



# Northern California Band Association Solo Drum Major Rules & Regulations

Updated Winter 2020  
M. Mills – VP of Winter Activities

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

1. The Winter Activities Application will be posted on the NCBA Website on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Entry Fees
  - a. The fee for regular season shows is \$15.00 per classification.
  - b. The fee for Championships is \$25.00 per classification.
  - c. Drum Majors from each school must register at the same time. Payment for all competing Drum Majors from the same school must be paid with one check. A \$50 processing fee will be added to each Drum Major that registers and pays separately.
  - d. Applications will not be processed until NCBA is in receipt of a competing unit's entry fee payment.
3. Late Fees
  - a. Applications received/postmarked after January 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a \$25.00 late fee.
  - b. Applications received/postmarked after February 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a \$50.00 late fee.
  - c. Application received/postmarked after March 1<sup>st</sup> must be approved by the VP of Winter Activities and will be subject to a \$75.00 late fee.
  - d. Late applications will not be processed until late fees are paid.
4. Refunds
  - a. Drum Majors will only receive a refund if they submit the Request for Refund Form via email to the VP of Winter Activities 14 days or more prior to the event in which they are requesting a refund.
  - b. There will be no refunds on late fees.
5. Order of Performance in each Division
  - a. To the best of each show host's ability, scheduling will be based on either the postmark date that payment is received via US Mail or the timestamp of payment received via PayPal, with the earliest postmarks/timestamps going on last in their division.

## **CLASSIFICATIONS:**

1. Mace or Military classifications should be determined by the equipment used and the manner in which the competitor beats time.
  - a. Signal Baton or Short Mace – beating of time tip up
  - b. Mace – beating of time ball up
2. Classifications will be based on the following criteria, as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year you are competing
  - a. Mace or Military
    - i. Junior High School – Competitor is not enrolled in high school.

- ii. High School Novice – Competitor has not placed at any type of drum major event (parade, solo, “L” pattern).
    - iii. High School Scholastic – Competitor has not placed in the “L” pattern Scholastic or Open classifications and has not placed first at any other drum major event (parade, solo, “L” pattern).
    - iv. High School Open – Any competitor may enter this classification.
  - b. Field Conducting
    - i. Novice – Competitor has not placed at any type of field conducting event (with band or solo).
    - ii. Open – Any competitor may enter this classification.
- 3. Competitors will remain eligible for their classification for the entire solo season regardless of awards earned after January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4. Competitors cannot compete in classifications lower than their designation; however, competitors may compete in higher classifications than their designation.
  - a. This could result in multiple performances at a given competition.

**AWARDS:**

- 1. The show hosts, at their discretion, may supply trophies, ribbons, medals, or plaques.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

- 1. To be eligible for the title of “Association Champion”, middle schools must compete in a minimum of 2 NCBA Winter Activities contests.
- 2. To be eligible for the title of “Association Champion”, high schools must compete in a minimum of 3 NCBA Winter Activities contests.
- 3. Should a Drum Major who is not eligible for the title earn the highest score, the eligible Drum Major with the next highest score will become the “Association Champion”, while the Drum Major who is ineligible for the title of “Association Champion” will receive the 1<sup>st</sup> place award.
- 4. Competitors competing in multiple classifications will only receive an award for one classification.
  - a. For example, if a competitor places 1<sup>st</sup> in Mace Open and Mace Scholastic, then the competitor will receive the award for the higher classification and will be removed from the placement in the lower classification.

**CONTEST AREA:**

- 1. “L”-pattern: L-shaped pattern, 150’ at the long leg and 70’ at the short leg.
- 2. Field Conducting: competition area will vary depending on the venue.

**TIME LIMITATIONS:**

- 1. “L”-pattern
  - a. Timing begins after inspection once the judge has asked the competitor to begin.

- b. Timing ends one beat after the competitor dismisses their band.
- c. The time limit is 4 minutes.

2. Field Conducting

- a. Timing begins once the judge asks the competitor to begin.
- b. Timing ends one beat after the competitor dismisses their band.
- c. The minimum time limit is 2 minutes.
- d. The maximum time limit is 3 minutes.

**SOUND SYSTEM:**

1. The contest host will provide a sound system which plays CDs.
2. The hosting school will provide an individual to operate the sound system.
3. Drum Majors are required to provide their music on a CD. It is recommended that each unit have multiple back-up CDs.
4. A volume check will be given before step off.
5. Performance music must be the first track of the CD.
6. CD must be playable on all standard CD players.

**DRESS:**

1. "L"-pattern
  - a. Drum Major must wear a drum major uniform, band uniform, or tuxedo uniform with appropriate headgear and shoes.
  - b. The uniform must reflect the style which the Drum Major performs.
2. Field Conducting
  - a. Drum Major must wear a drum major uniform, band uniform, tuxedo, or costume which reflects the theme of the music.
3. All unit representatives accepting awards must be in uniform and wear shoes during the awards ceremony.

**INSPECTION:**

1. "L"-pattern
  - a. There will be a standing inspection at the begin competition line or in a designated inspection area.
  - b. Inspection errors cover the following:
    - i. Cleanliness and precision in how the uniform is worn.
    - ii. The manner in which the equipment is presented.
  - c. Examples of inspections errors include, but are not limited to:
    - i. Wrinkles
    - ii. Dirt

- iii. Stains
- iv. Stray threads
- v. Button alignment
- d. Each inspection error will be counted as a -0.1 penalty.

