



Bands of America Fall Championships
GENERAL EVENT PROCEDURES
"Positively Life-Changing Experiences..."



Welcome! Thank you for choosing to have Bands of America be part of your 2022 season.

The purpose of this document is to familiarize yourself with procedures that are common at all Regional, Super Regional, and the Grand National Championships. Event-specific procedures documents will be included as part of each event's final communication sent 30 days prior to the event date. Whether you are a returning director, or this is your first time at a Bands of America event, please review information carefully, as some procedures have been updated for the 2022 season.

Bands of America information will be posted at marching.musicforall.org. Please bookmark this to find information more easily.

PREPARATION BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

To prepare for your performance, please ensure you have:

- Completed paperwork for fall championship events which will be sent in August. Please see the director checklist, available August 15th, for items that need completion.
- Reviewed maps, performance flow, and schedules, which are posted on each event's final packet page on the website.
- Print parking passes (may require purchase, depending on the show).
- Sign-Up for the BAND app! Our preferred communication tool to keep you up to date.
<https://band.us/n/afab512419HcS>

ARRIVAL

Bus/Truck Parking and Lot Procedures

- Please review the 2022 Parking Information available at marching.musicforall.org.
- The parking pass order form will be available in August for you to purchase and print your parking passes. If you need to purchase additional passes, please fill out the form again.
- **Bus/Truck parking passes may NOT be used in personal vehicles or RVs/campers. Exception: Regional Events allow for one staff vehicle pass. Parking Pass procedures and rules DO APPLY to staff vehicles. Note: There is no staff parking for Super Regionals or Grand National Championships.**
- BOA Parking 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.
- **For safety reasons, no eating is allowed in the parking areas. Please utilize the Band Picnic Area for meals, if needed.**
- BOA is committed to providing safe and secure venues and events. Your compliance and cooperation are appreciated.

Band Check-In

- When you first arrive, you will be directed to Band Check-In. Refer to the Site Overview Map for location.
- Band Check-In will open 30 MINUTES prior to the first band's warm-up time.
- Your check-in packet will consist of your event credentials, and other relevant event information.
- You will receive your participant segment patches at Band Check-In.
- At Super Regional events, you may check in on Friday, regardless of performance day. At Grand Nationals, you may check in on Thursday, regardless of performance day.

FINALS INFORMATION

12 Band Regional Finals

- To highlight more outstanding performers, all 2022 Bands of America Regional Finals will include 12 finalist bands. As in past years, class champions that do not advance to finals will be invited to perform in exhibition, as well as participate in the Finals Awards Ceremony.

Pre-Draw for Finals Performance Order at Events

- When you check in at a Regional Championship, you will draw a number. **Regional** numbers will range from **1 to 34** (or the total number of bands performing at the event).
- At Regional Championships, the Finals performance schedule will be derived by assigning the top 6 scoring bands from Prelims the last 6 performance times in numerical order according to the pre-draw. The next 6 will be assigned the first 6 performance times in numerical order according to the pre-draw.
- When you check in at a Super Regional Championship, you will draw a number. **Super Regional** numbers will range from **1 to 84** (or the total number of bands performing at the event).
- At Super Regional Championships, the Finals performance schedule will be derived by assigning the top 7 scoring bands from Prelims the last 7 performance times in numerical order according to the pre-draw. The next 7 will be assigned the first 7 performance times in numerical order according to the pre-draw.
- When you check in at the **Grand National Championships**, you will draw a number from **TWO** tumblers. The first draw will range from **1 to 110** (or the total number of bands performing at the event) and will be used for the Saturday Semi-Finals event. The second draw will be for the Saturday evening Finals event.
- The Grand National Championships Semi-Finals performance schedule will be derived by utilizing our traditional multi-step process. Please see the [BOA Adjudication Handbook](#) for a detailed outline.
- The Grand National Championships Finals performance schedule will be derived through a similar process to Super Regionals (top 6 scores/next 6 scores).
- We will document your pre-drawn number on our master board of pre-drawn performance times. The board will be located at Band Check-In and updated as bands check in for the event.
- Photo updates of the draw board will be posted in the BAND app throughout the day.

Finalist Director Meeting

- A Finalist Directors meeting will occur immediately after the preliminary awards ceremony. The official Finals schedule will be distributed as well as finals field passes and information regarding the Finals Awards Ceremony. The location of this meeting will be given on site.
- At Grand Nationals, the Semi-Finalist & Finalist Directors meetings will still occur on Friday and Saturday evenings respectively, immediately following that sessions awards ceremony. The official schedules for each session will be distributed as well as field passes and information regarding the Finals Awards Ceremony.
- This is a time for directors to share any operational challenges from the day, and if feasible, allow for BOA to adjust to provide the best possible experience.
- The Finale on-field retreat organization will be explained, and a Finale Map will be distributed, for the end of night awards ceremony. We encourage you to include your drum majors, as possible, in the meeting.

