



This document contains important details specific to the Grand National Championships and is a supplement to the General Event Procedures document released earlier this season. Please review the General Event Procedures document if you haven't already: marching.musicforall.org/directorinfo/

NEW FOR 2021

Cooperative Tickets Discontinued

To make possible the no-cost student entry for all participating students, Music for All has discontinued the traditional Ticket Cooperative for BOA Championships.

Stadium Flow Entry

All Prop will enter the performance flow from the Missouri Street loading Dock.

Student Re-Entry

All students will receive a wristband for re-entry into the stadium after your performance. These will be provided to you at check-in. People with a name badge or field pass should not receive a wristband. Wristbands are for student participants only. Wristbands are valid for both prelims sessions and semi-finals. ALL NON COMPETING BAND MEMBERS WILL NEED A TICKET TO ENTER FOR FINALS

Cashless Building

Lucas Oil Stadium is a cashless building. There will be (2) cash-to-card machines located in Section 132 and Section 145.

BAND ARRIVAL:

THERE IS AN UPDATED STADIUM ENTRY PROCESS IN PLACE FOR 2021.

Band Check-In

- Directors should report to Band Check-In upon arrival to Lucas Oil Stadium. Band Check-In is located just inside the Southeast Stadium Entrance on the concourse (see map).

Band Check-In Hours of Operation

Directors should be present and responsible for information received at band check-in.

Thursday, 11/11 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday, 11/12 5:00 a.m. until the last band checks in

Saturday, 11/13 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. (Open for questions and assistance only.)

You will only be able to check-in your band and pick up your packet during the hours listed above. Please do not arrive at band check-in outside of the times listed.

REMINDER: Grand National Preliminary Championship judging responsibility are divided into Prelims 1 and Prelims 2 panels, alternating between blocks. Each prelims contest will begin with as equal a number of Bands per Prelims as possible. Bands within each class, (A, AA, AAA and AAAA) will also be divided as equally as possible between Prelims 1 and 2. Each prelims contest will have a separate adjudication panel.

GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT INFORMATION

Friday Night Semi-Finals Directors' Meeting & Performance Order

- Semi-finalist Directors will meet immediately after the Prelims Awards Ceremony.
- A pre-draw for semi-finals performance order will take place when you initially check-in. Numbers will be documented on the master board at Band Check-In.
- The Semi-Finals schedule will be announced and posted online at musicforall.org and in various locations on the concourse level and at the stadium ticket office.
- The open draw will include a “seeding” of the top 22 scoring bands into the middle of the performance day per the Adjudication Handbook.
- We recognize that it will continue to be difficult to plan sleep, rehearsal and meal times in advance of Saturday, but we hope the pre-draw will provide some guidance in preparation. We encourage you to anticipate and take into consideration this uncertainty when creating your itinerary for the day, and have a Plan A, B and maybe C for Saturday.

Saturday Night Finals Directors' Meeting & Performance Order

- The Directors' Meeting for the top 12 bands performing Saturday Night (and exhibition bands, if any) will begin immediately following the Semi-Finals awards ceremony.
- A separate pre-draw for finals performance order will take place when you initially check-in. Numbers will be documented on the master board at Band Check-In.
- The top 6 scoring Bands from Semi-Finals will be assigned the last 6 Finals Performance times in numerical order according to the pre-draw.
- The next 6 will be assigned the first 6 Finals Performance times in numerical order according to the finals pre-draw.
- The official Finals schedule will be distributed, as well as field passes and information regarding the Finale Ceremony.
- We will expedite the information so that the first performing bands will have ample time to eat/dress/prepare.

Finals Format

- Bands of America will announce caption winners and award the placements and scores of all finalists, including the naming and recognition of the 2021 National Champions.
- All scores and recaps will be released via CompetitionSuite to all participating directors immediately after the conclusion of the Finals Awards Ceremony. Full recaps of the Championships will be posted online by end of day, Monday, November 15.

