

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE**  
**AREA D MARCHING CONTEST**  
**October 28, 2023**

**TO:** All Directors of Class 5A Participation Bands  
**FROM:** Gerald & Cheryl Babbitt, Area D Executive Secretaries & Contest Chairs  
Manny Gamez and the PfISD Department of Fine Arts, Site Host

Congratulations on having been selected to represent your Region at the Area D Marching Band Contest to be held on October 28, 2023, at The PFIELD in Pflugerville! The PfISD Department of Fine Arts and the Weiss High School Band Boosters are your contest hosts and will do everything possible to make this a positive experience for you and your students!

Please carefully read all of the following information, along with the manual prepared by Manny Gamez specifically related to the contest site. If you have any questions regarding logistics, please contact Mr. Gamez at 915-474-4363 or [manuel.gamez@pfisd.net](mailto:manuel.gamez@pfisd.net).

**JUDGES**

The judges for the Class 5A Area D Marching Band Contest are:

Benjamin (Benny) Davis - Rockwall  
Ryan Demkovich = Pearland HS  
Ross Grant - Argyle  
John Mays – Seven Lakes HS (Katy ISD)  
Andy Sealy – Hebron HS (Lewisville ISD)

**ENTRY FORMS**

- The following items are available under the **Area D Marching Contest** section of the **UIL Music 18** webpage and need your immediate attention. <https://www.uilmusicregion18.com/area-forms-and-information.html>
- Area Marching Contest Entry Form – There is a \$400 entry fee for bands competing in the Class 5A Area D marching contest this year.
- Please make checks payable to UIL Area D Marching. Or, for your convenience, you may pay online at: [Band Entry Fee](#)
- Announcer's Script: [https://www.uiltexas.org/files/music/2017\\_Fillable\\_Marching\\_Band\\_Script.pdf](https://www.uiltexas.org/files/music/2017_Fillable_Marching_Band_Script.pdf)
- PepWear Information for T-shirt orders & miscellaneous souvenirs
- Area Contest patches: Southwest Emblem: to be sold at the PepWear Booth on site
- Levo Audio Visual: Make sure that you have communicated with them if you want them to video record your band. Email [levoav@gmail.com](mailto:levoav@gmail.com)
- Information from the UIL State Office, with specific Area Marching Contest Information: <https://www.uiltexas.org/music/marching-band>

**Scan and email the Area Marching Contest Entry Form & Band Script to Gerald Babbitt at:**  
[uilregion18@icloud.com](mailto:uilregion18@icloud.com)

**CONTEST PERFORMANCE ORDER & SCHEDULE AVAILABILITY**

Each Region Executive Secretary will be given the Area D performance numbers for their region prior to the region marching contests. At the conclusion of your region contest, each Region Executive Secretary will give the advancing directors the opportunity to draw for their Area D contest performance position. A complete and final schedule will be distributed to your UIL Region Executive Secretary, and you will receive the schedule information from him/her. All schedules will also be posted on the UIL Region 18 web site ([www.uilmusicregion18.com](http://www.uilmusicregion18.com)). We will input the information into our computer on site and the schedule will be available to everyone almost immediately, after the conclusion of the final region contest.

### **ADMISSION CHARGE:**

The admission charge is **\$10.00 per person** for the general public (school age and older). This one time admission charge of \$10.00 will allow admittance to both prelims and finals, with the visible wristband, which will be attached upon initial admission to the stadium. **School administrators will be admitted free upon presentation of their District UIL pass or school ID.** Also, football teams coming in as a group with their coach/sponsor and wearing their jerseys will be admitted free. Admission wristbands for chaperones and bus drivers can be picked up at the check-in station. [Buy online tickets here.](#)

### **FIRST AID**

A First Aid facility will be available. There will be water, ice, and other minor emergency supplies on hand. In the event of a larger emergency, the local EMS will be on call. Ask any contest worker for assistance if needed.

### **ARRIVAL, PARKING, UNLOADING**

**MAP** - The attached map indicates: 1) A stadium layout; 2) Specifics regarding traffic/site logistics; 3) shows all locations referenced throughout these instructions. It also indicates where spectator parking is located. Please have your students relay this information to their parents.

