

**MHSAA – MBA**  
**STATE MARCHING BAND CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**PEARL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021**

Dear Band Directors:

Congratulations on being selected to be a part of the 2021 MHSAA-MBA State Marching Band Championship. Enclosed are the final procedures for the competitions to be held for Class 1A, 2A, and 5A at Pearl High School. Many of your colleagues have worked hard to plan this event and we will do everything possible to see that the championship runs smoothly. If problems do arise, do not hesitate to contact me before October 28th. On Championship day, please direct your questions to your Site Coordinator. The Site Coordinator and his contact information are listed below.

**Please read all materials CAREFULLY as there are some changes from previous years.**

1. **SITE COORDINATOR:** The Site Coordinator is Mr. Ted Burns (601-672-1448). He is the person in charge the day of the championship at the site and is responsible for seeing that the site runs smoothly and on time.
2. **MAPS:** Maps to your championship site and a detailed map of the campus and will be posted to the MBA website. Be sure to study the map to locate warm-up areas, routes to the stadium for students and sideline percussion equipment, and the gate by which they enter and exit.
3. **INFORMATION CENTER:** Upon arrival at the championship site, check in at the Information Center located at Pearl High School in the Band Hall. If anything is needed or problems arise while at the stadium, contact Information Center personnel.
4. **ANNOUNCER INFORMATION SHEET:** The **ANNOUNCER INFORMATION SHEET** will be pulled from your Declaration Form.
5. **CHAPERONES:** Participating band students, bus drivers, and **one chaperone per 10 band students** will be admitted free. Chaperones, Bus Drivers, and Band Students will receive armbands that will be in the Director's packet upon check-in at the school. Chaperones are defined as parents or adults riding the bus with the students. Drivers of equipment trucks will be counted as chaperones. It is the responsibility of each band director to distribute the armbands to their personnel. Please have your chaperones wear them at all times. Band students in uniform will be allowed admittance to the show site without an armband. The number of armbands given is calculated with the above formula using the number of students listed on the Championship declaration form. Any extra armbands you wish to acquire may be purchased at the entry gate. Understand that neither the Site Hosts nor their volunteers establish policy for entry into the competition or the number of armbands you receive. **Please treat them with courtesy and respect during your time at the Host Site.**

6. **ADMISSION:** The admission charge for the championship is as follows:

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| All-day Pass     | \$15.00   |
| Children under 5 | No Charge |

**Please communicate this to your parents.** It will cost them \$15.00 for per session whether they are there to see one band or all of the bands. Admission charges for the championship are in line with other MHSAA sanctioned events.

7. **ORDER OF PERFORMANCE:**

**Order of Performance:** The order of performance for competition of all declared bands was determined by random draw conducted by Mr. Ben Stein, Principal, Northwest Rankin High School, with myself recording. Declared bands that do not qualify will be removed from the list and the performance order of the qualifying bands will remain the same. The draw was conducted in my office on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. As a reminder, no band will be required to perform first in prelims in more than two consecutive calendar years.

Adjudication sheets and individual band scoring will be available at the Awards Ceremony in the Director's packet.

8. **WARM-UP:** There will be three warm-up areas available. Check your map for locations. Signs will be posted for directions and band guides will help direct you. Each band will have 45 minutes for Warm-up. Remember that the warm-up time includes entering and exiting the warm-up area. Warm-up is to be conducted in designated areas only. Be considerate of other bands by being aware of your staging times and your proximity to those in the warm-up areas.
9. **GATES:** Be sure to check the maps of the campus to locate the Band Entrance Gate and the Sideline Percussion Entrance Gate.
10. **SCHEDULING AND TIMING:** Bands are scheduled at 15-minute intervals within their class. Timing of the band begins when the Timing & Penalty (T&P) Judge notifies the band director to enter the Competition Area and ends when all personnel and equipment leave the competition area. Failure to enter and vacate the Competition Area within the 15-minute interval will result in a timing penalty being assessed. The Competition Area is defined as the area of the football field between the goal lines and sidelines to include the traditional front ensemble and drum major area. Directors, their bands, and support personnel are not to enter the Competition Area until directed to do so by the T&P Judge. We will maintain the 15-minute intervals to keep us on schedule. In the long run, this will hopefully get you all back on the road home sooner. The safety of your students is the primary consideration when scheduling. The T&P Judge will be on the field to ensure bands enter the field on time, perform their show, and clear the field within the 15-minute interval. As you are setting up, he will keep you informed of the elapsed time in 1-minute increments. You are encouraged to organize and practice your warm-up and field set up, including sound checks on electronic equipment, so you can get your show started on time. Be sure to practice with your support personnel who help set up sideline percussion, color guard equipment, and props. Do NOT delay the start of your show for electronics issues. **Remember, you may warm-up on the field but that is part of your 15-interval time.** When your time slot runs out you must be off the field or you will incur a timing penalty of 0.05 per second over time.

