

PERCUSSION CONTEST RULES 2008

WGI discourages independent ensembles from utilizing membership composed of any high school students who were previously enrolled in an active high school program and have not yet graduated.

WGI also discourages independent ensembles from utilizing membership who have outstanding monies owed to a previous ensemble.

All performers at a WGI event will be required to wear protective footwear while outside the performance area.

ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Percussion ensembles from the United States composed of members not over 22 years of age as of March 31st of any given year shall be permitted to compete in contests governed by WGI. Each ensemble appearing at a WGI contest shall be prepared to show proof of age. International percussion ensembles are not bound by any age limit and must compete in the independent classes.

1.2 All members of any percussion ensemble competing in any scholastic class must be approved for participation by the principal of the sponsoring school. Each percussion ensemble shall submit a notarized form prepared by WGI listing all approved participants of that school.

1.3 No percussion ensemble may compete with less than six (6) members on the floor of competition at any time including the student conductor (optional).

1.4 Marching percussion ensembles may use one optional student conductor positioned in the competition area. Concert percussion ensembles may use one non-student conductor positioned in the competition area.

PENALTY: Disqualification – any ensembles violating any requirements in the eligibility section shall be disqualified and its position and standing in the contest shall be forfeited.

CLASSIFICATIONS

2.1 Scholastic Marching World Class (PSW) ensembles demonstrate a high degree of advanced development. All of the performers contribute to the consistent high levels of performance being demonstrated. World Class ensembles are trendsetters in the indoor percussion activity. Programs are unique and innovative and these components are important at this level. Some very sophisticated challenges will be placed on the performers.

2.2 Scholastic Marching Open Class (PSO) ensembles have some experience in the indoor percussion arena. Open Class ensembles have several members who understand the skills required to perform intermediate levels of playing and movement. Here is where the intermediate student explores new challenges through performance and realizes a greater sense of achievement as each more complex skill is learned.

2.3 Scholastic A Marching Class (PSA) ensembles are the younger, less developed participants. Here is where the beginning student discovers the joy of performing and realizes the sense of achievement as each skill is learned.

2.3 Scholastic Concert World Class (PSCW) for those scholastic percussion sections through the 12th grade who wish to concentrate on the percussive element only. Instrumentation must be oriented to the performance of concert percussion. Movement will be permitted in order to allow performers to change equipment or to allow for better presentation of musical performance only. One non-student conductor is allowed in the concert classes only. This is not a marching /visual class. Credit will be given for musical elements only. These performers are experienced and fully trained. Trend setting programs and performance levels are often display.

2.4 Scholastic Concert Open Class (PSCO) for those scholastic percussion sections through the 12th grade who wish to concentrate on the percussive element only. Instrumentation must be oriented to the performance of concert percussion. Movement will be permitted in order to allow performers to change equipment or to allow for better presentation of musical performance only. One non-student conductor is allowed in the concert classes only. This is not

a marching /visual class. Credit will be given for musical elements only. Open Class ensembles have several members who understand the skills required to perform intermediate levels of playing.

2.5 Scholastic Concert A Class (PSCA) for those scholastic percussion sections through the 12th grade who wish to concentrate on the percussive element only. Instrumentation must be oriented to the performance of concert percussion. Movement will be permitted in order to allow performers to change equipment or to allow for better presentation of musical performance only. One non-student conductor is allowed in the concert classes only. This is not a marching /visual class. Credit will be given for musical elements only. Scholastic Concert A Class (PSCA) ensembles are the younger, less developed participants. Here is where the beginning student discovers the joy of performing and realizes the sense of achievement as each skill is learned.

2.6 Independent Marching World Class (PIW) ensemble use the same criteria as Scholastic World Class. These performers are experienced and fully trained. Trend setting programs and performance levels are often displayed.

2.7 Independent Marching Open Class (PIO) ensembles use the same criteria as the Scholastic Open Class. These performers are less experienced and are in the process of developing.

2.8 Independent Marching A Class (PIA) ensembles use the same criteria as the Scholastic A Class. Here is where the beginning student discovers the joy of performing and realizes the sense of achievement as each skill is learned.

CONTEST SITE

3.1 For the purpose of interpretation, the “competition area” shall measure a minimum of sixty by ninety (60’ x 90’) feet and does not include entry ramps, hallways, nor any bleachers or seating area. Ensembles are permitted to utilize the entire designated competition area for their performance. Ensembles may not use “floors” (tarps) larger than sixty by ninety (60’ x 90’) feet. All props must be in the designated competition area. There can be no choreography outside the competition area. All performers must begin within the designated competition area.

3.2 All WGI contests site must have a minimum of sixty-five by one hundred feet (65’ x 100’) to accommodate a “safety zone” of five feet (5’) on the sides and back using the minimum competition area of sixty by ninety feet (60’ x 90’). No performers may enter the safety zone at any time during their performance. Depending on the performance venue, WGI can authorize additional competition area and will include that information in the diagram (footprint) to be made available to all competing ensembles to identify the competition area.

3.3 CONCERT DIVISION: For the purpose of interpretation, the “competition area” shall be indoors and may be either a gymnasium floor (same for marching classes) or a suitable auditorium stage.

