



# NMAA Halftime Hoorah Spirit Competition



March 10-12, 2026

University of New Mexico Arena – The Pit

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Online registration for the NMAA Halftime Hoorah will be open **December 8, 2025–January 12, 2026**; see registration links below. Half of all available spots are reserved for **dance teams** and the other half for **cheer teams**. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis until the event reaches capacity.
  - [Halftime Hoorah Registration – Cheer](#)
  - [Halftime Hoorah Registration – Dance](#)
- There are no team entry fees for the competition.
- Performances will take place during halftime of scheduled state basketball tournament games. The spirit competition will take place on the first three days of the tournament, **March 10, 11 & 12** (the tournament game schedule will be published on the [NMAA website](#) on the basketball webpage).
- Performance categories include the following:
  - Cheer: Game Day – cheers mats will **not** be available for performance
  - Dance: Jazz/Pom/Hip Hop/Military
- Unless otherwise stated in this handout, guidelines and performance criteria established for the NMAA State Spirit Championships Competition apply; refer to documents listed below and available on the [NMAA website](#) on the spirit webpage.
  - [NMAA State Spirit Championships Competition Guidelines & Performance Criteria - Cheer](#)
  - [NMAA State Spirit Championships Competition Guidelines & Performance Criteria - Dance](#)

## FACILITY ACCESS & INFORMATION

- Cheer/dance teams are limited to four coaches, ALL with a valid coaching license and USA Cheer & Dance Safety certification.
- Cheer teams are limited to 24 uniformed performers and may have up to four non-uniformed students (alternates and/or managers) accompany the team.
- Dance teams do not have a limit on the number of uniformed performers and may have up to four non-uniformed students (alternates and/or managers) accompany the team.
- Teams must enter through the designated complimentary admission entrance located at the **southeast corner of the Pit** and check in with **Vanessa Whitaker**.
- Teams must arrive and enter/check in together with their coach(es) for complimentary admission. All performers must be in uniform when entering.
- Outside food and drink is not allowed.
- UNM charges for parking (exceptions will be made for buses and official school vehicles).
- Locker rooms will not be available; athletes should not change in stands or on the concourse.
- Teams may not warm up or stretch anywhere inside the facility, including the concourse.

## Music

- Music guidelines outlined in the NMAA State Spirit Championships Competition Guidelines & Performance Criteria for Cheer/Dance apply. Teams must be prepared with performance music on a laptop, tablet or smartphone and appropriate AUX port adapters. Devices must be in airplane mode and cases removed.
- In the event of a music malfunction during a performance, the team representative will make the determination whether to stop the music. If designated NMAA personnel determines that time allows for the performing team to restart the performance, the performing team will be allowed to regroup and restart the performance. If designated NMAA personnel determines that time does not allow for the performing team to restart the performance, the performing team will not be allowed to restart the performance, but the event will still count as a state qualifying sanctioned event for the team.

## SCORESHEETS & RESULTS

- Scoresheets will be emailed to head coaches the week following the competition.
- Scores and rankings can be viewed at on the [NMAA website](#) on the spirit webpage the week following the competition; this event does not include awards.