 3, 2009* _____
2. *Make your request for an athletic trainer pass if you are bringing a school certified trainer* _____
3. *Make your request for a student media pass for school yearbook/photographer* _____
4. *Make your request for administration passes* _____

Venue Inquiries: Emily Hobbs, Event Manager, U.S. Cellular Coliseum at (309) 434-2668.

Director of Ticketing: Jane Everhart, U.S. Cellular Coliseum Box Office. For ticketing inquiries, please call (309) 434-2679 for all ticketing inquiries.

Emergency Calls: U.S. Cellular Coliseum – (309) 434-2843.

Bloomington Normal Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau – (800) 433-8226. IHSA has a link to the Visitors Bureau. It can be accessed through the IHSA Cheerleading web page www.ihsa.org.

Press Credentials/Information – Matt Troha, Assistant Executive Director, IHSA Office (309) 663-6377 (mtroha@ihsa.org).

Pre-Tournament Arrangements Hotel Information

Included in this mailing is a list of blocked housing. Schools are not required to use this housing. A school representative must call to confirm housing by the **deadline of 12:01 p.m. on February 3, 2009** by identifying themselves as an IHSA state qualifying cheer team. Rooms will be released to the general public following the deadline. Schools are responsible for all housing expenses.

Fan Housing

Fans can contact the Bloomington Normal Area Visitors Bureau either by phone or by Internet for hotel information.

Ticket Information

The sale of tickets begins immediately. General and reserved tickets can be purchased through the U.S. Cellular Coliseum Box Office, online at www.uscellularcoliseum.com or by calling 309-434-2679. Ticket price is \$10.00 per session for children and adults. There is no charge for a child in arms. Service fees may apply for internet and phone orders. No discount tickets will be given. **The U.S. Cellular Coliseum does not accept checks.**

Qualifying Schools

Only 4 coaches and 16 small/20 medium/24 large and coed participants will be credentialed. All others must buy a ticket. Only credentialed participants are allowed in the warm up and staging areas. Credentials allow participants access to the venue the entire weekend.

General Public Tickets

Tickets for any session will go on sale at the Box Office to the general public beginning 60 minutes before the start of the first session. The price at the door will be \$10.00 per session. **Re-entry to Cellular Coliseum will be allowed during each session.**

Competition Information

State final information will be updated on ihsa.org. [Check this information regularly.](#)

Media Passes for School Photographer

Each school participating in the state tournament may be represented by a *student* photographer and *student* reporter for the school newspaper and/or the school yearbook. Three Press/Photo passes will be issued to a school. These Press/Photo passes are not to be issued to anyone but students/school personnel working for the school newspaper and/or yearbook. The school principal/athletic director must make the request for the passes. The student must present a school ID to be issued credentials in the lobby of the Pepsi Ice Center.

Trainer Pass

If a school is bringing a school certified athletic trainer, the principal/athletic director may also request an additional pass for one trainer. This pass will be in the registration packets to be picked up in the lobby of the Pepsi Ice Rink prior to competition. IHSA event trainers will be on site, however they will only be addressing injuries occurring during the event. IHSA trainers are not available to tape competing student athletes.

Parking

Team Bus/Van

Team vehicles will **unload at the South Circle Drive of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum** – on Roosevelt Street. After unloading, proceed to the designated parking area on the corner of Wood and Madison streets. If coaches are also driving the team, then plan accordingly to allow plenty of time for parking in order to register and attend the coaches meeting. A shuttle will be available for the drivers. A tournament management representative will be at the team bus/van unloading area to give additional instructions for the fan bus parking.

Fan Bus

Fan buses will unload in front of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum Box Office on Madison Street. It will be important that fan buses unload quickly and proceed immediately to the designated bus parking area on the corner of Wood and Madison streets. A tournament management representative will be at the fan bus unloading area to give additional instructions for the fan bus parking.

Handicap Parking

Parking is available on the first floor of the parking deck on the south side of the coliseum. This parking deck is located at the corner of Olive/Lee streets.

Access in U.S. Cellular Coliseum

Access is **only** available in designated areas with your passes. A U.S. Cellular Coliseum representative will escort your team through the competition area.