WARM-UP AND PERFORMANCE FLOW

General Band Warm-Up Procedures

- It is your responsibility to report to your warm-up area at your scheduled time.
- While in warm up, BOA staff will monitor your time and direct you to the Band Entrance Gate for your report time as listed on the prelim schedule. **Your group will begin moving out the warm-up area with 2 minutes left in your time and must be clear by the end of your time.** Groups will be allowed to enter the area as the previous group is exiting, as directed by BOA staff.
- Your warm-up official will signal you/your staff designee at 15 minutes, five minutes, and two minutes before you must be clear of the warm-up area.
- 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 arrive late for your warm-up time, you cannot stay past your 45-minute scheduled time. You will be dismissed from warm-up on time to arrive at the band entrance gate on time.

General Pit Percussion Warm-Up Procedures

- A separate Pit Warm-Up area will be available on site. Refer to the Site Overview Map for location.
- Pit percussion may also warm-up with the Band in the designated Band Warm-up Area, although this is usually not recommended due to the distance from the stadium.
- **Pits will move to the Entrance Gate at their designated time: 15 minutes prior to the band report time.**

During Your Warm-Up

- **There can be no sound bleed into the stadium.**
- **Wireless microphones, 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.
- Indoor warm-up areas will restrict the use of amplified time-keeping devices, long rangers, and megaphones as needed. Only non-amplified methods such as jam blocks and stick clicks will be allowed.
- More details, including a list of equipment that may be allowed/prohibited due to warm-up locations, will be communicated in each event's individual event procedures document.

Motorized Vehicles

- At most venues, motorized vehicles are allowed into the stadium. **All vehicles must have a bib (diaper) type covering underneath the engine of the vehicle.**
- **At no time may a motorized vehicle be inside the playing area of the field in any venue. Vehicles can only be driven on the turf or track surrounding the field, in stadiums where the venue allows this.**
- There must be some type of covering under the battery of any amplified equipment. There cannot be any acid, fuel or oil drop on the turf.
- To prevent damage to the playing field, please unlock the wheels on your front ensemble carts when in transport. It is recommended that all large instruments and props utilize pneumatic or similar-style wheels of sufficient size and rating for weight.

Field Markings and Flow Dimensions

- Gate dimensions for all field entry and exit gates and details on hash marks are available in the "Field Layout and Tunnel Dimensions" document.
- **Livestream microphones will be placed 1 foot outside the 15 foot line on the 35 and 50 yard lines – PLEASE ACCOUNT FOR THIS WHEN DETERMINING PODIUM AND SPEAKER PLACEMENT.**
- BOA's rules regarding the use of props at events are still in effect and can be found in the BOA Adjudication Handbook.

Performance Timing

- Please see the BOA Adjudication Handbook for details on timing of your introduction announcement, setup timing, and exit timing.
- Bands of America field staff will be in place to help ensure the best experience for you and your students.

PERFORMER CARE AND RESOURCES

Restrooms and Changing Facilities

- At most events, a band changing area will be available in or near the stadium. Exact locations will be available in each event's individual event procedures document.
- If you need to use these facilities, please go **IN A GROUP**.
- At stadiums where no indoor facilities are available near the parking lots, a limited number of port-a-lets will be available near the bus and truck parking lot and warm-up area. In these cases, please plan to utilize busses or alternate locations for changing.

Feeding and Watering your Band

- Eating is **NOT** allowed in the bus/truck parking areas.

- 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.
- Bands of America will provide a post-performance water station. Water station locations will be indicated on each event's site overview map. **It is the responsibility of each band to ensure proper hydration of its members through out the duration of the event.**
- Bands of America has created a "Hydration Guide" (found at marching.musicforall.org/directorinfo) that can be used as a resource while creating a successful hydration plan to keep your group healthy and ready to perform.
- Please remind your students to utilize refillable water containers when possible, and to appropriately dispose of trash.

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 for minor repairs. More details will be available in each event's individual event procedures document. In cases where a repair technician is unavailable, a small instrument repair kit and limited number of loaner instruments will be available.

TICKETS, CREDENTIALS, PASSES

Student Entry/Re-Entry

- Each group will be provided wrist bands, valid for all sessions, at band check-in for student entry into the stadium. .
- Adults traveling with the group will require credentials valid for that session, or a purchased ticket for entry into the stadium.

