

January 11, 2026

To KHSAA Championships Staff:

I am writing on behalf of Eastern High School to request a reevaluation of scoring and final results from the Varsity State Competitive Cheer Championship.

The following concerns were documented:

- **Score Visibility:** The scoring monitor was uncovered and visible from a spectator vantage point before final scores were posted.
- **Score Changes:** Scores visible on the monitor for Eastern High School were higher than those shown on the final posted results and official paper score sheets. Scores visible for the eventual winning team were lower than their final posted scores.
- **Score Sheet Alterations:** Official score sheets contain erased and rewritten numbers that are not initialed and do not include any notation explaining a clerical or mathematical correction or head judge approval.
- **No Explanation Provided:** No explanation was given for why the scores were changed or how those changes were applied.

Because these score changes directly impacted the final placement, we are requesting that the scores and results be formally reevaluated, not simply explained. At the state championship level, score corrections must be documented, authorized, and applied consistently, and the lack of documentation raises serious concerns about the accuracy of the final outcome.

I would also like to express concern regarding the lack of clarity in how difficulty and comparative scoring were applied, particularly as it relates to educating and supporting our student-athletes.

As educators and coaches, it is extremely challenging to explain results to our athletes when we ourselves do not understand how those results were determined. With national-level competition approaching in less than a month, it is essential that we fully understand how our routine was evaluated so that we can ensure we are preparing appropriately and putting our best foot forward.

All teams' score sheets were made available following the event, and upon review, the first-place team received a higher score than Eastern in the partner stunt category. For reference, the first-place team performed three hand-in-hands (two pressed from prep to extended), 3 full-up switch-up, 3 back handspring up to two feet, and 3 low-to-high full-arounds from prep to extended. Eastern performed 3 elite entry to hand-in-hand, 3- double dragons to extended body position, 3 forward-momentum ground inversions to an extended body position, and a body-position-to-body-position release. Additionally In the crowd-leading section of the cheer score sheet, our team received positive written feedback from judges, while the first-place team received noted critiques, yet the scores did not align with those comments. This further contributes to our need for clarity regarding how scores were ultimately determined.

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We fully recognize that scoring is comparative, that scores vary by competition, and that elements of cheerleading, include subjective evaluation. However, According to the UCA progression grid, Eastern's partner stunt combinations represent a higher level of difficulty; than that of the first place team, yet this was not reflected in the comparative score. We respectfully request clarification on how difficulty was evaluated in this category and how the comparative scoring resulted in a lower score despite the progression level of the skills performed.

We would also like to emphasize that this concern is not intended to diminish the performance or achievements of any other team. However, when final placements are determined by tenths of a point, every category and scoring decision carries significant weight.

We respectfully request additional explanation regarding how difficulty, execution, and comparative evaluation were applied across these categories so that we may accurately understand the results and appropriately guide our athletes as they prepare for upcoming national competition.

We are requesting:

- A reevaluation of the score changes and final results
- Written clarification of what adjustments were made and why
- Confirmation of who authorized the changes and when they occurred

Photos of the scores visible prior to adjustment, along with the final score sheets, can be provided upon request.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and look forward to your response regarding the reevaluation of the results.



Joseph R Scheper
Athletic Director
Eastern High School