Team and Administrator Passes

Passes will be issued to the teams. **A school's team packet can be picked up at the VIP entrance of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 5 or in the lobby of the Pepsi Ice Rink after 7:00 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 6.** All participants must be in team uniform or team warm-ups to be allowed to enter credentialed areas. In addition, if a school requested a trainer pass and/or school press pass and administrator passes it will be included in the team packet area.

Team Seating in Arena

A special seating area for participants will be located in Sections 101 and 102. Seating is also available in designated areas on the floor. Only persons in uniform will be allowed in this area. All credentialed coaches and fans will be allowed entry to the tournament for free during all sessions.

Handicap Seating

Seating areas are located in Sections 107, 108 and 109 – behind the last row of seats.

Team Information

Designated Areas

Neither tournament management, U.S. Cellular Coliseum, nor the IHSA will assume responsibility for any losses while on the premises. For reasons of safety and security, only players, coaches and team personnel with the Participant Passes or Coaches Passes will be allowed in the designated areas.

Warm-Up Information

Teams may only enter the warm up area (Pepsi Ice Center) at their scheduled report time. Mats will be provided by the IHSA in the warm up areas. Teams may not bring their own mats into this area. The Pepsi Ice Center can not be used as a general holding area or practice space. There will be no IHSA provided offsite practice space. Teams may only enter the Pepsi ice Center warm up space at their scheduled report time.

Trainers

A doctor and ambulance service will be available "on call" at all times. A Trainer appointed by tournament management will be on duty during the tournament and will attend to participating players provided their coach is present at all times while the player is being attended. A First Aid Room will be available during the tournament for other emergencies. **A school is responsible for furnishing its own training supplies and for attending to its own players during the tournament for preventative injuries such as taping.** The trainer appointed by tournament management will be on duty to attend to players only in case of an emergency. If a team's trainer is to be on the team bench, in the warm up area or to tend to team, the team trainer must be issued and wearing a credentialed pass.

Event Security

Please disseminate the "Information for Participants Attending the IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Finals" in this packet to all of your participants.

Team Photos

All teams will be photographed prior to warm-up by VIP Photography. Pictures can be viewed for order at www.vipis.com.

Competition Information

Only the participants and team personnel who have been issued one of the Participant Passes are allowed to enter the designated area. Only participants that are in uniform on the team roster will be allowed on the floor. Four coaches will be allowed on the "bench." In addition, one certified athletic trainer will also be allowed in the team area. Alternates who are in uniform and have also received participant passes are allowed on the "bench". All others must buy a ticket and remain in arena seating.

Team Introductions

When the team is announced, they may position themselves anywhere on the edge of the competition floor. At this time the coach may proceed to the music area. Music check will be available through a headset prior to each school's performance. Following the announcement and recognition of the team, the announcer will then direct the team to take the floor. No organized entrance is allowed. After competing the team must exit the competition floor immediately to their right.

Awards Ceremony and Photographs

On Saturday following the Final Round of Competition, an awards ceremony will take place immediately following the conclusion of each Division. All competing teams in the respective division are asked to safely take the floor for announcement of awards. Participants can enter the arena floor from the staging area or any aisle. Please do not allow participants to climb over the dasher boards. Teams will be presented awards in the following order: third place, second place and then first place. Competitors receiving medals will be asked to line up in roster order. Fans will not be allowed on the floor for photographs. Schools, parents and fans will have access to professional photos taken during the tournament. They can be viewed through the IHSA website and VIP link. All competing teams must stay on the floor until the conclusion of awards. Medals will be provided for school administration (superintendent, principal, athletic director) and 4 coaches, 1 trainer, and the credentialed participants who are listed on the roster.

IHSA Position on Sportsmanship

A participant, coach, alternate, trainer or other team attendant must not commit unsporting acts. This includes, but is not limited to, acts or conduct such as: disrespectfully addressing the crowds or an official, disrespectful gesturing, baiting or taunting during all aspects of competition.

The NFHS and IHSA disapprove of any form of taunting which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstance. Example include slashing, and/or disrespectful "signature moves or words/phrases".

The IHSA expects all teams to uphold themselves to the highest level of sportsmanship at all times.

Congratulations! We Hope You Have the Time of Your Life!

