

**Proposal**  
**Required Music Selection Procedures for**  
**MHSAA State Band Festival**

**I. The MHSAA should have a comprehensive Required List of Music for each Classification of Bands.**

- A. Bands must play at least one selection from the required list from their classification at the MHSAA State Band Festival.
- B. Bands may play music from a higher classification but not a lower one.
- C. Bands may choose their band's Selected Piece from no more than one classification down if the music is on the Required Music List.

**II. Music Selection Procedure**

- A. The Required Music List is for a four year period of time after which it will be revised.
- B. Each four years a committee will meet to update the list by adding appropriate Selections to the list and purging the list of each classification using the following criteria:
  - 1. Music is not appropriate for Festival performance;
  - 2. Music is inappropriate for the classification;
  - 3. Music is not educational for the students.
- C. This Music Selection Committee will be made up of three directors from each of the six classifications. The Music Selection Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee of the MBA, President presiding. This Committee will function once each four years. The Music Selection Committee should be appointed and announced at State Band Clinic before the June meeting and be posted on the MBA Web page.
- D. The Music Selection Committee will meet in early June at the MHSAA office in Clinton starting in June 2010 and every four years thereafter for the purpose of revising the Required Music List. Inappropriate selections will be removed from the list or moved to a more appropriate classification list. New music deemed appropriate will be added.
- F. Appropriate selections may be added to the Required Music List at this meeting whether they are new publications or older publications that have been removed earlier or have never been on the required list.
- G. The Required Music List will be made up of a reasonable number of selections for each class. There will be no maximum or minimum number of pieces in any classification. The 6A list should contain the most selections because bands may play music from a higher classification list. The 1A list will contain the smallest number of selections. The 6A list should contain around 200 to 300 selections.

**III. Adding Selections to the Required Music List Between the Music List Revisions**

- A. Band Directors may request permission to play a composition at State Band Festival that is not on the Required Music List. They must submit a request to the Music Review Board by November 25th of each year (Received by Music Chairman).

- B. When requesting to play a piece not on the Required Music List the director must submit a score and recording of the composition with the request form for it to be considered.
- C. A Music Review Board made up of one director from each classification will be appointed each year by the Executive Committee of the MBA for the purpose of reviewing each request. The Music Review Board will be announced at the Fall Meeting of the MBA and posted on the MBA Web page. The members of the Music Review Board should, not have to, come from the Music Selection Committee for the purpose of continuity.
- D. The Music Review Board will meet on the first day (Thursday) of State Band Clinic at 10:00 AM for the purpose of reviewing all requests. At this meeting the score and recording will be reviewed by the whole committee. If the Board feels the music is appropriate for State Festival and the difficulty is appropriate for the classification permission to play the piece will be granted. After a selection has been approved it will become a part of the Required Music List until the Required Music List is revised.
- E. Music should fit three basic requirements in order to be added to the Required Music List:
  - 1. The Music should be appropriate for Festival.
  - 2. The difficulty should be appropriate for the classification.
  - 3. When learned is the music of high quality educationally and musically for the students?
- F. Directors will be notified after the meeting of the Board as to the outcome of the meeting. The score and recording will be returned to the directors at that time. A list of the music added to the required list will be posted or given to directors at the Friday night MBA Business Meeting and posted on the MBA Web page.
- G. Other bands may play these approved selections at Festival for their required piece.

#### **IV. Required Music Chairman**

- A. A Music Chairman should be appointed by the MBA Executive Committee, President presiding, to facilitate the process of selecting music for the Required Music List, maintaining the accuracy of the list and being in charge of meetings of the Required Music Committee and the Music Review Board. The Music Chairman will report to the MBA Executive Committee.
- B. The Music Chairman should be a retired band director having an extensive knowledge of music literature and the necessary organizational skills to execute these duties. The Music Chairman should serve for multiple years in this capacity for the sake of continuity.
- C. The Music Chairman will be in charge of all meeting of the Required Music Selection Committee and the Music Review Board.
- D. The Music Chairman will make the final decision as to any controversy that may arise with these two committees and the appropriateness of the Required Music List.

## Advantages

1. The Music Chairman will organize the process and see that it works correctly from year to year.
2. The Music Chairman will take pressure off the MBA Board and Vice President whose responsibility it is to take care of the Required List.
3. The Music Chairman serving multiple years will add continuity to the Required Music List process.
4. A retired band director serving as Music Chairman will have more time to facilitate this process.
5. A reasonable size list of tunes will serve the most bands and retain the accountability and integrity of a required list.
6. Directors have a way of getting permission to play an appropriate composition at Festival that is not on the Required Music List and by so doing add the piece to the list between the four year revisions.
7. The revision each four years involves more directors and at a time when the process is not rushed to complete and should be more accurate
8. This is the closest procedure to the present Required Music List with built in ways to keep the Required Music List updated by adding to the list and purging the list in a timely manner.
9. November 25<sup>th</sup> deadline gives directors more time after marching season to find music they would like to play at Festival and get special permission if needed.
10. Revision of the Required Music List each four years will give directors a more secure feeling as to the music that is on the Required List lessening the chance a director will choose a composition that is not on the list.