

Updated August 11, 2021
Information is subject to change.

TO: Directors of 5A Bands participating in the
Area H Marching Band Contest

FROM: Fran & Deborah Badrak, Contest Chairpersons
Rey Meza, Asst Contest Chairman
Mike Howard, Vandegrift HS, Leander ISD, Contest Host
Katie VanDoren, Vandegrift HS, Leander ISD, Contest Site Host
Brian Christian, Vista Ridge HS Leander ISD, Contest Host
Reid Atkinson, Vista Ridge HS Leander ISD, Contest Site Host
Peter Warshaw, Director of Fine Arts, Leander ISD

SUBJECT: *October 23, 2021 Area H Class 5A Marching Band Contest

Congratulations on advancing to the Area H Class 5A Marching Band Contest to be held on, *October 23, 2021, at John Gupton Stadium/Leander ISD in Cedar Park. Your contest site hosts, Katie VanDoren and Reid Atkinson, along with their booster clubs, will do everything possible to make this a musically rewarding and positive experience for you and your students. Thank you in advance for reading and adhering to the policies and procedures outlined in this guide. Best wishes for a successful performance!

Important: Please email us at uilmusicregion11@gmail.com a copy of your script and the number of students performing. Link to script: [Fillable Marching Script](#)

***In the event of inclement weather on October 23, 2021, the contest will be held on Monday, October 25, 2021, same location.**

AREA H EXEC SEC'Y CONTACT INFO

Fran & Deborah Badrak
9185 N Point Dr
San Antonio, TX 78266
210-274-6651; 210-887-6705
uilmusicregion11@gmail.com
www.uilmusicregion11.com

JUDGES

Bill Centera – Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy
Greg Dick – Friendswood
Wade McDonald – Dickinson
Gerry Miller – Coppell High School, Coppell ISD
John Rauschuber – Hays High School, Hays CISD

ENTRY PROCESS & IMPORTANT PRE-CONTEST INFO

1. The following items are available under the **Area H Marching Contest** tab at www.uilmusicregion11.com and need your immediate attention:

- Area Marching Contest **Entry Form**. The **entry fee is \$450.00** and due by the day of the contest.
- Area H **Form W-9** for your district's business office.
- Area H **Invoice** for you to submit for payment.

Immediately following your region marching contest, please email a copy of your Entry Form to Fran Badrak at uilmusicregion11@gmail.com. You **do not** need to turn in the Form 1 Eligibility/Certification for Area MBC.

2. At contest check-in on site, turn in a paper copy of your **Marching Band Script** and **payment**.

3. Familiarize yourself with **all** Area H 5A MBC information found at www.uilmusicregion11.com under the Area H Marching tab as well as information and related links found at: [UIL Music MBC](#)

4. Should one or more of the participating directors facilitate the availability of a **professional videographer** for the purpose of providing one educational use only video, please conduct/confirm all arrangements directly with the company. A designated area in the stands will be available for videography; the video deck is not available. UIL Music Area H does not coordinate the availability of a professional/nonprofessional videographer and does not assume any copyright liabilities.

Note: A school must complete and submit the *Marching Band Educational Use Video Agreement* no later than seven days prior to the contest where the school wishes to video their marching band's performance. If your school previously submitted this agreement to video its band's region performance, there is no need to do so again. The agreement form can be found here: [Video Agreement](#)

By completing the video agreement, you are permitted one camera and operator on the video area during your band's performance. Please be courteous of others who also have permission to occupy the video space. Thank you.

5. Contest vendors include PepWear, Team IP, and Southwest Emblem. For more information about their merchandise, visit www.uilmusicregion11.com under the Area H Marching tab. Feel free to share the merchandise fliers with your stakeholders prior to the day of contest.

CONTEST PERFORMANCE ORDER & SCHEDULE

1. Each region executive secretary will draw the Area H performance numbers for his region prior to the fall region meetings. At the fall region meetings, **all** 5A band directors will then draw numbers for the tentative Area H prelims schedule. If you are not able to attend your fall region meeting, please assign a designee to draw for you. The tentative Area H prelims schedule will be emailed to you and your region executive secretary. It will also be posted on the UIL Music Region 11 website at www.uilmusicregion11.com under the Area H Marching tab.

Updated August 11, 2021

Information is subject to change.