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, semi-finals 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 Monday, November 8th a 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 general admission 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 Semi-Finalist and Finalist Bands will be handed out at the respective Director Meetings.
- 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, semi-finals 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 Grand National Championship, bus/truck parking passes are complimentary.
- 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 for which you requested in the form. The number of vehicles admitted into the lots will be verified by BOA Staff. If you need to add additional passes, please fill out the form again. It is important for us to have an accurate vehicle count to help manage the parking lots.
- A GRAND NATIONAL 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.
- PASSES ARE VALID FOR PERFORMANCE DAY USE ONLY. All other times you should park in the EZ Park Lot.
- REMINDER OVERNIGHT PARKING: You must purchase overnight parking passes to stay in the EZ Park Lot overnight. **You my purchases passes** via <https://www.tfaforms.com/4943584>
- Staff vehicles will not be allowed in the South Lot at any time. Your staff vehicle will need to park in a spectator lot or in the EZ Park (non-performance flow bus/truck 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 AND TRUCK PROCEDURES

Our goal is to safely and equitably allocate resources and accommodate the needs of participating bands. Procedures have been created with this in mind. We have experienced event staff and volunteers who will supervise available resources and support you in every way possible. We ask that you review carefully these procedures and pass them on to all parent/booster volunteers who will be involved, asking them to be knowledgeable of the procedures and flexible and supportive of the process and persons charged with managing parking and outside event flow.

While the parking lots provided are generally safe and secure, parking in these lots is at the risk of the user/participant. Music for All will not be liable for theft, damages, injury or other loss. BOA is committed to providing safe and secure venues and events. Your compliance and cooperation are appreciated.

Bus/Truck Unload and Reload in the South Lot**

- The Bus/Truck Unload & Reload area is in the South Lot of Lucas Oil Stadium. Entry and exit for this lot will be from McCarty Street, Gate #10.
- The earliest time vehicles may enter the South Lot is 2 hours prior to performance, which is indicated on the schedule. Groups who arrive prior to the group's assigned times will be directed to hold in the EZ Park Lot.
- Vehicles may remain in the South Lot until the assigned exit time on the prelims schedule which is 1 hour and 15 minutes after the start of your performance.

- Your buses/trucks will need to depart the South Lot, which is indicated on the schedule. The time allotted is enough to comfortably participate in post-performance photos, prop tear down and equipment reloading.
- After departing the South Lot, buses and trucks should proceed to the EZ Park Lot for parking.
- Buses and trucks arriving prior to the group's assigned South Lot time will be directed to hold in the EZ Park Lot.

****SPECIAL EXCEPTION:**

- Bands in the last performance blocks each session **may be allowed** to have your buses/trucks remain parked in the South Lot until the end of that session, provided that there is space. Please confirm with the lot manager upon arrival and follow their instructions.
- Groups are indicated with a note in the departure time column of the schedule if we anticipate that we should be able to allow your vehicles to stay
- All buses/trucks must be cleared of the South Lot at the end of Prelims each night.

Semi-Finalist Bands

- Bands performing in Semi-Finals will follow the same Unload/Reload and Parking procedure as Prelims bands.
- Bands in the last block of Semi-Finals may be allowed to remain parked in the South Lot, provided that there is space. Please confirm with the lot manager upon arrival.
- Buses and trucks must be removed from the South Lot **immediately** following the Semi-Finals Awards Ceremony.
- Non-Semi-Finalist bands that wish to return to the stadium to watch performances should park in the EZ Park Lot.

Finalist Bands

- All Finalist bands will enter the South Lot 2 hours prior to performance, as noted on the Finals Schedule, and then remain parked in the South Lot until the end of Finals.
- Non-Finalist bands that wish to return to the stadium to watch performances should park in the EZ Park Lot.

Bus/Truck Parking in EZ Park Lot

- After departing the South Lot, buses and trucks that need to park may proceed to the EZ Park Lot.
- Buses that need a place to stage prior to their assigned South Lot entry time may hold in the EZ Park Lot.
- Physical or Musical Warm-Up is prohibited in the bus parking lots (South Lot and EZ Park) and only allowed in the official warm-up areas during your assigned warm-up time.
- NO eating is allowed in any of the Bus/Truck parking areas.
- If you wish to have additional warm-up or practice times, you must make your own arrangements off of Lucas Oil Stadium property or through the Indiana Convention Center spaces offered by BOA and managed by Music Travel Consultants.
- Bands that wish to return to the Stadium to watch other bands perform (same day or opposite day) should park their buses in the EZ Park Lot.
- See "Overnight Bus/Truck Parking" section below for details on overnight parking.

