



Area A Class 3A Marching Contest
Saturday, November 14th, 2020
Shotwell Stadium, Abilene, TX

CONTEST CHAIRMAN: Jay Lester, Region 6, Executive Secretary
CONTEST HOST: Dr. Jon Kraemer, Director of Bands, Abilene High School
ADJUDICATORS: Anthony Gibson, David Fortenberry, Darrell Umhoefer,
Tim Edins, Dr. Ross Grant

CONTEST OFFICE: (**NEW THIS YEAR**) The contest office will be open to essential personnel. Directors can check in, but not stay. Please email your entry form and announcer's script at once to: uilregion6music@gmail.com. Admittance will require a mask.

PERFORMANCE: (**NEW THIS YEAR**)

We will be using a 20-minute schedule: 6-minute warmup, 8 minutes for performance (4 minute minimum/8 minute maximum), and 3 minutes for clearing the field. After your performance, we are asking directors to come to the first floor of the press box using the South door. You will pick up your comment sheets, participation plaques, and any other materials. Your buses must depart immediately once you return and loading is complete. There will be **NO FINALS AND NO RETREAT**. Results will be posted on the UIL Region 6 website under the AREA MARCHING tab. We will distribute a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place plaque at the end of the competition. Performing bands will be seated on the West Side (Home Side) of the stadium if they want to view other bands.

BUS/EQUIPMENT TRAILER AND SPECTATOR PARKING: (**NEW THIS YEAR**): Shotwell Stadium is located at 1525 E South 11th Street (Next to the Taylor County Expo Center). Any parent vehicles dropping off students at warm up or following buses will need to park in the WEST or SOUTH STADIUM SPECTATOR LOT. **Cars may not follow buses to the Bus/Equipment Trailer Parking Lot. This area is for buses and equipment trailers only.**

Buses will enter the Bus/Equipment Trailer Parking Lot (NORTH) using the first entrance off of Expo Dr. Please plan to arrive **no earlier than 1 hour before your scheduled warm-up time** so that we do not have too many people in the lot at any given time. We must adhere to social distancing in this area.

Again, there will be no personal/spectator vehicles allowed in the Bus/Equipment Trailer Parking Lot (NORTH). All personal vehicles must park in the EAST or SOUTH SPECTATOR LOT (students can meet their parents there after the performance).

Please use the attached map for traffic flow. **PLEASE GO OVER THE MAP AND PARKING INFORMATION WITH YOUR DRIVERS PRIOR TO YOUR TRIP TO SHOTWELL STADIUM.**

UNIFORMS:

If you are not planning to arrive in uniform, you may use the NORTHWEST stadium restrooms to change.

ADULT HELP: Each band will be given up to 10 sponsor passes upon arrival at the Bus/Equipment Trailer Lot (NORTH) for adults who are helping move equipment for your band. If you have extra chaperones who are riding the bus only, they are asked to purchase a ticket. Nobody is to sit in the EAST STANDS.

EQUIPMENT: All equipment trailers will park and unload in the Bus/Equipment Trailer Lot (NORTH). Please see the attached map for entrance and exit specifics for that lot. **Do not arrive more than 1 hour prior** to your scheduled warm-up time to help us with social distancing measures.

Please help us protect the field surface making sure either your equipment or the transportation with which you move your equipment is on wheels. Please do not drag anything that does not have wheels (no sled types) across the field surface.

WARM-UP: Warmup will take place on either the Shotwell Annex Field or on the NORTHWEST CORNER of the Bus/Equipment Trailer Lot. These are **the only areas where playing is allowed other than your scheduled contest performance time.** We will utilize three different warm-up areas (A & B & C) that will be marked as such on the Annex Field and at the NW CORNER of the Bus/Equipment Trailer Lot. All bands (including battery, front ensemble, auxiliary units, etc.) will use one of these designated field locations for warm-up.

During warm-up, all bands on the Annex Field (Warm Up Areas A & B) will face the houses (WEST) when playing. Bands assigned to Warm Up Area C, will face NORTH towards Hwy 36 when playing. This includes the use of any electronic amplification such as a PA System (Megavox, Long Ranger, etc.) **No whistles or metronomes are allowed during the warm-up.** We do not want any sound to carry over into the performance venue. Please keep percussion volume at a reasonable level.

*Should it become necessary, **Red and Green flags** will be flown from the **Home Side** of the stadium. You may **warm up when the green flag is up** and **stop the band immediately when the red flag is up.** This will keep warm-ups from interfering with the band on the field.

ENTERING AND EXITING STADIUM: Bands leaving the Warm Area will transition to Shotwell Stadium via a path around the NORTH side of the stadium. You will be escorted to this location by a parent member of the Abilene High Band Booster Club. All Bands will enter the stadium at the NORTHEAST CORNER and will use the NORTHEAST RAMP to access the performance field. (Front Ensemble and Props will use the EAST GATE to enter the stadium.) Props will enter the performance field using the SOUTHEAST ramp only.

When one band takes the marching position on the field, the next band should take its place on the NORTH End of Endzone. The third band will then assume its position at the top of

the NORTHEAST Ramp. **The official starting line for AREA A will be on the North Endzone Goal Line. Please wait for the official announcement to begin your warm-up period before crossing the starting line.** Abilene High Band staff and parents will be in place at strategic locations along the way to assist in any way possible.

After the band exiting the field has completely left the stadium ramps and the band in the bottom of the ramp position has begun their 6-minute warm-up, the band at the top of the NORTHEAST Ramp position moves down to the field level. The same rule applies to the SOUTHEAST ramp with props.

