

MHSAA – MBA

STATE MARCHING BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2013

Dear Band Directors:

Congratulations on being selected to be a part of the 2013 MHSAA-MBA State Marching Band Championship. Enclosed are the final procedures for the competitions to be held for Class 1A, 3A, & 6A at Clinton High School and Class 2A, 4A, & 5A at Pearl High School. Many of your colleagues have worked hard to plan this event and we will do everything possible to see that the championship runs smoothly. If problems do arise, do not hesitate to contact me before November 1st. On Championship day you may still contact your Site Coordinator. The Site Coordinators and their contact information are listed below.

Please read all materials CAREFULLY as there are some changes from previous years.

1. SITE COORDINATORS: The Site Coordinators are:

Terry Ingram	1A, 3A, & 6A at Clinton High School	601-543-2811
Ted Burns	2A, 4A, & 5A at Pearl High School	601-672-1448

They are the persons in charge the day of the championship at their site and are responsible for seeing that the site runs smoothly and on time.

- 2. MAPS:** Maps to your championship site and a detailed map of the campus will be sent by email at a later date. Be sure to study the map to locate warm-up areas, routes to the stadium for students and sideline percussion equipment, and the gate by which they enter and exit.
- 3. INFORMATION CENTER:** Upon arrival at the championship site, check in at the Information Center located at Pearl High School in the Band Hall and at Clinton High School outside the gate to the stadium. If anything is needed or problems arise while at the stadium, contact Information Center personnel.
- 4. ANNOUNCER INFORMATION SHEET:** The attached **ANNOUNCER INFORMATION SHEET** should be **emailed to Robin Crawford** at robin.crawford1@hotmail.com

ANNOUNCER SHEET must be emailed by **Thursday, October 24th**. We also ask that you type your information into Announcer Sheet and **spell phonetically any difficult names**. Remember the announcer has never seen these names and some spellings are pronounced differently.

Download the Announcer Sheet to your computer and fill in your information. Save the completed form as “Announcer Sheet _____ High School” (fill in the name). Then attach it to an email to me. Shortcutting this process may cause your data not to be saved.

- 5. CHAPERONES:** Participating band students, bus drivers, and **one chaperone per 10 band students** will be admitted free. Chaperones, Bus Drivers and Band Students hands will be

stamped upon arrival at the school. It is the responsibility of each band director to identify their chaperones with the official badges provided by the MBA. These badges will be in your materials you pick up upon your arrival at your contest site. Please have your chaperones wear them at all times. **These are the only chaperone badges that will be recognized at the contest site.** Chaperones are defined as parents or adults riding the bus with the students. Drivers of equipment trucks will be counted as chaperones.

6. ADMISSION: The admission charge for the championship is as follows:

Preliminary Competition	\$10.00
Finals Competition	\$10.00
All-day Pass to all sites	\$15.00
Children under 5	No Charge

Please communicate this to your parents. It will cost them \$10.00 for Prelims whether they are there to see one band or 20 bands. Admission charges for the championship are in line with other MHSAA sanctioned events. Bands that participate in the Preliminary Competition but do not make Finals are encouraged to stay for the Finals. This will be an opportunity for your students to see other bands and learn from the experience, and they are admitted free to the Visitors' side of the stadium. If they wish to sit on the Home side, student entry is \$5.00. If you plan on your band staying for the Finals competition, please let the Host Site know so they can help with bus parking and seating. The Stadium will be cleared after Preliminary competition then reopened for the Finals.

7. ORDER OF PERFORMANCE:

Prelims Order of Performance: The order of performance for Preliminary competition was determined by random draw conducted in Jackson by Lieutenant Colonel Michael M. Majors, Staff Judge Advocate, MS Army National Guard, with Ms Donna Alderman, JAG Paralegal witnessing, and myself recording. The draw was conducted in the Judge Advocate General's office conference room on Tuesday, October 15, 2013. As a reminder, no band will be required to perform first in prelims in back-to-back calendar years.

Finals Order of Performance:

Class 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, and 6A: The Order of Performance for Finals will be reverse order of finish in Prelims.

Prelim Recaps and adjudicator comments will be available within 15 minutes of completion of Prelims in the bands' Drop Box folders. Bands selected for Finals will receive their adjudicator comments at the conclusion of Prelims but not their adjudicator sheets.