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING THE COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING STATE FINALS

- **Healthy Cheer Environment**

The IHSA serves member schools by providing leadership for equitable participation in interscholastic activities that enrich the educational experience. School administrators, coaches, officials, fans, U.S. Cellular Coliseum and the IHSA share a very important responsibility to the student-athletes that are participating in the state finals matches at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum to provide equipment, facilities and an environment that is as free of risk as possible. The concern for the health of our high school athletes participating in the state tournament is primary. Security and IHSA personnel at the coliseum have been instructed to monitor the participants and react quickly and reasonably when conduct becomes negative and drops below the level of expected behavior.

- *Any act dangerous to others, is an unsafe behavior, incites participants or spectators to violent or abusive action, exhibits obscene gestures, or yells profanity and/or provocative type language toward an official, student-athlete, coach, spectator, bench and/or score table personnel is unacceptable.*

- **IHSA Event Security Policy**

To help insure the safest and most secure atmosphere for this IHSA State Final, event management at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum will diligently maintain the above standards. This will require complete cooperation by all competing teams, contest officials and fans. Security will always have priority over convenience; therefore, if you are requested to cooperate with event personnel in any manner, please do so promptly. Your assistance will enable our staff to fulfill its responsibility efficiently.

Persons and Possessions Subject to Search

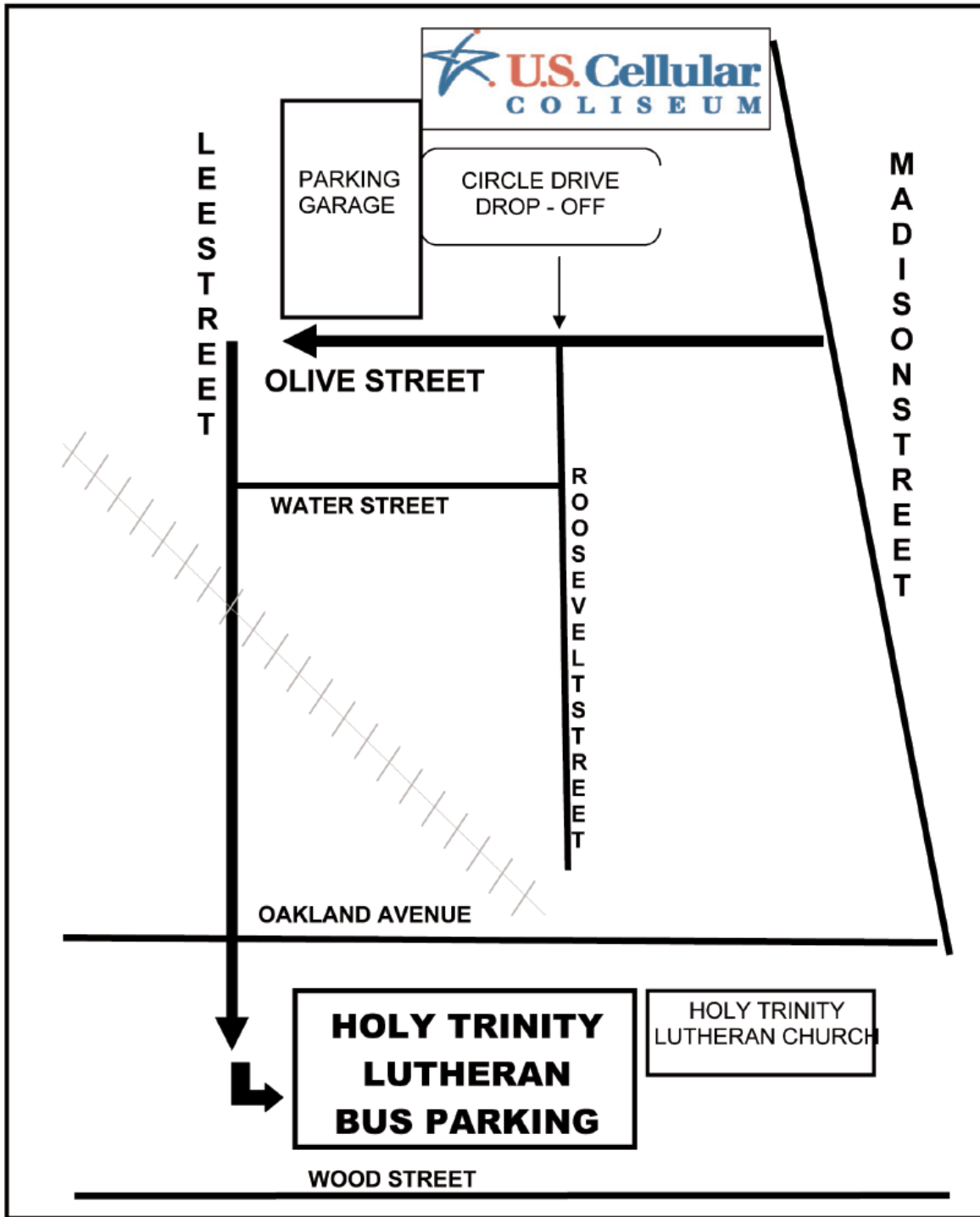
Please note that all persons and their possessions are subject to search upon entering any IHSA State event venue. Items prohibited under this policy or any item deemed by the IHSA or U.S. Cellular Coliseum staff to be dangerous or harmful to persons or property will be confiscated. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest who do not cooperate with event staff in their enforcement of this policy will be removed from the premises and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.

