IMPORTANT EVENT PROCEDURES

This document contains important details specific to the South Texas Regional Championship and is a supplement to the General Event Procedures document released earlier this season. Please review the General Event Procedures document at marching.musicforall.org/directorinfo/

CONSTRUCTION ON A NEW PRESS BOX AND ATHELTICS SPACE DIRECTLY BEHIND THE HOME STANDS WILL IMPACT FLOW FOR 2022. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

PRE-PERFORMANCE FLOW:

Band Check-In

- When you first arrive at Veterans Memorial Stadium, your buses and trucks will access the parking lots from Tamarack Ave., via North 23rd Street. You will then be directed to **Band Check-In,** located at the east end of the Bus/Truck Lots (see Site Overview Map).
- Band Check-In will open 30 MINUTES prior to the **FIRST** band warm-up time.
- Your check-in packet will consist of an updated performance schedule, participant segment patches, Event Credentials (field passes, name badges, student wristbands, and bus driver wristbands), and other relevant event information.

Credentials

- All bands are guaranteed 31 credentials as part of their enrollment fee – six (6) 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.
- 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 four (4) may be name badges. Additional credentials will NOT be available for purchase on-site.
- Name badges and field passes are ONLY valid for flow areas and field access during your band's scheduled times. 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 distributed at the Finalist Director Meeting.
- 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 (BOA) does not provide bus driver or staff hospitality areas.
- **NEW FOR 2022**: A maximum of two (2) Band Medical Staff passes can be requested at Band Check-In on the day of the event. These passes will ONLY provide pre-performance flow and field access during the band's scheduled times. 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.). **Band Medical Pass holders must also have a purchased ticket for admittance into the stadium.**
- BOA will provide an on-site medical crew throughout the duration of the event.

Bus/Truck Parking Passes

- At the South Texas Regional Championship, bus/truck parking passes are complimentary.
- **Bands must complete the parking request form by Monday of the week of the event**.
- Once you complete your online parking pass order, you will receive a confirmation email which contains a link to a Dropbox folder containing the parking pass template. You may only print the number of parking passes you requested in the form. **You must put contact information for the driver of each vehicle on the respective pass.**
- The number of vehicles admitted into the lots will be verified by BOA Staff. If you need to purchase additional passes after your initial request is submitted, please fill out the form again requesting only the additional passes.
- **NO VEHICLES will be admitted to the lot without the appropriate pass prominently displayed.**
- 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 in the small lot WEST of the Bus & Truck Lots.** All other personal vehicles need to park in a spectator lot.
- Bus/Truck parking passes may NOT be used in personal vehicles, RVs, or campers.

Bus/Truck Parking Location and Procedures

- Please access the Bus/Truck Parking lots from Tamarack Ave., via North 23rd Street. (See Site Overview Map for more information). **Due to flow changes, there is NO optional drop-off at the McAllen H.S. main building.**
- BOA Staff will be on hand to meet you upon arrival and will give your drivers parking instructions.
- Physical warm up, 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 outside of vehicles in the Bus/Truck parking areas. Please utilize Memorial Park if picnic space is needed. The park is directly south of the Truck Lot and Tamarack Avenue.

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.
- You will have 20 minutes in Visual Warm-Up, and 30 minutes in Music Warm-Up. Your band WILL NOT move areas between these 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 group will begin moving out of the area with two (2) minutes left in your time. Your group must be clear of the assigned warm-up area by the end of your time.**
- Your warm-up official will signal your designee at 15 minutes, five (5) minutes, and two (2) 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. 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 as scheduled 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

- **Your pit will arrive at the stadium gate 15 minutes prior to the rest of the band.**
- NEW AREA FOR 2022 - The separate pit percussion warm-up area is located on Bulldog Rd. west of the stadium (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, space, and gate size.
- Due to the warm up area's distance from 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.**

Wireless Systems and Electronics

- **There can be no sound bleed into the stadium.**
- **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.
- **NEW FOR 2022:** Wireless systems may be tested during scheduled show breaks per rule 18.05 and 18.06 in the BOA Adjudication Handbook.

Instrument Repair

- BOA strives 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.

PERFORMANCE VENUE INFORMATION:

Motorized Vehicles

- Motorized vehicles are allowed in the stadium.
- **Off-road mechanized vehicles (defined as golfcarts, garden tractors, small All-Terrain-Vehicles, etc.) will be allowed to pull equipment trailers ONLY for set up and take down.**
- A protective bib must be rigged under the vehicle so that no fluids drop to the turf or carpet.
- Pick-up trucks, large tractors or similar vehicles are NOT permitted.
- The participating band and its school are liable and will be held responsible for any damage to a performance area or venue caused by a violation of these policies, and/or actions of the operators.
- 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'.**
- **NEW FOR 2022 – Due to construction, any props or equipment that you do not carry to warm-up will enter through the field exit gate (SW corner of stadium).**
- The exit gate is 20' wide with no height restrictions.

