

The information found on these pages can be found on the Florida Marching Band Coalition (FMBC) Website: <http://www.floridabandtournament.com>.

Tickets for FMBC
Semi-Finals and Finals

We hope that many of you will come to support and encourage your friends and fellow students in their performances at the FMBC Semi-Finals and Finals. Ticket prices this year are \$12.00 for admission to any of the three Semi-Finals events, and \$20.00 for admission to FMBC Finals.

MARINE CORPS BAND
Will Be at FMBC Finals

This year the Parris Island Marine Band will be performing at the awards ceremony for the FMBC 4A - 5a Semi-Finals, and again in the evening just prior to the Olympic Retreat at the conclusion of Finals. This exhibition performance will be an energetic Field Show featuring several Patriotic selections, to include John Williams' "Olympic Fanfare," "America, The Beautiful," as performed by Ray Charles, "Spain" by Chick Corea, Louie Prima's "Sing, Sing, Sing," and John Philip Sousa's infamous "The Stars and Stripes Forever March."

For more information regarding the Parris Island Marine Band, please visit their website at <http://www.mcrdpi.usmc.mil/band>

The following pages are excerpted from [FMBC 2008 Tournament Rules and Format](#) .

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE TROPICANA DOME

Tropicana Field is located directly east of interstate 275 in St. Petersburg. The dome is visible from the highway. Spur highway I-175 veers off of Interstate 275 to the East (left for Southbound Drivers, and right for Northbound Drivers) and feeds into Tropicana Field. This route is clearly marked with signage, and is recommended by most computer-based driving direction advisories. However, there is a slightly more convenient way, avoiding the freeway exit traffic, at the dome with fewer turns for your vehicles as follows;

Our suggested traffic routes from various area locations:

From Tampa, Orlando, and Jacksonville areas (north and east): Take I-275 South towards St. Petersburg and cross the bay. Continue about 5 miles, then take exit 23B (5th Avenue North), and continue south, crossing 5th Avenue North, merging onto 20th Street. Cross 1st Avenue North and continue 2 more blocks to 1st Avenue South (one-way east) if you are entering on the East Side of the Tropicana dome, turn south on 10th Street, or if blocked, go one additional block and turn south on Martin Luther King Drive. If you are entering on the west side of the dome, cross 1st Avenue South and go one additional block to 3rd Avenue South. Turn left (East) on 3rd Avenue South to the Tropicana Dome.

From Naples (south and southwest): Take I-75 North to Bradenton. Stay to the Right, and merge onto Route 275 North. Cross the Bay Bridge (Toll) and then take Exit 20 (31st Street). Turn left (north) on 31st Street. Follow 31st Street for approximately 5 blocks to 5th Avenue South. Turn right (east) on 5th Avenue South

CAUTION – In the event of extremely high winds, trucks and large vehicles may prefer to avoid the Bay Toll Bridge, as the bridge is elevated several hundred feet above sea level. In this very rare situation, at your discretion, you may wish to take I-75 North to I-4 West. Follow I-4 west until it merges into I-275 South. Follow I-275 south towards St. Petersburg and cross Tampa Bay (This crossing is lower and much less vulnerable to high winds). Exit 23B (5th Avenue North), and continue south, merging onto 20th Street. Go to 1st Avenue South or 3rd Avenue South. Turn left (East) and continue for 2 –4 blocks. This alternative may add one hour or more to your driving time depending on traffic conditions.

From Clearwater/Tarpon Springs/N. Pinellas (northwest): Go South on McMullen Booth Road or US 19. Follow the signs to I-275 South. The signage will direct you to proceed East on Ulmerton Road. Keep to the right, and exit onto Roosevelt Road South. Keep to the right again and merge onto I-275 South. Be prepared to encounter road construction as you enter I-275. Depending on the status of the road construction, the highway may narrow quickly to 1 or 2 lanes. Continue about 5 miles, then take exit 23B (5th Avenue North), and continue south, crossing 5th Avenue North, merging onto 20th Street. Cross 1st Avenue North and continue 2 more blocks to 1st Avenue South (one-way east) if you are entering on the East Side of the Tropicana dome, turn south on 10th Street, or if blocked, go one additional block and turn south on Martin Luther King Drive. If you are entering on the west side of the dome, cross 1st Avenue South and go one additional block to 3rd Avenue South. Turn left (East) on 3rd Avenue South to the Tropicana Dome.

