

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
AREA D CLASS 6A MARCHING CONTEST**

October 21, 2023

TO: All Directors of 6A Participating Bands
in the Area D Marching Band Contest

FROM: Jerry & Cheryl Babbitt, Contest Chairmen
& David Mobley, Contest Site Host

SUBJECT: 2023 Area D Marching Band Contest

Congratulations on advancing to the Area D Marching Band Contest, which will be held on October 21, 2023, at the Round Rock ISD – Kelly Reeves Stadium. The Round Rock H.S. Band & Band Parents will be your contest hosts and will do everything possible to make this a positive experience for you and your students. Please read the following information carefully to help you prepare for the contest. Best wishes for a successful performance.

JUDGES

The judges for the 6A Area D Marching Band Contest are:

Gary Barnard – Ft. Worth
Rylon Guidry - Wakeland HS (Frisco ISD))
Chuck Moon – Red Oak HS
Mike Pickrell – Richland HS (Birdville ISD)
Kelly Wykoff – Lebanon Trail HS (Frisco ISD)

ENTRY FORMS & ENTRY FEE

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 6A 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
- 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 Levo if you want them to video record your band. Email levoav@gmail.com
- Information from the UIL State Office, with specific Area Marching Contest Information:
<https://www.uiltexas.org/music/marching-band>

Please scan and email a copy of your Entry Form to uilregion18@icloud.com ASAP after your Region contest. Entry form must be signed by the school principal.

CONTEST PERFORMANCE ORDER & SCHEDULE AVAILABILITY

Each Region Executive Secretary will be given the area 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. The schedule will also be posted on the UIL Region 18 web site: 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 last 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.](#)

School administrators will be admitted free upon presentation of their District UIL pass or school ID. Admission wristbands for chaperones (that actually rode the bus with your students) and bus drivers can be picked up at the check-in station. **Each competing band will receive one wristband for every 10 students**, with a maximum of 20 wristbands per band.

Band students will not be charged an admission fee after their performance if they wish to go into the stands to watch the remaining bands in their performance block. **Have your students sit on the visitors side** of the stadium, as a group, and please make sure they are properly monitored by your staff or chaperones. Their uniform or band shirt will admit them.

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) 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 THE ADJACENT DOCUMENT FROM THE ROUND ROCK HS 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). 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 (This includes percussion and color guard and any other auxiliary units).** 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 bluetooth amplified metronomes or PA systems may be used in warm-up areas for pit or color guard.***

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 pit entry and exit, as well as for the Band's entrance & exit.***

THE USE OF ANY WIRELESS AMPLIFICATION (INCLUDING METRONOMES) IS PROHIBITED IN ALL AREAS OUTSIDE OF THE STADIUM PERFORMANCE AREA. HARD-WIRED IS ALLOWED IN THE ACTUAL WARM-UP AREA, IF AT LOW VOLUMES.

The warm-up will take place outdoors. You will have **30 minutes** in 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. 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 bluetooth amplified metronomes or PA systems may be used in warm-up areas for pit or color guard.***

STADIUM ENTRANCE

Performance, student re-entry, and spectator entrances are indicated on the accompanying map. You may want to post this in your band hall/website to avoid confusion. Please remind your students to be **VERY QUIET** while moving as a courtesy to other bands that may be performing. Your band will be held just inside the entrance gate until your field entrance time.

All Bands will enter through the **NORTH (Side 1) gate** and then to and through the center of the end zone and exit through the south gate (**Side 2**) in the center of the end zone.

Front Ensembles/Pits “on deck” to compete will be staged just off of the track adjacent to the SW stands. Please ask percussion instructors to follow directions of parent volunteers as the Pits are asked to move from one “ready” area to another.

Exiting pits/front ensembles will need to proceed through the south gate with the rest of the band. Please ask percussion instructors to follow directions of parent volunteers.

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 trying to help you, as well as all others following you.**)

****PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS:**

Performance Time: Each competing band shall occupy the field for not less than five nor 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.**

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.

IMPORTANT – TIMING PROCEDURES!

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. Bands will be scheduled with two 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 will begin in 45 seconds.
- E. **(E) The actual timing and adjudication for the show will begin at the end of the five minutes.**
- F. (F) At the conclusion of each band's performance, the postscript will be read. Each 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 end lines)** 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 will be subject to a penalty in accordance with Subchapter E.

Electronic Equipment: [ELECTRONICS AND AMPLIFICATION RULES AND FAQ](#)

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, or narration 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 during the 8-minute performance clock to address an **electronics failure**. The school must supply the contest chair with a written justification for doing so. If the AES and contest chair determine that the justification does not support the action, the AEC may proceed with consideration of penalty. (The rule remains: that **only a student may adjust volume, etc. This exception applies only to electronic failure.**)

(B) Electronics cables may now cross the sidelines. **STUDENTS MAY NOT PERFORM OVER CABLES THAT ARE ON THE FIELD, WHETHER THEY ARE COVERED OR NOT!**

(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.**

Violation of any of the above rules would make a band subject to the penalties as outlined in C&CR Sections 27 and 29.

***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. Please note the band re-entry gate on the enclosed stadium map. **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.

WATER STATIONS

A water station for your band students will be located outside of the stadium gate after they exit the field following their performance.

Directors, remind your students that audio & video recordings are being made of all performances and that **noise must be held to an absolute minimum.**

PRESS BOX ACCESS

The marching judges will be located on the film deck of the press box. The music judges will be positioned in the bleachers, on the top row in front of the press box. The contest office will be located in the press box. **No unauthorized persons or students will be permitted in the press box and/or contest office at any time.** 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 the ground level of the press box 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. **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 performance order. Have your drum majors prepared to enter the track for the awards presentation 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 recordings may be set up anywhere outside of the press box, but in the judges' designated area. 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 Round Rock HS 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 Jerry or Cheryl Babbitt, at 512/268-1504 (home), 512/656-3798 (Jerry's cell), or 512/415-7731 (Cheryl's cell) if you have questions or need additional information. For specific Round Rock stadium information, you may contact either David Mobley at (317) 446-2159 (cell) or Jager Loyde at (281) 705-6881.