

AREA C 6A MARCHING CONTEST

OCTOBER 21, 2023

October 2023

Dear Directors:

Congratulations on being certified to the Area C 6A Marching Contest! We are looking forward to hosting this exciting event. Every effort is being made to ensure a smooth-running and successful contest. Following is information you will need to know. Please review carefully.

IMPORTANT NOTE! *Area C information is available through the UIL Region 3 website - www.uilregion3music.org*
Click on "Area Marching" in the upper right corner.

LOCATION OF CONTEST

Area C, consisting of Regions 2, 3, 4, 21, 24, & 25, will hold its contest on **Saturday, October 21, 2023, at Mesquite Memorial Stadium**. Mr. Michael Stringer, Director of Fine Arts, Mesquite ISD, will serve as contest site host. Contest Chair is Bonnie Bartlett, Region 3 & Area C Executive Secretary.

Memorial Stadium is located on Scyene Road just west of LBJ Freeway (635). If you come by I-20, go north on 635; if you come by I-30, go south on 635 to the Scyene Road exit. ***NOTE: KEEP IN MIND THAT TRAFFIC IS OFTEN AN ISSUE ON I-635 TRYING TO EXIT ON MILITARY PARKWAY/SCYENE RD. PLAN YOUR TRIP TO THE STADIUM TO ALLOW FOR HEAVY TRAFFIC!***

CONSTRUCTION ALERT!!! MAJOR ROAD WORK IS IN PROGRESS AT I-30 AND I-635. PLAN FOR DELAYS AND/OR RE-ROUTING! PARTS OF I-635 COULD BE SHUT DOWN ALTOGETHER LATER IN THE EVENING - WE SUGGEST PLANNING AN ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR YOUR TRIP HOME "JUST IN CASE".

Gate admission: \$5.00 per person; age 6 and under no charge.

Spectators will be given wristbands which will be good for admission to both prelims and finals.

On-line advance ticket sales will be available through the **HomeTown Fan app**. On-line ticket purchase will be available approximately one week before the contest. Tickets may also be purchased at the stadium with a credit or debit card by scanning the QR code posted around the entrance. Purchase of wristbands **at the ticket window will also be available with cash only**. There is no ATM at the stadium. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS AND SUPPORTERS HAVE THIS INFORMATION!**

ALSO - DUE TO POSSIBLE LONG LINES WAITING AT THE TICKET WINDOW AND ENTRANCE, ENCOURAGE YOUR FANS TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THEY WON'T MISS YOUR SHOW! THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE LARGER BANDS.

CHAPERON PASSES: BE SURE AND FILL IN THE BLANK ON THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION FORM INDICATING THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL CHAPERON WRISTBANDS YOU WILL NEED (MAXIMUM 25). A STUDENT GUIDE WILL GIVE YOU THE WRISTBANDS UPON YOUR ARRIVAL AT THE STADIUM. ONLY THOSE PEOPLE WEARING THE WRISTBANDS WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CONTEST FREE OF CHARGE! (Exception: School administrators, school board members, & bus drivers will be admitted at no charge with or without a wristband.)

ENTRY PROCEDURES/FEES – SEE DOCUMENT ON WEBSITE

AREA C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FORM – SEE DOCUMENT ON WEBSITE

FILLABLE ANNOUNCER'S SCRIPT – SEE DOCUMENT ON WEBSITE

NOTE: YOU MAY EMAIL YOUR REGION SCRIPT IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES FOR AREA

SCHEDULE

SEE SCHEDULING INFORMATION ON WEBSITE

THE EXACT STARTING TIME WILL BE DICTATED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BANDS PARTICIPATING.

VIDEO SERVICES

UIL will not be providing video services. However, if you have completed the UIL Marching Band Educational Use Video Agreement (<https://www.uil texas.org/machform/view.php?id=388184>), you will have the opportunity to purchase and receive a recording of your band's performance provided by Mesquite ISD. (Video will be uploaded to Competition Suite.) You will receive additional information from Michael Stringer. **NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO VIDEO FROM THE PRESS BOX.**

DIRECTOR VIEWING AREA

There will be a roped off area at the top of the stands designated as a directors' viewing area. This area is intended for the directors of the performing band; however, **if room allows**, you may watch from this area before and after your band's performance.