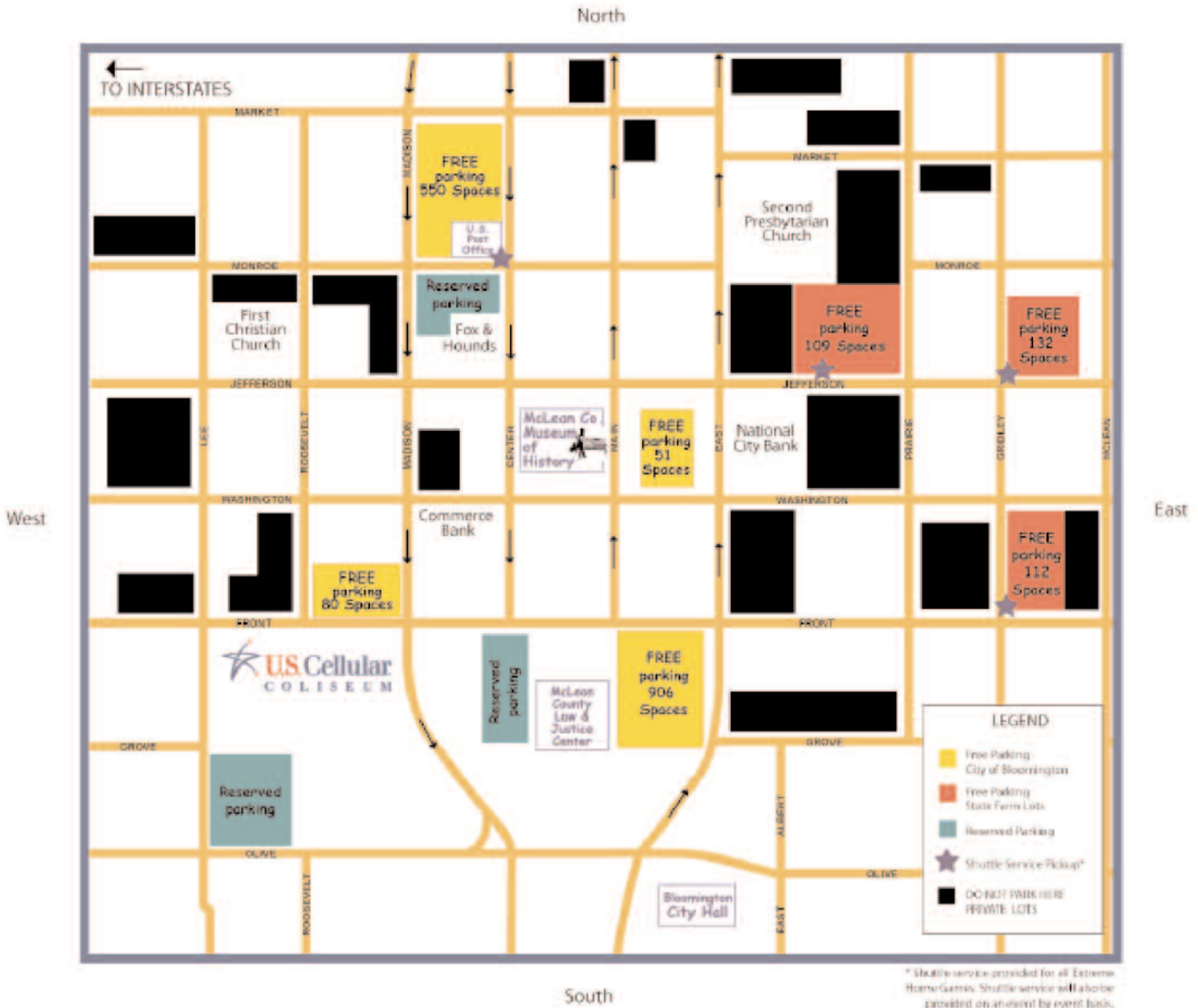
Outside food and beverages including but not limited to glass bottles and containers, weapons, baby strollers, stickers and balloons are prohibited inside the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. We ask everyone's cooperation in this process.

