



USASF Routine Stoppage Suggested Guidelines Legality Officials & Competition (EP) Officials 2020-2021

Routine Stoppage

The only individuals that may stop a routine for injury are:

- Competition Officials
- Gym Owner/Coach from the team performing
- Injured Individual
- USASF Certified Legality Official

Stopping a Routine

An injured athlete may also create a potential safety hazard to other athletes because of the inability to hold, support, spot, or catch. For the safety of all athletes competing, a routine should be interrupted in cases of:

- **Obvious Injury** (*i.e. athlete lands a tumble skill and falls to the floor but doesn't get back up.*)
- **Perceived Injury** (*i.e. athlete is crying, keeps grabbing injured area and/or does not resume their role in the routine within 5 seconds of questionable injury.*)
- **Injured Athlete Leaving the Competition Floor**
- **Bodily Fluids, including but not limited to vomit, blood** (*i.e. athlete has a nose bleed while competing.*)
- **If masks are worn due to COVID requirements/guidelines and the mask is impeding the athlete's vision or safety** (*if athlete quickly adjusts the mask, fixing the concern, there is no need to stop the routine*)

NOTE: If a routine is interrupted due to the above, it will be at the Competition Officials' discretion whether or not that team will be allowed to perform again at a later time.

Legality Officials

Record the time in which the routine was stopped (ex. 1:27 mark) and the reason for stopping the routine in your USASF Legality Tracking Report. If that team returns to perform a 2nd time please note if the perceived injured athlete is performing again.



Emergency Medical Response

At first sight or sound of a medical emergency, the Competition Official should notify the EMT or Athletic Trainer on-site to respond with immediate medical care.

- The EMT or Athletic Trainer will typically activate EMS (Emergency Medical Services) if the emergency is life-threatening. (*i.e. an unconscious athlete, an athlete who is not breathing, someone who has an open fracture, someone who appears to be going into anaphylaxis, someone who appears to have sustained a head injury, etc.*)
- Be sure all protocols related to your Emergency Action Plan have been met (*i.e. incident or accident report completed, injured athlete follow-up.*)

Returning to Competition

Athletes:

An injured participant **MAY NOT** return to the competition floor unless the Competition Officials receive clearance from all of the representatives listed below:

- Event medical personnel attending to that participant
- Parent/Guardian (if present)
- Head coach/Gym owner of competing team

In the event of a suspected head injury, the participant cannot return to perform without clearance from a licensed medical professional that has training related to head injuries.

If an athlete is returning to perform **ALL** athletes' safety **MUST** be considered.

(*i.e. Can the injured athlete properly base, brace, lift, be lifted, etc. without concern for the safety of the athletes being supported and/or supporting the injured participant?*)

Teams:

If a team is allowed to perform again following a routine interruption, the 2nd performance requirements, scoring, etc. will be at the sole discretion of the Competition Official.

Typically speaking, although at the discretion of the Competition Official, the team (pending the injury's impact on the routine) performs the routine again in its entirety, full out, but judging resumes from the point at which the injury/interruption occurred as determined by the Competition Official. Typically, scoring and point deductions accumulated (if applicable) to that point carry over.

If a team is permitted to perform again but fails to perform the routine in its entirety (example: throwing back tucks instead of the full twist thrown in the original performance), it is at the discretion of the Competition Official how that team's scores will be affected.



Cleaning Bodily Fluids Suggested Guidelines

As stated in USASF Cheer Event Sanctioning Standards, Event Producers need to provide a method of cleaning bodily fluids for all affected surfaces being used.

Prior to Event:

It is the responsibility of the Event Producer to comply with local, state, and federal regulations regarding the clean-up and disposal of bodily fluids.

- Keep in mind this process may differ by state.
- Contact the venue to see if a proper protocol is in place that complies with the regulations within that state.
- You may need to contact the Department of Public Health in each state in which your events are being held.

During the Event:

- In the event a routine is stopped due to an injury with blood, vomit, or other bodily fluids, be sure to properly clean, sterilize and dry the affected area before teams/athletes taking the floor for the next performance and/or awards ceremony.
- Remove mats/Marley from the practice or performance area when applicable, then clean, sterilize, and dry.
- Sample products that may be used (again be sure to comply with state regulations and cleaning guidelines created by the company from which you purchased your flooring):
 - Oshakits
 - Deluxe OSHA Compliance Pack by Safetec
 - Bleach and water blend

Post Event:

- Consider having the affected mats/Marley professionally cleaned, sterilized, and dried, set by the recommendation of the company you purchased the mats/Marley.