Bus Parking for Non-Performance Band Arrivals:

- Bands who wish to attend performances in the stadium (opposite day or same day of performance) should park their buses in the EZ Park Lot and walk to the Stadium.
- Curbside drop-off and pick-up of students is available along curb lanes surrounding Lucas Oil Stadium. Curbside parking or extended "waiting" is not permitted at any time.
- Band Re-Entry into the Stadium will be through the East Gate at all times except during finals. Please use the North Gate during Saturday Finals.

Overnight Bus/Truck Parking

- Overnight bus/truck parking is **ONLY** permitted in the EZ Park Lot.
- Passes should be picked-up at Band Check-In when you arrive on-site.
- An Overnight Parking Permit may be purchased from the BOA website at <https://www.tfaforms.com/4943584> for \$50 per pass, valid **ONLY** for the EZ Park lot at the corner of West St. and Merrill St. This pass is valid for Wednesday - Saturday nights only and will be a secondary pass that is different than your complimentary bus/truck parking passes for the event.
- **The earliest groups can enter the EZ Park Lot for overnight bus parking is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10.**
- **ALL VEHICLES must be removed from the EZ Park Lot by 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 14.**
- Overnight parking is at your own risk. BOA and EZ Park will accept no responsibility or liability for loss, risk of loss or injury.
- If buses or trucks are parked overnight, each vehicle must have a sign on the driver-side window with a name and contact number for use by BOA or EZ Park officials in the event that they must be moved to accommodate the flow of the show.
- Overnight parking is prohibited in the South Lot of Lucas Oil Stadium.

BAND WARM-UP & STADIUM FLOW

- Props will be unloaded in the bus/truck unload and reload area (South Lot).
- There is **LIMITED** space in this lot for prop assembly. Bus/Truck parking is the first priority. Should you need or require additional space or time, we encourage you to seek and use “off-site” resources in the immediate vicinity of Lucas Oil Stadium. Please feel free to contact us for information about known lots and storage spaces in the area.
- Please follow the instructions of the BOA parking attendant who will determine if there is space for prop assembly.
- Please remember that Bands of America has a prop height restriction of 12’ (including wheels). A penalty will be imposed if your props are higher than 12’.
- Props taller than 8’ **MUST** enter through the Pit/Prop Entry Tunnel as indicated on the enclosed map. Only props measuring less than 8’ tall and 10’ wide may enter through the Band Entry Tunnel.
- Please carefully read the Gate Dimensions section of this document to ensure your props can fit through the corridor and entry/exit points.
- Lucas Oil Stadium has a FieldTurf© playing surface. You may tape tarps or other equipment to the field **ONLY** if it does not leave a residue. Any damage to the field or cleanup fee will be at the band’s expense.

Stadium Entry

- There will be **TWO** points of entry for groups this year.
- Each Band has a specific report time to the top of the Southwest tunnel of the Stadium per the performance schedule. Bands may not enter the tunnel prior to their scheduled report time.
- Winds, Percussion, Pit and Guard will enter the Southwest Tunnel and Large Equipment and Props will enter via the Missouri Street Loading Docks. **REPORT TIMES FOR BOTH THE SOUTHWEST RAMP AND MISSOURI STREET DOCK ARE AT THE SAME TIME.** Please be prepared to move in two separate groups.

Large Equipment and Props

- Equipment that will not be going to the warm-up areas should follow the stadium entry process:
- Equipment and props should be fully assembled prior to moving across the street to the Stadium. The staging area is small and you will not have room to assemble.

- Equipment may enter the Missouri Street Dock at your band's official report time to the Southwest Tunnel (these report times are the same to both areas).
- Equipment must enter prior to the next band's schedule entry or risk loss of priority in the flow.
- To reach the Missouri Street Dock exit the Bus/Truck Lot via **GATE 1** into the lane closure on Missouri Street. You will proceed North in the lane until you reach the top of the Missouri Street Loading Dock Ramp.
- Props that are wider than 8 feet will need to exit the South Lot at **Gate 11** to enter into the lane closure on Missouri Street.
- A Bands of America representative will meet you at the top of the ramp. **DO NOT REPORT TO THIS AREA PRIOR TO YOUR ASSIGNED REPORT TIME.**
- You will be directed down the ramp and into the loading docks to hold.
- Once inside the inner dock area you will be routed through the staging area. Please follow the instructions of the stadium staff and volunteers managing this area.
- If you have students assisting you with the equipment who need to proceed to warm up, they may continue through the dock ramp door and down to the warm-up area. You must have parents stay with your equipment to continue it through the staging process.
- Reminder: Please note that this is an active area with many vehicles and equipment moving around.