Alcohol and Illegal Substances Prohibited

The possession, distribution, sale, and or consumption of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances are prohibited on the property of any IHSA state series contest facility. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites, including the parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol and illegal substance free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Event personnel will enforce this policy rigorously.

IHSA BUS PARKING





Ticketed Fan Entrance On Level 2

Officials

Participant Seating

• center shall be marked
• running vertical

42 x 42 Mat

7 strips

Coaches meeting 2nd floor
"Corn Palace" Restaurant

• Staging
• On Deck

Pepsi Ice Center

Warm-Up

Warm-Up

Team Photo

Level 1

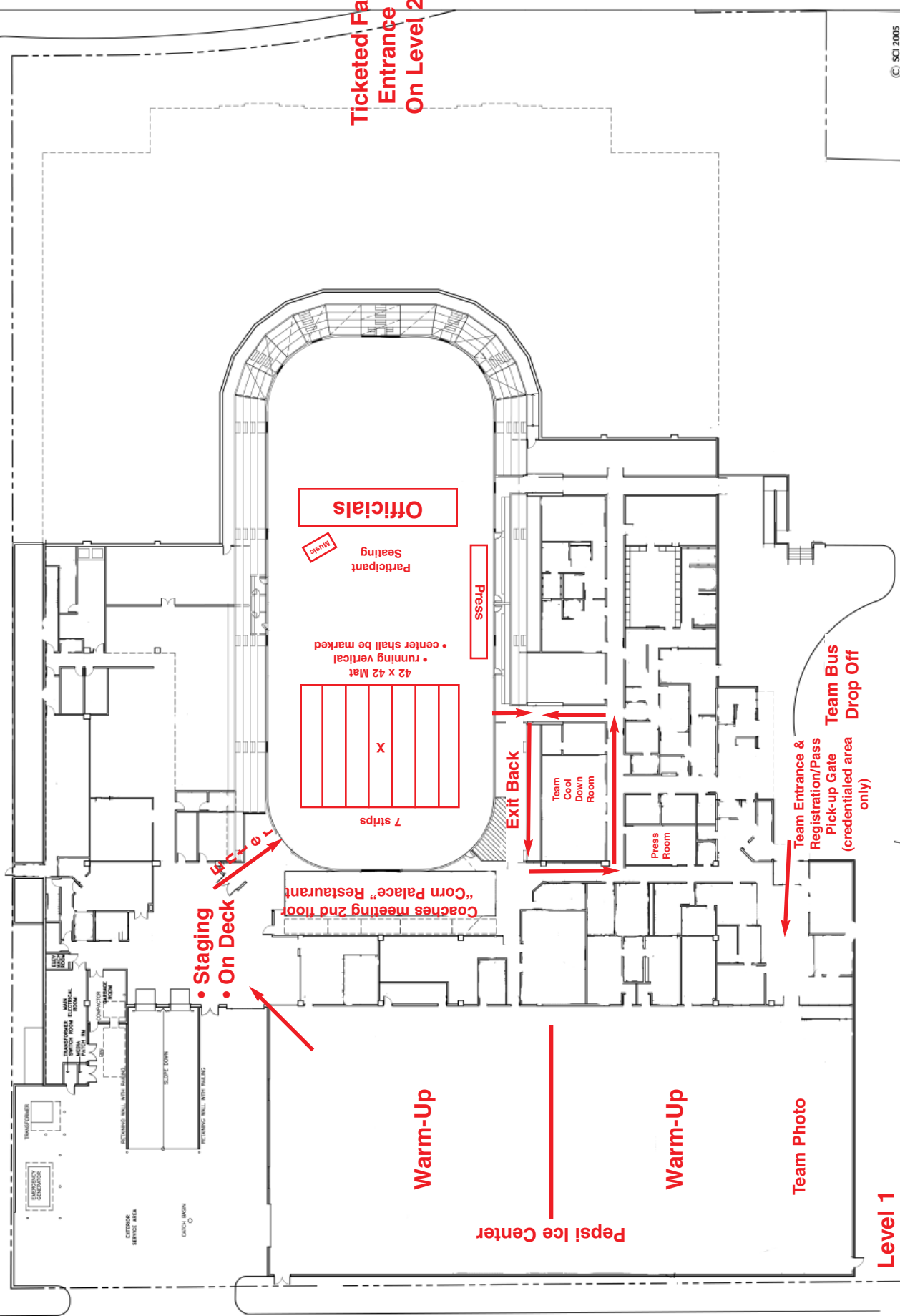