3.4 110 volt grounded power sources will be located near the front and back at the center line of the competition area. Participants must provide their own extension cords.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

SCORING

4.1 The elements to be judged are:

<u>MARCHING PERCUSSION</u>		
<u>Caption</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u># of Judges</u>
Performance Analysis	40.0	1
<i>Composition</i>	15.0	
<i>Performance Quality</i>	25.0	
General Effect	40.0	1
<i>Music Effect</i>	20.0	
<i>Overall Effect</i>	20.0	
Visual	20.0	1
<i>Composition</i>	10.0	
<i>Performance Quality</i>	10.0	
<u>Timing and Penalty</u>	Penalty	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	100.0	4

<u>CONCERT</u>		
<u>Caption</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u># of Judges</u>
Performance	50.0	1
<i>Composition</i>	20.0	
<i>Performance Quality</i>	30.0	
Artistry	50.0	1
<i>Program</i>	20.0	
<i>Fulfillment</i>	30.0	
<u>Timing and Penalty</u>	Penalty	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	100.0	3

4.2 The Performance Analysis Judge will be positioned low in the stands and may move in order to better appraise the individuals within the ensemble. Timing and penalty adjudicators will be positioned on the floor. The General Effect and Visual adjudicators will be positioned higher in the stands.

4.3 Each level of classification has a set of score sheets unique to its classification.

EQUIPMENT

5.1 Instrumentation is limited to those instruments typically utilized and recognized as part of a percussion section. Also allowed are electronic instruments recognized as normal stage and band rhythm section instruments. Conventional wind and/or string instruments (other than string bass and guitar) may not be used. Single tone, non-keyed horns (i.e. whistles, sirens, animal calls, etc.) may be used only if generating an effect, and may not be used in any melodic form.

PENALTY: 10 Points

5.2 No single, triggered, electronic sound may produce rhythmic intent.

PENALTY: 10 Points

5.3 If an electronic mixing board is used, only student personnel may operate it. No communicating devices may be used in order to assist the mixing board operator.

5.4 All equipment and props must be placed anywhere in the competition area. The front sideline is inviolate at all times (**this includes all sound equipment**) except during set up and tear down.

PENALTY: .1 to 5 points per violation at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

5.5 Permission for use of copyrighted material is the responsibility of the participants.

5.6 No motorized vehicles will be allowed. Wheelchairs for disadvantaged performers are accepted.

PENALTY: Disqualification

5.7 No pyrotechnics, discharge of arms, pressurized canisters, dangerous materials, inflammable liquids or animals will be permitted in or around the competition area. Smoke machines will not be allowed. Electrical (plug-in or battery operated) or compressed air apparatuses, including lights, lasers, and flash cubes (electrical or chemical) will not be allowed. Amplification may be used in the competition area by performers playing musical instruments, singing or voice. The electrical source for electronic instruments must be a 115/120v typical wall outlet as noted on the footprint of the facility as supplied by the sponsor. Car/truck type wet batteries cannot be used. Gasoline, electric, or manual powered generators will not be allowed. Lighting cannot be turned off in the competition area by an ensemble.

PENALTY: 10 Points to Disqualification.

5.8 For the protection of the wooden competition floors, all equipment must be properly taped or otherwise be prepared to assure that damage to the floors will not occur. Inspection will occur at all Regionals and Championships. Damage to the floor such as may occur by dragging the tympani; wheels on carts locking, etc. will be the responsibility of the ensembles and is subject to penalty.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

5.9 The use of powder, dirt or any other airborne substance shall be strictly prohibited.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

CONDUCT OF ENSEMBLES

6.1. A percussion ensemble will be scheduled to compete at a minimum of nine (9) minute intervals for "A" class ensembles; ten (10) minute intervals for 'Open' class ensembles; and eleven (11) minute intervals for 'World' class ensembles. The time interval will include set up, entrance, warm up, performance, exit and removal of all equipment, props, personnel, etc. This time schedule may be expanded at the option of the Contest Director, but not lessened.

PENALTY: 0.5 points for each five (5) minutes of lateness (missing scheduled performance time) or part thereof up to the conclusion of the contest.

PENALTY: 0.1 points for each three (3) seconds or fraction thereof.

6.2 The maximum performance time ceases when a ensemble quits playing or leaves the floor, whichever comes first, and shall not exceed six (6) minutes for ‘A’ class ensembles; seven (7) for ‘Open’ class ensembles; eight (8) for ‘World’ class ensembles.

PENALTY: 0.1 points for each three (3) seconds of overtime or fraction thereof.

6.3 Percussion ensembles, with all competing personnel, shall remain within the competition area and be judged in all captions for a minimum of four (4) minutes.

PENALTY: 0.1 points for each three (3) seconds of under time or fraction thereof.

6.4 All captions will be judged for the maximum performance time or until the ensemble ceases playing or leaves the floor, whichever comes first. Timing and penalty will continue until performers and equipment are off of the floor. The contest director will place an appropriate line defining when an ensemble has left the floor for timing purposes.

