

2018 VERMONT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION CHEERLEADING CHAMPIONSHIP

MUSIC COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE #ICC16

All copyright permissions must be properly and completely obtained by the individual or group that is responsible for creating the routine music for a team. All recordings mixed together in cheer routines should be properly licensed and written confirmation of such licenses should be provided to the Vermont Principals' Association.

You may use recordings that are purchased from vendors that comply with US Copyright laws or create/commission original works for your team (i.e. an original song and recording to which you own or license the rights by written agreement). Under US Copyright law, no teams are permitted to create a re-mix, mash-up or medley without proper written authorization from the copyright owners.

US Copyright laws apply any time music is not being used for personal use. Purchasing a legal copy of a song (iTunes, CD, Amazon download, etc.) only grants the user private, personal use of the music. If you purchase a recording, that alone does not give you the right to make additional copies or mix the recording with other recordings for any other purpose--including use at school functions or other public performances. Personal use gives you the right to listen to the song, but does not give you any other rights in the bundle of rights to that piece of music, which is why the music should not be copied, modified or used in a public place without additional consent.

However, if teams wish to use only a single song in their routine, they may bring a legally purchased copy of that recording to be used at the event. Teams may not re-mix these recordings in any way (such as adding sound effects, changing tempo or mixing with any other recordings), but you may make minor edits for timing purposes only (i.e. removing a chorus or bridge to fit the duration of the music time limit).

Remember:

- Do not use mash-ups, either created by you or sold by music providers using music without proper licensing.
- Do not download songs from sites that do not have properly licensed music.
- Do not copy or distribute to others a recording you have legally purchased.
- Licenses/Permissions must be received in writing (or email) and must be provided to you by all copyright owners.
- If you request a license and you get no response, this does NOT mean that you have permission to use the music.

Coaches are responsible for ensuring that the music used by their teams for any public performance and all competitions follows the above guidelines.

Guidelines for Music Providers:

- When recordings and compositions are completely original:
 - All elements in the recordings, including instrumentation and vocal performances, are owned or controlled by the music provider. If any elements are not owned or controlled by the music provider, the music provider must obtain the appropriate licenses from the applicable copyright owners to edit, re-arrange or otherwise alter such works to create a new work for your team.
 - If teams want to create their own re-mix or otherwise edit any music purchased from a provider of original music, their license agreement with such providers of original music must also specifically include this right to edit, re-arrange or otherwise alter works.

- When recordings are cover recordings of popular music:
 - Guidelines provide that cover recordings of popular music may be used in re-mixes only if the purchase/license of the cover recording includes an explicit right to alter the cover recordings and create new works from these cover recording elements.

- Unlicensed samples may not be used in routine music.
 - No unauthorized third party recordings may be used in any way in the new recordings without a proper license. “Sampling” a series of words or beats from any recording is not permitted unless an appropriate written sampling license was obtained.

- Music providers should allow each team to make up to 40 copies of the recordings.
 - A mechanical license fee may need to be paid to reproduce copyrighted musical compositions on CDs, records, downloads, etc. If the music provider does not own or control the underlying musical composition, they will need to obtain a mechanical license to make copies of each recording. The music provider is responsible for obtaining the mechanical license and paying any royalties for each copy made--this includes the copy provided upon your initial purchase of the recording, any subsequent recordings in which they are incorporated, and any additional copies that will be distributed to the team.