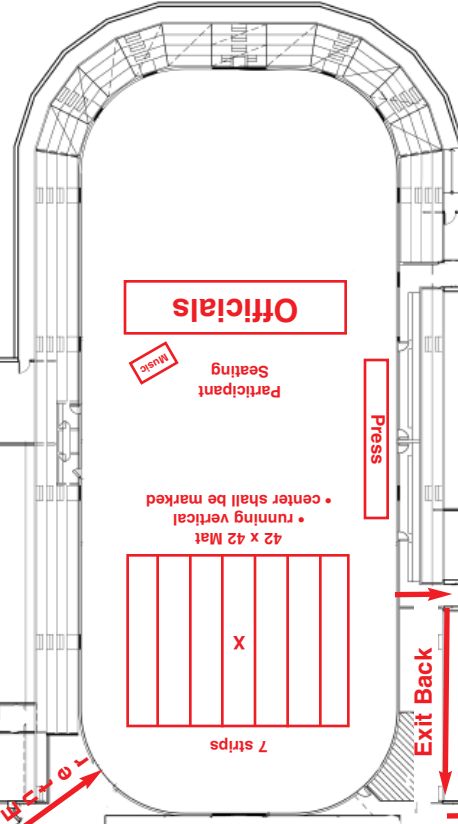
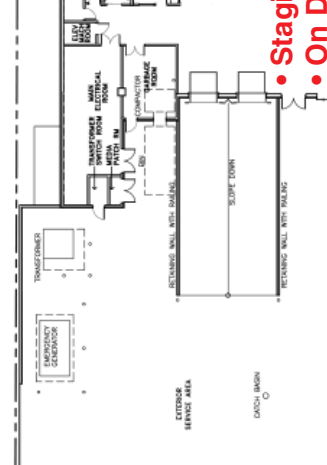
Press

Exit Back

Team Cool Down Room

Press Room

Team Entrance & Registration/Pass Pick-up Gate (credentialed area only)
Team Bus Drop Off





2008-09 COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING STATE FINAL PASS GATE

ADMINISTRATION REPRESENTING OR SUPERVISING A COMPETING MEMBER SCHOOL SHALL BE ADMITTED FREE TO THE COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING STATE FINALS. PARTICIPATING SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION CAN PICK UP THEIR PASSES IN THE LOBBY OF THE PEPSI ICE CENTER. THIS FORM MUST BE FAXED TO THE IHSA OFFICE AT 309-663-7479 BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2009 to ensure that your passes will be available.

