



IMPORTANT EVENT PROCEDURES

September 21, 2019 – Veterans Memorial Stadium – McAllen, TX



This document contains important details specific to the South Texas Regional Championship, and is a supplement to the General Event Procedures document released in the August Important Reminders for Directors Information.

Please review the General Event Procedures document if you haven't already: marching.musicforall.org/directorinfo/

PRE-PERFORMANCE FLOW:

Band Check-In

- When you first arrive to Veterans Memorial Stadium, your buses and trucks will enter the parking lots off of Tamarack Ave via North 23rd St. You will then be directed to **Band Check-In**, located on the east end of the Bus Parking Lot (see Site Overview Map). Band Check-In will open 30 minutes prior to the **FIRST** band's warm-up time.

Competing Band Name Badges and Field Passes

- All bands are guaranteed 31 credentials as part of their enrollment fee – six director name badges and 25 field passes. Field passes are **valid for prelims only**. Name badges are valid for both prelims and finals. Names are determined by those entered on the Director Name Badge and Additional Credentials Form. Distribution of the name badges is ultimately the decision of the head director.
- A band may purchase up to 10 additional credentials. **All additional credentials must be purchased by the Tuesday, September 17th with credit card.** The combination of additional name badges and field passes may not exceed 10. Of those 10, a maximum of 4 may be name badges. Additional credentials will not be available for purchase on-site.
- Name badges and field passes are valid for flow areas and field access during **your band's performance ONLY**. Name badges and field passes allow entrance into the stadium concourse and spectator seating areas. Passes must be visible when entering the stadium.
- Field passes are not tradable and may not be shared with other participating bands. The use of field passes will be monitored and penalties assessed for abuse of the rules.
- Holders of Field Passes may not take photographs from the field level. Pass holders may go into the spectator seating area during the performance where taking of personal photos is allowed. Video and audio recording is not permitted from the field or the stands, without News Media Video credentials, requested in advance and pre-approved for eligible media by Music for All.
- Competing Band Field Passes for Finalist Bands will be handed out at the Finalist Director Meeting.
- Nurses are not exempt from the field pass policy and must have a pass if needed on field during your band's performance. BOA will provide an on-site medical crew all day.
- Wristbands for bus and truck drivers will be distributed at Band Check-In. The number will be derived from your parking pass request form. Wristbands are valid for prelims and finals spectator entry only. Wristbands are not valid for field access.
- **Bands of America does not provide bus driver or staff hospitality areas.**

Bus/Truck Parking Passes

- At the South Texas Regional Championship, bus/truck parking passes are complimentary. If you have not submitted a parking pass request, please complete the form as soon as possible.
- Once you complete your online parking pass order, you will receive an email containing your passes. You may only print the number of parking passes you requested in the form. The number of vehicles admitted into the lots will be verified by BOA Staff. If you need to purchase additional passes, please fill out the form again.
- **A South Texas Regional parking pass is required for each bus and truck. Please display the pass prominently in the front window of the vehicle. For the safety of your students and all attendees, NO VEHICLES will be admitted to the lot without the appropriate pass.**

- One Complimentary Staff Vehicle parking pass will be included with the bus/truck parking passes. Note that **parking for one staff vehicle per band will be available near the bus/truck parking area**. All other personal vehicles need to park in a spectator lot.
- Bus/Truck parking passes may NOT be used in personal vehicles or RVs/campers. Parking Pass procedures and rules DO APPLY to staff vehicles.

Bus/Truck Parking Location and Procedures

- You may choose to unload only your buses in the Optional Bus Unloading area, which is the school bus lane directly EAST of the main school building and dressing areas. Alternatively, you may proceed directly to the main bus parking lot (in either case, please have your equipment trucks report directly to the Truck Lot, located west of the Stadium).
- BOA Staff will be on hand to meet you upon arrival and will give your drivers parking instructions.
- Physical or musical warm up, or other organized activity (including stretching), is **NOT** allowed in the parking lots and is **ONLY** allowed in the official warm-up areas during your assigned warm-up time.
- No eating is allowed in the Bus/Truck parking areas. Please utilize the Band Picnic Area, if needed.
- BOA is committed to providing safe and secure venues and events. Your compliance and cooperation are appreciated.

Instructions for using the Optional Bus Unloading Lane:

- 1) Buses should enter the property via LaVista Avenue (on the north side of campus)
- 2) After unloading students, buses should proceed to the bus lot via Bulldog Road & North 23rd Street.
- 3) Volunteers will be on hand to meet you upon arrival and will give your drivers instructions.

