

High Stepping Nationals



2018 Rules & Regulations

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS AND RELATED MATTERS

Classifications:

Class A – up to 48 musicians

Class AA – 49 to 64 musicians

Class AAA – 65 to 80 musicians

Class AAAA - over 81 musicians

Corps Division - Open Class

(We reserve the right to adjust the above class parameters in order to insure a reasonable number of bands in each competition class.)

Eligibility: Participating students must be currently enrolled, academically eligible, and members from the same high school or one where the members are part of a single band with a recognized joint credit program. Also eligible are students from all feeder elementary, junior high, and middle schools. Directors, staff members, and parents may assist with the setup of equipment both on and off the field, **however all participants who contribute to the performance must be students.** Directors or staff not may conduct from the sideline.

REGISTRATION & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE PROCEDURES

Registration of bands will be accepted for Nationals based on the POSTMARK on their entry form. Forty (40) BANDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. A **waiting list** will be established by class. Bands will perform based upon the postmark on their entry form with the first entry going on latest in the day and the last entry going on first. Bands will perform by class for preliminary competition. If more than one carries the same postmark, a drawing will determine the performance order of bands. Class sizes will be determined by band sizes. The defending champion will have the option of choosing their time in the preliminary competition. Class Champion awards will be determined during the preliminary competition. No preliminary scores will be announced until after the championship finals.

Director's packets with judge's tapes, score sheets, timing sheets, and penalty sheets will be distributed in the hospitality area at the conclusion of the preliminary competition, before the awards ceremony. Bands will be selected for the Finals competition based on the following criteria:

Twelve (12) bands will be invited to compete in the finals. The 1st place winner from each class and the next eight highest scores regardless of class will compete in finals.

Performance order for the finals competition will be determined by preliminary scores.

For more information, email us at info@highsteppingnationals.com

Bands must be scheduled at intervals of no less than fifteen minutes.

Bands arriving late will be allowed to perform at a later time, if at all possible. The band will perform for **ratings only** and will receive comments from the judges. **They will not be ranked.**

REQUEST FOR CLASS CHANGE/PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

If a Band requests a change in class size to the next highest class, their performance schedule will not change. Bands may move up but not down in classes.

PERFORMANCE TIMES AND STANDARDS

Each participating band will have 15 minutes to set-up, warm-up, perform, and exit. They must present a performance of no less than 7 minutes. **Timing violations are subject to penalty.**

Each band will be allowed to setup and warm-up anywhere in the performance area. Timing will begin at the cue of the Gate Official. Timing will stop when all equipment and members are past the exit line as defined by the contest host. All performers, including stagehands assisting with on field set-up, must not enter until instructed to do so by the Gate Official.

The performance shall begin after the HSN announcer states the following:

“Joining us from (name of town and state, please welcome the (name of school) High School Marching Band!”(pause for audience response)

“High Stepping Nationals is proud to present in competition performance, Drum Major(s) (name(s) of drum major(s)) and the (name of school) High School Marching Band!”

A drum major intro/salute is necessary to indicate that the band is ready to start; All drum major(s) intro/salute should occur at this time.

Adjudication will begin with the first note of music or the first step by a member of the ensemble, whichever comes first. Performance timing will end with the last note played or last step taken. Musical exits (side line blow downs) will be included in the performance time. A percussion cadence is considered part of the performance time.

Bands must completely vacate the performance area within the 15-minute total time. *Exit time and entrance time of the two bands may overlap in order to maintain the flow of the event.* Non-performers may assist in the exit process. A drum tap is recommended. (Recognizing that full cadences can be an important part of many shows, specific exit procedures are left to the discretion of the event host, as long as they do not exceed the 15-minute limit). **Cadences off the field can be used at Finals Competition.**

PENALTIES:

Timing penalties will be assessed for:

Under 7 minute performance time: 1 point per 3 seconds or fraction thereof

Overtime of 15 minute total time: 1 point per 3 seconds or fraction thereof

Performer violation: 5 point total penalty regardless of number of infractions

Non-student involvement in the performance: The band will be assessed a "Performer Violation" penalty. Only students enrolled in the participating school (or school system) may contribute to the performance. Adult assistants may not move, manipulate or alter the field setup once the performance has begun. In the event of adverse weather conditions such as high wind or rain, the judges may allow adult involvement to secure props. This will be announced as applicable.

This competition is a high-step style event. Only 192 steps of corps style will be granted without penalty at this this Competition. Total Corps Style Marching Over 192 Steps, 5 point deduction from marching score.

New this year is a "Corps Style Division." Bands that participate in the Corps style division must be 85% minority membership." Updated 08/2018

ELECTRONICS:

All electronically produced music must be "live," in "real time," and be performed by a student. No prerecorded music is to be used.

Narration and sound effects may be prerecorded and used without penalty.

Electricity will be available at the field.

RESTRICTIONS:

Pyrotechnics will be allowed (Fire Batons) however, no fireworks, firing of weapons or the use of any hazardous materials that could endanger the stadium surface, participants, or spectators.

No materials that would disrupt the scheduled flow of the event will be permitted.

No animals will be allowed as part of performances.

No band may perform a routine that requires the stadium lights to be turned off.

No powder or any material that might damage the field or leave excessive residue (paper wrappings, etc.) will be permitted.

No band or portion of any band may use the performance area for practice during the week prior to the event.

Violation of the above restrictions may be penalized up to a maximum penalty of disqualification at the discretion of the chief judge in consultation with the adjudication panel and the contest director.

AWARDS:

Awards in Each Class:

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place in: Drum Line, Dance Line, Drum Major, Flags, Music, Marching

& General Effect

Best Majorettes in each class

1st, 2nd & 3rd in overall band

Final Awards:

1st, 2nd & 3rd place in: Drum Line, Dance Line, Drum Major, Flags, Music, Marching & General Effect

1st, 2nd & 3rd place overall

Gerald Carver Esprit De Corps Award (Spirit)

The "President Award" for innovation, creativity & excitement



GENERAL CONDUCT:

Participating band members, adult assistants and staff are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during all aspects of their participation with High Stepping Nationals. Inappropriate behavior, on or off the field, may result in disqualification and loss of opportunity to participate in future events.

EVENT DAY CHECK IN:

Unless arranged otherwise at least one week prior to the event, bands should arrive and check in at least 90 minutes prior to the scheduled performance time. Bands who arrive late and are not prepared to perform at their scheduled time will be moved to the end of the competition, only if time permits.

GUIDES:

At check in, you will be introduced to your HSN Staff. Our staff and volunteers will be available to assist with event logistics, answer questions and provide any help necessary to assure you have an enjoyable event with High Stepping Nationals.

STAYING ON SCHEDULE

We ask for the cooperation of all participants to be aware of your schedule and do all you can to help us keep the event on time

PLAYING IN THE STANDS

You may only play in the stands at the discretion of the event announcer. If you play without notification you will be stripped of all titles and awards. There may be 30 minutes to play after the awards providing the event ends on time. *(at prelims only)* Playing in the street after the event is not allowed. *(for the safety of your students)* Our event insurance does not cover your band performing outside the insured venue. Any additional cost accrued by your band for security will be billed directly to your high school administration. *A word of advice will be to concentrate your performance for on the field show!*

Group Photo

Each band will take a group photo after each individual performance on Saturday, November 10, 2018. Location to be determined and will be included in your welcome package at contest site.