

The Oklahoma Bandmasters Association will sponsor a "Marching Band Championship Competition" on October 10, 2009 for bands in Class 1A, 2A and 3A; On October 24, 2009 for bands in Class 4A, 5A; and on October 31, 2009 for bands in class 6A. The following Rules and Regulations will apply for the 2009 competition.

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS 2009**

1. There will be 3 OBA Marching Contests to crown a Champion in each class. There will also be a Grand Champion crowned at the 1A, 2A, 3A contest and at the 4A, 5A contest.
2. This years OBA Marching Band Championship Contest will be open to 30 bands at each site.
3. OBA Championship applications will be available at the summer convention.
4. Applications must be filled out completely and must be signed by the high school principal or district superintendent and by the band director, stating eligibility to all participating students according to the standards set by the OSSAA.
5. A check, money order, or school purchase order for the entry fee must accompany the application. The fee will be printed on the application.
6. Classification will be determined by OSSAA average daily membership and set to align with the same class as your football team.
7. Finalist bands and class winners from the previous year will be guaranteed a spot in the current year's contest if their entry form is received by the deadline. Competing bands must have directors that are members in good standing with the O.B.A. organization.
8. The scheduling of bands for preliminary competition will be as follows; All bands not attending last years competition will draw first. Bands attending last year's contest, but not making finals will draw for their time in blocks of six according to their preliminary placing the previous year.  
Block #1 bands placing 25th - 30th  
Block #2 bands placing 19th - 24th  
Block #3 bands placing 13th - 18<sup>th</sup>  
Block #4 finalist bands from the previous year will be grouped into a top six and bottom six draw based on finals scores.

The Oklahoma Bandmasters Association plan of Adjudication will be used as described in the following paragraphs. The decision of the judges will be final.

A. Judges will be selected from current adjudication lists used across the United States. All members of the OBA Board of Control can submit names to be considered as possible judges. Any names in question will be voted upon by the Board of Control at the January meeting.

B. Judges will be paid by a fee set by the OBA Executive Board and suggested by the OBA Marching Band Board of Control.

C. With the exception of the Timing and Penalties judge, all adjudicators must come from outside the state of Oklahoma.

D. Bands of America adjudication sheets will be used. Judges will be assigned to the following captions;

Visual Performance Individual

Music Performance Individual

Visual Performance Ensemble

Music Performance Ensemble

Visual General Effect

Music General Effect 1 and 2

E. The timing and Penalties Official will check minimum and maximum show length, time block and keep track of any violations.

F. Any personal appeal to an adjudicator can result in suspension from future OBA marching competitions. Criticisms and recommendations for the competition may be submitted in writing to the contest chairman.

G. At the conclusion of the evening Finals contest there will be a critique held with all adjudicators and directors wishing to participate.

10. Each band will receive a numerical score. The numerical scoring will be used to determine the bands which shall advance to the evening finals competition.

11. The total band scores will be computed by adding the scores for each of the major categories and dividing by ten. Penalties will be subtracted from the final total (100 points possible)

12. The 12 highest scoring bands will advance to the finals competition that evening. A first place band in any class not making finals will march in exhibition before the finals contest.

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13. No roman numerical rating will be given. A tote board will be used during the day to notify the status of finalist bands.

14. Finalist bands will be announced as soon as possible after the last band in prelims has performed. Finals performance positions will be determined by a top six and bottom six draw.

15. Rules for the finals competition shall be the same as those for the preliminaries.

16. Prelim tapes may be picked up after all bands have performed in preliminary competition. Non Finalist bands may also have their critique sheets. Finalist bands will not receive critique sheets until after finals. No recap sheets will be handed out until after finals.

17. Following the finals performance all finalists will be massed on the field for the presentation of the awards.

18. The following awards shall be presented: Plaques to all non finalist bands. First, second and third place awards for each class. Medallions will be awarded to first, second and third place winners in each class. First through twelfth place from finals competition. High Visual, High Music and High General Effect from each class as well as each finals competition.

19. Definitions:

A. Contest site: All grounds adjacent to the competition area which are supervised by the contest management, including indoor warm up rooms (no practice field to be made available).

B. Competition Field: The rectangular space contained in and including the white boundary lines plus the dead zones 12 feet off the front sideline from goal line to goal line.