FMBC 2008 TOURNAMENT RULES AND FORMAT

The [Florida Marching Band Coalition \(FMBC\)](#) consists of Regional Show Sponsors who host independently run marching band contests or festivals at their schools utilizing the FMBC Adjudication Sheets and scoring format. The contest management, size classes, awards and trophies presented are entirely up to the Regional Show Sponsor. It is the intent of FMBC to develop, maintain, and provide a uniform criteria and scoring system and to work towards consistent application of this scoring system to sanctioned Marching Band contests and festivals in Florida. Adjudication training, selection and evaluating are priorities to our members.

The [Florida Marching Band Tournament](#) is the process of high school marching bands attending the FMBC sanctioned Regional Competitions or Festivals throughout the marching season. Those schools achieving a superior or a distinguished level of achievement when evaluated using the FMBC scoring format and FMBC criteria reference, are invited to attend the FMBC Marching Band Championships. There they can perform their program and compare their musical and visual skills against the state of Florida's best in their size class in the pageantry arts. The top five (5) bands from each of the size classes advance to the FMBC Championship Finals event that same evening.

The [Florida Marching Band Championships](#) is the one-day Class Championship (semifinal) and finals event held annually to showcase the tournaments top participants. A select panel of over 30 nationally known and highly respected adjudicators, representing the finest panel assembled anywhere in the United States, evaluate and provide educational guidance to all participating high school marching bands and their directors and staff.

All Florida college marching bands, as well as service military bands are invited to participate in this event as a public relations exposure to these fine young musicians by setting up a recruiting booth. College marching bands wishing to perform in exhibition at the Florida Marching Band Championships are welcome. Contact FMBC for further information.

TOURNAMENT AREAS OF REGULATION

- FMBC sanctioned regional events
- FMBC scoring system and format
- FMBC seeding and advancement to finals
- FMBC championship awards
- FMBC championship adjudicators
- FMBC championship operations
- FMBC adjudication sheets
- FMBC timing and penalties sheet
- FMBC bad weather protocol
- FMBC standards of achievement

Items in red are new for this season (minor grammatical changes that do not affect the intention of specific items are not highlighted. Item numbers in Section 1 have been revised for a more logical numbering sequence, which also includes new requirements for Regional Shows, primarily as apply to adjudication review and approval).

3.0 FMBC CHAMPIONSHIP SEEDING AND ADVANCEMENT TO EVENING FINALS

- 3.1 All bands must compete in the following classes, and cannot move up or down in class. Regional classes do not apply.
 - 3.1.1 1-30 wind players Class A
 - 3.1.2 31-44 Wind Players Class AA
 - 3.1.3 45-64 Wind Players Class AAA
 - 3.1.4 65-84 Wind Players Class AAAA
 - 3.1.5 85-Up Wind Players Class AAAAA
 - 3.1.6 Size classes will be adjusted yearly by dividing the state participants into groups and resetting the wind numbers accordingly.

- 3.2 All bands qualifying and registering for the FMBC Class Championships Event will be seeded in the following priorities:
 - 3.2.1 All block scoring bands will go on with the earliest postmark going on last in Class.
 - 3.2.2 All superior scoring bands will then go on with the earliest postmark going on last in Class.
 - 3.2.3 All qualifying bands according to the sliding scale and other exemptions will go on with the earliest postmark going on last in class.
 - 3.2.4 All superior rated bands, including regional show host bands qualifying at their own contests.
 - 3.2.5 Any late entries accepted to fill open slots with earliest postmark going on later.

- 3.3 Any band competing with the incorrect amount of winds (over or under) will be penalized .5 point per wind player at the championship event.

- 3.4 Any band performing later than their assigned time, regardless of reason, will be penalized 1 point per band out of sequence at the championship event.

- 3.5 Penalties for timing and boundaries are indicated on the FMBC timing and penalty sheet and will be enforced at FMBC state championships.