Winds, Percussion and Guard Entering the Stadium and Arriving to Warm-Up

- Each Band has a specific report time to the top of the Southwest tunnel of the Stadium per the performance schedule. Bands may not enter the Tunnel prior to their scheduled report time.
- If you arrive late for your report time, you will be late to warm up and will not be allowed to stay past your 45-minute scheduled time. You will be dismissed from warm up on time so that you will arrive to the band entrance gate on time.
- **Pit Percussion MUST be in FRONT of the band as you report to the Southwest Tunnel.**
- BOA volunteers will meet you at the Southwest Tunnel and assist you in getting to your designated warm-up area(s). You will not be able to enter the warm-up areas until the time designated on the schedule.
- **Remember there is no warm-up (musical or physical) allowed in the parking areas at BOA events.**
- Bands may **NOT** warm up or rehearse on site, except during their assigned warm-up period and **ONLY** at the assigned location.
- **Failure to comply with warm-up regulations may result in a penalty.**
- If you wish to have additional warm-up or practice times, you must make your own arrangements off Stadium property.

During Your 45-Minute Warm-Up

- While in warm up, BOA staff will monitor your time and direct you to the Band Entrance Area 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.
- All warm-up is restricted to the official time in the warm-up areas as per the schedule.
- Warm-Up Halls are divided with a curtain, separating the physical and Musical Warm-Up areas. Your band will start on one side of the curtain with a 15-minute Physical Warm-Up and move to the other side for Musical Warm-Up.
- The Warm-up Areas and Flow through the Stadium at Grand Nationals are restricted areas. Only band members, director badge holders, field pass holders, and BOA officials are allowed in the warm-up areas or on the Stadium's performance surface.
- Extra parents/others are allowed in the bus/truck parking area to assist with unload and reload and prop assembly, but they may not enter/exit the building via the Southwest Tunnel unless they have a field pass or name badge. Use of extra parents (for safety and efficiency, as needed) is encouraged for movement of unusually large, cumbersome or heavy props and equipment up and down the ramp to

and from the stadium. Un-credentialed helpers are permitted in the parking and ramp areas but may not proceed into the building and performance flow.

- 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.**

Physical Warm-Up

- Each band has 15 minutes for Physical Warm-Up.
- Please be advised that space is limited. You should plan your activities accordingly.
- Music, drums, guard equipment work, long rangers/Megavoxes/loud speakers, and recorded music are not allowed.
- No instrument playing is allowed.
- Only handclaps will be allowed in Physical Warm-Up. Dr. Beats, Jam Blocks or woodblocks are **not** permitted due to the sound bleed between areas.
- The band will then proceed to the other side of the curtain, and/or to the optional Music Warm-Up room, for a 30-minute Musical Warm-Up.

Musical Warm-Up (Two locations available per band)

- Each group will be assigned TWO locations for Musical Warm-Up: a section of an exhibit hall with 27' high ceilings and a standard meeting room with 15' high ceilings. See enclosed map.
- Bands have the option of using one or both spaces during your **designated Musical Warm-Up time only**.
- Musical Warm-Up spaces (primary or optional areas) may NOT be used during your Physical Warm-Up time.
- Your Battery may warm-up in either of your assigned Music Warm-Up locations (primary or optional) but **ONLY** during your assigned Musical Warm-Up times per the schedule.
- In your primary Musical Warm-Up area you may only use woodblocks or Jam Blocks, at a reasonable volume so as to not disturb other warm-up areas.
- Amplified electronic devices will not be permitted in the primary music warm-up areas (no Dr. Beats/Long Rangers/MegaVoxs). Exception: electronic devices may be used to sound a drone for tuning purposes but must be kept at a reasonable level.

Wireless Systems and Amplification

- **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.

Front Ensemble Warm-Up

- A separate Pit Percussion Warm-Up is located in a meeting room near the Optional Musical Warm-Up Areas.
- Please note: Carts used to transport pit equipment cannot exceed 67" in width at floor level. At 36" from the ground the narrowest point is 64" in width. Please make sure all equipment can fit through this point.
- See the Performance Schedule for the designated Pit Warm-Up Time for this area only.
- Battery who wishes to warm-up with their pits may **ONLY** do so during your front ensembles warm-up time. You will have to relocate to the primary or optional rooms for the last 15 minutes of your total warm-up time. *This is not recommended due to time lost with transitions between areas and traffic in the hallways.*

- Pits will report to the Pit Entry Gate at the designated time on the schedule; 15-minutes prior to the band report time.

