



Northern California Band Association Winter Percussion 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 1st.
2. Entry Fees
 - a. The fee for regular season shows is \$85.00 per unit.
 - b. The fee for Championships is \$110.00 per unit.
 - c. 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 1st will be subject to a \$25.00 late fee.
 - b. Applications received/postmarked after February 1st will be subject to a \$50.00 late fee.
 - c. Application received/postmarked after March 1st 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. Performing units 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. At the beginning of each season, performing units will select the classification in which they wish to compete in. Judges – in consultation with the VP of Winter Activities, Head Judge, and Percussion Committee – may recommend that unit be moved up or down. The VP of Winter Activities will make the final decision.
 - a. Performing units will be classified based on the Winter Percussion Class Descriptions.
 - b. A performing unit will be required to move up divisions if the VP of Winter Activities determines they should move up.
 - c. A performing unit can make the decision to stay in a higher division even if VP of Winter Activities determines they should move to a lower division.
 - d. The Vallejo and Woodcreek competitions will be the final weekend for classification changes to be recommended to the VP of Winter Activities.
 - i. The exception to this rule would be if a performing unit competes for the first time after the Vallejo and Woodcreek competition weekend. In that instance, if the performing unit

is scheduled to attend additional shows, they can be recommended moved up or down if it is deemed necessary.

2. Performing units can appeal a recommendation to move divisions in writing to the Percussion Committee. The Percussion Committee – in consultation with the VP of Winter Activities, Head Judge from the contest, and judges from the contest – will make a decision after reviewing the show. The VP of Winter Activities will make the final decision.
3. Junior High School/Middle School – Students in these guards will be enrolled in grades 6-9.
 - a. **Concert** – Middle School percussion programs that perform concert percussion literature. These groups will not perform drill and will have a limited use of traditional “battery” percussion instruments. Performance emphasis will be on “concert” percussion instruments.
 - b. **Novice** – Middle School percussion programs with *limited experience* and a rudimentary level of equipment facility.
 - c. **Advanced** – Middle School percussion programs with *moderate experience* and a moderate level of equipment facility.
 - d. **Scholastic** – Middle School percussion programs with *advanced experience* and an advanced level of equipment facility.
4. High School – Students in these guards will be enrolled in grades 9-12.
 - a. **Concert** – High School percussion programs that perform concert percussion literature. These groups will not perform drill and will have a limited use of traditional “battery” percussion instruments. Performance emphasis will be on “concert” percussion instruments.
 - b. **Novice** – High School percussion programs with *little experience* and a limited level of equipment facility.
 - c. **Intermediate** – High School percussion programs with *limited experience* and a limited level of facility.
 - d. **Advanced** – High School percussion programs with *moderate experience* and technique as well as equipment facility.
 - e. **Scholastic** – High School percussion programs with *advanced* levels of experience and technique as well as equipment facility. Advanced levels of movement will also be emphasized in this class.
 - f. **Open** – High School percussion programs with *sophisticated* levels of experience and technique as well as equipment facility. Sophisticated levels of body movement will also be emphasized in this class. The **Open** level drum lines should be seen as innovative groups that introduce new ideas and are innovative to the activity.
5. Exhibition – Performing units who do not wish to compete can choose to perform in exhibition only. These units will have the option of being evaluated by the adjudication panel for purpose of professional growth and not for scoring/ranking.

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.
 - a. Reno Winter Show/Clinic will count as a contest McQueen HS & Spanish Springs HS.
3. Should a performing unit who is not eligible for the title earn the highest score, the eligible percussion unit with the next highest score will become the “Association Champion”, while the percussion unit who is ineligible for the title of “Association Champion” will receive the 1st place trophy.
4. If a competing unit does not meet the minimum number of shows because an event was canceled, the eligibility requirement will be waived. However, before waiving the eligibility requirement, competing units will be encouraged to transfer to a different show.