**CONTEST AND STADIUM LOGISTICS CAN BE FOUND IN AN ADJACENT DOCUMENT FROM THE PFLUGERVILLE ISD FINE ARTS STAFF.**

**CHECK IN** - Upon arrival, you will be met by parent volunteers. You need to turn in the above-mentioned forms that are due before the contest (**Entry Form & check and Announcer's Script**) *However, we would prefer the forms to be emailed to us before the contest, if that is possible.* You may also request up to a maximum of 20 admission wristbands for your bus drivers, chaperones, etc. (one per 10 band students) **Please limit these “passes” to the chaperones who actually accompany your band on your busses.**

**WARM-UP** – Your warm-up time begins when the monitor tells you, “Your warm-up time may begin.” **You will not be allowed to begin early.** Please be prompt in entering and leaving the warm-up area. **NO PLAYING OF INSTRUMENTS IS ALLOWED EXCEPT IN THE WARM-UP AREA AND ON THE FIELD DURING PERFORMANCES. THIS INCLUDES PERCUSSION.** Pit percussionists will have a separate warm-up area (see attached instruction letter). **DO NOT PLAY TOWARD THE STADIUM DURING WARM-UP.**

*Please do not allow your students to play their instruments ANYWHERE other than the performance field and specified warm-up areas, PARTICULARLY PERCUSSION. No amplified metronomes or PA systems may be used in warm-up areas for pit or color guard. Also, do not use wireless devices during the 8 minutes that bands are actually performing on the field. (See the schedule!)*

*As a courtesy to all other performing groups, please remember that percussion sounds travel all too well; instruct your students to keep their volume at a minimum during warm-up.*

***\*\*Please see the stadium info letter for instructions for your front ensemble entry and exit, as well as for the band's entrance & exit.***

A monitor will advise you when it is time to move to the ready position. In order for the contest to remain on schedule, it is essential that you be prepared to proceed promptly and efficiently as directed. (**Please be courteous to the monitors; they are doing their best to help you, as well as all others following you.**)

## MOVEMENT TO FIELD

**OFFICIAL TIME:** Preparation and performance time will be kept according to the guidelines in the current Constitution and Contest Rules under Section 1105 (f) (3) Official Time.

### **As stated in the UIL C&CR, Section 1105:**

#### **(g) PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES.**

- (1) Performance Time: Each competing band shall occupy the football field for not less than five or more than eight minutes. Any band that leaves the field in less than five minutes or fails to complete its performance in eight minutes shall be disqualified.
- (2) Movement to Field Position: The contest chair will determine the ready position each band will assume prior to entering the field of competition. The position shall provide efficient and prompt access to the football field without interfering with other bands as they perform. This location will be clearly described in the marching contest packet.
- (3) Official Time: The official time for each band will be kept according to the following:
  - (A) The contest chair will designate an official timekeeper.
  - (B) In order to allow ample time for the judges to complete their critiques, bands will be scheduled with five minutes between performances and a maximum of fifteen minutes per band.
  - (C) Bands may use the five minutes prior to their performance in any way they deem appropriate in order to assume their starting position and prepare for the beginning of their show. Activities may include warm-up and/or cadence.
  - (D) Each band will be announced with 45 seconds remaining on the 5-minute clock. The beginning of their announcement will indicate that the performance time shall begin in 45 seconds.
  - (E) The actual timing and adjudication for the show will begin at the end of the five minutes.
  - (F) At the conclusion of each band's performance the post script will be read while the band will have two minutes to exit the field and clear the marching surface of all equipment, instruments and props. The use of either instrumental or verbal cadence is optional. **A band that fails to be clear of the field (outside the sidelines or endlines) or continues to use instrumental or verbal cadence at the end of the two minutes will be disqualified.**
  - (G) A band leaving equipment or instruments on the sideline in such a manner that these items impede the movement of the next band into its starting position is subject to penalty in accordance with Subchapter E.

#### **\*\*The following is the exact way we will run the clock at the 5A Area D contest:**

- *Opening Script (to be read with 45 seconds (00:45) remaining on the 5-minute clock). "THE (FIRST, NEXT, FINAL) BAND IN CONFERENCE 5A, etc.", as on the UIL official script.*
- *With 20 seconds (00:20) remaining on the 5-minute clock the announcer will read the next statement, which begins with "Drum Majors...."*
- *As is done at STATE, the stadium clock will go dark during the remaining 20 seconds, but will be backed up on stopwatches. The 8-minute clock will begin immediately after the 5:00 clock runs out on the stopwatch.*
- *Judging will not begin until 7:59 appears on the scoreboard clock.*
- *At the end of the 8-minutes, the clock will be reset to 2 minutes*
- *Post Script (to be read at the beginning of the 2:00 field exit)*

**Electronic Equipment.** Electronic equipment may be used under the following provisions:

- (A) All electronically produced music including narration and sound effects shall be performed live and in real time by eligible students.
- (B) Pre-recorded music, instrumental or vocal, may not be used.