- 3.6 If conditions determine only a semi-finals performance or finals are unable to completely finish all performances, the highest score from semi-finals will be determined as Class Grand Champion.

- 3.7 The sites will be divided as follows:
 - 3.7.1 SITE A Class 1A, 3A and 5A Bands
 - 3.7.2 SITE B Class 2A and 4A Bands
 - 3.7.3 If additional sites are needed, the site location for each size class will be adjusted based on the number of bands entered by October 25th.
 - 3.7.4 If it is necessary to adjust the prelims performance location(s) due to the number of bands entered in one or more size classes, this performance order may be adjusted to allow adequate travel time for all units from the prelims site(s).

3.8 Advancement to finals will be as follows;

- 3.8.1 Top 5 scoring band from each class will advance (Ties broken)
- 3.8.2 Order and seeding at finals is as follows: (25 Bands in finals)
- 3.8.3 Class A will perform 1st
- 3.8.4 Class AA will perform next
- 3.8.5 Class AAAAA will perform next
- 3.8.6 Class AAA will perform next
- 3.8.7 Class AAAA will perform next
- 3.8.8 In each class, the top five bands will perform right after each other in reverse order of semi-final score with the highest score going on last.

4.0 FMBC CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

- 4.1 Semi - finals awards is an officer-only retreat conducted 15 minutes past the last band performance. Four-year seniors are also invited on the field and their directors are invited to participate with the medals presentation to those seniors. These members must be identified on your state semi-finals registration form. No names are needed, just a total number.
 - 4.1.1 All four year seniors will receive a Medallion
- 4.2 All participating bands will receive a placement trophy indicating their specific placement in the semi-finals.
- 4.3 The top five will be awarded a plaque and advancement to the Evening finals.
- 4.4 There will be caption awards in each class for the following:
 - 4.4.1 Outstanding Musical Performance
 - 4.4.2 Outstanding Visual Performance
 - 4.4.3 Outstanding General Effect
 - 4.4.4 Outstanding Percussion
 - 4.4.5 Outstanding Color Guard
- 4.5 The announcement of finalists will be last. All ties will be broken based on earlier criteria.
- 4.6 Past FMBC Class Champions are encouraged to bring their class champion flags to the FMBC finals Olympic retreat and display them.
- 4.7 Finals are an Olympic style retreat held 15 minutes after the last bands performance and/or after a college band exhibition.
- 4.8 All participating finals bands will receive a placement trophy indicating their specific placement in the state finals event.
- 4.9 Class champions will be honored with the award of their class champion flags. Individual members will receive champion and class runner up medallions.
- 4.10 No caption awards at the finals.

5.0 FMBC CHAMPIONSHIP ADJUDICATORS

5.1 Multiple panels of ten judges will adjudicate the Class Finals at each site. Those captions and their doubling is as follows;

- 5.1.1 General Effect Music 1
- 5.1.2 General Effect Music 2
- 5.1.3 General Effect Coordination 1
- 5.1.4 General Effect Coordination 2
- 5.1.5 Ensemble Music
- 5.1.6 Individual Music (On field)
- 5.1.7 Ensemble Visual
- 5.1.8 Individual Visual (On Field)
- 5.1.9 Percussion (On Field)
- 5.1.10 Auxiliary

5.2 One panel consisting of a mix of judges from each site, with some changing captions within their expertise will adjudicate the finals **for each size class**. Reference the Adjudication Scheduling sheet (issued and posted prior to the event) for a breakdown.

- 5.2.1 General Effect Music 1
- 5.2.2 General Effect Music 2
- 5.2.3 General Effect Coordination 1
- 5.2.4 General Effect Coordination 2
- 5.2.5 Ensemble Music 1
- 5.2.6 Ensemble Music 2
- 5.2.7 Individual Music (On field)
- 5.2.8 Ensemble Visual 1
- 5.2.9 Ensemble Visual 2
- 5.2.10 Individual Visual (On Field)

6.0 Show Band Field Show and Parade Procedures suspended 1-15-2006

7.0 FMBC CHAMPIONSHIP OPERATIONS (Not included)

8.0 TIMING AND PENALTIES

8.1 Performance Timing Limitations

- 8.1.1 No field show may be longer than 11 minutes total time
- 8.1.2 No field show can be shorter than 7 minutes total time
- 8.1.3 Total time is defined as the first note of music or the first movement until the logical conclusion of the show. Show time begins at 4 minutes even if you haven't begun your show.
- 8.1.4 Penalties are assessed at .1 for every 5 Seconds over or under the set times.

