



LMBC

LOUISIANA MARCHING BAND CIRCUIT

2014 Contest Rules

1 BAND CLASSIFICATIONS

1.1 All bands will be broken into classes based on total performer count. Performers who count towards classification include all winds, percussionists (drum line and front ensemble), auxiliary, and conducting personnel. Any musician who is not a performer (such as an alternate) will not count towards the total performer number.

Classifications are as follows;

1.1.1 Class A 0-69 performers

Class 2A 70-109 performers

Class 3A 110-149 performers

Class 4A 150+ performers

1.2 Bands do not have the option of performing in a classification higher than the one in which they belong.

1.3 Bands will have the option of performing as a Festival Band or Competition Band.

1.4 Festival Class

1.4.1 Bands that are new to the circuit or are that wish to receive judges' comments only (in lieu of competition) are allowed to perform in Festival Class.

1.4.2 Bands will be judged using the LMBC scoring sheets.

1.4.3 Scores are private and will not be published or announced. Directors will still have access to the Competition Class scores.

1.4.4 Ratings will only be awarded using the overall band score (see Chapter 2).

1.4.5 Festival Class Bands will perform first in each class at Regional Events.

1.4.6 Bands are allowed to move from Festival Class to Competition Class.

1.4.7 Festival Class will not be available at Circuit Championships.

1.5 Competition Class

1.5.1 All competing bands will be judged using the LMBC scoring sheets.

1.5.2 Ratings will only be awarded using the overall band score (see Chapter 2).

1.5.3 All scores will be published to Competition Suite and the LMBC Website.



1.5.4 Bands are allowed to move from Competition Class to Festival Class during the season.

1.6 Directors are responsible for reporting their classifications to the show hosts. Directors are also responsible for changing classification if there is a change in total performers at any point in the season. A failure to do so will result in disqualification from competition.

2 **SCORING**

2.1 A Total Band Score will be awarded based on a 100 point scale. Points are awarded in six Primary Captions, and are broken down as follows;

2.1.1 Ensemble Music (20 pts.)

2.1.2 Individual Music (10 pts.)

2.1.3 Ensemble Visual (20 pts.)

2.1.4 Individual Visual (10 pts.)

2.1.5 General Effect Music (20 pts.)

2.1.6 General Effect Coordination (Music/Visual Combination) (20 pts)

2.2 60% of the 100 total point score will come from musical aspects, and 40% will come from visual aspects of the band's performance.

2.3 Secondary Captions, such as percussion and auxiliary, are not counted in the total band score.

2.4 Tie-breakers will be used based on points in the following order:

2.4.1 Total Music Score (Ensemble Music & Individual Music), and if needed,

2.4.2 Total General Effect Score (GE Music & GE Coordination), and if needed,

2.4.3 Total Visual Score (Ensemble Visual & Individual Visual)

2.5 Ratings for the total band will be given to all performing bands. A sliding achievement scale will define where Division I and Division II ratings are placed as the season progresses. There will not be any ratings lower than a Division II. The Division I scale is as follows:

2.5.1 September 20: 60-100

September 27: 60-100

October 4: 65-100



October 18: 65-100

October 25: 70-100

November 1, Championships: 75-100

2.6 Scoring sheets are available on the LMBC Website (labands.org) for directors to view.

3 **JUDGING**

3.1 All LMBC events will utilize six Primary Caption Judges in the following areas;

3.1.1 Ensemble Music

Individual Music

Ensemble Visual

Individual Visual

General Effect Music

General Effect Coordination

3.2 All of the Primary Caption Judges will be hired through the Central States Judges Association. CSJA Judges are highly trained and specialize in each caption area. At no time will CSJA Judges have any type of affiliation with the performing ensembles.

3.3 All LMBC events will also provide two Secondary Caption Judges in the following areas:

3.3.1 Percussion

Auxiliary

3.3.2 Secondary Caption Judges are not required to be CSJA judges. If hired locally, these judges will not have any type of affiliation with the performing ensembles.

3.4 Judge Critique

3.4.1 A judging critique will be available after each show.

3.4.2 Judges will be paired Music, Visual, and General Effect. Percussion will be paired in Music and Auxiliary with Visual.

3.4.3 All directors and staff will have 5 minutes at each area to speak with judges about their show. Directors should listen to the judges' tapes prior to critique.

3.4.4 Only staff members from each individual school are allowed to be a part of that school's critique. At no time should a different band's staff members be allowed to sit in on another band's critique.



- 3.4.5 Staff members must act professionally. Any staff member not doing so may be asked to leave.
- 3.5 CSJA will assign one of the six Primary Caption Judges to be the Head Judge. This judge is in charge of the judging panel.
- 3.6 All judges are trained to provide specific feedback relevant to their caption. At no time should judges make comments about items that are out of their specific caption. Directors should familiarize themselves with the scoring sheets to be aware of what feedback they will receive from the judges.
- 3.7 If a director wishes to file a complaint about a judge, he or she should contact the Show Coordinator no later than 24 hours after the competition. LMBC will then request that CSJA review the tapes for the performance.