Battery Warm-Up

- Your Battery may warm-up in the main area with your winds and guard. HOWEVER, we ask that you please place your batter at the farthest wall from the curtains dividing physical and musical warm-up..
- Battery may use the alternate musical warm-up areas or warm-up with your front ensemble. Each room will start and end based on the room type not the performers using it. (ex. Battery may not start playing in the optional musical room until your musical warm-up time has started. You may not start during physical warm-up time)

PERFORMANCE VENUE INFORMATION

Motorized Vehicles in the Stadium

- Golf carts or gas-powered vehicles are allowed only if they have a bib-type covering underneath the engine of the vehicle.
- There must be some type of covering under the battery of any amplified equipment. There cannot be any mechanical fluids dropped on the FieldTurf®.
- We recommend that you wrap all tires on your vehicles and equipment.
- Bands will be billed for any excessive wear and tear or markings left on Lucas Oil Stadium surfaces.
- Please unlock the wheels on your front ensemble carts 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.

Field Marks Present

The field will have 3 sets of hash marks:

- Pro hash marks at 70'9" from both sidelines, in **white paint**, including the marks for each yard.
- Texas HS/Collegiate hash marks, 60' from both sidelines, in **yellow tape** (on each 5-yard line)
- High school hash marks at 53'4", dividing the field into thirds, in **white tape**, including the marks for each yard.
- There are Pro Numbers marked on the field in white paint every 10 yards. Additionally, there will be small marking in white tape indicating where the top and bottom of the H.S numbers would be every 10 yards.
- The enclosed Field Dimensions map also show the location and dimensions of the Colts helmet and other field markings.
- **NEW FOR 2021** - Livestream microphones will be placed 1 foot outside the 15 foot line on the 35 and 50 yardlines – PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS WHEN DETERMINING PODIUM AND SPEAKER PLACEMENT.

The maps enclosed also show the location of the Colts helmet, Yamaha, Marines and BOA logos on the field.

Tunnel Dimensions

West Corridor (Band/Pit/Prop route to Warm-Up/Field Entry):

- The smallest point in the Stadium's corridor from the Southwest Tunnel to the Northwest Tunnel is **12' high, 10' wide**. Please make sure all props and equipment can fit through this point. Please note below the actual Field Entry Dimensions.

Field Entry Points:

- **Pit/Prop Field Entry** (Northwest Tunnel): **12' high, 15' wide**

Please note that due to show flow this entrance is shared with another group's pit or props during the staging time.

- **Band Field Entry** (Northeast Tunnel): **8' high, 10' wide**
- **Pit/Prop Field Exit** (Southwest Tunnel): **12' high, 14' wide**

Route to designated Pit Warm-Up Area:

- Carts used to transport pit equipment cannot exceed 67" in width at floor level. At 36" from the ground, the narrowest point is 64" in width. Please make sure all equipment can fit through this point.

Prop Height Restrictions

- Please remember that Bands of America has implemented a prop height restriction of 12'. The exception is any prop made of or including "soft materials" (ex. streamers, fabric, inflatables) is permitted up to a height of twenty-five feet. Props made of "hard materials" (wood, metal, plastic, PVC pipe), must still follow the existing twelve-foot maximum height rule.
- A penalty will be imposed if your "hard material" props are higher than 12'.
- Props taller than 8' MUST enter through the Pit/Prop Entry Tunnel as indicated on the enclosed map. Only props measuring less than 8' tall and 10' wide may enter through the Band Entry Tunnel.

Exit from Field & Photo

- At the conclusion of your Prelims performance, bands will exit to their left and upstairs to the South end zone seating area for a group photo taken by Jolesch Enterprises.
- Pit equipment and props will be taken out the Southwest Tunnel.
- Students who assist in transporting props & equipment will have a small area to drop equipment in the Southwest Tunnel so they can proceed up the stairs immediately to the band photo area.
- Because there is limited post performance storage space, pit crew and other adults are strongly encouraged to immediately take equipment and props out of the Stadium during the band's group photo.
- *Please note there is plenty of time to allow for full band and small group and sectional photos.* However, we encourage you to have color guard and percussion take small group photos first so that they may return to the Tunnel to help clear any remaining equipment that has not exited.
- Groups will exit the building via the South doors. Those needing to return to the field level to collect equipment will be directed through the stairwell located inside the Family and Players Suite Elevator bank in the SW corner near section 132.