2. Following the completion of the region marching contests in Area H, the final Area H prelims schedule will be published and distributed to include only the names of the schools that advance to the Area H Marching Band Contest. The tentative start time for the contest is **9:00 AM**, depending on the number of qualifying bands.
3. Following the completion of the Area H **Prelims**, directors will meet in the Home Field House at the south end of the stadium to verify scores and rankings. At that time, the directors of the bands advancing to finals will draw for performance order. The bands advancing to finals will be announced over the PA in performance order. That schedule will be published and distributed immediately on site.
4. Following the completion of the Area H **Finals**, directors will meet in the Contest Office located in the Press Box. Access the PB by using the elevator opposite the Home Side concession stand. At that time, the directors will verify the scores and rankings. Once verified, the bands advancing to UIL SMBC will be announced over the PA. At that time, the directors of the bands advancing to UIL SMBC will draw for performance order. The Area H Executive Secretary will call the UIL Music State Office to submit the results of the draw.
5. Should your band be certified to advance to the UIL SMBC, you will receive information on how to register via [UIL SMBC](#)
6. For additional information about UIL Area Preliminary Round and Final Round and Certification to State, please regard **Section 1106: Area Marching Band Contest, (h) Preliminary Round and Final Round and Section 1106 (k) (6)(7) Area Notification to State** in the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*.
Link: [C&CR Sec 1106](#)

DIRECTIONS TO JOHN GUPTON STADIUM

John Gupton Stadium
200 Gupton Way Dr.
Cedar Park, TX 78613

John Gupton Stadium is located at 200 Gupton Way Dr. in Cedar Park, across from Vista Ridge HS. It can be easily accessed from 183A, FM 1431, or Parmer Ave. Bus/Truck entrance is from Vista Ridge Blvd. Spectator Entrance is from the Gupton Way entrance gate and the Park Street entrance gate. Please share this with your band families.

Also, carefully examine the map included in this packet, as they are designed to familiarize you with the stadium, general vicinity, and contest flow such as band's entrance/exit, pit percussion entrance/exit, etc.

ADDITIONAL STADIUM/SITE INFORMATION

John Gupton Stadium has artificial turf with painted standard markings. Any pit or prop equipment pushed or pulled on the field surface must have large inflatable tires or tires with a minimum of 8-inch wheels (pneumatic, wheels/casters). Any equipment with smaller wheels must be lifted and positioned in place.

Please share the following restrictions with your stakeholders:

- Anything that leaves a residue on the turf is prohibited. This includes substances like glitter, confetti, powder, etc.
- Balloons are prohibited not only on the field, but also in the stands.
- Noisemakers such as air horns, cow bells, etc. are not allowed.
- Spirit signs must be positive in nature.
- Umbrellas and other shading devices must be completely closed and lowered while bands perform.

GENERAL ADMISSION & SPECTATOR PARKING

The ticket booth will open an hour before the first performance.

\$10.00 General Admission that covers both prelims and finals.

No reserved seats.

Re-entry is allowed as long as wristband is intact.

No free wristband replacements.

No senior/military discounts.

Free admission for:

Children 4 and Under

Participating Band Members (wearing band shirt/uniform)

Administrators with UIL Pass

Spectators will not be allowed to enter or park by the busses and trucks. See map for spectator parking.

Access in and out of the stands will be restricted during each band's performance. Entrances to the seating area will be closed with two minutes left on the clock of each band's setup period. Please inform your stakeholders of this courtesy and advise them to arrive with plenty of time to get seated before the entrances close. Thank you.

CONTEST CHECK-IN

The check-in station is located in the bus/truck parking lot where you will be welcomed by a parent or student volunteer. We advise you to arrive and check-in 90 minutes prior to the start of your performance time. Please have your Marching Band (Announcer) Script and entry fee ready to turn in, if necessary. You will receive a packet of complimentary admission wristbands (1 for every 10 band members) to be given at your discretion to your chaperones and bus drivers.

A student monitor will be assigned to your band for the duration of check-in to field exit. Please let the check-in volunteer and/or your monitor know if you have specific concerns or questions. You can also call Fran Badrak at **210-274-6651**, Katy VanDoren at 512-818-4524, Reid Atkinson at 816-872-6321, and/or Rey Meza at **210-723-at 7178** with questions the volunteers/monitors can't answer.

