



# **Northern California Band Association**

## *Band Review Field Rules and Regulations* **Table of Contents**

<b>Content</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Personnel	2
2. Music Scores	2
3. Warm Up Area	3
4. Silent Zone	4
5. Announcer Script	4
6. Competition Area	4
7. Timing	5
8. Props & Equipment	6-7
9. Sound Equipment	8
10. Optional Competing Units	8
11. Footwear	9
12. Competition Scoring	9-11
13. Band Classification	11
14. Prohibited Activities	12
15. Awards	13
16. American Flag Code	13
17. Competitive Flag Code	14

## 1. Personnel

---

- All performing participants must be members of the program and enrolled in the school they are participating with.
- Directors (excluding conducting) or adults may not perform with the band.
- Adults may assist in setting up the field props and pit equipment and removing equipment but must remain off the field and on the track area during the performance.
- If the band is disqualified it will include field conductor, Auxiliary, percussion, woodwind and brass awards.
- Adults may not hold props during the performance.
- Statement Regarding Noncompetitive Personnel - There will be no penalty for the use of noncompetitive personnel such as parents who need to retrieve props that are blowing away, electronics crews, and the like. It is suggested that good judgment be used when utilizing noncompetitive personnel. (Scores can be affected if the noncompetitive personnel are a hindrance to the performance.)

Violation	Penalty
Use of non-registered students	Disqualification
Adults contributing to performance except in above described areas	0.5 points per violation

## 2. Music Scores

---

No music scores will be required for the Field Show Competition.

### 3. Warm Up Area

---

A warm up area will be provided. This may be inside or outside at the contest host's discretion. The warm up period will be at least a 15-minute time slot.

- Ensembles may not practice or warm up within earshot or visual vicinity (when possible due to physical limitations of the competition venue) of the stadium except at the designated times in the designated areas
- Time-keeping devices such as metronomes, jam blocks, megaphones, or similar voice amplification devices, and audio systems may be tested and used in warm-up areas but must be used with a wired-connected microphone and must remain at a reasonable volume depending on the acoustics of the warm-up area and proximity to other ensembles /warm-up areas, judging areas, and the performance field. Wireless microphones and audio and/or lighting control devices may interfere with performances in the stadium and may not be used in warm-up areas.
- Use of specific devices may be restricted or ordered discontinued use onsite if such devices interfere with other ensembles in the warm-up areas or with performances in the stadium.
- Musical warm-up prior to the optional field warm-up must be done in an area removed from the hearing range of the stadium. (when possible due to physical limitations of the competition venue)

**Rule of thumb:** If you can hear the competing ensembles, they can hear you. Be courteous to all competitors.

Violation	Penalty
Playing in silent area or interfering with a band in competition	5 points

## 4. Silent Zone

---

The Silent Zone will be located adjacent to the competition field area and will be clearly designated by the contest host. Bands are not to play in this area or interfere in any way with the band in competition.

Violation	Penalty
Playing in silent area or interfering with a band in competition	5 points

## 6. Announcer Script

All Bands will use the following script: (Highlighted portions to be filled in by each competing unit)

Now entering the field is the **Roadrunner Marching Band** from **Kalamazoo High School** in **Kalamazoo, California**. They are under the direction of **Wonder Woman** along with staff members **Rocky Balboa, color guard, Tina Tapenstien, percussion**. (Add more as needed)

They are led on the field by field conductors **Sir Flappyarms & Wendy Wavesalot**. Color guard captain(s) are **Joey Dropsalot and Serena Twinkletoes**. Percussion captain is **Sally Snare**.

Please welcome the **Roadrunner Marching Band!**

For start of show:

Drum Major is your band ready? (cue for drum major to salute)

After salute - Presenting their 2022 field show: **Scooby Doo!** Roadrunner Marching Band, you may now take the field in competition!

## 5. Competition Area

---

All Judging will be confined to the competition area and the contest area and pit.

- The contest area will be a regulation size football field.
- The boundaries of the field will be clearly marked. The field will be lined every 5 yards and hash marks will be indicated one-third of the way off each side line.
- Numbered yard line markers will be placed every 10 yards along the front side line.
- Bands may enter and exit from any point on the field.
- Hosts are required to provide electricity to the front sideline.
- There are no boundary penalties, the pit may be placed at any location in the performance area
- No performers are allowed in the stands

## 6. Timing

---

Field shows will be scheduled at 15 minute time slots with a 5 minute minimum show per band.

Timing begins from:

- The first note of music
- Spoken word/audio
- Taped/recorded audio
- Or the first sign of motion from the unit

Timing ends with:

- The obvious conclusion of the performance which is usually indicated by a final salute to the judges and acknowledgement to the audience. (Trooping the line or exit is not part of the performance).