EVALUATION

Judges will be using Competition Suite for recorded comments and scoring. You will have access to the complete recap after the verification period at the end of prelims and finals.

PARKING/RESTROOMS/CONCESSIONS

Maps of the Parking & Stadium Flow at Mesquite Memorial Stadium are posted on the website. Student guides will meet you when you reach the bus parking area, approximately 40 minutes before your scheduled warm-up time. Restrooms are available for dressing under the EAST stands if your groups need to change upon arriving.

TURF AT MEMORIAL STADIUM

We are being asked not to use props or equipment that will mark or scar the field (painted items that may leave residue, sharp wheels, etc.).

EQUIPMENT UNLOADING/TRUCK PARKING

SEE **"ADDENDUM TO GROUND RULES"** – VERY IMPORTANT! **POSTED ON THE WEBSITE**

The guidelines for equipment unloading/truck parking are part of the local ground rules for the contest. According to the C&CR, "Failure to comply with local ground rules and regulations outlined by and/or approved by the executive committee may be cause for disqualification or other penalties as listed in Subchapter R." This is important to ensure fairness to all bands.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!

All equipment trucks should unload and reload in their designated area in the north end of the visitor's parking lot. Any equipment that you are not taking to the warm up area should be in the staging area 30 minutes prior to your band's performance. Once you have finished your performance all equipment can be rolled to the parking lot via the driveway that connects the loading area to the visitors' parking lot.

SPECTATOR (PRIVATE) VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PARK IN THE EAST PARKING LOT! POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON DUTY TO ENFORCE THIS POLICY. PLEASE INFORM YOUR PARENTS AND OTHER SUPPORTERS THAT THEY ARE TO PARK IN THE WEST PARKING LOT. THIS INCLUDES PERSONAL VEHICLES OF PARENTS OR OTHERS WHO ARE HELPING WITH EQUIPMENT OR DELIVERING FOOD.

WARM-UP & PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES

WATER FOR BANDS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED! YOU WILL NEED TO MAKE YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS IF YOU WANT TO PROVIDE WATER FOR YOUR STUDENTS PRIOR TO OR FOLLOWING YOUR PERFORMANCE.

When your band is ready to proceed to the warm-up area, guides will show you the way. ***NO CADENCE*** is allowed at any time prior to entering the stadium. ***WE WILL HAVE 3 WARM-UP AREAS, AND EACH BAND WILL HAVE A 45-MINUTE WARM-UP TIME.*** Warm-up will be in the outside areas indicated on the map. Please face your band ***AWAY FROM THE STADIUM WHILE WARMING UP OUTSIDE.*** You should be at the assigned warm-up area **70 minutes** before performance time. A band will be warming up in the area as your band arrives, so please enter the area quietly with no cadence. *Each director is responsible for leaving the warm-up area and getting to the ready position at the north end of the football field at the appropriate time. Please note the times on the schedule regarding your time to begin warm-up and leave the warm-up area. The walk from the warm-up area to the ready position*

takes approximately 15 minutes. All of this is especially important considering the strict procedures for timing.

DO NOT DEPEND SOLELY ON A MONITOR OR ANYONE ELSE TO TELL YOU WHEN TO LEAVE WARM-UP, BUT PLEASE COOPERATE WHEN THE GUIDE(S) GIVE YOU REMINDERS OF YOUR TIME!

Please allow the guides to show you the proper route from the warm-up area to the competition field. Entrance to the field must be through the double gates on the north end of the field. Bands must exit by the northeast ramp.

IMPORTANT – TIMING PROCEDURES! If you study the UIL rules, you will note that your scheduled time is your deadline to begin your performance.

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING TIMING PROCEDURES CAREFULLY:

1. At the appropriate time, your band will be given the signal to enter the field. At that time, the 5-minute clock will begin.
2. When the clock reaches 45 seconds remaining, the announcer will begin reading your announcement. When there are 20 seconds remaining on the clock, the announcer will read the next statement which begins with “Drum Majors...”. The 5-minute clock will run to 0.00 and then the 8 minute clock will begin immediately.