Updated August 11, 2021

Information is subject to change.

BUS & TRUCK PARKING

Please regard the map provided.

RESTROOMS/CHANGING FACILITIES

Dressing facilities are limited. Please have your students wear uniforms and/or change on the bus.

WARM-UP

- Following check-in, your monitor will escort your band to the warm-up area at the designated time. Be prepared to move to warm-up no less than 15 minutes before the scheduled warm-up time.
- Warm-up for bands is on the east side of Vista Ridge HS. An escort and traffic monitors will help your band cross Vista Ridge Blvd. **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE WARM-UP AREA WITHOUT YOUR BAND'S ESCORT.**
- Bands in Warm-up A will face south (toward Round Rock ISD Athletic Complex). Bands in Warm-up B will face east, away from the school and toward the wooded neighborhood. Guards may warm up near the assigned band warm-up. Front ensemble has a separate warm-up area. Refer to map for location of warm-up areas.
- Warm-up time is **30 minutes**. You must be there on time in order to have your entire warm-up period.
- Your time includes entering and exiting the warm-up area.**
- Your warm-up time begins when the monitor states, "Your warm-up time may begin."
- At the 25-minute mark, the monitor will hold up the "STOP" sign indicating you must move your band out of the warm-up area.
- The use of wireless transmitters (metronomes or PA's) in the warm-up areas is strictly prohibited. Any amplified metronome must be hard-wired and must be behind the band (school side) and facing south or east (away from Gupton Stadium). In order to ensure that the integrity of all performances is our first priority, we reserve the right to ask any and all bands to turn down or turn off amplified metronomes if they are heard in the stadium.
- Playing of instruments is allowed only in the warm-up areas and on the field during performance.
- Please be courteous to the monitors, as they are doing their best to help you as well as all others following you.

ADDITIONAL FRONT ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

- Front ensemble warm-up areas are located in the Visitor Parking Lot, very close to Vista Ridge HS.
- Absolutely no cymbals or booms during the front ensemble warm-up.
- The use of wireless transmitters (metronomes or PA's) in the warm-up areas is strictly prohibited. Any amplified metronome must be hard-wired and must be between Gupton Stadium and the ensemble, facing east towards VRHS).
- Your pit needs to have their equipment in place at the Staging Area just outside the stadium fence, 15 minutes prior to your performance.
- Each pit will have 5-10 minutes to transition from Staging Area to Ready Area while the performing band (one slot ahead of yours) is on the field. No distracting movements or sounds should occur while the band is performing.
- Your pit will move from the Ready Area to the field 5 minutes prior to your performance time.

- After your performance, your pit will move toward the middle of the field and toward the center tunnel between the two fields houses on the South Side of the field. You will have an uphill push. Please come prepared.

MOVEMENT TO STADIUM ENTRANCE

Field entrance for each band is located on the Visitor Side. Bands will need to follow the field entrance monitor's instructions at this point.

PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS

Please familiarize yourself with the following:

UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, Section 1106 (g) Area Performance Regulations:

⇒ Performance regulations as listed under **Section 1105** (below) shall apply to the **area marching band** contest with the following exception: **any band that leaves the field in less than five minutes or fails to complete its performance in eight minutes shall be disqualified.**

UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, Section 1105 (h) Performance Regulations:

(1) Performance Time. Each competing band shall occupy the football field for not less than five nor more than eight minutes. ~~Any band that leaves the field in less than five minutes or fails to complete its performance in eight minutes shall be penalized one rating.~~ [SEE ABOVE EXPLANATION IN RED. Section 1105(h)(1) in its entirety applies to **region marching contests only.**]

(2) Movement to Field Position. The contest chair will determine the ready position each band will assume prior to entering the field of competition. The position shall provide efficient and prompt access to the football field without interfering with other bands as they perform. This location will be clearly described in the marching contest packet.

(3) Official Time. The official time for each band will be kept according to the following:

(A) The contest chair will designate an official timekeeper.

(B) In order to allow ample time for the judges to complete their critiques, bands will be scheduled with five minutes between performances and a maximum of fifteen minutes per band.

(C) Bands may use the five minutes prior to their performance in any way they deem appropriate in order to assume their starting position and prepare for the beginning of their show. Activities may include warm-up and/or cadence.