8.2 Competition area timing limitations

- 8.2.1 No band may take longer than 15 minutes total time in the competition area.
- 8.2.2 This begins at the starters cue and not necessarily the scheduled time. All props, pit equipment and members may not enter the competition area earlier. Be prepared to move all of your props and equipment by your own means. Transportation vehicles are not guaranteed.

- 8.2.3 This ends when the last member, staff member, prop-carrying supporter, or equipment crosses the designated end line. The starter to each band will identify this line as they enter the competition area.
- 8.2.4 Penalties are assessed at .1 for every 5 seconds over or under the set times and can be added on top of the timing penalties for length of performance.
- 8.2.5 Field warm-ups, trouping the stands and prop or electrical set-ups are included in this 15 minutes and given no special exemptions.
- 8.2.6 Size of band does not grant an exemption for timing requirements, no matter how big. Plan accordingly.
- 8.2.7 If the exiting band is completely off the field and moving towards the end line, a one-minute extension is granted.

8.3 Order of Performance Limitations

- 8.3.1 Any band performing later than their assigned time, regardless of their reason, will be penalized 1.0 point per band out of sequence at the championship event.

8.4 Boundary Limitations

- 8.4.1 The entire front sideline has a 12-foot pit area in which you may place props, pit equipment or even perform and march in. This extends from goal line to goal line only.
- 8.4.2 At no time may a band perform in the spectator area.
- 8.4.3 The competition area is defined as the entire football field and an area from goal to goal, 12 foot in front of the front sideline.
- 8.4.4 No adults may take part in the moving of props or equipment during the bands performance time.
- 8.4.5 Violations past these boundaries must be complete steps or thoughts disregarding the lines, and not just reaching over to get equipment.
- 8.4.6 Boundary infractions are 0.1 deductions per incident.

8.5 Other Limitations

- 8.5.1 Performer requirements in class (0.5 per Number)
- 8.5.2 Flag code violations (0.1 per incident)
- 8.5.3 Non-live electronic music, animals, pyrotechnics or hazardous materials are grounds for disqualification.
- 8.5.4 Unsportsmanlike behavior (1-3 points)
- 8.5.5 Conducting of the performing ensemble during timed performance by the director, staff members, or other non-performers is not permitted (.5 point per incident).
- 8.5.6 A director or non-performing staff member may briefly adjust electronic amplification equipment to assist with the quality of sound production, but may not actively stay and adjust the sound on an on-going basis (.5-3 points).

8.6 All penalties are at the discretion of the T/P judge and Contest Director.

8.7 FMBC reserves the right to update all Timing and Penalty guidelines as needed.

9.0 FMBC PHILOSOPHY & STANDARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

9.1 FMBC utilizes a 4-Box System for evaluating achievement.

9.1.1 This four box criteria reference assumes the extremely low level of Box 1 in the more common five box system as not needed and therefore combines in with Box 2 to form the FMBC Box 1, or 'Apprentice' level.

9.2 THE FMBC PHILOSOPHY;

PURPOSE

To provide the means for a consistent and educationally based evaluation system that rewards growth through standards of achievement. To provide the uniform application of number criteria throughout the state by way of a standardized set of evaluation sheets. To provide training to adjudicators utilizing these sheets and system.

PARTICIPANTS

To bring together directors, educators, performers, adjudicators, staff members and supporters toward a common understanding and respect for efforts and qualities in all phases of the pageantry arts.

STANDARDS

To listen, view, and appreciate all styles of musical and movement presentations in a consistent and fair manner and then reward them according to their excellence in technical and expressive achievement with consideration for musical repertoire and visual composition.

GOALS

To promote the entertaining and educational activity of high school marching band with all its participants and pageantry.

To inspire all those within the activity to recognize, appreciate and grow from our experience in this exciting musical art form.

To encourage participation by all Florida High School Bands in the Florida Bandmasters Association MPA'S.