Instructions for using ONLY the Bus/Truck Parking Lots:

- Buses and Trucks should approach the school via North 23rd Street – NOT VIA BICENTENNIAL BLVD as spectator traffic on Bicentennial may cause delays for you and your band.
- Buses and Trucks should access Tamarack Avenue from 23rd Street (southwest of the school). Tamarack Avenue will be open **ONLY** for vehicles with a valid McAllen Regional Parking Pass.

Band Warm-Up

- Warm-up is located on the tennis courts northwest of the stadium (see Site Overview Map). All warm-up areas are paved surfaces.
- NOTE – you will have **20 minutes** in Visual Warm-Up, and **30 minutes** in Music Warm-Up. Your band with NOT change areas between warm-up segments.
- Additional Color Guard Warm-Up space is available northwest of the stadium (see Site Overview Map). This area may also be used, but only during your official warm-up time.
- It is your responsibility to report to your warm-up area at your scheduled time.
- While in warm-up, Bands of America staff will monitor your time and direct you to the Band Entrance Gate for your report time as listed on the prelim schedule.
- Your warm-up official will signal you, or someone you designate at 15 minutes, 5 minutes, and 2 minutes before you must be clear of the warm-up area.
- **Your pit will move toward and arrive at the stadium gate 15 minutes prior to the rest of the band.**
- Bands may **NOT** warm up or rehearse on site, except during their assigned warm-up period and **ONLY** at the assigned location. Remember, there is no warm up (musical or physical) allowed in the parking areas at BOA events. **Failure to comply with warm-up regulations may result in a penalty.**
- If you arrive late for your warm-up time, you cannot stay past your scheduled time. You will be dismissed from warm-up on time so that you will arrive to the band entrance gate on time.
- If you wish to have additional warm-up or practice times, you must make your own arrangements off stadium property. Off-site areas cannot be within earshot or visual vicinity of the event.

Percussion Warm-Up

Battery Percussion

- The battery warm-up area is with the band in the designated band warm-up area.

Pit Percussion

- A separate pit percussion warm-up area is located north of the truck parking lot (see Site Overview Map).
- Pit percussion may also warm up with the band in the designated band warm-up area, although this is not recommended due to distance from the stadium.
- Due to the proximity of the stadium, loud percussion instruments (cymbals, drums, etc.) may be prohibited during warm up. Please be prepared to utilize only mallet keyboard instruments with soft mallets in the designated pit warm-up areas. **There can be no sound bleed into the stadium.**
- Pits will report to the Entrance Gate at their designated time (15 minutes prior to the band report time).

During Your 50-Minute Warm Up

- **Wireless microphone transmitters, wireless networks, and audio and/or lighting control devices may interfere with performances in the stadium and, therefore, may not be used in warm-up areas.** Please avoid any wireless signals that may interfere with a performing band on the field.
- Wired instruments including guitars, keyboards etc. may be used in warm-up at reasonable volumes or while not amplified.

Instrument Repair

- BOA attempts to secure a local music store to serve as the official music store for the event and provide on-site instrument repair service. More details will be available at Band Check-In. In cases where BOA cannot contract a music store, a small instrument repair kit and limited number of loaner instruments will be available if needed.

PERFORMANCE VENUE INFORMATION:

Motorized Vehicles

- Motorized vehicles are allowed into the stadium.
- **All vehicles must have sufficient covering underneath the engine of the vehicle.** There cannot be any acid, fuel, or oil drop on the turf.
- **At no time may a motorized vehicle be inside the playing area of the field. Vehicles can only be driven on the turf or track surrounding the field.**
- Please unlock the wheels on your equipment when in transport. To prevent damage to the playing field, it is recommended that all large instruments and props utilize pneumatic, or similar-style wheels of sufficient size and rating for weight.

Gate Dimensions and Stadium Flow

- The performance entrance gates are **two separate 7'6" wide openings with a height of 10'.**
- **If you have any oversized props or equipment that will not fit through the low entrance gates, please use the field exit gate. If this is necessary, please check-in with BOA staff at the Band Entrance Gates to communicate your needs prior to transiting.**
- The exit gate is 20' wide, with no height restrictions.
- **Reminder:** Bands of America's rules regarding the use of props at Bands of America events are still in effect. Be sure to read Part Two-Section 23.01 – page 20 of the 2019 BOA Adjudication Handbook – Props made of hard materials (i.e. plastics, metals, etc.) may not exceed 12 feet in height.