2. Field Conducting

- a. There is no separate inspection for field conducting competitors.
- b. Appearance will be evaluated during the performance.

**ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE:**

- 1. Drum Major must currently be enrolled in the program at the school which they are representing.
- 2. Drum Major must be in 12<sup>th</sup> grade or below.
- 3. Drum Major's director must indicate approval to compete by signing application.
- 4. Drum Major's director must be a current member of NCBA.

**ROUTINE:**

1. "L"-pattern

- a. The following commands will be executed in the order in which they are listed:
  - i. Vocal commands as requested by the judge
  - ii. Forward March
  - iii. Left Turn
  - iv. Countermarch
  - v. Right Turn
  - vi. Salute
  - vii. Mark Time/Halt
  - viii. Dismiss Band
- b. After the forward march and following each command up to the mark time signal, some type of beating of time must be shown.
- c. Creativity and originality to the chosen style will be part of the adjudication criteria.

**ADJUDICATION:**

- 1. All contests will utilize the most up-to-date approved score sheets provided by the NCBA.
- 2. NCBA will provide certified judges for each caption. Judges will judge for the entirety of a performing unit's show.
  - a. "L"-pattern
  - b. Field Conducting
- 3. One judge will be designated as the Head Judge.
  - a. The Head Judge will act on behalf of the Association to answer any questions that should arise.
  - b. The Head Judge will individual assigned as the Timing and Penalties Judge.
  - c. The decision of the Head Judge will be final.
- 4. The hosting school may request an association tabulator or hire their own. If the hosting school chooses

to hire their own tabulator, they will be required to use the association's summary and recap sheets.

5. The hosting school may request an association Drop Box coordinator or hire their own.
6. Judges may not judge for more than 10 hours, including breaks, at a single contest.
7. No judge will judge for more than 2 hours without at least a 10-minute break.
8. The hosting school will provide the score sheets for each performing unit.
9. NCBA will provide caption adjudicators with digital recorders for taped commentary.
10. Judges will provide their own stop watches to monitor for timing penalties.

### **PENALTIES:**

1. Overtime – 1.0 point per 30 seconds
  - a. Maximum time limit is 4 minutes from the signal to begin from the judge to one beat after the dismissal of the band by the Drum Major.
2. Slip – 1.0 point per occurrence
  - a. A loss of control of the equipment where the equipment or break in body posture caused by the handling of equipment.
3. Drop – 3.0 points each
  - a. A loss of control of the equipment where the equipment touches the ground.
4. Out of Step – 5.0 points per occurrence
  - a. A period where the Drum Major is not fully in-step with the pulse of the music.
  - b. In-step is where the heel strikes the ground at exactly the pulse of the music.
5. No Salute – Disqualification
  - a. The Drum Major must be in a salute position as they cross the reviewing officer/salute line.
  - b. The ideal salute is when a Drum Major hits the salute position 6 steps before the salute line and breaks the salute 6 steps after the salute line.
6. Initiating Conversation with a Judge – 1.0 point
7. Personnel Violation – Disqualification
8. Violation of the American Flag Code – Disqualification
9. Dress Code Violation – Disqualification
10. Performing with No Shoes – Disqualification

### **WAIVING A RULE IN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES**

1. In extreme circumstances, any rule can be waived with approval from the VP of Winter Activities, the Head Judge, and an additional Board member.

Due to the lack of consistency that existed between penalty sheets, rules posted online, and rules carried by head judges, there was a need to update the Official Rules and Regulations which govern NCBA's Winter Activities.

This version of the NCBA Winter Drum Major Rules and Regulations was updated by Marcus Mills – VP of Winter Activities.

The updated Rules and Regulations were approved by the NCBA Board of Directors on August 27, 2016.

_____ Marcus Mills VP of Winter Activities	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Marvin Reed Drum Major Caption Manager	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Bob Moorefield VP of Judges – Head Judge	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Mario Sebastian President	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved

**CHANGES - June 2018 – effective Winter 2019**

OLD RULE	NEW RULE
<p><u>Ability for the VP of Winter Activities to waive a rule in extreme circumstances</u></p> <p>i.e. – Number of shows a school must attend to be eligible for the championship</p> <p>No rule in place</p>	<p><u>Ability for the VP of Winter Activities to waive a rule in extreme circumstances</u></p> <p>In extreme circumstances, any rule can be waived with approval from the VP of Winter Activities, the Head Judge, and an additional Board member.</p>

The updated Rules and Regulations were approved by the NCBA Board of Directors on June 2, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Marcus Mills Date  
 VP of Winter Activities

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Rick Wilson Date  
 Drum Major Caption Manager

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Bob Moorefield Date  
 VP of Judges – Head Judge

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Mario Sebastian Date  
 President

**CHANGES - August 2019 - effective Winter 2020**

OLD RULE	NEW RULE
<p><u>Application Procedure</u></p> <p>No rule in place</p>	<p><u>Application Procedure</u></p> <p>Drum Majors from each school must register at the same time. Payment for all competing Drum Majors from the same school must be paid with one check. A \$50 processing fee will be added to each Drum Major that registers and pays separately.</p>

The updated Rules and Regulations were approved by the NCBA Board of Directors on August 24, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Marcus Mills Date  
 VP of Winter Activities

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Rick Wilson Date  
 Drum Major Caption Manager

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Matt Mackey Date  
 VP of Judges

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved/Disapproved  
 Mario Sebastian Date  
 President