Rules:

- Prior to the step off time the unit will be expected to be in the holding area which will be the "0" yard line at either end of the field.
- The timing of the 15 minute time slot will begin when the signal to enter the field is given to set up and the first member of your organization crosses the "0" line.
- You may be given the signal to enter while the previous band is still in the stadium but not on the field.
- Bands are allowed an on field warm up period. This must be included in your 15 minute time slot and includes;
  - Entry to the field
  - Set Up
  - Warm Up
  - Show performance
  - Exit from the field
  - Clearing of the set up
- All announcements will be made as the unit enters the field.
- When the unit is set, the announcer will say "*Drum Major, is your band ready*" the drum major will salute, announcer will say "*Presenting their 2022 field show: **Scooby Doo!** Roadrunner Marching Band, you may now take the field in competition!*" will indicate that the band is ready to enter competition.
- Timing for the 15 minute time period ends when the last member of the band, support staff and equipment has cleared the "0" yard line.

Violation	Penalty
Under or overtime	1 point per 30 seconds

## 7. Props & Equipment

- Any/all sound and/or lighting checks on the field may begin as soon as the ensemble enters the Performance Field.
- Conducting podiums may be placed anywhere in the Performance Area, including the track and/or areas surrounding the Performance Field. No podiums may be placed in the Audience Area.(Subject to facility limitations and needs)
- Adults may enter the Performance Field before the performance to set up equipment and after the performance to remove equipment. Adults, including those assisting in setting up props or equipment, must clear the Performance Field for the duration of the performance. However, adults may enter the Performance Field during the performance to attend to an issue concerning the safety of the performers: to retrieve errant props or attend to failure or loss of power or connectivity to a sound system without penalty, as determined by the Timing and Penalty Adjudicator.
- Statement Regarding Noncompetitive Personnel - There will be no penalty for the use of noncompetitive personnel such as parents who need to retrieve props that are blowing away, electronics crews, and the like. It is suggested that good judgment be used when utilizing noncompetitive personnel. (Scores can be affected if the noncompetitive personnel are a hindrance to the performance.)
- Off road mechanized vehicles (defined as golf carts, garden tractors, small ATV All-Terrain Vehicles, etc.) will be allowed to pull equipment trailers, only for set-up and take-down, unless prohibited by the contest venue. Show hosts may have specific requirements for their facilities and will communicate their specifics to competing units.
- Pickup trucks, large tractors, or similar vehicles are not permitted. The participating ensemble and its school are liable and will be held responsible for any damage to a Performance Field or venue caused by violation of these policies and/or actions of the operators.
- The following are not allowed in a Performance or on the Performance Field:
  - Any equipment, object, or material (including, but not limited to debris, powder, water, or other liquids) that may cause damage to the Performance Field, that presents a safety hazard, or that disrupts the scheduled flow of the contest.
  - Pyrotechnics of any kind, including fire, fireworks, or the discharge of arms
  - Lights-out routines
  - Animals
  - Off-road mechanized vehicles
  - Drones or any remote-controlled airborne device
  - Hazardous equipment or illegal use of equipment
  - Gas powered generators are not allowed on the field

## Prop Rules

- Props built and/or used by participating ensembles at NCBA events shall be limited to a maximum height of 15 feet (including safety or other railing or equipment).
- Any prop found in violation will not be allowed to enter the performance field.
- No participant may be, or be placed on, any portion of any prop where the participant's feet are more than six (6) feet above the playing surface of the performance field unless appropriate safety railing and/or other safety equipment are in place and in use.
- Prop assembly must be done within the directed flow during the ensemble's allotted time for arrival, unload and warm-up. No additional setup/tear down time will be allowed.
- Prop disassembly and removal must not be disruptive or hindering the next performance or performance area of the next ensemble.
- Because NCBA is a guest at our host stadiums, additional stadium and/or venue specific policies may be in effect. However, any concerns expressed by the stadium management onsite will be addressed and must be acted upon and complied with by the participating ensembles.
- The Head Judge shall at all times have the authority to prohibit the use of any prop or equipment that they believe presents an unreasonable or unacceptable risk of injury or harm to participants, Facilities, or others or potential danger to a venue or its property.

<b>Violation</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
Violation of Prohibited Activities	1 point up to Disqualification

## 8. Sound Equipment

All sound equipment may be run by:

- The director
- The assistant director
- An instructor
- A student member of the program and enrolled in the school they are participating with.
- The soundboard may be on the track.
- Once the equipment (speakers , microphones and sound board) is set in the pit area, and once the performance is in progress no one is allowed back in the pit area to readjust the equipment.
- You may monitor the sound remotely from the bleachers in the designated area.