ELIGIBILITY TO HOST A SHOW

1. Show hosts must attend a minimum of three competitions, not including their own show, during the winter season.
 - a. Each competitive group (percussion and guard) must meet the requirements listed above.
 - b. Show hosts that do not meet the eligibility requirements will have their show pulled the next year. The vacant weekend will be open for other schools to apply to host.
2. Schools interested in hosting a winter competition for NCBA should fill out the online application.
 - a. After a review of all applications and evaluation of show host criteria, the Board will determine which school is best suited to host a winter event.
3. Contest hosts may be placed on probationary status or have their shows pulled for a poorly run show.

CONTEST AREA:

1. The hosting school will provide an indoor facility with a 50' x 74' competition area.
 - a. The hosting school will provide a floor cover which will remain taped to the floor for the duration of the competition. If the hosting school does not have a floor cover, NCBA will provide one.
 - b. The competition area will be clearly marked with colored tape and orange cones.
 - c. Show hosts must notify competitors of the T&P line (horizontal or vertical) prior to the show. Competing units must fold their floors according to the T&P line at each show.
 - d. To assist with the flow of the show, hosts must choose just one T&P line and competing units must follow the designated T&P line.
2. The front boundary line is the only penalty line.
 - a. Reaching over the boundary line to pick up equipment is not an infraction unless the hand is grounded for support.
 - b. Equipment may not be positioned over the front boundary line.

TIME LIMITATIONS:

1. Junior High School/Middle School
 - a. Minimum – 2 minutes
 - b. Maximum – 5 minutes
2. High School Concert, Novice, Intermediate
 - a. Minimum – 3 minutes
 - b. Maximum – 6 minutes
3. High School Advanced, Scholastic, Open
 - a. Minimum – 3 minutes
 - b. Maximum – 6 ½ minutes
4. The timing begins from the start of the music or first movement.
5. Timing ends with the obvious conclusion of the show.
6. All performing units will have a total of 10 minutes to set up, perform, and clear the floor.
 - a. The time for the 10-minute time slot will stop when all personnel – performers, instructors, support personnel – have crossed the mid-court line.

EQUIPMENT:

1. All performing units will supply their own instruments.
2. Instrumentation is limited to the following:
 - a. Instruments typically utilized and recognized as part of a percussion section.
 - b. Electronic percussion equipment and electronic instruments utilized and recognized as normal stage band rhythm section instruments.
3. Grounded equipment must have protection on any area that touches the contest floor.
 - a. Judges may stop the competition and disqualify any unit who has any equipment that may damage a contest floor.
4. The use of wind or string instruments is prohibited.
 - a. String instruments are designated as those which are typically used within an orchestral setting.
 - b. The string bass is the exception to this rule.
5. No single, triggered, electronic sound may produce rhythmic intent.
 - a. Lyrics with rhythmic intent may be triggered on a per word basis.
 - b. Spoken word phrases without rhythmic intent may be performed with a single trigger.
6. The use of sequencers or and sequenced copyrighted material is prohibited.
7. The generation of any electronic sound must be triggered by the hand striking the key, instrument, or pad.
8. Ensembles may manipulate their soundboard by using a remote controlled wireless device through a

self-supplied wireless network.

- a. Staff members selected to manipulate the soundboard will sit in the designated instructor area, usually found in front of the judges.
- b. The soundboard must remain on the floor, either in the competition area or in front of the ensemble.

FOOTWEAR:

1. Prior to the show, contest hosts have the option of specifying if boots or other hard-soled shoes need to be taped over before performing on their gym floor.
2. Percussion units who perform without shoes must provide their own floor.
3. Percussion units who perform on their own floor without shoes must enter the gym with their shoes on.
4. Percussion units who perform on their own floor without shoes do not have to wear shoes exiting the gym.
5. All unit representatives accepting awards must wear shoes during the awards ceremony.

PERSONNEL:

1. All members of the competing unit must be enrolled at the school they perform with.
 - a. The VP of Winter Activities will consider exceptions to this rule on a case by case basis.
2. Non-performers – which include directors, instructors, support personnel, parents, or other students – may not enter the competition area while the unit is in competition.
3. Number of performers
 - a. Each guard unit must contain a minimum of five performing members.
 - b. There is no limit on the maximum number of performing members.

