

Band

Marching Band Festival

LMEA Marching Festivals are held in those districts where adequate interest in marching performance exists. It is believed that the inclusion of the marching event in the year's activities enhances the band programs within the district.

The marching band event is held at a time and place determined by the district director with the cooperation of the participating directors. Marching band festivals are administered according to the following guidelines.

Participation Fees

Check current festival entry form for the specific event fees. These forms are found in the September edition of *The Louisiana Musician*. Included with the marching entry form must be a photocopy of the teacher's or director's membership card or *The Louisiana Musician* mailing label.

Events

1. Marching Band
2. Auxiliary Units
3. Percussion Line
4. Drum Major(s)

Scheduling

Bands will be scheduled from the smallest classification to the largest.

Time Limitations

Bands will be allotted 15 minutes for performance. The 15 minute time limit will include entering the field, set up, and clearing the field after the performance.

1. Timing will begin when the previous group clears the field or the scheduled time, whichever occurs last.
2. Maximum show time is 15 minutes which must include entering the field, set up, and clearing the field. The minimum show length without penalty is 6 minutes. Timing will conclude when all marchers have cleared the field.

It is the responsibility of the Festival Chairperson to secure a time-keeper. Participating directors should be informed as to the method of timing: the stadium clock or a stop watch.

Bands in violation of any of the timing rules will be penalized one division. Directors of organizations receiving penalties will be notified by the Festival Chairperson as to the nature of the penalties. Such notification will be made as soon as possible after the performance is completed. No rating will be made public until directors of all organizations receiving penalties have been notified of the penalties.

Field Marking

The marching band festival performances will occur on a standard football field (160 feet in width and 360 feet in length). The field should be clearly marked with complete yard lines every 5 yards, 10-yard end zones and hash marks placed 53 feet 4 inches from each sideline. It is recommended that no lines be placed within the end zones, and that hash marks, placed at 90 degree angles to the yard lines, be at least 3 feet in length. All lines should be marked, and the 50-yard line should be clearly designated.

Judges

It is the responsibility of the District Director to secure a minimum of three adjudicators for the marching event. A maximum of three additional judges may be secured and utilized if a majority of participating directors desire them. These additional judges will adjudicate the drum major(s), the percussion section and the auxiliary units of the bands (flags, rifles, majorettes, dance teams, etc.) The auxiliary judges may be placed anywhere in the performance facility except on the performance field proper.

All judges should be placed in an area with adequate height and distance from the field to assure an overall view of the performance area. Every care should be taken to see that neither the judges' ability to see or hear is impaired. It is recommended that the press box, or an area with similar height and distance, be used by the judges.

All judges should have current experience in their area of adjudication. Stylistic concepts of the district should be made known to secure judges whose standards are in accordance with those sought by the participating directors.

Ratings

Official LMEA rating sheets will be utilized by all judges. These are available from the LMEA Executive Secretary.

It is required that each judge be provided a cassette recorder for taped commentary. Tapes for use by the judges will be furnished by individual LMEA districts.

The standard five-division plan for rating performance excellence will be utilized. The final rating will be the composite rating of the three overall band judges. Penalties which affect the final rating will be noted on the adjudication sheets and the overall rating adjusted accordingly.

Awards

1. Trophy to Marching Bands receiving a rating of I.
2. Trophy to Auxiliary Units receiving a rating of I.
3. Trophy to Percussion Line receiving a rating of I.
4. Trophy to Drum Major(s) receiving a rating of I.