## 9. Optional Competing Units

The following units are offered in competition at the option of the local band review. If these areas are offered they must follow the guidelines and rules of the Northern California Band Association:

1. *Field Conductor* - The leader of the band in competition is the Field Conductor. They may be judged in separate categories. The drum major will also be judged as part of the overall band general effect.
2. *Colorguard* - This category involves all non-playing members (except field conductor) of the performing ensemble. The contest host may opt to provide separate competitions for colorguard.
3. *Percussion* - This category includes all percussion players both marching and those participating in the "pit" percussion area.
4. *Brass* - The local contest host may provide a separate competition for the brass section. This would be judged by one of the music judges judging the overall band.
5. *Woodwinds* - The local contest host may provide a separate competition for the woodwind section. This would be judged by one of the music judges judging the overall band.



## 10. Footwear

All performing personnel must wear shoes that cover the entire sole of the foot. Soled footwear must be worn.

Violation	Penalty
No shoes or foot coverings	5 points

## 11. Competition Scoring

Scoring in competition will be as follows:

**Band Competition:** There will be a panel of 2 judges for the following categories; music, general effect and visual. There will be a head judge to assess that all rules are being followed and assess penalties if they are not. In the case of smaller competitions there may be a smaller panel of one judge per category. See adjudication sheets for more details of how points are awarded.

Band Competition	
Category	Points
Music (only musicians)	350
General Effect (all personnel on the field)	250
Visual (all personnel on the field)	200
Colorguard	100
Percussion	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Divided by 10</b>	<b>100</b>

Scores will be divided by 10 to achieve a score based on a maximum of 100 possible points. Any penalties will then be subtracted from the score to give the final point totals that determine placing.

## 11. Competition Scoring, continued

**Field Conductor:** The Field Conductor will be evaluated by one judge in the following categories. They will be evaluated as a solo performer demonstrating leadership of the band. See adjudication sheets for more details of how points are awarded.

Field Conductor	
Category	Points
Tempo and Pattern	400
Excellence	400
Composition	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Divided by 10</b>	<b>100</b>

**Colorguard:** There will be two adjudicators evaluating the colorguard performance. One on Individual, on the field, and a second on Ensemble analysis in the press box. In the case of smaller competitions there may be a smaller panel of one judge using the Ensemble sheet. See adjudication sheets for more details of how points are awarded.

Colorguard			
Individual		Ensemble	
Category	Points	Category	Points
Vocabulary	500	Vocabulary	500
Excellence	500	Excellence	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Averaged total</b>		<b>100</b>	

The two scores are added together and then averaged.

**Percussion:** There will be two adjudicators evaluating the percussion performance. One on Music Execution, on the field, and a second on Ensemble in the press box. In the case of smaller competitions there may be a smaller panel of one judge. See adjudication sheets for more details of how points are awarded.

<b>Percussion</b>			
Music Execution		Ensemble	
Category	Points	Category	Points
Composition	500	Repertoire	500
Achievement	500	Performers	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Averaged total</b>		<b>100</b>	

The two scores are added together and then averaged.

## **12. Band Classification**

Divisions and classification:

Classification of field bands is based on the number of all student performers on the field including colorguard, pit, field conductor, winds & battery.

Names & numbers for classifications are as follows:

Division	Number of Performers
1A	1-50
2A	51-70
3A	71-90
4A	91-120
5A	121-150
Open	150+

## Rules

- Bands must update numbers with show hosts before September 15th of the given year
- Bands can move to the Open division at any point in the season.
- Bands may compete in a higher division than their numbers, but not a lower division. You may not change after your first competition, or the second weekend in October.
- Bands may not move down in class after their first competition of the season.
- Schools may combine from the same school district. Combined schools must compete in the open division regardless of band size.

## 13. Prohibited Activities

At no time will any of the following be allowed in any NCBA certified event:

Violation	Penalty
Live animals	5 points
Explosive Devices of any kind (includes guns)	5 points
The release of lighter than air balloons of any size	5 points

## **14. Awards Ceremony**

Schools are limited to sending six uniformed members to accept awards at the awards ceremony. (One per competing unit for concert and jazz groups)

Units that are accepting awards must be in full competitive Uniform & Shoes. If not in uniform participants will not be allowed to be part of the ceremony and can receive their awards after the ceremony.

All events will award Music, General Effect and Visual & Grand Sweepstakes. They may choose to add Field Conductor, Colorguard, High Woodwinds, High Brass & Percussion Sweepstakes.

Appropriate salutes are required - if you do not do this you may not be allowed at future award ceremonies.

## **15. American Flag Code**

Any violation of the American Flag Code will result in disqualification of the entire competing unit and not be allowed at the awards ceremony. A copy of the American Flag Code may be found as an addendum at the end of these rules.