C. Performance Area: The competition field plus the grounds immediately adjacent.

D. Warm up Area: An area assigned to each band for preparation prior to performance.

20. Boundary Lines: The boundary lines of the competition field shall be defined as 0 or goal line for pre-placement and end zone line to end zone line for the boundaries in which to perform your show.

20. An announcement form will be made available to participating bands on which they will be allowed to list material pertinent to their show.

21. The competition field shall be the regulation size of a football field. The boundaries shall be marked.

22. No band may use the competition field for practice on the day of the contest.

23. Only competition personnel, directors, and contest officials are permitted on the competition field at any time.

24. Each participating band will be sent a warm-up time and a performing time. At the staging time, the band must be in close proximity to the field and ready to report "on the line" when given instructions to do so.

25. Each participating band will be scheduled in a 15 minute time block. This block starts with an announcement from the official announcer or a designated official. The band should be prepared to line up, do a pre-placement and/or a musical warm-up, have announcements read, present the show and exit within the 15 minute time block. Pit crews and equipment people may set up on a cue from the timing and penalties judge prior to the beginning of your 15 minute time slot.

26. Bands shall approach the performance area with no sound.

27. Band personnel may not enter the competition field during another bands performance. (Bands may be led into the performance area only after the first 12 minutes have elapsed in the previous bands time block) A band may not take pre-placement or warm up until the announcer gives instructions to do so. (Exception in Rule #25)

28. Pit players may set up their own equipment and enter from the front sideline if desired. All other personnel must

enter the competition field from either end zone or back sideline only. Exit may be made from any point. Any warm-up must be done facing away from the front sideline. This time will be included in the 15 minute time block.

29. With the exception of the field commander or drum major, who may cross the boundaries at will, no bandsman may reenter the field once he has exited. Violation of a boundary is defined as having both feet entirely outside the boundary line. Regular auxiliary units must remain within the boundaries during the first 6 minutes of the show. With the exception of the front boundary, band members may not leave and re enter the field at any time during their performance.

30. A competing Band Director may conduct only from outside the boundary.

31. Bands may not begin their actual performance until notified by the designated officials with a statement similar to: "And now joining us from Bug Tussell High School, the Bug Tussell High School Band."

32. All bands will retire from the field to the indicated exit (as instructed by the contest director in pre-information before the contest) and completely exit the performance area.

33. Minimum show length is six minutes.

34. All adjudicators will judge the entire show. Judging time begins with the first note of music or the first step by the band proper (not including pre-placement). Judging time ends when, (a) the last person crosses the boundary line or (b) at the last music sound or (c) when the drum major salutes.

35. Bands must clear the performance area as soon as possible after the show time has elapsed. No trooping of the stands in preliminary competition following the show. All bands must exit the competition field utilizing no more than their percussion section.

36. There will be no time in motion rule but such shall be consideration for the judges in awarding rankings and/or scores.

37. Dropped equipment may be picked up during a show without penalty.

38. Falling to the ground or returning to position will not be penalized. An injured person may leave or be taken from the field but may not return. No penalty for altering path to avoid a fallen person.

39. No fireworks, gun shots, smoke bombs, fire batons, live animals, etc. will be permitted.

40. Penalties: Taken from the 100 total possible points)

A. Illegal use of competition field for practice: Disqualification.

B. Ineligible personnel on competition field: Disqualification

C. Excessive sound approaching or leaving the competition field: 2 points.

D. Boundary Violations: 0.5 points per individual violation, maximum of 5 points for a single violation shared by a large number of personnel.

E. Use of fireworks, etc. as in Rule #39: Disqualification.

F. There shall be no penalty for late arrival as long as the band shows up in time to perform at their scheduled time.

G. Exceeding the 15 minute time block: 0.5 points per each 15 seconds or fraction thereof.

H. Exceeding warm-up time in warm up area: 5 points.

I. Less than minimum show time. 1 point for each 30 seconds or fraction thereof.

J. Band personnel entering the competition field during another bands performance: Disqualification.

K. Beginning pre-placement, warm-up or show before time: 1 point.

41. Video Equipment will be allowed, however bands are only allowed to video their own band. A professional video company will be on site as the official Video group.

42. This contest does not include an inspection of bands.

43. Use of the National Colors is optional, and care should be taken for proper flag etiquette.

44. This contest is sanctioned by the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association.

45. Oklahoma Bandmasters Association shall carry liability insurance during on-premises related events at the contest sites.

46. Further instructions may be sent to competing bands should the need arise.