Student Stadium Re-Entry

- All students will need to receive a wristband for re-entry into the stadium after your performance.
- People with a name badge or field pass should not receive a wristband.
- Wristbands are for student participants only.
- Wristbands are valid for both prelims sessions and semi-finals. **ALL NON COMPETING BAND MEMBERS WILL NEED A TICKET TO ENTER FOR FINALS**

Directors Viewing Area and Directors Audio Control

- The traditional directors' viewing area, in the lower level near the 50-yardline and accessible from field level, will be available to directors.
- A secondary directors' viewing area will also be available, located on the Upper Suite Level (judge level). This area is available **ONLY** for competing band staff **DURING YOUR BAND'S PERFORMANCE**.
- Each band will be allotted up to **TWO** passes per band authorizing entry to the Upper Suite Level viewing area. Please indicate your desire to use this area when you arrive at band check in. You will be given a special pass at that time.
- Your Band Videographers credential **does not** allow them to film from the Directors' Audio Control area.
- After picking up your passes, you may proceed to the designated suite on Upper Suite Level and wait outside the room. You will be allowed into the suite **ONLY** when your band takes the field, and you must leave the room and Upper Suite Level as your band is exiting the field.

- Bands who remain on the Upper Suite Level outside of their allotted timeframe will be subject to a penalty.
- Reminder: adults may operate wired or wireless devices from any location outside the Performance Field. As before, students may also operate these devices from these areas or from within the Performance Field.

ADJUDICATION PANEL AND COMMENTARY GENERAL INFORMATION

- The Grand National Adjudication Panels will be comprised of the following: John Alstrin, George Boulden, Ryan Brittain, David Carbone, Lee Carlson, Curtis Costanza, Marie Czapsinski, Glenn Fugett, Ken Giese, Mike Howard, John Howell, Nola Jones, Jay Kennedy, Tim Ochran, Chester Phillips, Robert Solomon, Jim Sturgeon, Ken Turner, Michael Turner, Dale Warren, Greg Williams
- The Chief Judge will be John Phillips
- Music for All is utilizing a digital adjudication system (CompetitionSuite) again this fall.
- Prior to your arrival you received 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:

- 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, semi-finals 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.

GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

Bands of America Headquarters

Bands of America Grand National HQ phone: 877-643-6043 (beginning Wednesday November 10 at 5pm)
On-site questions may also be directed to the Music for All Info Booth located on the North concourse.

Local Time

- **At the time of Grand Nationals, Indianapolis will be on Eastern Time. Please plan your travel and arrival time accordingly.**

Instrument Repair – Paige’s Music & Chops Percussion

- Paige’s Music an official Yamaha instrument dealer, will provide loaner instruments for the entire event. They will be located near the Front Ensemble Field Entrance. Please ask a Event Staff team member for assistance.

Restrooms and Changing Facilities

- If your band needs to change into and out of uniform, you may enter as a group via the South Doors of Lucas Oil Stadium.
- If you need to use these facilities, please go IN A GROUP with an adult representative
- A limited number of port-a-lets will be available near the South Lot of Lucas Oil Stadium.

Student Admittance to the Stadium

Entering the building to be an audience member when not in performance flow or coming as an opposite day audience member.

- **PRELIMS PERFORMANCE, PRELIMS NON-PERFORMANCE DAY AND SEMI FINALS:** ANY GROUP MAY ENTER WITH A VALID WRISTBAND ON THE DAY OF THEIR PERFORMANCE, OPPOSITE DAY OF PERFORMANCE OR FOR SEMI FINALS.
- **ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A WRISTBAND FOR ENTRY** at the **East Gate**.
- **Complimentary Student Wrist bands are not for adult use.**
- Groups arriving prior to performance should enter the stadium AS A GROUP through the East Gate of the stadium escorted by a school official. (Students must have their wristband prior to entry)
- **FOR FINALS:** ANY NON PERFORMANCE GROUP MUST ENTER WITH A TICKET AT the North Gate (the North Gate is only open for Finals).
- Finalist band members do not need a ticket or hand stamp, as the students will be in uniform.
- If you are returning, or arriving early, you must park in the off-site EZ-Park Lot and walk to the stadium (see map).