Field Markings

- The Performance Field is marked with NCAA/Texas High School Field Markings.
- NCAA/Texas High School markings are WHITE.
- NCAA/Texas High School field markings are 60' from the front and back sidelines and 40' apart.
- **Livestream microphones will be placed 1 foot outside the 15-foot line on the 35 and 50 yard lines – PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS WHEN DETERMINING PODIUM AND SPEAKER PLACEMENT.**

PERFORMANCE SAFETY REMINDER

Per the BOA Official Procedures & Adjudication Handbook, structures (props, backdrops, screens, or similar objects) built and/or used at Bands of America Championships shall be limited to a maximum total height of **12 feet**, including wheels, platforms, safety railings, other equipment, or props placed upon the staging. Additionally, no participant may be placed on any portion of any prop/structure where the participant's lowest point of contact (I.e., feet, hands, etc.) is more than six (6) feet above the playing surface of the stadium, unless appropriate safety railing, safety harness, or protective padding is in place around prop/structure to prevent injury. Please consult the **Bands of America Official Procedures & Adjudication Handbook** for more details.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Twelve Band Regional Finals

All 2022 Bands of America Regional Championship Finals will include the top twelve (12) scoring Bands, regardless of class. Any Class Champion Band, if not among the highest scoring Bands, will be invited to perform in exhibition, at the opening or closing of the Finals competition, as well as participate in Finale.

Pre-Draw for Finals Performance Order at Regional Championships

- When you arrive at Band Check-In, every performing band in Prelims will draw a number to determine Finals order.
- The Regional Championship Finalist performance schedule will be finalized based on a pre-draw conducted at Band Check-in prior to Preliminary Performances. The top 6 scoring Bands from Prelims will be assigned 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. In the event of a 12th place tie, the draw will be adjusted to top 6, second 7 (or similar, according to the number of finalists).
- Immediately following the announcement of Finalist Bands, a required meeting for the Director or representative(s) of each band competing and exhibiting in Finals will be held. It is encouraged to bring Drum Majors, as logistics for Finale will be discussed.

Audio Commentary General Information

- BOA utilizes CompetitionSuite for adjudication scores and commentary. You will receive an email at least two weeks prior to your event 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.
- Shortly after your Prelim performance, the primary director on the account will receive a text message alerting them that commentary files are beginning to upload for review.
- Open the CompetitionSuite mobile application or website 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.
- Your post-event judging questions and concerns should be directed to BOA Chief Judge Team Leader Richard Saucedo (richard.s@musicforall.org).

Restrooms and Changing Facilities

- If your band needs to change into and out of uniform, restrooms will be available in the main school building, north of the stadium.
- If you need to use these facilities, please go IN A GROUP.
- A limited number of port-a-lets will be available on the west end of the Truck Parking Lot.

Picnic Location and Procedures

- The designated picnic area is located southwest of the stadium (see Site Overview map).
- Please remind your students to appropriately dispose of their trash.
- Eating is **NOT** allowed outside of vehicles in the bus/truck parking areas.
- Outside food and beverages are **NOT** allowed to be brought into the stadium.
- **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.

Participant Hydration & Heat Mitigation

- After your Physical & Music Warm-Up, your band will travel indoors to allow for a brief cooling time and access to water/restrooms prior to performance.
- **Bands of America will provide a post-performance water station** near the Band Exit Gate.
- **Each participating band should plan appropriately for the care of its students throughout the duration of the event.** Supplies and the provision of water service itself are ultimately the responsibility of the participant.
- There will be medical crews on-site to assist with any heat issues.
- **NOTE – the normal performance schedule has been modified to help avoid late afternoon heat. BANDS OF AMERICA, THE CITY OF MCALLEN, & MCALLEN ISD STRONGLY ADVISE YOU TO PLAN FOR GOOD HYDRATION AND HEAT MITIGATION.**

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.
- Student groups will proceed to the Band Re-Entry Gate to enter.
- Adults traveling with the group will require credentials valid for that session, or a purchased ticket to enter the stadium.
- All other ticketed patrons will need to enter through spectator lines.

Local Time

- The South Texas Regional Championship will operate on CENTRAL TIME. Please plan your travel and arrival times accordingly.

Spectator Parking and Information

- The spectator lot is north of the stadium. Vehicles may access lot from Bicentennial Blvd. See attached maps for further information.
- There is no charge for spectator parking.
- Outside food and beverage are **NOT** allowed in the Stadium. Please share this with your parents and boosters in advance.

Bag Policy

- Music for All encourages spectators to not bring bags into venues. **Only clear bags and emergency bags will 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.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MERCHANDISE, EVENT LIVESTREAMS

Photography

- **Jolesch Enterprises** will be on-site taking action photos on the field level. They WILL NOT offer group photos at this regional. Ordering information is available online at joleschenterprises.com
- Use of cameras of any kind is **NOT ALLOWED** on the field (field, sidelines, stadium floor) for any BOA event. Please communicate this to your parent/booster group.
- **Still cameras (digital or film, professional or otherwise) are allowed in 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.
- See the BOA Official Media Policy here.

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 https://shop.musicforall.org/
- Championship Patches are available for pre-order at the online store to allow for easy pickup at the event.

Live Streaming of all Bands of America Championships

- All 2022 Bands of America Regional, Super Regional, and Grand National Championships will be live streamed, powered by BOX5 Media, the leader in scholastic marching band streaming video.
- Subscribe to the whole season or watch by event 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" that cannot be professionally recorded and is 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. **Both a ticket purchase and an educational videographer badge are required for entrance into the stadium to film.**
- Educational Videographers may only use any public area in the general seating bowl. BOA is unable to provide access to the Press Boxes, Suite Level, etc. for educational videos.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Bands of America 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 with your fans, and please contact us to discuss any specifics for your students.

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.

Weather

Bands of America defers to the weather policies and safety protocols of the facilities in which we operate. Onsite updates will be provided via the BAND app for each specific show.

COVID-19

Bands of America continues to work with each venue to follow 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.