4 SCHEDULE

Performance Order

- 4.1 Class performance order will be A through 4A.
- 4.2 Festival Class will perform first in each class, from smallest to largest performer size.
- 4.3 Competition Class will be assigned a performance time in each class by a random draw.
- 4.3.1 A random-order draw date will be set for all LMBC events. All registration forms postmarked by that date will be put into the draw.
- 4.3.2 Each show host will submit registered band names to the LMBC Show Coordinator. The Show Coordinator will then assign ensembles numbers in each class and randomly select the order.
- 4.3.3 Registration forms postmarked after the draw date will be perform after the Festival Class in each classification.
- 4.3.4 Bands that do not wish participate in the random draw should notify the Regional Show Host and LMBC Show Coordinator. These bands will be placed in order with the late registrations.
- 4.4 All host ensembles that are performing in exhibition will perform last.



4.5 The following is an example of the performance schedule:

Class 2A Festival Class Ensembles

Class 2A Late Registration or Non-Draw Ensembles

Class 2A Random Draw Ensembles

Class 3A Festival Class Ensembles

Class 3A Late Registration or Non-Draw Ensembles

Class 3A Random Draw Ensembles

Exhibition by Show Host

4.6 Performance order can be adjusted for extenuating circumstances. Ensembles that have a schedule conflict, such as Homecoming, should notify the Regional Show Host and LMBC Show Coordinator in a timely manner so that the ensemble can be placed earlier or later in the performance order.

Performance Schedule

4.7 Each band will be given a 30-minute warm-up.

4.7.1 There will be two designated warm-up locations, labeled Warm-Up A and Warm-Up B.

4.7.2 Bands should enter their warm-up area ONLY at their designated time. This includes bands that perform following a break in the schedule.

4.7.3 Bands are only allowed to warm-up in their designated area. At no time should instruments be played in any other area of the event venue.

4.7.4 Any type of warm-up that does not involve musical sound, such as auxiliary units or body warm-up, may be done outside of a designated warm-up area. These types of warm-ups should be clear of any entering or exiting band's path.

4.8 Each band is given a 10-minute transit time to the performance area.

4.9 Bands are scheduled in 15-minute performance times.

4.10 Water stations are provided at the warm-up location or in transit to the performance location, and on the exit pathway following the performance.



5 AWARDS

5.1 LMBC requires every host to provide awards as follows:

5.1.1 Overall Band Superior Awards (see Section 2.5 for score requirements)

5.1.2 Class Champion

5.1.3 Class Runner-Up

5.1.4 Class Captions

5.1.4.1 Outstanding Music

5.1.4.2 Outstanding Visual

5.1.4.3 Outstanding General Effect

5.1.4.4 Outstanding Auxiliary

5.1.4.5 Outstanding Percussion

5.2 All class rankings will be based on the total band score.

5.3 Overall awards are not required by LMBC, and are neither encouraged nor discouraged.

5.4 Regional Events may give other awards that are unique to their event. These awards are not regulated by LMBC.

6 PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION

6.1 Bands may be penalized a minimum of one-tenth (0.10) of a point to a maximum penalty of disqualification from competition for the following violations:

6.1.1 Not reporting correct classification and performing out of class

6.1.2 Conducting musical warm-ups outside of designated warm-up time and location

6.1.3 Tardiness resulting in 10-minute or more schedule delay

6.1.4 Improper conduct by staff, students, or volunteers.

6.2 All penalties will be determined by the Show Coordinator after consultation with the head judge. At no point in time is a Show Host allowed to assess penalties.



7 POOR WEATHER PLAN

7.1 In the case of poor weather, each show host has three options:

7.1.1 Cancel the show

7.1.2 Run a 'Track' standstill show in the stadium (if the weather is OK but the field is not usable), or

7.1.3 Hold an indoor standstill show in a school facility, usually the school gymnasium.

7.2 These options provide an opportunity for an LMBC Regional Show Host to salvage their financial investment, as well as an opportunity for bands to qualify for LMBC Circuit Championships by participating in an LMBC Regional Event.

7.3 Show Hosts will monitor weather during the week of the event and discuss bad weather plans with the Show Coordinator. Any show cancelation will typically occur one or two days before the show.

7.4 Judging and Scoring

7.4.1 Music scores will be used to determine the overall band score in the case of an indoor or outdoor standstill performance. The following captions will be used in the final score:

Ensemble Music (20 pts.)

General Effect Music (20 pts.)

Individual Music (10 pts.)

The total score will be doubled to reach a 100 point score.

7.4.2 Other judges may make taped comments, but their scores are not counted.

7.5 All decisions regarding awards will be made by the show host and coordinator.

8 EVENT PASSES

8.1 Event passes for staff and volunteers will be assigned as follows;

8.1.1 Class A and 2A: 15 total (5 staff, 10 volunteer)

8.1.2 Class 3A: 20 total (5 staff, 15 volunteer)

8.1.3 Class 4A: 25 total (5 staff, 20 volunteer)



- 8.2 These passes should be used to gain access to the event for free, and at no time are bands allowed to obtain additional passes.
- 8.3 LMBC members will receive full-season event passes prior to Week 1 of the competition season. These passes are to be used for the duration of the season. These passes will allow staff members to attend all LMBC events regardless of whether their band is participating.
- 8.4 Bands that attend an LMBC show but are not members will be assigned single-event passes from the show host.
- 8.5 Staff passes may be used for volunteers and vice versa.
- 8.6 Additional personnel, such as bus drivers, staff family, and administrators, will not be given free passes from the show host. Directors may use staff or volunteer passes if they wish to have these individuals gain free entry.

