

FESTIVAL CLASS

Rationale: The Festival Class allows marching bands to participate in the WSMA Marching Band Championships but not at the competitive level. There are a number of bands that have asked for this opportunity to participate that do not wish to be a part of the competitive culture. The reasons are varied but they see the value in the marching activity and wish to reap the benefits.

Scheduling of the Festival Class: The Festival Class takes place on the same day as the WSMA Marching Band Championships. The Festival Class begins at a time before noon to allow all participants an opportunity to perform at a 15-minute interval and concludes with an awards ceremony at 11:30. Student participants are permitted to attend the Championship show with the same audience rules as the competitive participants.

Adjudication and Awards: The Festival Class is adjudicated by three people (one music, one visual and one effect) using rubric forms that are similar in appearance to the forms used as part of Concert Festivals. Comments would be written and the award divisions would be comparable to the present WSMA award system (I-IV). Results are announced during an awards ceremony at 11:30 A.M. and participating bands receive awards comparable to those given as part of Concert Festivals. (Participation in the Festival Class does not fulfill the Concert requirement of WSMA member schools.)

Fees and Costs: The registration fee for the Festival Class is \$150. This fee includes participation, adjudication and an awards plaque. There is one ticket for the day that includes the Festival and Championship classes. (Student participants are admitted at no charge.)

Rules: The Festival Class is governed by the same basic rules as the competitive class but penalties are not assessed. It is expected that bands will adhere to the time constraints listed in the Handbook. The WSMA Marching Band Handbook may be found on-line under Marching Band Resources.

Pictures: Participating Bands in the Festival Class are encouraged to participate in the photo opportunities available on site.

Implementation: The Festival Class was introduced as part of the 2007 WSMA State Marching Band show.