6.5 Ensembles competing at WGI Regional Contests cannot be required to perform before the time set in the latest schedule for the contest, distributed by the WGI Office.

ENSEMBLE TIMING OVERVIEW: Marching & Concert Ensembles

Class	Min. Perf. Time	Max Perf. Time	Interval Time
WORLD	4 Minutes	8 Minutes	11 Minutes
OPEN	4 Minutes	7 Minutes	10 Minutes
A CLASS	4 Minutes	6 Minutes	9 Minutes

ENTRY & EXIT

7.1 An ensemble may enter the contest floor over any line. However once the performance begins, the front sideline and its vertical plane become inviolate and subject to boundary penalty.

PENALTY: 0.1 points for each offense of the front boundary line violation.

7.2 Ensembles may enter with a “tap” prior to introduction or may include a playing entrance as a part of the performance following introduction.

7.3 Any equipment or props may be placed within the competition area by anyone prior to the start of competition. Before the performance begins, all non-performing personnel must be off of the competition area. (Adults are not permitted to stay in the competition area during a performance.)

PENALTY: .1 to 5 points per violation at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

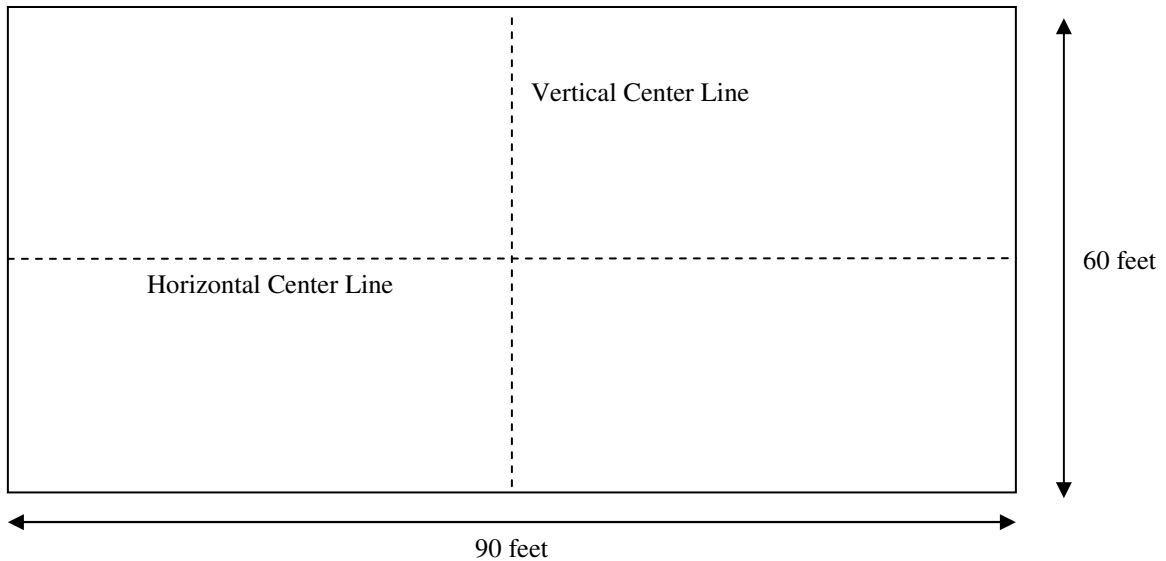
7.4 The ensemble will line up at a ready line (preferably side and back line if facility allows) to be designated by the Contest Director. From this point, the ensemble should move directly and immediately into the competition area when directed by the starter (T&P judge or contest director). They may set up anywhere in the competition area.

7.5 Performance time begins with the first note or step following the introduction.

7.6 Exit may be over any line at the conclusion of the performance.

7.7 All personnel, equipment, and/or props must be off of the contest floor, clear of the 50/50 line at the conclusion of the interval time. For purpose of timing, equipment and props are considered removed when they have been moved across a center line either horizontal or vertical depending on the contest site. After the equipment/props have crossed this line, they must be removed from the area immediately and taken to an area designated by the Contest Director. Failure to remove equipment and props to the designated area in a timely manner is subject to a penalty at the discretion of the Contest Director. Backside and sideline usage will be at the discretion of the contest director, as defined by the facility.

The following will be the interval time line:



Facilities may designate how ensembles will unfold and fold their floors whether it be front to back, back to front, left to right or right to left depending on entrance and exit doors.

7.8 There will be no flying of tarps (also know as “ballooning”) to clear floor at the conclusion a ensemble’s performance.

PENALTY: Disqualification

7.9 During a performance, adult or non-performing student personnel may not coach, cue, etc. any performing members.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Judge.

PENALTIES

8.1.1 Only a Contest Director or Chief Judge may assess a penalty. Judges report all violations to the Contest Director.

8.2 General: Any ensemble violating any rule or part of a rule or committing any breach of contest etiquette for which no specific penalty is provided shall be penalized for each such violation, not less than 0.1 points, not more than disqualification from the contests at the discretion of the Contest Director.

8.3 All timing penalties shall be 0.1 points per three (3) seconds or fraction thereof. All boundary penalties shall be 0.1 points per offense.