<b>Violation</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
Violation of the American Flag Code	Disqualification

## 16. Competitive Flag Code

### The American Legion Uniformed Groups

(Excerpts as appropriate for NCBA)

1. The purpose of this code is to establish a set of rules and regulations for the use of the American Legion National Contests Supervisory Committee, regarding the display of the flag of the United States of America, hereinafter referred to as the American Flag, U.S. Flag or U.S. Colors.
2. The code confines itself to consideration of the U.S. Flag, and the relationship of other flags, pennants, banners, guidons, personnel and equipment as defined herein to the said U.S. Flag. The code is concerned only with the items and/or incidents relative to flag etiquette in regard to proper respect at all times to the U.S. Flag, and does not concern itself with the other captions such as Marching and Maneuvering, General Effect, etc. Use of the code shall not be the authority, either expressed or implied, to violate any national or state laws at variance with it.
3. Unless excused as provided herein, any color guard that is competitive in nature which exhibits, competes, or appears in any contest, parade or exhibition either as a prime performer (i.e. color guard contest) or part of a larger unit (i.e. marching band, flag unit, drill team, etc.) shall be subject to this code.
4. Violations of this code may be noted by any regularly assigned adjudicator and/or penalty judge but only the head judge may assess a penalty. All such assessments shall carry a mandatory penalty of disqualification for the entire unit.
  - Any number of U.S. Flags may be carried by a color guard, provided they are properly guarded, regardless of the number of starts in the Union Thereof, and provided that the most recent of these U.S. Flags shall be carried at the point of honor.
  - When a competitive unit is carrying a flag of another nation, it must then follow the code as set forth by the U.S. Heraldic Branch of the U.S. Army.
  - There will be no side stepping of the American Flag. The American Flag will not do backward march, except that one step to the rear shall be permitted to retrieve colors.
  - Additional flags, if carried, must be carried as flags, to wit: any piece of material carried on a pike, pole, staff, or otherwise aloft will be considered a flag, and must show the proper respect to the flag of the United States.
  - Authorized and Un-authorized Staffheads. All U.S. Flagstuffs must have a staffhead. No U.S. Flagstaff should bear any staffhead other than a conical spear or those officially authorized by the Army (eagle, Acorn, ball and spear) or when black crepes streamers are ordered by the President of the United States.
  - Fringe on the American Flag is permitted, and need not necessarily be gold colored. No streamer, banner, or other material may be attached to the pike, pole or finial piece of the U.S. Flag, except for the standard cord which may be used, or when black crepes streamers are ordered by the President of the United States.
  - A color guard must carry at least one (1) authorized weapon. The one weapon must guard the American Flag. The maximum distance between the guard and the American

Flag will be three (3) thirty (30) inch paces. The direction of the motion or the direction of the facing of the American Flag and the guard need not be the same. The American Flag will be considered to properly guarded, regardless of their relative positions, as long as the guard is within the allowable distance. Authorized weapons are Rifles, (or simulated rifles), side arms, sabers, or swords. Simulated rifles are to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past and present, although sight, sling, trigger guard, and trigger are optional. Bayonettes are not used by junior units. Minimum size of the U.S. Colors is three feet by five feet. Minimum length of Sword and/or Sabers is twenty four inches.

- The position of the American Flag relative to the angle of the other flags, pennants and guidons shall be so that the American flag is to the immediate front or ahead of the other flags unless it renders the proper salute (that being dipping the flag). The immediate front is the infinite path through which the American Flag can pass safely without contact. This refers to the immediate front of the American Flag, not the immediate front of the other flags.
- There will be no flag to the 180 degree front of the U.S. Flag, facing in the same banner direction ("trailing")

#### 5. Carriage and position of the American Flag.

- The U.S. Flag shall at all times be carried aloft and free.
- The U.S. Flag shall never be dipped in any direction, or to any person.
- The bearer of the American Flag, while in possession of the American Flag, shall never engage in any dance or theatrical steps.
- The U.S. Flag shall never be permitted to touch the ground.
- Flags may be aligned in any order or prominence, provided that the American Flags shall always be provided with its proper place and accorded the proper respect.
- The U.S. Flag must be guarded at all times by one (1) Authorized weapon except when posted. The directional front of the weapon bearer need not be the same as that of the U.S. Flag. At no time shall another piece of equipment pass between the guard and the American Flag unless the person carrying that piece of equipment qualifies as a guard.
- Proper respect must be shown National-State-City-Church and Organizational banners. No grounding or undignified handling procedure will be allowed. Such banners will not be used as working silks.
- The U.S. Flag bearers shall not be armed while in possession of the U.S. Flag.
- Headgear is required as part of the uniform for all members of the unit.
- Definition – The Institute of Heraldry, Washington, D.C. has specified in Title 4 of the U.S. Flag Code that the 50 star American Flag is the Flag of our Country; therefore, all others shall be treated as banners. All banners and flags shall be dipped at a reviewing stand except the 50 Star Flag of our country. The Bennington '76 Flag and the "Don't Tread on Me Flag" were never approved by congress and were never flags of the United States.