COMPETING SCHOOL: _____

LEVEL: STATE

(The following are allowed to have one guest)

1. SUPERINTENDENT: _____
2. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT: _____
3. PRINCIPAL: _____
4. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: _____
5. ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: _____
6. ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: _____
7. BUS DRIVER: _____

**ALL OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM YOUR SCHOOL
MUST PAY TO ATTEND THE IHSA TOURNAMENT.**

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY OR NEED TO COMMUNICATE CHANGES TO YOUR SCHOOL

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

**REMINDER: THIS FORM MUST BE FAXED TO THE
IHSA OFFICE AT 309-663-7479 BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2009.**



Phone: 309.663.6377

Fax: 309.663.7479

To: Susie Knoblauch, Assistant Executive Director

From: _____ High School

Date: _____, 2009

Subject: Request for Student Media Press Credentials
Request for School Certified Athletic Trainer

Our high school team has qualified for the 2009 Competitive Cheerleading State Finals held at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington, IL. Our school is sending no more than 3 **high school students** per day from our yearbook/newspaper staff to cover the state finals. Please make available press credentials for the following students on these days. (Students **must** present a school ID when they pick up their student media passes)

	Friday	Saturday
Name _____	_____	_____
Name _____	_____	_____
Name _____	_____	_____

Our high school team has qualified for the 2009 Competitive Cheerleading State Finals held at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington. Our school is sending 1 certified athletic trainer to cover the medical needs of our team.

Please make available an athletic training pass for the state finals..

Name _____

Press/Athletic Training credentials may be picked up in the lobby of the Pepsi Ice Rink with the team packets on Friday or Saturday.

Principals/Athletic Directors signature: _____

***This form should be faxed to the IHSA by February 4, 2009 to 309-663-7479.
Passes can be picked up in the lobby of the Pepsi Ice Center with the team packets.***

2009 IHSA Competitive Cheerleading State Final Time Schedule U.S. Cellular Coliseum, Bloomington

Admission: \$10 per session

Friday, February 6, 2009

SESSION 1

Small and Medium Team Preliminaries

8:00 a.m. – Coaches Meeting (in the Corn Palace)
8:15 a.m. – Doors of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum open to public
9:00 a.m. – Welcome and National Anthem
9:15 a.m. – First Performance
(small and medium team performances alternate)
1:20 p.m. – Last Performance
1:30 p.m. – Announcement of Finalists

SESSION 2

Large and Coed Team Preliminaries

3:00 p.m. – Coaches Meeting (in the Corn Palace)
4:00 p.m. – Welcome and National Anthem
4:05 p.m. – UIC Performance
4:15 p.m. – First Performance
(large and coed team performances alternate)
9:20 p.m. – Last Performance
9:30 p.m. – Announcement of Finalists

Saturday, February 7, 2009

SESSION 3

Finals in all Four Events

9:15 a.m. – Doors of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum open to public
10:00 a.m. – Coaches Meeting (in the Corn Palace Restaurant)
10:15 a.m. – National Anthem- Featured Exhibitions
11:00 a.m. – Small Team Finals
12:15 p.m. – Small Team Awards
12:40 p.m. – IESA Performance
1:00 p.m. – Coed Team Finals
2:15 p.m. – Coed Team Awards
3:00 p.m. – Medium Team Finals
4:15 p.m. – Medium Team Awards
5:00 p.m. – Large Team Finals
6:15 p.m. – Large Team Awards



IHSA Competitive Cheerleading Housing

State qualifying teams have until 12:01 p.m. on February 3, 2009 to book rooms at the listed hotels for the reduced rates. After the February 3rd deadline, rooms will be released to the general public. Details of the listed hotels can be found at www.bloomington-normalcvb.org under the visitors, lodging links.

Hotel	Phone Number	Rate
Baymont	309-662-2800	\$69
Best Western	309-454-4070	\$69
The Chateau	309-662-2020	\$93-\$123
Country Inn & Suites-Airport	309-662-3100	\$86-\$101
Days Inn & Suites	309-454-6600	\$79.99
Doubletree	309-664-6446	\$109
Eastland Suites	309-662-0000	\$92-\$139
Econolodge	309-829-3100	\$60
Fairfield Inn & Suites	309-827-8000	\$89
Hampton Inn & Suites	309-452-8900	\$99
Hawthorn Suites	309-829-8111	\$99-\$109
Holiday Inn Express-West	309-820-9990	\$95
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites	309-662-4700	\$110
Parke Hotel & Conference Center	309-665-0033	\$99
Quality Inn & Suites-Airport	309-662-7100	\$69.99
Quality Inn & Suites-West	309-829-7602	\$69.99
Super 8	309-663-2388	\$69.99