

COMPETITION/ FESTIVAL RULE CHANGES for 2022:

Original rule - Classification

Schools shall be divided into four classes with classification based on the enrollment in grades nine, ten, and eleven according to the enrollment figures submitted to the Department of Education on the last Friday of September of the preceding school year.

Class C..... 0-199 Students
Class B..... 200-599 Students
Class A600-1099 Students
Class AA.....1100+ Students

Bands must perform in the class their enrollment dictates. Bands will not be allowed to move down in classification.

New Rule – Classification

NSBA sanctioned contests, including State Marching Contest Competition and Festival Sites, will now have the following five classes as labeled and split below. As a reminder, the student enrollment number that will determine classification is based off the previous year's NSAA enrollment number (i.e. all students grades 9-11):

Class 1A..... 0-180 Students
Class 2A..... 181-400 Students
Class 3A401-904 Students
Class 4A.....905-1430 Students
Class 5A.....1431+ Students

Once scores have been given, ratings will be awarded based on the following:

Class 5A: Division I > 74.9, Division II 60-74.9, Division III 45-59.9, Division IV < 45
Class 4A: Division I > 71.9, Division II 57-71.9, Division III 42-56.9, Division IV < 42
Class 3A: Division I > 70 Division II 55-69.9, Division III 40-54.9, Division IV < 40
Class 2A: Division I > 66.9, Division II 52-66.9, Division III 37-51.9, Division IV < 37
Class 1A: Division I > 64.9, Division II 49-64.9, Division III 34-48.9, Division IV < 34"

After the 2022 season, the Rubric Committee (detailed on pg. 7 of the PDF) will discuss this rule change and any potential tweaks needed to it moving forward. Then, the classifications (and updates thereof) will be part of the Committee's regular business starting in 2024-25 and beyond.

Original Rule – Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony at the conclusion of the NSBA State Marching Contest will be a “Drum Majors/Guard Captain, in uniform, only retreat.” Directors will not participate. The only exception will be during the recognition of the directors receiving longevity plaques, when directors are invited to the field. All of the other competing band members must be in the stands or on the track away from the area where the awards are being given.

DUE TO LIABILITY ISSUES, Students will not be permitted to “storm” or run onto the field at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.

- *Penalty: Bands with students who run on the field following the awards ceremony will not be eligible to enter the NSBA State Marching Contest the following year.*

New Rule – Awards Ceremony

During and immediately following the awards ceremony ONLY the drum majors/guard caption members and their directors are permitted on the field. At the discretion of the site host would be the establishment of a meeting point where bands may be escorted onto the field following the awards ceremony. This option may only be available to class champions and the overall champion at the Competition Site and at the discretion of the site hosts at the Festival Site and will be communicated by the site host. Penalty for violation is at the discretion of the NSBA executive board and may range from (but is not limited to) formal reprimand of band director/program to not being eligible to perform at next year's NSBA marching contest/festival.

The rule will be placed in the NSBA Site Host handbook as well as added to our list of rules for the contest found on the website. Additionally, the following announcement (or something similar) must be read prior to each awards ceremony. " Due to liability concerns only drum majors/guard caption members and their directors are allowed on the field following the awards ceremony except for those eligible bands who may meet at _____ following the awards ceremony. Please see the NSBA marching contest rules for more information"

Original Rule – Performers

Performers

All aspects of the field show performance must be performed by students. No adult activity during the performance may contribute directly to the music or visual program.

Exceptions:

- Adults may conduct the band at any time during the performance, outside the boundary of the actual football field.
- Adults may set up and take down equipment before and after the performance.
- Adults may work the mixing board, power levels and electronics from anywhere.
- Adults must be clear of the Performance Field for the duration of the Performance. This includes backfield and those assisting in setting props or equipment.

Penalty: Minimum penalty five-points, maximum, disqualification.

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- Adults may set up and take down equipment before and after the performance.
- Adults may work the mixing board, power levels and electronics from anywhere.
- An adult may enter the Performance Field during the Performance to attend to an issue affecting the safety of student performers or respond to “catastrophic” equipment failure (such as failure or loss of power or connectivity to a sound system) without penalty, as determined by the Field and Timing Manager and/ or Contest Director.

Penalty: Minimum penalty five-points, maximum, disqualification.

COMPETITION SITE ONLY...

Original Rule – Timing

Each band will have 15 minutes for field entry, warm-up, performance, and exit. The minimum show performance time is 5 minutes. The first note of music or the first step by a member of the band proper will start the timing of your performance. Judging will begin immediately following the introduction of the band and cease at the conclusion of the band's performance. The 15-minute interval time begins when the band crosses the entry line as designated in the following section, and end when all members, equipment and props cross the exit line as defined in the following section. (Judges are advised to not judge the band's exit.)

Penalty: Interval time in excess of 15 minutes will result in .5 points per minute deducted from the total score. Less than five minutes performance time will result in .1 points per 3 seconds deducted from the total score. Points are deducted from the possible 100 point total.

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Penalty: Interval time in excess of 15 minutes will result in .1 points per 3 seconds or fraction thereof from the total score. Less than five minutes performance time will result in .1 points per 3 seconds or fraction thereof from the total score.