

History of the Competitive Cheer Score Sheets

(Celebrating 30 years of Competitive Cheer)
By Susan Wood

I am often asked, “Which team has scored the highest score throughout the years in each round?” Well, that is a complicated question, mostly because there have been lots of changes in total point values over the years. So although I know the answers to that question (but it’s complicated!), I decided it might be more interesting for our younger officials and coaches to know some of the history of our score sheets. And those of you who have been around since the beginning will likely remember how it “used to be.” This is what I came up with. It represents our first 30 years in the sport of Girls Competitive Cheer.

The History of Round 1- the Required Round

Note: from 1994-1998 rounds 1 and 2 were switched. The compulsory round was round 1 and the required round was round 2. In 1999, it was switched to what it is now, and this section is referring to the required round as we know it.

- **1994-2007:** Round 1 was worth 70 points per judge for a total of 210 points. Team coordination and execution were judged in the same category.
- **2008-now:** Round 1 was/is worth 80 points per judge for a total of 240 points. Team coordination and execution were separated into two different 10-point categories.

The History of Round 2- the Compulsory Round

Note: from 1994-1998 rounds 1 and 2 were switched. The compulsory round was round 1 and the required round was round 2. In 1999, it was switched to what it is now, and this section is referring to the compulsory round as we know it.

- **1994-1999:** There were no “14-point skills” yet, so the round was worth 74 points per judge for a total of 222 points.
- **2000:** This was the first year that a 14 point skill was offered.
- **2000 and 2001:** For two years only, teams who chose a 14-point skill were not allowed to choose more than one 12-point skill. Round 2 was worth 76 points per judge for a total of 228 points.
- **2002-2007:** Teams could now choose two 12-point skills and one 14-point skill. Round 2 was worth 78 points per judge for a total of 234 points.
- **2008-2012:** For five years, the 10-count precision drill plus the five skills were subtotaled and then multiplied by a “competitor multiplier.” Using a chart in the manual, the maximum of 16 competitors was multiplied by 1.12. The general impression was then added in to get the total. Round 2 was worth 86.16 points per judge for a total of 258.48 points.
- **2013-now:** The five skills and the 10-count precision drill were/are no longer multiplied by a competitor multiplier, so round 2 was/is worth 78 points per judge for a total of 234 points (just like 2002-2007).

Note: Although it did not change the possible points for this round, judges used to use a 12-point scale for a 12-point skill, a 14-point scale for a 14-point skill, ...and yes, the maximum points that could be given for an 8-point skill was 8, and for a 6-point skill was 6. Then in approximately 2005 (not sure, it could have been 2006) judges began judging all skills on a 10-point scale and the five skills were multiplied by the appropriate “difficulty multiplier.” It produced the same result, but was just a more accurate way for judges to evaluate. Many of us still use the term “12-point skill” or “14-point skill,” when actually the skill is judged using 10 points, then a difficulty multiplier of 1.4, 1.2, 1.0, etc. is used. Nowhere in the manual is a skill called “a 12-point skill,” for example. We say “it has a difficulty multiplier of 1.2.”

The History of Round 3- the Open Round

- **1994-1998:** Execution was only worth 10 points (not 22), and there was no choreography category. Round 3 was worth 85 points per judge for a total of 255 points.
- **1999-2001:** Execution was changed to 20 points (with no execution bonus), and there was still no choreography category. Round 3 was worth 95 points per judge for a total of 285 points.
- **2002:** Many changes happened this year! A choreography category, worth 10 points, was added, and the execution category went up to 22 points with a bonus execution category of 3 points! But wait ...there's more! *For one year only*, a difficulty bonus category of up to 5 points was used, while the general impression category went down to only 5 points. Round 3 was worth 110 points per judge for a total of 330 points.
- **2003:** The difficulty bonus category had to be eliminated because it left too much of that category to be controlled by the coaches, a small number of whom were dishonest and padded their round 3 description sheets with skills, transitions, and stunts that they weren't actually performing! Also, the general impression category went back up from 5, to 10 points. *And for this year only*, the execution bonus category went up to 5 points. Round 3 was worth 112 points per judge for a total of 336 points.
- **2004-2012:** In 2004, bonus execution went from 5 down to 3 points per judges. Round 3 was worth 110 points per judge for a total of 330 points.
- **2013-now:** Because double full twist cradles became illegal beginning in 2013, the choreography category went from 10 down to 8 points per judge. Round 3 was/is worth 108 points per judge for a total of 324 points.

Misc. History of Other Scoring Details

- **1994-2000:** All categories in all rounds were scored using whole numbers only.
- **2001-2008:** All categories in all rounds were scored using only whole numbers and half points. So the only tenths that were used were .5's.
- **2009-now:** All categories in all rounds were/are scored using tenths of a point.
- **1994-1999:** The five judges' scores at the finals were added together (the high and low scores were not dropped), so the totals were huge on that day! The winning team was often in the 900's, and by 1999, in the 1,100's.

Possible Points in Girls Competitive Cheer

<u>Year</u>	<u>Rd 1</u>	<u>Rd 2</u>	<u>Rd 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
1994	210	222	255	687
1995	210	222	255	687
1996	210	222	255	687
1997	210	222	255	687
1998	210	222	255	687
1999	210	222	285	717
2000	210	228	285	723
2001	210	228	285	723
2002	210	234	330	774
2003	210	234	336	780
2004	210	234	330	774
2005	210	234	330	774
2006	210	234	330	774
2007	210	234	330	774
2008	240	258.48	330	828.48
2009	240	258.48	330	828.48
2010	240	258.48	330	828.48
2011	240	258.48	330	828.48
2012	240	258.48	330	828.48
2013	240	234	324	798
2014	240	234	324	798
2015	240	234	324	798
2016	240	234	324	798
2017	240	234	324	798
2018	240	234	324	798
2019	240	234	324	798
2020	240	234	324	798
2021	240	234	324	798
2022	240	234	324	798
2023	240	234	324	798