(D) Each band will be announced with 45 seconds remaining on the 5-minute clock. The beginning of their announcement will indicate that the performance time will begin in 45 seconds.

(E) The actual timing and adjudication for the show will begin at the end of the five minutes.

(F) At the conclusion of each band's performance the post script will be read while the band will have two minutes to exit the field and clear the marching surface of all equipment, instruments and props. The use of either instrumental or verbal cadence is optional. **A band that fails to be clear of the field (outside the sidelines or endlines) or continues to use instrumental or verbal cadence at the end of the two minutes will be disqualified.**

Updated August 11, 2021

Information is subject to change.

(G) A band leaving equipment or instruments on the sideline in such a manner that these items impede the movement of the next band into its starting position will be subject to penalty in accordance with Subchapter E.

(4) Electronic Equipment. Electronic equipment may be used under the following provisions:

(A) All electronically produced music including narration and sound effects shall be performed live and in real time by eligible students.

(B) Pre-recorded music, instrumental or vocal, or narration may not be used.

(5) Amplification: Amplification of instruments or voice may be used with the following restrictions:

(A) All equipment must be operated by eligible students.

(B) AC power cords and AC supplied amplification units must be located outside the sidelines and endlines.

(C) A power generator or DC power source may be placed on the field, provided there is a protective barrier between the power unit and the turf and all cords are contained safely within close proximity to the equipment that is being supplied with power.

(D) Wind instruments may be amplified only for solo and/or small ensemble features.**

(6) Violations. Violations will be subject to penalties in accordance with Section 27 and Section 29.

(7) Local Ground Rules. Failure to comply with local ground rules and regulations outlined by and/or approved by the Region Executive Committee may be cause for disqualification or other penalties as listed in Subchapter E. Such rules should be sent to all participating schools at least 14 days prior to the contest.

**** UIL defines a solo or small ensemble feature as an individual or a group of up to ten wind players within the full marching band that is featured both musically and visually. A potential violation of this rule would be a scenario where a group of musicians staged within the full band wind section is amplified, while not being featured visually. In this scenario the trained observer would likely not be able to discern which performers are being amplified and could therefore be led to believe that the full band wind section is performing the musical excerpt.**

Refer to **ELECTRONICS AND AMPLIFICATION IN UIL MARCHING BAND CONTEST PERFORMANCES** in its entirety at [MBC Electronics](#)

TIMING & CLOCK PROTOCOL CLARIFICATION

Preparation and performance time will be kept according to the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*, **Section 1105 (h) (3) Official Time.**

- At the designated time, a field monitor will cue your band to enter the field. At that time, the 5-minute setup period will begin, and timing will be displayed on the stadium clock.
- With 45 seconds remaining on the 5-minute clock, the announcer will read the Opening Script which begins with, *"THE (FIRST, NEXT, FINAL) BAND IN CONFERENCE 6A... ."*
- With 20 seconds remaining on the 5-minute clock, the next statement beginning with, *"DRUM MAJORS..."*, will be read. **As the "DRUM MAJORS" statement is read, the stadium clock will be reset**

to 8 minutes. The official timer in the press box will start the 8-minute clock at the end of the 5-minute warm-up period.

- Warm-up or pre-show is permitted during the 5-minute setup period, however, judges will be instructed that activity on the field will not be judged until they see 7:59 on the clock. If you do not wish to utilize the entire 5 minutes of setup time, you may hold your band at the field entrance to coordinate your ready time with the beginning of the announcement.

STADIUM WIRELESS FREQUENCIES

Stadiums typically provide the use of a wireless microphone system for officials at football games or for on-field presentations. Most often, these systems are powered on even when not in use, creating the potential for interference in the form of unwanted audio. Being aware of these frequencies may help you avoid interference with your band's wireless system. John Gupton Stadium's wireless frequency is:

TBD

A good practice is to perform a sound check of your wireless equipment during your 5-minute setup.

The 5-minute clock **will not** be stopped if you experience electronic issues of any kind. You are still expected to start your show performance at the 8-minute mark.

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

At field level, the stadium has one quad 110-volt junction box on the front and back sidelines at the 50-yard line to be used at your own risk. Generators are permitted, provided there is a protective barrier between the power unit and the turf.

PROPS

Prop staging will begin in the driveway hi-lighted in blue on the map. Move your props down the ramp toward the back of the field to the large stone wall two performances prior to your band's performance time. Monitors will assist you. All props **must enter and exit** using the ramp on that side of the stadium.

