



Northern California Band Association

Band Review Parade Rules and Regulations

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1. Personnel

All performing participants must be members of the program and enrolled in the school they are participating with. All performers on the street will be part of the marching and showmanship score.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for use of non registered students	Disqualification

2. Music Scores

Each band is required to have 2 conductors scores of their competition music for the judges. These scores are either emailed or mailed ahead of time or turned in on parade day at the option of the local parade hosts.

First Trumpet parts are NOT acceptable unless the word "Conductor" is printed on the music by the publishing company. Under no circumstances will any single instrument part substitute for a Conductor's Score. If a score is not available and the word "Conductor" does not appear on the instrument part, a letter from a publisher or music store stating that a score is not available the solo cornet part is recommended to use for the judges. These parts usually have cued parts written in the music.

Violation	Penalty
No Conductor's Scores	5 Points (Having only one score - 3 Points)

3. Competition March

Each band director is allowed to select the march or music that his or her band will play during competition. There is no required march or list of marches but directors are encouraged to pick music that will provide the judges with the best basis for adjudication and comparison with other units. Traditional march forms are highly encouraged.

Repeated March Rule: A High School band cannot play the same parade music within a four year period. A band may repeat that music in the fifth year. A Middle School band cannot play the same parade music within a three year period. A band may repeat that music in the fourth year.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for repeated march	5 points

4. Warm Up Zone

A Warm up Zone will be located before the parade competition zone. The length of this zone will be a minimum of 450 feet. In this area bands may practice before entering the silent area.

5. Silent Zones

Silent Zones refer to those areas where the playing of music or any loud sounds is not allowed. Talking in the silent zone is not a violation.

The first Silent Zone will be located just prior to the competition zone and will be a minimum of 300 feet. As the first rank of the band passes this point the band shall stop all playing immediately. Only one person at a time will be allowed to keep cadence in the silent zone. No rim shots will be allowed. The band in the Silent Zone is not to interfere with the band that is in the Competition Zone. At the end of the Silent Zone there will be a line which will signify the beginning of the Competition Area.

5. Silent Zones, continued

The second Silent Zone will be located after the competition zone. There is no specific length for this zone; however, upon completion of the competition parade music each band must not interfere with the next band that is entering the competition zone.

The head judge in the competition zone will assess this penalty. Bands are encouraged to utilize the same procedures in the second silent zone as they did in the first silent zone until they are a safe distance away from the competition area.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for playing in the silent zone(s) or interfering with a band in the competition zone	5 points per infraction

6. Announcer Script

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

*Please welcome 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 down the street by drum major **Sir Spinalot**. Color guard captain(s) are **Joey Dropsalot** and **Serena Twinkletoes**. Percussion captain is **Sally Snare**.*

*They are playing **Ancient and Honorable Artillery** by **John Phillip Sousa**.*

*Please welcome the **Roadrunner Marching Band**!*

7. Competition Area

The Competition Area will be located at the end of the first Silent Zone. The Competition Area will be 450 feet long with the center of the judging stand and salute point located at the 250 foot mark.

1. As the band moves into position for competition the drum major or Director shall stop the front rank of the band before the Halt Line and should not cross until beginning the competition. Auxiliary units and drum majors are permitted to halt past the Halt Line.
2. Each band will be told when to enter competition.
 - **Do not enter competition until told to do so.**
 - The Drum Major will have 30 seconds to start the band after being given the signal to go (timing starts with the first twirl or first movement).
 - Standing drum roll offs or fanfares may be used for a maximum of 8 counts only.
 - After 8 counts the band must be moving in a forward direction and must begin their competition music before the last rank of the band passes the "Competition Begins" sign.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for entering competition area early	3 points
Penalty for not starting in time - 30 seconds from the drum majors first motion	1 point
Penalty for more than 8 counts of standing roll off or fanfare	1 point
Penalty for not starting competition music before last rank enters the competition zone	2 points
Violation of Judges Area - parents in competition zone, Director/support staff initiation of conversation with a judge.	1 point per infraction
Delay of parade - too long at competition begins line, resetting the band in the silent area before competition.	2 points

3. High School Band members are permitted 2 minutes and 30 seconds to perform in the competition zone. Junior High Schools, Middle Schools, and Intermediate Schools are permitted 3 minutes to perform in the competition zone. Timing starts with the first step across the "Competition Begins" line and ends at the "Competition Ends" line. Timing is done by any rank of band proper and does not include auxiliary units or back flags. Timing is done by the Head judge provided by the association.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for overtime in competition zone	1 point

7. Competition Area, continued

4. Bands shall continue to play while in the Competition Area.

- Bands are to take second endings only but may repeat the march from the beginning or take a D.S. at their discretion.
- Once the entire march has been performed, repeating any section is up to the discretion of the director.
- The band shall not stop playing until the last rank has passed the "Competition Ends" sign.

Violation	Penalty
Penalty for not taking second endings only	1 point
Penalty for not playing continuously	3 points

5. The Drum Major in control of the band must salute the Reviewing Officer. The Reviewing Officer will be located at the Reviewing Stand at precisely the 250 foot mark in the Competition Zone. The Salute shall be executed six (6) paces before the Reviewing Officer and shall be held for six (6) paces after the Reviewing Officer. Director Salute is optional.

6. No parents or chaperones will be allowed in the competition zone while the band is performing.

Statement Regarding Noncompetitive Personnel - There will be no penalty for the use of noncompetitive personnel such as parents who need to retrieve items dropped by performers. It is suggested that good judgment be used when utilizing noncompetitive personnel. It is important to not interfere with the performance. (Scores can be affected if the noncompetitive personnel are a hindrance to the performance.)