11. **ENTERING THE FIELD:** As you approach the entrance to the competition area, it is strongly recommended that you have your front ensemble percussion and color guard precede the horn line so they can enter the competition area first and begin setup. This way they will have equipment and props in place when the horn line is set. The horn line should move onto the field while the guard and percussion are setting up. Delaying the start of your performance for electronic issues can lead to a significant penalty if you go over time.
12. **FIELD SUPERVISOR:** A Field Supervisor will be available to assist you with getting on and off the field. Runners for each band will be available to help.
13. **JUDGES:** There will be nine judges at each site to include the T&P Judge on the field. Judge Coordinator Dr. Nola Jones of Nashville, TN assigns the judges.
14. **ADJUDICATOR SHEETS:** Caption Judging will be used for the Championship. Copies of the sheets are posted on the MBA web site. The percentage weight of each caption is: Music Performance – 40%, Marching – Marching/Visual Performance – 30%, Overall Effect Music – 15%, Overall Effect Visual – 15%.
15. **JUDGING:** There will be one Music Performance-Ensemble Judge (press box), one Music Performance-Individual Judge (field), one Visual Performance-Ensemble Judge (press box), one Visual Performance-Individual Judge (field), one Overall Effect-Music Judge and one Overall Effect-Visual Judge. The average of the two scores in Music and Visual plus each Overall Effect score will be added together to determine the band's final score. There will be one Percussion Judge and one Color Guard Judge whose jobs will be to evaluate those two areas. The Percussion score and Color Guard score **will not** be added to the band score. Any penalties assessed by the T&P Judge **will** be factored into a band's final score. Please refer to the Rules & Regulations section of the MHSAA Band Manual (pp 49-50) for a complete list of rules and penalties. The band with the highest final score will be declared champion.
16. **RECAPS:** Prelims and Finals Recaps will be released at the conclusion of the Finals awards ceremony. **Recaps will be viewable online through Competition Suite. There will be no paper adjudication sheets.**
17. **ADJUDICATOR COMMENTS:** **Comments will be accessible through Competition Suite.**
18. **TIE BREAKER:** If there is a tie, the Music Performance score will be the first tiebreaker. The Visual Performance score will be the second tiebreaker. The Overall Effect-Music score will be the third tiebreaker. If a tie still remains, then co-champions will be declared and like awards will be presented. There will be no ties in the captions of Percussion and Color Guard.
19. **AWARDS CEREMONY:** A Full Retreat for bands will be held after the last band performs. Bands will line up in block band or single file depending on the location and file into the stadium single file 5 to 6 bands at a time to prerecorded music. See the "Retreat Procedures" document for complete details. Instruments will not be needed but students should be in uniform. All special awards will be presented at this time.

**20. AWARDS:** Per the 2021 MBA Band Information Manual, awards will be granted as follows:

1. Five trophies per class shall be guaranteed.
2. When the number of participants exceeds five, trophies will be awarded for no more than eight bands. Since there will be up to six bands performing in all classes this year, all Finalists will receive a placement trophy.
3. If the number of participants exceeds eight, then trophies shall be awarded for places 1-5, and plaques shall be awarded for the remaining finalists.
4. Trophies for places 4, 5, 6, etc. (as needed), will all be of the same size.
5. Trophies for places 1, 2, and 3 shall be in graduated sizes, with the largest trophy being for 1st place.
6. Students in bands placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will receive gold, silver, and bronze medallions respectively. In addition to the students, directors, teaching staff, the principal, and the superintendent will also receive medallions. The medallions will be awarded to the students while on the field.
7. **Champions:** The highest scoring band in each class will be declared Grand Champions.