⇒ Refer to the following guidelines for UIL regulations regarding props:

- 1)** The use of props is not part of the UIL marching band adjudication process. Therefore, props are not addressed on any of the adjudication sheets.
- 2)** Props may be assembled, held, and/or moved by eligible student participants and/or non-students during the 5-minute show set-up, the 8-minute show, and the 2-minute field exit.
- 3)** All props must comply with local stadium ground rules and therefore must fit into the stadium where the performance is being held.
- 4)** UIL contest chairs are to make an effort to minimize the amount of time that props are stored in the end zone before and after a band's performance.
- 5)** UIL contest chairs are to make an effort to restrict the assembly of props in the audience's line of site during another band's performance.

FIRST AID & WATER STATIONS

Updated August 11, 2021

Information is subject to change.

Professional medical assistance will be provided at the First Aid Station located in the Home Side Field House.

Please follow standard emergency protocol:

- a) Director/Contest staff member escorts/transports student to First Aid Station. Director must be informed ASAP if a student needs first aid.
- b) Assessment is made and treatment protocol followed.
- c) If EMS transport is needed, first aid staff contacts student's band director and/or student's parent/guardian.
- d) Director/Contest staff member notifies Executive Secretary of the situation.

Water stations will be available at warm-up locations and field exit.

CONCESSIONS

Please encourage your students and stakeholders to visit the concession stands located under both the Visitor Side and Home Side bleachers. Doing so supports the Vandegrift HS and Vista Ridge HS Band Booster Clubs whose members will work hard to contribute to the success of the contest.

INSTRUMENT REPAIR

Complimentary instrument repair provided by Strait Music and will be located near the warm-up areas.

RECORDED ADJUDICATOR COMMENTS

Judges will use digital recorders for all performance evaluations. At the end of prelims and again at the end of finals, the digital files will be transferred to flash drives. You will receive the flash drives in your comment sheet envelopes at verification.

POST PERFORMANCE

After your monitor escorts the band through the field exit, you will return to your busses and equipment truck(s). Students may reenter the stadium as long as they are in uniform or wearing a band shirt. Student seating is on the visitors' side; however, they may visit the vendor booths and concession stand on the home side by exiting the stadium and re-entering on the home side. Students are expected to follow their school's conduct policy as well as the stadium policies

DRUM MAJORS RETREAT

At the conclusion of the final band's performance in both the prelims and finals, drums majors from all competing bands will be asked to gather in performance order at the South end zone where a contest official will direct them to prepare for the announcements. At the prelims retreat, all bands will be announced in performance order, followed by the announcement of bands advancing to Area H Finals and their performance times. At the finals full band retreat, the bands advancing the SMBC will be announced. The determination of how many bands will be certified to advance to the SMBC depends on the total number of

bands participating in the prelims.

AWARDS

Non-finalist bands: participation plaque

Finalist bands: finals plaque

PRESS BOX ACCESS

Press box access is limited to judges, UIL contest staff, contest host and his/her helpers and boosters, security officials, and custodial workers. The only entrance to the press box is by elevator. Prior to the announcement of **finals** results, directors from each band will be called to the contest office located in the press box for the verification process. No pass is required.

VERIFICATION PROCESS

End of prelims:

- Directors will meet at south end zone fieldhouse.
- Directors receive their adjudication sheets, flash drives, and overall ranking/results.
- Directors of bands advancing to finals draw for finals performance order.
- Directors of bands advancing to finals receive finals schedule as soon as it is published.

End of finals

- Director will meet in the press box.
- Directors receive their adjudication sheets, flash drives, and overall ranking/results.
- Directors of bands advancing to the State MBC draw for State performance order.
- Directors of bands advancing to the State MBC receive information about the entry process for State MBC and related topics.

REMINDERS

1. Should you have any questions or concerns that cannot be resolved by your monitor or contest host, please call **Fran Badrak** at **210-274-6651**. You may also send word to the contest office/press box via your monitor or contest host.
2. Bands are permitted to play in the following areas **only**:
 - Assigned warm-up areas (facing away from the stadium)
 - Field during 5-minute warm-up
 - Field during performance
3. Contact with the judges at any time is prohibited.

Updated August 11, 2021
Information is subject to change.