Field Marks Present

- The Performance Field is marked with **NCAA/Texas High School Field Markings.**
- NCAA/Texas High School markings are permanently marked in white. NCAA/Texas High School field markings are 60' from the front and back sidelines and 40' apart.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Adjudication Panel and Commentary General Information

- The adjudication panel for the South Texas Regional is Joel Denton, Randy Greenwell, Kevin McNulty, David Morrison, Chris Moss, Juno Orefice, and Lindsey Vento. The Chief Judge for the South Texas Regional is Albert Lo. Specific caption assignments will be distributed on-site at band check-in. Your post-event judging questions and concerns should be directed to BOA Chief Judge, Gary Markham, who can be reached at gary.markham@musicforall.org.
- Music for All is utilizing a digital adjudication system (CompetitionSuite) this fall.
- By mid-September, you will receive an email from CompetitionSuite to create or update your profile. You can add members of your staff, cell phone numbers for text alerts and other information to assist in receiving judge commentary from your performance.

On-Site Process:

- Approximately 90 minutes after your prelims performance, you will receive a text message to your primary director phone number letting you know that your commentary files are beginning to upload for you to review. You can then open up the CompetitionSuite phone/tablet application, visit the CompetitionSuite website or call the number from which you received the text message to listen to your commentary.
- **No scores or recaps, prelims or finals, will be released prior to the conclusion of the Finals Awards Ceremony.** All scores will be available online via CompetitionSuite.
- Due to the online system you no longer need to meet a Music for All representative at field level to receive your sheets or recaps.
- A reminder email will be sent by Tuesday after each event if you misplace the link to access your sheets or scores.

Restrooms and Changing Facilities

- If your band needs to change into and out of uniform, restrooms will be available inside the main school building near the spectator parking lot.
- If you need to use these facilities, please go **IN A GROUP**.
- A limited number of port-a-lets will be available near the truck parking lot and pit warm-up area.

Picnic Location and Procedures

- The designated picnic area is located in Municipal Park, directly south of the bus/truck parking lots (see enclosed map).
- Please remind your students to appropriately dispose of their cups and other trash after use.
- Eating is **NOT** allowed in the bus/truck parking areas because of safety concerns.
- Outside food and beverage is **NOT** allowed to be brought into the stadium, either by students or spectators.
- **The stadium will be cleared and concessions will be closed during the dinner break between Prelims and Finals.** Please review the Picnic Information document for more details about on-site picnic areas for use by bands.

Participant Hydration

- **Bands of America will provide a post-performance water station.** Water stations will be placed between the Band Exit Gate and Jolesch photo area.
- **Each participating band should plan appropriately for the care of its students throughout the duration of the event.**
- In most cases, Bands of America will have access to facilities to refill or replenish your water supply. Containers, cups, supplies, and the provision of water service itself are ultimately the responsibility of the participant.

Complimentary Finals Tickets for Non-Finalist Bands

- If your students do not perform in finals, complimentary tickets will be available for bands that wish to stay and watch finals. All students **WILL** need a ticket to enter the stadium for finals.
- Student tickets can only be picked up at the ticket office between prelims and finals.
- We ask that only one adult representative from the band come to the ticket office with proper band identification to pick up these tickets in a block.
- Tickets are for non-finalist students only and **MAY NOT** be used for band staff and parents. Director name badges will still be valid for stadium entry, however those with prelim field passes will need tickets.
- Students will enter the stadium via the band re-entry gate with their student ticket.

Local Time

- The South Texas Regional will operate on Central Time. Please plan your travel and arrival time accordingly.

Spectator Parking

- The spectator lot is located north of the stadium. The vehicle entrance is on the east side of the lot off of Bicentennial Blvd. See attached maps for further information.
- There is no charge for spectator parking.
- Outside food and beverage is **NOT** allowed in the Stadium. Please share this with your parents and boosters in advance.

Music for All is committed to providing safe and secure events.

Weather

Music for All defers to the weather policies and safety protocols of the facilities in which we operate. Music for All will include each school's primary director's cell number for each Regional's important updates. Updates will be provided via the BAND app.

Safety Success

The support and assistance of parent chaperones is necessary to the success of band activities. A parent's involvement demonstrates a caring and willingness to actively support their child in his/her musical endeavors. Please ensure that your support team and fans are informed, and able to help provide wonderful memories for your students.

Stay Informed

Be sure to read all provided materials and maps. This information will help you and your students to be prepared, and help make it a great day. Please let us know if you have any questions prior to arrival.

Stay Positive

Your enthusiasm, positive energy, and interest in each performance help to provide the best experience possible.

Stay Healthy

Restrooms will be available on site, as are concessions, water stations and emergency medical services. Be clear on what to do in the event of an emergency. Having access to your students medical forms can be helpful and can save time in case of emergency.

Stay Aware

Be engaged with your surroundings. If you see something you know shouldn't be there—or someone's behavior that doesn't seem quite right—say something. Security officials are on site at the event to ensure the overall safety of the event and the patrons. Informed, alert communities play a critical role in keeping our nation safe.