NOTE TO DIRECTORS: *The 8-minute clock will begin when the full 5-minute clock expires. Warm-up or pre-show is permitted during the 5-minute set up time; however, judges will be instructed to not begin their evaluation until the 8-minute clock shows 7:59. If you do not wish to utilize the entire 5 minutes of set up you may hold your band at the field entrance to coordinate your ready time with the beginning of the announcement. The 8-minute clock will NOT start early!*

Any pre-show must fit into this time frame.

All bands will be announced.

Judges will be instructed and reminded that any activity on the field will not be judged until they see 7:59 on the clock.

Area C (5A–6A) will conform to the above procedures that will be used at the STATE contests for announcing all bands. Announcements will be read for all bands as detailed on the official Announcer Script.

- At the **END OF THE SHOW, OR AT THE END OF 8 MINUTES**, the clock will be restarted at 2 minutes, at which point the band has 2 minutes to **completely** clear the field. The 2-minute exit activities will not be judged. **A BAND THAT FAILS TO BE CLEAR OF THE FIELD (OUTSIDE THE SIDELINES OR ENDLINES) OR CONTINUES TO USE INSTRUMENTAL OR VERBAL CADENCE AT THE END OF THE TWO MINUTES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.** The post script (page 2 of the official script) will be read by the announcer when the 2-minute exit timing begins.

SEATING OF BANDS

Generally, the west stands are reserved for spectators. However, **if room allows**, feel free to seat your band on the west side before and after performing. Please remind your students and parents that filming will be occurring and courtesy during performances will be appreciated. ***Also, entering and leaving the spectator area is not allowed while a band is performing on the field.***

ELECTRONICS RULES – [CLICK HERE](#)

PRESS BOX/CONTEST OFFICE

(There is an elevator for access to the press box)

The judges and the contest office will be in the upper level of the press box.

To ensure the security and integrity of the Area C Marching Contest, the following procedures regarding use of the press box will be followed:

1. The judges' area on the upper floor (Level 3) of the press box is restricted. Only contest officials will be allowed on the upper floor.
2. Participating directors will be allowed on the lower level only (Level 2) of the press box.

VERIFICATION OF PRELIMS RESULTS/DRUM MAJOR RETREAT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEE “[POST-PRELIMS PROCEDURES](#)” FOR MORE DETAILS – POSTED ON THE WEBSITE

ONE director from each participating band should report to the Locker Room in the Field House at the Northwest corner of the stadium immediately at the conclusion of the preliminary contest performances. There will be a verification period during which directors may review the rankings from prelims. During this time drum majors from all bands will be asked to assemble in the north end zone area to prepare for a brief recognition ceremony. Prior to the recognition ceremony, there will be an exhibition performance by the Tyler Jr. College Apache Marching Band. After the recognition ceremony, if there are no protests of the rankings, the bands advancing to finals competition will then be announced in **Finalist Performance Order**. Drum majors will remain on the field for the announcement of finalists.

Directors of bands advancing to finals will meet with Bonnie Bartlett immediately following the verification period to receive additional information and to draw for performance order for finals competition. (This meeting will occur during the drum major recognition ceremony on the field.) Finals performance order will be determined by random draw. Finalists will be announced in Finals performance order.

FINALS AWARDS CEREMONY

At the conclusion of the finals performances, one director from each band should come to the Press Box, 2nd Floor. As soon as results are tabulated and finalized, there will be a verification period with finalist directors.

THERE WILL BE A FULL BAND RETREAT ON THE FIELD. PLEASE BE PREPARED TO HAVE YOUR BAND IN UNIFORM AND READY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RETREAT. Results of Finals competition will be announced beginning with 10th place, then 9th place, etc.

JUDGES

Judges for this year's contest are:

Todd Clearwater
Ryan Johnstone
Joe Munoz
Mark Poole
Randy Vaughn

Following are names and phone numbers you will need to know if you have any questions concerning the Area contest.

Contest Chair	Bonnie Bartlett	817-475-5590 Email: bonniebartlett@uilregion3music.net Region 3 Website: www.uilregion3music.org
Site Chair	Michael Stringer	972-882-7370 (office) 817-233-6153 (cell) Email: mstringer@mesquiteisd.org
Mesquite Memorial Stadium		972-882-7760