Picnic Location and Procedures

- There is no picnic area available for this event. We recommend making use of the Circle Center Mall food court, Arts Garden area, and local establishments for the feeding of your groups.
- 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.
- Water stations will be placed near the Band Field Exit and in the warm-up areas.
- **Each participating band should plan appropriately for the care and hydration of its students throughout the duration of the event.**

Participant Hydration

- **Bands of America will provide water in warm-up areas and a post-performance water station.**
- Each participating band should plan appropriately for the care of its students throughout the duration of the event.
- Please remember that hydration begins the day before.
- Water stations are located throughout Lucas Oil Stadium for participant use.

Spectator Entry

- Tickets may be purchased on-site at the Southeast Ticket Office of Lucas Oil Stadium Thursday-Saturday of Grand Nationals. Will-Call tickets may be picked up at the Southeast Ticket Office.
- Spectator entry will be via the East Gate of the Stadium for Prelims and Semi-Finals.
- Spectator entry will be via the North Gate of the Stadium for Finals Competition.

Spectator Parking

- A limited amount of spectator parking is available in Lot A North of the Stadium and the South Lot of Lucas Oil Stadium. The cost for each of these lots is \$20.00 per vehicle with NO in/out privileges.
- Accessible parking spaces are located in the South lot of the Stadium via the Missouri Street Gate 3 parking lot entrance. The cost for this lot is \$20.00 per vehicle with NO in/out privileges. Parking spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- A drop-off/pick-up location is available along Capitol Ave. outside of the Colts Team Store.
- Additional spaces surround the stadium in various lots and parking garages. A map of parking and prices for area lots is available online at <http://www.indydt.com/parking.com>
- BOA does not operate, guarantee access to, or control the pricing or policies of Lucas Oil Stadium or other surrounding lots.
- Plan to arrive early to allow plenty of time to park, buy tickets and enter the Stadium. Encourage parents, boosters and fans to do the same. Lucas Oil Stadium is a large, urban-based professional

facility. Allowing extra time for movement and the unfamiliar and unanticipated is essential and prudent.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MERCHANDISE, EVENT LIVESTREAMS

Photography

- **Jolesch Enterprises** will be on-site taking action photos on the field level as well as group and section photos. Ordering information is available online at www.bandgroupphotography.com
- Use of cameras of any kind is **NOT ALLOWED** on the field (stadium floor) for any BOA event. Please communicate this to your parent/booster group.
- **Still cameras (digital or film, professional or otherwise) are allowed into the stadium and may be used from stadium seating, but not on the field.**
- Tripods and similar equipment that may obstruct the view of others in seating areas are not allowed.
- The issuance of a “Field Pass” or other non-Media BOA Credential does not include the right to use a camera on the field. Pass holders must go into stadium spectator seating to use their camera.

Event Merchandise

- PepWear is the official Bands of America Merchandise provider and will be on-site at each BOA Fall Championship.
- Online shopping is also available at shop.musicforall.org
- Championship Patches are available for pre-order at the online store or at marching.musicforall.org/downloads to allow for easy pickup at the event.

Live Streaming of all Bands of America Championships

- The 2021 Bands of America Regional Grand National Championships will be live streamed, powered by BOX5 Media, the leader in scholastic marching band streaming video. Available at BOAlive.tv.

Educational Video Recording

- Due to United States copyright laws, it is unlawful to create recordings without permission from the copyright holder(s). An exception is for an “educational copy” to be used solely by the teachers and students for review.
- Bands of America will provide ONE “Educational Videographer” badge at band check-in for each group.
- Educational Videographers may only use public seating area. BOA is **unable** to provide access to the Director Viewing Area, Press Boxes, Suite Level, etc. to avoid issues of professional recordings vs. educational copies.