Finals competition will consist of the following number of bands from each classification: 2 – 1A, 3 – 2A, 5 – 3A, 4 – 4A, 6 – 5A, 6 – 6A bands.

8. WARM-UP: There will be three warm-up areas available. Check your map for locations. Signs will be posted for directions and band guides will help direct you. Each band will have 45 minutes for Warm-up. Remember that the warm-up time includes entering and exiting the warm-up area. Warm-up is to be conducted in designated areas only. Be considerate of other bands by being aware of your staging times and your proximity to those in the warm-up areas.

9. GATES: Be sure to check the maps of the campus to locate the Band Entrance Gate and the Sideline Percussion Entrance Gate.

10. **TIMING:** Show length restrictions will be 4 minutes minimum and 10 minutes maximum. Bands are scheduled at 15-minute intervals depending on class. It is imperative that you leave warm-up no later than the time on the schedule. Be considerate of the bands that follow you and do not take up more than your allotted time.
11. **SCHEDULING:** We will maintain the 15-minute interval established last year to keep us on schedule. In the long run, this will hopefully get you all back on the road to home sooner. The safety of your students is the primary consideration when scheduling. Please help us by getting started on time and clearing the field quickly. You are encouraged to organize and practice your warm-up and field set up, including sound checks on electronic equipment, so you can get your show started on time. Be sure to practice with parents that help set up sideline percussion & props. Do NOT delay the start of your show for electronics issues. **Remember, you may warm-up on the field but that is part of your time slot.** When your time slot runs out you must be off the field.
12. **ENTERING THE FIELD:** Be sure to have your sideline percussion and color guard in front when you come to the stadium for competition so they can enter the field first. This way they will have equipment in place when the hornline is set. The hornline should move onto the field while the guard and percussion are setting up. You should start setting up while the previous band is exiting the field.
13. **FIELD SUPERVISOR:** A Field Supervisor will be available to assist you with getting on and off the field. Runners for each band will be available to help.
14. **JUDGES:** There will be eight judges at each site. Judge Coordinator Nola Jones of Nashville, TN assigns the judges. Adjudicators will judge the same caption during prelims and finals.
15. **ADJUDICATOR SHEETS:** Caption Judging will be used for the Championship. Copies of the sheets are posted on the MBA web site. The percentage weight of each caption is: Music Execution – 40%, Marching - Visual Execution – 30%, General Effect Music – 15%, General Effect Visual – 15%.
16. **JUDGING:** There will be two Music Execution Judges, two Marching/Visual Execution Judges, one General Effect Music Judge and one General Effect Visual Judge. The average of the two scores in Music and Marching plus each General Effect score will be added together to determine the band's final Score. There will be one Percussion Judge and one Auxiliary Judge whose jobs will be to evaluate those two areas. The Percussion score and Auxiliary score **will not** be added to the band score. The Band with the highest final score will be declared champion.
17. **ADJUDICATOR COMMENTS:** As before, the judges will record their comments on a digital voice recorder. Refer to paragraph #7 above for details relative to your site.
18. **TIE BREAKER:** If there is a tie, the Music Score will be the first tiebreaker. The Marching Score will be the second tiebreaker. The General Effect Music Score will be the third tiebreaker. If a tie still remains, then co-champions will be declared and like awards will be presented.

19. AWARDS CEREMONY:

Awards Ceremony for Prelims: There will be NO awards ceremony following Prelims.

Finalists will be announced during a break of the follow-on class performances in order to give finalist bands ample time to prepare. Non-finalist bands may pick up their packet at a designated location determined by the site coordinator. Recaps for non-finalist bands with only their information will be in their packets following Prelims.

Site Coordinators: Judges will turn in tote sheets and recaps after validating Prelims scores.

Awards Ceremony for Finals: A Full Retreat for bands performing in Finals will be held after the last band performs. Bands will line up in block band or single file depending on the location and file into the stadium single file 5 to 6 bands at a time to prerecorded music. See the "Retreat Procedures" document for complete details. Instruments will not be needed but students should be in uniform. All special awards will be presented at this time.