Bands may choose to enter and exit at any point of the field for the contest performance. The band on the field has the right-of-way in cases where exit conflicts with a band waiting to perform may occur. The next band to perform should form for its entrance quietly. Please remember that even though your band has cleared the field, your time does not end until verbal commands, cadences or rim taps end. Upon completion of your performance, please exit the performance field via the SOUTHWEST Ramp (This includes all props and front ensemble as well). Once at the top of the ramp, **Turn Left** to exit the stadium and return to the Bus/Equipment Trailer Lot. Unless you are planning to stay and watch other bands, please load and the depart the area ASAP after your performance.

(Please reference the attached stadium diagram for a visual reference of this process.)

STADIUM SEATING AND GUESTS: **(NEW THIS YEAR)** Abilene ISD Covid-19 policy has a limit of 2500 persons on the west side of the stadium. Tickets may be purchased at the ticket booth **if we are not** at capacity. Spectator seats will be sold on the west side only. Administrators must present school ID for free admission upon entering.

TICKETS: Tickets are \$5 (Ages 10+) for general admission and will be sold at the NORTHWEST Ticket Booth. Masks will be required to be worn for admission to the stadium and local Abilene ISD Covid-19 policies will be enforced.

PERFORMER ENTRY: Contest participants wishing to stay and watch other bands perform will be given free admission to do so provided they are in a school-affiliated clothing and enter the stadium using the WEST Center Gate Entrance. (Refer to the attached Stadium Diagram for details.)

BATHROOMS/CONCESSIONS: Restroom facilities are located in the buildings directly north of west and east side seating areas as well as under the west side stands. Concessions will only be available only on the Northwest side. Please remind your fans these places cannot be noisy.

PepWear SOUVENIRS: These booths will be on the West Concourse.

BALLOONS PROHIBITED: The use of balloons by participants or spectators at the marching contest is prohibited.

TIME ON THE FIELD: Your band will have the first six minutes of its allotted time to utilize in any way it deems appropriate in order to assume its starting position and prepare for the beginning of its show. **Please wait for your official announcement to begin your warm-up and to cross the starting line.** Activities may include warm-up and/or cadence. **Each band will be announced at the end of five minutes, 15 seconds.** The beginning of the announcement will indicate that the performance time must begin after 45 seconds. The script may take less than 45 seconds. **The actual timing for the show will begin at the end of the six-minute warm-up period.** Please watch the clock to determine when your warm-up time has expired. At that time, the stadium clock will be reset to 8:00 and immediately begin your contest show timing. **The stadium clock will be used as the official time.** A back-up stop-watch will run as well in the event of clock malfunction. Each band must occupy the football field for no less than four minutes and no more than eight minutes. At the conclusion of its performance, each band will have three minutes to exit the field and clear the marching surface of all equipment, instruments and props. The use of either instructional or verbal cadence is optional. Your standard post-show script will be read during the 3-minute field exit. **A band that fails to be clear of the field (outside the sidelines or end lines) or continues to use instrumental or verbal cadence at the end of the three minutes may be disqualified.** A band leaving equipment or instruments on the sideline in such a manner that these items impede the movement of the next band into its starting position is subject to penalty in accordance with Subchapter F of the official UIL C&CR. We must stay on schedule – parents expect to see their children at the scheduled time. We wish to be neither behind nor ahead. Everything you can do to keep things moving will be greatly appreciated.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT: All equipment must be situated off the field (outside the sidelines or end lines). Equipment must be put in place during the time allotted for each band to set up. The director of an organization wishing to use electronic equipment is directly responsible for providing extension cords. The plug at Shotwell Stadium is on the wall near the 50 yard-line. Please refer to the C&CR for rules regarding electronics. Refer to the Region 6 website link for use of electronics. **Is this sentence necessary? It seems repetitive in light of the previous one.**

VIDEO TAPING: The 3A AREA MARCHING CONTEST will not provide a videographer. However, you are welcome to provide ONE parent or representative to come to the Press Box to record your band's performance. (Come to the SOUTH side of the press box for admittance.) They will be allowed to set up equipment to record during the band immediately preceding your group but must leave the Press Box as soon as your group's performance is finished. A UIL Marching Band Educational Use Video Agreement Form must be completed on the UIL website prior to the date of the contest. (If you completed one for your UIL Region Marching Contest, that will suffice.) In compliance with copyright law, no videos may be recorded and replicated for sale after the event and no recordings should be posted to online platforms.

SHOW ENHANCEMENTS: Use of any material which could leave any residue of any kind on the field or in the air is prohibited.

PYROTECHNICS: No fireworks, smoke bombs, or any other type of pyrotechnics are allowed in Shotwell Stadium.

JUDGES: Judges will be located on the west side of the stadium in the press box.

OTHER PROCEDURES: You should read in detail all the rules outlined in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules regarding the Region and Area marching contests.

INSTRUMENT EMERGENCIES: N-Tune Music & Sound will have representatives at the contest to help with emergency instrument loans.

LOCAL CONTEST RULES: Abilene High Band Staff, students and band parents will be available to help you in any way possible during the contest, but UIL rules state clearly that every band and its director must conform to local ground rules for the operation of the contest. Please ask your students and staff to treat them with courtesy at all times.

INCLEMENT WEATHER:

1. Procedures in place for Shotwell Stadium will be enforced, specifically as it pertains to lightning.
2. Inclement weather dates are the following:
 - a. Monday, November 16th at Shotwell Stadium
3. Please remember that Marching Band is an outdoor activity and rain alone will not delay or cancel the event. However, in case of heavy or driving rain, the competition will be delayed until some relief is seen.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS: Please find an Abilene High Band parent to address the problem. They have radios and will be in constant contact with the contest office.

EMERGENCY #'s:

Jay Lester – (325) 260-3925

Dr. Jon Kraemer (806) 773-5895