

To the DDCA Board and DDCA Membership:

After reviewing the DDCA TECH Judging process and how it performed during the 2006 Category season, it is the recommendation of the DDCA TECH Committee to lower the Safety Penalty point value from 3 points to 1. While the primary goal of the DDCA TECH program is to monitor Safety and Appropriateness in dance team, it is also our goal to provide a reasonable, sound process that best meets the requirements we are held to by OSAA, and yet still maintains as much of the “freedom and creativity” that we love about dance team.

In an effort to further educate ourselves in the area of Safety, it is also our recommendation that we train our dancers to do their part in maintaining Safety while performing; kicking/pushing/throwing a dropped item off the performance surface will avoid the penalty. We are looking for “quick recoveries” with a minimum interruption to the actual performance.

We would also like to further educate ourselves and our membership about the differences between a “dropped item” and a prop that has “choreographed placement” on the performance surface, and how to avoid penalties for teams using props in creative ways. The priority is Safety, however, as coaches and choreographers using props we can easily incorporate Safety into our routines by having dancers keep a clear distance from any hand-held prop placed on the surface of the performance area. While we are REQUIRED by OSAA to maintain Safety, we are making every effort to work with the membership to also maintain our creativity, so coaches and choreographers will really determine how rigid this area will become. Please do your part to maintain Safety for our dancers when you are creating your routines.

DDCA Technical Committee

Proposal for issuing penalty points

This proposal was based off the OSAA cheerleading Stunt/tech. Judges program and WA State Dance Assoc. The DDCA Technical Committee is proposing all current ordinal penalties to translate into 1, 3, 5, or 10 point deductions from the team’s Average Score before final placements are calculated.

Stunting Violation.....10 point deduction
Safety Violation.....1 point deduction
Over/under time limit3 point deduction
Costume violation.....5 point deduction
Music violation.....5 point deduction
Choreography violation.....5 point deduction

*Penalty points issued require the consensus of both TECH Judges at an event.

TECH Penalty Process

A routine has the possibility of receiving penalties in each of the following areas: Costuming, Choreography, Music, Safety, Stunting, and Timing. Penalty points will be deducted from a team’s Average Score prior to final placements being calculated.

The TECH Judge’s Observation Sheet will be filed with the DDCA Technical Committee. The team in violation will receive written notice of the violation the day of competition, and have the opportunity to appeal that same day. Repeat offenders will be at risk of losing their “Good Standing” with the DDCA and OSAA.

Penalty points will be deducted PRIOR to awards/trophies presentation. One to five penalties at the same event/competition count as ONE violation.

First Violation: The first violation will result in the Coach receiving written notice of the infraction(s) in addition to the penalty point(s) given at the competition.

Second Violation: The second violation will result in the written notice to the Coach, the addition of penalty point(s) at the competition and the TECH Committee will also inform that School’s Administration of the infractions (cc Mike Wallmark).

Third Violation: The third violation will have the same course of action as the previous violations and the violating team will now be in poor standing with DDCA and this will be communicated to OSAA prior to State.