Violation	Penalty
Violation of Judges Area - parents in competition zone, Director/support staff initiation of conversation with a judge.	1 point per infraction

8. Declarations

Directors may make "declarations" for consideration of the judges. These declarations must be for:

- Physical
- Non-Apparent Medical
- flowers or special additions to the uniform to signify leaders, seniors
- Special circumstances

All declarations must be in writing and hand carried by the band director or staff person and given directly to the head judge. These declarations must be in the hands of the judges before the actual performance starts on their unit.

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. Drum Major

The leader of the band in competition is the drum major. They are judged in a separate category. One adjudicator will evaluate the Drum Major as a solo performer. The Drum Major will be included in marching and showmanship evaluation.

Separate categories that may be judged are:

- Mace (long equipment/baton)
- Military (short equipment/baton)
- Open (no equipment or baton)

Failure to salute the reviewing officer during competition will result in disqualification from any of the Drum Major competitions. The drum major will also be judged as part of the overall band marching and showmanship scores.

The Drum Major must start the Band within 30 seconds.

9. Optional Competing Units, continued

1. Drum Major, continued

Violation	Penalty
Not starting within 30 seconds of the "Go" signal	1 point for the bands overall score
Not saluting	Disqualified from Drum Major competition

2. Parade Auxiliary

The parade auxiliary unit shall consist of any combination of the following:

Tall Flags, Rifles, Identification unit, Majorette, Majorette Team, Sabers and Drill Team. There is no limit to the number of performers in each unit.

There is no minimum number required to be eligible to compete as an auxiliary unit.

Static Back Flags or Standards that are used to frame the band are not part of the auxiliary unit. However, the marching and showmanship judges will adjudicate the "back flags or standards" as part of the entire marching ensemble. The parade auxiliary unit may be staged either in front, behind or alongside of the band. As the entire ensemble moves forward, the parade auxiliary may perform a re-present if they so wish.

The Auxiliary unit will also be judged as part of the overall band marching and showmanship scores.

Two adjudicators will judge the parade auxiliary unit and their scores will be averaged for placement in the event. The Colorguard will be included in marching and showmanship evaluation.

3. Percussion Competition Area

The percussion competition area is designed to give percussionists a chance to compete in a specialized drumline piece.

- The Percussion Zone will be a 250 foot zone.
- The Drum Major shall halt the first rank of the Band or Percussion before the start line.
- The percussion section may play from the band block or may position themselves in front of the band block for competition without penalty.
- A member of the percussion section may start the performance.

9. Optional Competing Units, continued

3. Percussion Competition Area, continued

- The percussion section may only use personnel who marched the entire parade route (including auxiliaries).
- Students who do not march on a percussion instrument during the course of the parade route may switch to a percussion instrument prior to the percussion competition zone.
- These instruments may either be carried by other personnel or provided by boosters along the parade route.
- All equipment must be carried. No grounded equipment will be allowed during the performance.
- At least one member of the percussion section must be moving forward at any given time during the performance.
- Directors, Instructors, and parents must remain out of the competition area during their drumline's performance. They may watch from the sidelines / sidewalk, however, they must remain off of the street.

One adjudicator will judge the Percussion Unit.

Violation	Penalty
Using personnel not marching the entire route	Disqualification
Using grounded equipment	Disqualification
Lack of forward motion by at least one performer	Disqualification
Violation of Judges Area - parents in competition zone, Director/support staff initiation of conversation with a judge.	1 point per infraction for the Percussion Unit

10. Competition Scoring

Scoring in competition will be as follows:

Band Competition

There will be a panel of 2 judges for the following categories; music, showmanship and marching. There will be a head judge to assess that all rules are being followed and assessing 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)	500
Showmanship (all personnel on the street)	300
Marching (all personnel on the street)	200
Total	1000
Divided by 10	100

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.

10. Competition Scoring, continued

Drum Major

The Drum Major 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.

Drum Major	
Category	Points
Content	350
Execution	400
Presentation	250
Total	1000
Divided by 10	100

Color Guard

There will be two adjudicators evaluating the colorguard performance. One on Individual and a second on Ensemble analysis. 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.

Colorguard			
Individual		Ensemble	
Category	Points	Category	Points
Vocabulary	500	Repertoire Effect & Composition	500
Excellence	500	Performance Effect & Excellence	500
Total	1000	Total	1000
Averaged total		100	

The two scores are added together and then averaged.

10. Competition Scoring, continued

Percussion

The Percussion Unit will be evaluated by one judge in the following categories. They will be evaluated as a separate unit than the band block proper in a different competition zone. See adjudication sheets for more details of how points are awarded.

Percussion	
Category	Points
Music Composition	400
Music Performance Quality	400
Marching General Effect	200
Total	1000
Divided by 10	100

11. Band Classification

Classifications are determined by the number of performers on the street. This includes everyone - Wind musicians, percussion, color guard, drum major, back flags, escorts, auxiliary units, etc.

Middle School/Junior High	Number of performers
JB	1-50
JA	51+

High School	Number of Performers
1A	1-35
2A	36-50
3A	51-70
4A	71-90
5A	91-110
OPEN	111+

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.

12. 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

13. 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, Headwear & 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, Showmanship and Marching & Grand Sweepstakes. They may choose to add Drum Major, Color Guard & Percussion Sweepstakes.

Appropriate salutes are required - if you do not do this you may not be allowed at future award ceremonies. Appropriate salute guidelines can be found in the Parade Policies and Procedures.

14. 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.

Violation	Penalty
Violation of the American Flag Code	Disqualification

15. 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 Unauthorized Staffheads. All U.S. Flagstuffs must have a staff head. 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 sash, sling, trigger guard, and

trigger are optional. Bayonets 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.