ENTERING AND EXITING:

1. Prior to each show, the hosting school will provide each performing unit with a diagram of the competition area which outlines the entrance and exit plan.
 - a. Performing units are expected to follow the directions sent by the hosting school.
 - b. Performing units should be set to unfold their floor according to the directions sent by the hosting school.
2. Performing units will enter the competition area when directed to do so by the Timing and Penalties judge.
 - a. Performing units may be asked by the Timing and Penalties judge to enter the competition area up to the mid-court line prior to their performance.
 - b. The Timing and Penalty judge will start the clock if a performing member, staff, or support personnel crosses the mid-court line prior to being given a signal to start.

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. Timing and Penalty
 - b. Musical Analysis
 - c. Visual Performance
 - d. General Effect
 - e. Concert Percussion
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. Timing and Penalty judges will provide their own stop watches.

PENALTIES:

1. Under/Over -time – 0.1 point per 5 seconds or fraction thereof
2. Ten Minute Time Slot – 0.1 point per 5 seconds or fraction thereof
3. Boundary – 0.1 point per offense, up to 2.0 points
4. Initiating Conversation with a Judge – 1.0 point
5. Personnel Violation – Disqualification
6. Non-Performer on the Floor – Disqualification
7. Violation of the American Flag Code – Disqualification
8. Dress Code Violation – Disqualification

9. Violation of Prohibited Activities – Disqualification
 - a. Live animals
 - b. Explosive devices
 - c. Blackout shows
 - d. Releasing lighter than air balloons
 - e. Flying of floors – Floors must remain at the waist level or lower.
10. Unprotected Equipment/Shoes – Disqualification
11. Performing with No Shoes without a Floor – Disqualification
12. Use of Wind/String Instrument – Disqualification
13. Failure to follow recorded music guidelines – 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 Percussion 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
_____ Chris Baker Percussion 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
 Chris Baker Date
 Percussion Caption Manager

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

_____ Approved/Disapproved
 Mario Sebastian Date
 President

CHANGES – January 2019, June 2019 – effective Winter 2020

OLD RULE	NEW RULE
<p><u>Notifying competitors of floor direction/T&P line</u></p> <p>No rule in place</p> <p><u>Reno Show</u></p> <p>Reno Winter Show/Clinic was exhibition for McQueen HS & Spanish Springs HS did not count as a contest.</p> <p><u>Champs eligibility due to show cancelation</u></p> <p>No rule in place cancellation</p>	<p><u>Notifying competitors of floor direction/T&P line</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Show hosts must notify competitors of the T&P line (horizontal or vertical) prior to the show. Competing units must fold their floors according to the T&P line at each show. b. To assist with the flow of the show, hosts must choose just one T&P line and competing units must follow the designated T&P line. <p><u>Reno Show</u></p> <p>Reno Winter Show/Clinic will count as a contest McQueen HS & Spanish Springs HS.</p> <p><u>Eligibility due to show cancelation</u></p> <p>If a competing unit does not meet the minimum number of shows because an event was canceled, the eligibility requirement will be waived. However, before waiving the eligibility requirement, competing units will be encouraged to transfer to a different show.</p>

CLARIFICATION

The following rules on eligibility requirements have been in place for some time; however, they were not included in the official Winter Activities Rules.

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 - a. After a review of all applications and evaluation of show host criteria, the Board will determine which school is best suited to host a winter event.

3. Contest hosts may be placed on probationary status or have their shows pulled for a poorly run show.

The updated Rules and Regulations were approved by the NCBA Board of Directors at the January & June 2020 meetings.

_____ Marcus Mills VP of Winter Activities	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Chris Baker Percussion Caption Manager	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Matt Mackey VP of Judges	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved
_____ Mario Sebastian President	_____ Date	Approved/Disapproved