Credentials

- All bands are guaranteed 31 credentials as part of their enrollment fee – six director name badges and 25 field passes. Prelims Field passes are valid for prelims only. Name badges are valid for both prelims and finals; names are determined by those you enter on the Director Name Badge and Additional Credentials Form, available in August.
- A band may purchase up to 10 additional credentials. All additional credentials must be purchased by the Monday before the event by credit card only. The combination of additional name badges and field passes may not exceed 10. Of those ten, 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. Name badges and field passes must be visible at all times.
- 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.
- Field Passes for Finalist Bands will be handed out at the Finalist Director Meeting.
- Bus and truck driver wristbands will be distributed at Band Check-In. One wristband will be provided for every vehicle listed on your parking pass request form. Driver wristbands are valid for prelims and finals, for general admission spectator entry only. Driver wristbands are not valid for field access, or reserved seating.
- Bands of America does not provide bus driver or staff hospitality areas.
- BOA will provide an on-site medical crew all day.
- **NEW FOR 2022:** A maximum of 2 Band Medical Staff passes can be requested at Band Check-in on the day of the event. These passes will provide pre-performance flow, and field access during the band's performance only. **Adults with these passes must limit their role to medical responsibilities and may NOT assist with any equipment that is part of the performance (I.e. moving, setting up, etc.). A separate ticket purchase is required for admission into the stadium.**

Media Personnel and Band Photography Policies

- Media Passes are intended for official local and national media outlets and **must be requested in advance**. Media representatives will be required to show valid media credentials from their employer to be considered for eligibility. Visit marching.musicforall.org/news-media for the full Media Policy and to apply for a Media Pass.
- A student representative of a school's newspaper or yearbook may receive a media pass with valid school media credentials.
- Still photography of any kind **MAY** be taken from the spectator seating areas. **Video and audio recording is NOT allowed.**

- “Official Band Photographers” are required to use one of the band’s issued field passes to be allowed in pre-performance credentialed areas. They must still go into the spectator stands to shoot pictures during performances and may not photograph from the field level.
- Official Band Photographer photos are **NOT** to be sold, distributed, duplicated, or placed on the web in any downloadable fashion. Their use must be for archival or media purposes only. This restriction applies to all who enter the stadium, including any band parent/adult with a field pass.
- **Only Jolesch Enterprises, Music for All staff, and official, credentialed, and approved media will be allowed to shoot from field level.**
- No video or audio recording devices (either by “band videographers” or otherwise), are allowed into the stadium without the express written consent of, or proper video credential issued by Music for All.

EVALUATION INFORMATION

Adjudication Panel

- The adjudication panel will be published in each event’s individual event procedures document. 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 Richard Saucedo, who can be reached at richardsaucedo1@me.com.
- Music for All uses the digital adjudication system, CompetitionSuite.
- In early 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.
- Please see the Bands of America Official Procedures & Adjudication Handbook (found at marching.musicforall.org/adjudication) for more specific information about BOA adjudication, procedures, and the philosophy of competition.

Audio Commentary On-Site Process:

- Shortly after your performance, your primary director will receive a text letting you know that your commentary files are beginning to upload for your review. You can then open the CompetitionSuite phone/tablet application or visit the CompetitionSuite website to receive your commentary.
- **All scores and adjudication sheets (both prelims and finals) will be held until the end of the finals awards ceremony. All scores will be available online via CompetitionSuite. No scores or recaps will be released prior to the conclusion of the finals awards ceremony.**
- A reminder email will be sent by the Tuesday after each event if you misplace the link to access your sheets and recaps.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MERCHANDISE, EVENT LIVESTREAMS

Photography

- **Jolesch Enterprises** will be on-site taking action photos on the field level. At select events they will also offer 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.**
- 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. All 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 will be available for pre-order at the online store or at marching.musicforall.org/downloads to allow for easy pickup at the event.

Live Streaming

- All 2022 Bands of America Regional, Super Regional and the Grand National Championships will be live streamed, powered by BOX5 Media, the leader in scholastic marching band streaming video and is available by event or subscribe to the full season at [BOALive.tv](https://www.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.
- The Educational Videographer badge is NOT a ticket, and must be accompanied by a ticket or other credential that is valid for entry into the stadium.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Music for All is committed to providing safe and secure events. 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](#) posted online for each event with your fans, and please contact us to discuss any specific needs for your students.

Bag Policy

Music for All encourages spectators to not bring bags into venues. Pending each venues specific guidelines small bags, clear bags and emergency medical bags may be permitted. 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.

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 text updates at each Regional. Updates will also 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. Be clear on 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 safe.

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 overall safety of the event and the patrons. Informed, alert communities play a critical role in keeping our nation safe.