Lucas Oil Stadium Rules and Regulations

- You must use some type of covering under the batteries of any amplified equipment – there cannot be any acid, gasoline or oil drop on the turf.
- Helium balloons will not be allowed in the Stadium.
- Drones are not allowed in the stadium or on stadium property.
- Any equipment or substance that would do damage to the surface, such as Fire Extinguishers, sharp objects, material left on the surface, etc. will not be allowed in the Stadium.
- Golf carts or gas-powered vehicles are allowed only if they have a bib-type covering underneath the engine of the vehicle. If there is inclement weather and it is wet outdoors, please be prepared to cover your tires with plastic (Saran Wrap works well) once inside.
- Concessions will be available throughout the concourse area. Due to Stadium policy, you are not allowed to bring food into the Stadium. We appreciate your cooperation.
- Lucas Oil Stadium is a cashless building. There will be (2) cash-to-card machines located in Section 132 and Section 145.
- All entrances to the Stadium are ADA compliant.

- Local Indianapolis ordinance prohibits smoking inside Lucas Oil Stadium.
- The Stadium has a retractable roof, but please note the roof will be CLOSED for the Indianapolis Super Regional.

From a safety and security perspective, fans should observe the following: Students, parents, directors and fans should be advised that nothing larger than a small personal handbag, subject to inspection, will be permitted inside the Stadium (through the main gates).

Performance-related equipment will be permitted in, but only through the routine flow of the event. Items specifically prohibited inside the Stadium are listed below. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in denial of admission to the stadium.

Fans are advised to arrive early to avoid congestion at the gates. Gates and gate open times are listed on the Daily Schedule contained in your final packet and as published on www.musicforall.org.

Fans and participants may not bring the following items into the Stadium:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • Audio/Video Devices | • Large Purses |
| • Bottles | • Backpacks |
| • Cans | • Balloons (Helium) |
| • Liquor Containers | • Fanny packs |
| • Food and Beverages | • Air-Horns |
| • Coolers | • Missile-like objects |
| • Bags | • Drones |

Bands of America strictly prohibits the presence of weapons on Lucas Oil Stadium property during our event.

Bands of America will provide a qualified medical staff, and they will be located on the field and concourse for any major problems that might arise. Find the nearest uniformed Lucas Oil Stadium staff member, a BOA volunteer or BOA staff member for immediate assistance.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Music for All is committed to providing safe and secure events. During these unprecedented times, it is important for each of us to engage in safe interactions and prudent preventative measures. We encourage you to equip your groups with appropriate safety equipment, and highly encourage all spectators to do the same. Please share the Bands of America Spectator Guide with your fans, and please contact us to discuss any specifics for your students.

COVID-19

Music for All is working with each venue to establish specific protocols for bands, spectators, and event staff. Please see individual show packets for details about your event and venue. Music for All will defer to CDC (Centers of Disease Control), State, and Local guidelines and venue guidelines for safety and enforcement of policies.

MFA Employees – Vaccination

Please share the following statements with your administration and community, as needed.

Music for All recently announced it will require all salaried employees and contracted personnel to be vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to attendance at the 2021 Bands of America Championships. The safety and well-being of those attending Bands of America Championships continues to be a top priority for Music for All. The latest recommendations of scientists, health officials, and authorities are that the COVID-19 vaccine provides the best protection against severe infection. Music for All will follow local requirements for safety and policies for event spectators. Policies and guidelines will be posted on marching.musicforall.org prior to each event.

Bag Policy

Music for All encourages spectators to not bring bags into venues. Bag policies are effective to expedite entry into venues and provide additional safety. Spectators will be allowed to bring items such as cameras provided, they are not

in cases that would violate the bag policy at that venue. ***Lucas Oil Stadium is not enforcing a clear bag policy for this event. However, security lines and bag searches will be happening. We encourage you to use a clear bag or limit your items to ensure a timeline entry into the stadium***

Know the 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.

Build your TEAM

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 spectators are informed and able to help provide wonderful memories for your students, modeling positive interactions, and being supportive of other performers.

Stay HEALTHY

Restrooms, concessions, water stations, and emergency medical services will be available onsite. Have clear plans for what to do in the event of a health issue and share with your team. Having access to your students' medical forms and a basic plan for emergencies can save time and keeps everyone safer.

Keep yourself INFORMED

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

Create POSITIVE energy

Your enthusiasm, positive energy, and interest in each performance help to create the best experience for everyone involved. We encourage students, parents, and directors to meet new friends, lift up those around you, and celebrate the dedication and hard work of every group.

Be AWARE

Be engaged with your surroundings. If you see something you know should not 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