**21. SPECIAL AWARDS:** Bands will be recognized with Special Awards in each class with the three placement trophies to the highest scoring bands in Music, Visual, Overall Effect, Percussion, and Color Guard. Special Awards will be determined by the Finals scores.

**22. PHOTOGRAPHER:** A photographer will not be available for this year's Championship.

**23. VIDEO TAPE:** C.A. Video Productions of Ocean Springs, MS will again be videotaping the 2021 Championship. Bands will receive a complimentary High Camera DVD copy of your performance to take home and a DVD by mail. Order blanks for directors will be sent by email.

**24. SEATING:** Bands will have assigned seating in the stadium. The Host Site will communicate with you about the location. We ask that the center of the performance side of the stadium be reserved for paying spectators.

**25. UNIFORM CHANGE:** There will be no changing facilities at the Championship Sites.

**26. CONCESSIONS:** Concessions stands will be open throughout the day. We ask that you support our host bands and patronize the concessions at each site and to take advantage to any meal deals the host site may offer. The use of grills or other cooking equipment may not be used on the school campuses because of liability issues.

**27. PROHIBITED ITEMS:** The use of confetti, sparkle materials, or any type of pyrotechnics is strictly prohibited. In addition, no substance may linger in the performance area after a band's performance. Bands are subject to **disqualification**.

**28. MEDIA:** We are asking that you contact your local newspaper, radio and television stations to let them know about your upcoming participation in the championship. Points to emphasize are:

1. It is a band competition from across the State of Mississippi.
2. A Champion in each of the six classes will be named.
3. The MHSAA-MBA State Marching Band Championship is an annual event to select the best high school band in each class in the state of Mississippi.
4. Your band qualified at the Regional Festival to participate in the State Championship.
5. Your band is participating in this event and has a chance to win the Championship.

**29. SPECIAL THANKS:** Special thanks goes to our site host Mr. Matt Rowan, his staff, and parents at Pearl High School. Be sure to thank these people for making their facilities available for our use and the hard work it takes to run an event of this magnitude. We also wish to thank Mr. Ted Burns and site support personnel for their continued help and dedication to the championship. They work very hard each year to see that everything runs smoothly for you and your students.

**30. CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE:** The Championship Committee is made up of the MBA Officers, the three Championship Site Hosts, and the Championship Coordinator.

|                              |                   |                             |                          |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nicole Allen, Pearl          | President         | Justin Harvison, Germantown | 3A/4A Host               |
| Jamie Young, Lake Cormorant  | 1st VP            | Matt Rowan, Pearl           | 1A/2A/5A Host            |
| Tamiko Bridges, Laurel       | 2nd VP            | Matt McDonald, NWR          | 6A Host                  |
| Daniel Wade, Neshoba Central | 3rd VP            | Robin Crawford              | Championship Coordinator |
| Victoria Jones, Hernando     | Middle School Rep |                             |                          |
| Erica Shirley, New Hope      | Member at Large   |                             |                          |
| Shawn Sullivan, Starkville   | Past President    |                             |                          |

**31. CHAMPIONSHIP ADVISORY BOARD:** The Advisory Board will be formed after the Championship and will be made up of the Band Directors of the top two 1A Bands and the top three 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, & 6A Bands at this year's Championship along with the President of the MBA and the Championship Coordinator. When directors have suggestions for change and additions to the Championship, they will make presentations to the Advisory Board at State Band Clinic in December for consideration. Proposals the Advisory Board feel need further consideration will be presented to the Championship Committee for review. The MBA Executive Board will have final approval of any proposals.

We are looking forward to having your band participate in the 2021 MHSAA-MBA State Marching Band Championship. It is an honor for your students, school, and community to have your band qualify and participate in this special event. Congratulations again on qualifying to compete in the championships. If I can be of any assistance do not hesitate to call or email.

Sincerely,



Robin Crawford  
Championship Coordinator