20. AWARDS: Per the MBA approved changes for 2013, awards will be granted as follows:

1. Five trophies per class shall be guaranteed.
2. When the number of participants exceeds five, trophies will be awarded for no more than eight bands. Since there will be up to seven bands performing classes 1A-4A this year, all Finalists in those classes will receive a placement trophy.
3. If the number of participants exceeds eight, then trophies shall be awarded for places 1-5, and plaques shall be awarded for the remaining finalists.
4. Trophies for places 4, 5, 6, etc (as needed), will all be of the same size.
5. Trophies for places 1, 2, and 3 shall be in graduated sizes, with the largest trophy being for 1st place.
6. Students in bands placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will receive gold, silver, and bronze medallions respectively. In addition to the students, directors, teaching staff, the principal, and the superintendent will also receive medallions. The medallions will be awarded to the students while on the field.
7. **Champions:** The highest scoring band in each class will be declared Grand Champions.

21. SPECIAL AWARDS: Bands will be recognized with Special Awards in each class with the three placement trophies to the highest scoring bands in Music, Marching/Visual, General Effect, Percussion, and Color Guard. Class 1A bands will receive two awards in each area. Special Awards will be determined by the Finals scores.

22. PHOTOGRAPHER: A photographer will not be available for this year's Championship.

23. VIDEO TAPE: C.A. Video Productions of Ocean Springs, MS will again be videotaping the 2013 Championship. Bands will receive a complimentary High Camera DVD copy of your performance to take home and a DVD by mail. Order blanks for directors will be sent by email.

24. SEATING: Bands will have assigned seating in the stadium. The Host Site will communicate with you about the location. We ask that the center of the performance side of the stadium be reserved for paying spectators.

25. UNIFORM CHANGE: There will be no changing facilities at the Championship Sites.

- 26. CONCESSIONS:** Concessions stands will be open throughout the day. We ask that you support our host bands and patronize the concessions at each site and to take advantage to any meal deals the host site may offer. The use of grills or other cooking equipment may not be used on the school campuses because of liability issues.
- 27. PROHIBITED ITEMS:** The use of confetti, sparkle materials, or any type of pyrotechnics is strictly prohibited. In addition, no substance may linger in the performance area after a band's performance. Bands are subject to **disqualification**.
- 28. MEDIA:** We are asking that you contact your local newspaper, radio and television stations to let them know about your upcoming participation in the championship. Points to emphasize are:
1. It is a band competition from across the State of Mississippi.
 2. A Champion in each of the six classes will be named.
 3. The MHSAA-MBA State Marching Band Championship is an annual event to select the best high school band in each class in the state of Mississippi.
 4. Your band qualified at the Regional Festival to participate in the State Championship.
 5. Your band is participating in this event and has a chance to win the Championship.
- 29. SPECIAL THANKS:** Special thanks goes to our site hosts Matt Rowan, his staff, and parents at Pearl High School, and Mickey Mangum, his staff, and parents at Clinton High School. Be sure to thank these people for making their facilities available for our use and the hard work it takes to run an event of this magnitude. We also need to thank Terry Ingram and Ted Burns their continued help and dedication to the championship. They work very hard each year to see that everything runs smoothly for you and your students.
- 30. CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE:** The Championship Committee is made up of the MBA Officers, the three Championship Site Hosts, and the Championship Coordinator.
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|---------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|
| Reuben McDowell, Columbia | President | Matt Rowan, Pearl | 2A/4A/5A Host |
| Sid McNeil, Olive Branch | 1st VP | Mickey Mangum, Clinton | 1A/3A/6A Host |
| Matt Rowan, Pearl | 2nd VP | Robin Crawford, Championship Coordinator | |
| Lane Thompson, J Z George | 3rd VP | | |
| Tim Matlock, Tupelo | Member at Large | | |
| Clay Fuller, Cleveland | Past President | | |
- 31. CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY BOARD:** The Advisory Board will be formed after the Championship and will be made up of the Band Directors of the top two 1A Bands and the top three 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, & 6A Bands at this year's Championship along with the President of the MBA and the Championship Coordinator. When directors have suggestions for change and additions to the Championship, they will make presentations to the Advisory Board at State Band Clinic in December for consideration. Proposals the Advisory Board feel need further consideration will be presented to the Championship Committee for review. The MBA Executive Board will have final approval of any proposals.

We are looking forward to having your band participate in the 2013 MHSAA - MBA State Marching Band Championship. It is an honor for your students, school, and community to have your band qualify and participate in this special event. Congratulations again on qualifying to compete in the championships. If I can be of any assistance do not hesitate to call or email. Other emails will follow in the next few days with information you will need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.A. Crawford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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