**Amplification.** Amplification of instruments or voice may be used with the following restrictions:

- (A) All equipment must be operated by eligible students. Exception: a non-student may intervene solely for the purpose of addressing an equipment failure and must submit a written justification for doing so to the contest chair after the performance.
- (B) All cables must be safely placed on the field and/or sidelines. Students may not cross over on-field cables, covered or not, during a performance.
- (C) A power generator or DC power source may be placed on the field, provided there is a protective barrier between the power unit and the turf and all cords are contained safely within close proximity to the equipment that is being supplied with power.
- (D) Wind instruments may be amplified only for solo and/or small ensemble features of up to ten performers at one time.

**Local Ground Rules.** Failure to comply with local ground rules and regulations outlined by and/or approved by the Area Executive Committee may be cause for disqualification or other penalties as listed in Subchapter E. Such rules should be sent to all participating schools at least 14 days prior to the contest.

**\*If you have any questions concerning the use of electronic equipment, please call Gerald Babbitt.**

### POST PERFORMANCE

**Band Seating** – Band students should sit on the visitors’ side upon completion of their performance. Their uniform or band shirt will admit them to that area. **The Press Box stands will be open to directors, school officials, and PAID spectators only. If your students wish to view the contest from the press box side, they must purchase a \$10 ticket, and be wearing a UIL wristband.**

### PRESS BOX ACCESS

Press box access is limited to judges, contest officials, and workers. A director needing to communicate with contest headquarters should check with the adult monitor stationed at the entrance to the field or at the check-in station. PLEASE do not place us in the awkward situation of having to ask you to leave the press box.

### CONTEST RESULTS

At the conclusion of the preliminary competition, **ONE DIRECTOR FROM EACH COMPETING BAND** will be requested to appear in a designated area for a verification period before the contest results are announced. The verification room can be reached by entering in the main outside entrance to the press box. This is the previous Fine Arts Office Area. [Please display your admittance pass to access this area.](#)

**PLEASE HELP US WITH THIS BY DESIGNATING ONLY ONE DIRECTOR TO ATTEND THE VERIFICATION. THIS HAS BECOME A PROBLEM IN THE PAST AND HAS JUST ADDED CONFUSION TO THE PROCESS BY HAVING TOO MANY PEOPLE IN THE AREA. THE MEETING AREA IS QUITE SMALL, SO ONE TICKET PER BAND WILL BE ISSUED FOR ONE DIRECTOR’S ADMITTANCE TO THE VERIFICATION PERIOD.** The bands which will advance to the Finals competition will be announced in alphabetical order. Directors may pick up comment sheets, flash drives, and participation plaques **during** the verification period. Have your drum majors prepared to enter the track for the band finalists announcements at the conclusion of the **Prelims and the Finals** Competition. At the end of the Finals competition, there will also be an awards ceremony on the track.

If your band is selected to advance to state competition, please be prepared to declare your intention to participate in the state contest. Report to Gerald Babbitt for State contest information and scheduling. You will draw for your performance slot at the State Contest.

### **VIDEO RECORDING**

**Levo Audio Visual**, is the official videographer for this contest, and will be recording from the press box. All other video recording may be set up anywhere outside of the press box, and a battery pack must be used for power. **All communications regarding your video recording should be between you and Levo Audio Visual.**

### **CONCESSIONS**

The concession stands, **on both sides**, will be open all day. The Weiss Band Booster Club will be providing concessions.

### **REMINDERS**

1. Any questions/problems should be directed through your monitor or the contest staff to the Press Box.
2. Bands may play in the following areas **ONLY**:
  - A. **Assigned** warm-up sites (**facing away from stadium**),
  - B. Field warm-up during 5 minutes prior to performance,
  - C. Contest performance.
3. Contact with the judges **at any time** is prohibited.
4. Be sure to inform your band parents that **balloons are prohibited** at any UIL event.

### **QUESTIONS?**

**Do not call the State UIL Office with questions concerning this contest.**

Please call Gerald Babbitt at 512-268-1504 if you have questions or need additional information.

For specific Pflugerville stadium information, you may contact Manny Gamez at (915) 474-4363 (cell).