

Festival Adjudication Rules

Classification

Marching Field Show Bands will be classified according to the number of playing musicians on the field, including percussion. Drum Majors, Pit Percussion and Auxiliaries are not included in this total. Bands are permitted to move from their qualifying class to a larger class (i.e. AA up to AAA), but never to a smaller class. Bands experiencing a reduction in numbers of performers making the trip may move to a smaller class only with the approval of the Festival Director.

Classifications for Field Show and Parade Contests

Class AAA	97 or more musicians
Class AA	61 - 96 musicians
Class A	1 - 60 musicians
Exhibition Class	Any band who wishes to perform but cannot or chooses not to compete.

Adjudication

It is in keeping with the philosophy of Bowl Games of America that music is the most important element of a band's performance, with Marching and General Effect serving to enhance the presentation. Therefore, the Music Performance score is more heavily weighted. The Bowl Games of America scoring system is:

Music Performance	40 points
Marching & Maneuvering	30 points
General Effect	30 points
(see enclosed adjudication forms)	

Marching Field Show - Performance Rules

1. All bands must report to the Starter at the Field Entrance Gate five (5) minutes prior to scheduled performance time.
2. Entry Procedure: the Starter will indicate when you may enter the field.
3. A one (1) minute warm-up will be permitted from your starting position prior to the start of your performance.
4. After warm-up, the Drum Major or Field Commander must wait for verbal announcements as follows:

Announcer:	Are the judges ready? Drum Major, is your band ready? [Drum Major salutes the stands.]
Announcer:	You may enter the field in competition/exhibition.

5. The full presentation will be no less than eight (8) minutes and will not exceed twelve (12) minutes in duration. Timing will begin with the first note of music or the first step by the band proper. Execution judging will cease at 12 minutes or the obvious conclusion of the performance.

Penalties:	<u>Undertime:</u>	0.1 for each 6 seconds or fraction thereof.
	<u>Overtime:</u>	1.0 for each 6 seconds or fraction thereof.
	<u>Field Entry:</u>	0.5 penalty for failure to enter field at Starter's signal.

Failure to Report: Failure to report at the starting line at assigned time resulting in a delay of the contest or a change in contest order will result in a 2.0 point penalty.

6. In the event of rain, all groups should be prepared to do an indoor judged stand-in-place performance.
7. Exit Procedure: The band will exit the field using its own drum cadence. Cadence must cease when the last performer crosses the field boundary.
8. All units are encouraged to contain their performance to the confines of the competition area. However, there will be absolutely no penalties or adverse scores from the judges for exceeding the field boundaries.
9. Should a fall occur, the performer may return to an upright position and resume marching without any mandatory penalty.
10. Units will not be permitted to "troop the stands" following their performance.
11. Dropped equipment will not result in a mandatory penalty but may impact General Effect scores.
12. The use of mechanized vehicles, animals (live or dead), and pyrotechnics of any type (including fireworks, fire batons, discharge of arms, or any hazardous material) shall not be permitted.
13. The location of the Field Show Contest will be included with your final itinerary.

Competitive Area

The competition field will be a regulation sized football field, 160 feet wide by 300 feet long. The boundaries of the field will be marked. The field will be lined at 5 yard intervals, and divided into thirds by the usual hash marks (fields with high school regulation hash marks are desired but not always available - consult Festival Director for details on hash marks at your event).

Entrance and Exit

Field entrance and exit may be made from any point on or off the field. The band proper and band front units are permitted to stage on the field. Conclusion of the performance may be made at any point on or off the field, and exit made over any boundary line.

Parade Review Rules

1. The procedures for Parade and Parade Review adjudication will be as follows:
 - 1.1. The Judging Area will be 100 yards in length. The beginning and end of the judging area will be clearly marked.
 - 1.2. Bands will approach the Judging Area and will be met by the Starter (depending on event).
 - 1.3. The Starter will instruct the Drum Major to proceed through the Judging Area. However, the Starter may instruct the Drum Major to hold to allow time for the preceding band to clear the Judging Area or allow the judges to complete scoring of the previous band. In either case, the Drum Major must adhere to the instructions of the Starter.
 - 1.4. The Starter will give the instruction for the Drum Major to proceed with the band into the Judging Area.
 - 1.5. Judging will commence when the first member of the unit crosses the starting line. **You may not set up any unit member in the Judging Area.** Penalty: .5 points.
 - 1.6. Once the Unit is given the signal to proceed, they must maintain continuous forward motion through the Judging Area. Penalty: 1.0 point per violation.
 - 1.7. A cadence of approximately mm. 120 must be maintained. Penalty: 1.0 point per violation.
 - 1.8. Bands instructed by the Starter to hold in the Pre-Judging Area will have 30 seconds in which to resume forward motion after the signal to proceed has been given to the Drum Major. Penalty: 0.1 per second in violation.
 - 1.9. Judging will cease when the last member of the unit crosses the Finish Line.
2. The Reviewing Stand is usually positioned to the band's RIGHT, and will be located at the midway point of the Judging Area. You will be notified of any deviation.
3. The Drum Major is required to render a salute to the Reviewing Stand. Penalty: 1.0 point for failure to salute.
4. Bands are reminded that they should be playing as the first member of the unit crosses the Starting Line, and should continue playing until the last member of the unit crosses the Finish Line.
5. Taped comments will be included with score sheets.
6. The Parade Route and other pertinent information will be included with your final itinerary.

General Rules and Guidelines

National Colors

Use of the National Colors is optional. If they are used, they must always be guarded by an individual bearing a rifle, saber or sidearm within three paces of the flag. The guard may be positioned anywhere within a 360 degree radius. There will be no trailing violations. The National Colors shall never be dipped in any direction or to any person; shall never be permitted to touch the ground; and the bearer shall not engage in any back steps, side steps, dance steps, etc.

Awards

The following awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony.

Field Show and Parade Contest

Ranking Trophies:: 1st , 2nd, and 3rd place will receive placement trophies. All remaining will receive participation trophies.

Caption Awards: A set of caption awards will be given for each class, so long as there are two or more bands competing in a given class. If there are too few bands in a given class, they will be combined as follows for the purpose of caption awards: Class A and AA will be combined. Class AAA remains alone.

Best Music
Best Marching and Maneuvering
Best Drum Major
Best Auxiliaries
Best Percussion
Best General Effect

Exhibition Award*: Any band performing in exhibition will receive a plaque recognizing their performance.

Sweepstakes Award: This will be given to the band with the highest combined Field Show and Parade score.

Any groups who don't participate in field show or parade contests but do perform in a Bowl Games of America halftime or pre-game show will receive a special plaque recognizing their performance.

*Some bands may not be allowed by their state's rules to compete in any out-of-state activity, or may choose not to compete. Upon request, they may receive taped comments by the panel of adjudicators, and may still be considered for a pre-game performance (if applicable - varies from game to game).

Festival Adjudicators

Each Bowl Games of America Adjudication Panel is selected by the Festival Director. They are chosen in such a way as to result in a balanced team. All are respected musicians and educators. They will provide each band with a combination of taped and written comments.