

Memphis, 17 March 2021

European Office: Lausanne

National Cheer Federation Presidents International Cheer Union (ICU)

## Re: VIRTUAL FORMAT for 2021 ICU World Cheerleading Championships

Dear ICU National Federation President:

Let me begin by thanking you for your efforts in helping to guide our sport through what has been an incredibly challenging 12 months due to the COVID 19 pandemic. While the entire world has struggled mightily to adjust to this tragedy, I am confident that the determination and resolve of our athletes, coaches, officials and federation leaders will prevail as we look ahead to what will surely be better times.

As I know you are aware, ICU leadership and the Governing Council have been diligently exploring ways to keep our sport moving during this challenging period. While we hoped to be able to somehow salvage an "in person" ICU World Championship in 2021, the uncertainty surrounding the state of the virus in various countries and the difficulty in being able to travel internationally in the foreseeable future have led us to the decision to conduct our annual event on a <u>completely virtual basis</u> this year.

We sincerely appreciate the input we have received from all of our National Federations during this process, and I can assure you that we are committed to having the very best virtual competition possible. The 2021 ICU World Championship will be held in late September with the deadline for video submissions for the ICU Championships will be Friday 24 September 2021. More information to follow.

Within the next few weeks, we will provide you more information on the exact dates, routine submission, judging, and specific technical requirements to assist you and your National Teams to prepare for this unique and first-time event. The original 2021 ICU World Championships (previously scheduled for April 2021) age categories and divisions will remain unchanged. Also, for your information, the IASF Club World Championships will also be available at a similar time. The IASF will be sending out information on this shortly.

Even with this exciting announcement, it is important to highlight that ICU's commitment to the health and safety of our athletes, coaches, officials, and the larger cheer community remains paramount. As we provide more information on the World Championships, we expect that all ICU National Federations, coaches and athletes strictly follow your local and national guidelines for COVID-19 protection and put safety first in all that you do.

We expect a full return to the "in person" event in 2022. Championship week is scheduled for Orlando 20 - 25 April 2022.

Thank you to all who are involved in our sport around the world and thank you again for your commitment to our athletes and your support of the International Cheer Union and its mission.

Sincerely,

Jeff Webb President International Cheer Union