



CONTACTS

Jeff Goldstein, *USSBA Associate Director*
610-821-0345 x 17 jgoldstein@yea.org

Tim Gallagher, *USSBA Event Manager*
610-821-0345 x 13 tim@yea.org

Jessica Wilson, *USSBA Administrator*
610-821-0345 x 3
Jessica@yea.org

Jamie White, *USSBA Customer Service*
610-821-0345 x 2
Jamie@yea.org

Stephen Frederick, *USSBA Executive Consultant*
610-821-0345 x 18 sfrederick@yea.org

George Hopkins, *Executive Director, YEA!*
610-820-0345 x 14 hopkins@yea.org

USSBA Fax
610-821-1452

US Scholastic Band Association
601 West Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania, 18101-2103

www.yea.org/ussba



US Scholastic Band Association

2007 RULEBOOK

Revised: January 22, 2007

INTRODUCTION TO USSBA

Welcome to the 2007 US Scholastic Band Association marching band season.

Since its inception in 1988, USSBA has taken pride in the growth of the organization, the support and development of member bands and the ongoing pursuit of excellence. One of the basic principles of USSBA has always been to provide bands, regardless of style, size, and experience, an opportunity to be successful in the competitive arena.

The rules that govern USSBA competitions are by design, limited and general. As the director and staff of a participating band, please review the material found in this book. Each year as we assess the season, feedback from directors is very important. Defining rules and responsibilities is a part of the “fine tuning” process that we follow. Please do not assume anything. Read carefully, be informed and if you have ANY further questions regarding USSBA shows, please feel free to call the office. We will be happy to clarify any questions you might have.



George Hopkins

Executive Director, Youth Education in the Arts

The mission of YEA! is to support the development of young people into magnificent human beings through participation in the performing arts.

89.50—91.99	14 Points
92.00—94.49	16 Points
94.50—96.99	18 Points
97.00—100	20 Points

Example

Band ABCD participates in a total of six (6) shows. Included in the six shows are one regional championship, and their respective state championship. Their highest score for the season was 83.00.

Here is how USSBA will determine their time slot for championships.

Four Sanctioned Show appearances = 4 points

One Regional Championship appearance = 2 points

One State Championship appearance = 3 points

Total Appearance Points = 9 Points

Bonus points for highest score attained by the end of the day on October 21st = 9 points

The Bands Point Total is 18.00

CHANGES IN SCHEDULE

Changes in schedule will only be considered for “special” circumstances by the director of the USSBA. These requests must be in the form of a letter (faxed or mailed) to the USSBA office. The letter must be on official school letterhead and be signed by both the band director and the Principal.

For a change in time to be granted, the following people must concur:

- 1) The Director of the USSBA
- 2) The Executive Consultant to the USSBA
- 3) The Executive Director of Youth Education in the Arts

Performance times will be published on the website of the USSBA. Any changes will be explained via the website in appropriate detail.

“SPECIAL” CIRCUMSTANCES

USSBA reserves the right to act in accordance with the principles of the organization as deemed necessary. Accidents, crisis and other “special” circumstances could create the unexpected. USSBA, including the director and the USSBA assigned “event manager” for a specific contest, reserve the right to act in accordance with the values of the USSBA including, but not limited to: fairness, kindness, and inclusion.

Championships. For the tie-breaker, each event counts as a single event. If a tie still exists, the next tie-breaker will be highest score posted by the end of the day October 21, 2007. If the bands are still tied, the tie will be broken in the USSBA office by a coin toss at a time and date to be announced.

CANCELLED EVENTS

If an event is cancelled on or before September 14th, zero (0) points will be awarded.

If an event is cancelled on or after September 15th, one (1) point will be awarded to the band if they are unable to schedule a replacement performance. Zero (0) points will be awarded in connection with the lost show. The band does receive points for any USSBA show that they DO appear in that weekend.

A host band that cancels their competition will not receive a point for their canceled home show, regardless of the reason. That band can receive one (1) point for being able to schedule a performance in a different show.

POINTS FOR QUALITY OF PERFORMANCE

Points for performance level can be achieved on a week to week basis. The highest score achieved as of October 21st will be used for this formula regardless of the week it was earned.

Scores achieved at a “standstill” performance may be considered as the unit’s possible high score. All efforts will be made to have “standstill shows” judged with the same criteria in place.

Bonus Point Allotment:

High Score	Bonus Points
Under 64.50	1 Point
64.50 - 66.99	2 Points
67.00 - 69.49	3 Points
69.50 - 71.99	4 Points
72.00 - 74.49	5 Points
74.50 - 76.99	6 Points
77.00 - 79.49	7 Points
79.50 - 81.99	8 Points
82.00 - 84.49	9 Points
84.50 - 86.99	10 Points
87.00 - 89.49	12 Points

TABLE OF CONTENTS

History	2
Experience	2
Philosophy	2
Goals	2
Membership Qualification	3
USSBA Classification System	3
Rules of Performance	5
Critiques	6
Withdrawal from Show	6
Passes – Director, Staff, Crew	7
USSBA Adjudication	7
Inclement Weather Policy	10
Host Band Performancing in Shows	11
State Championships	11
Northern & Southern State Championships	13
Northern & Southern State Championships Order of Appearance	15
Changes in Schedule	17
Special Circumstances	17

HISTORY

The USSBA was formed in the Fall of 1988 by the Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps organization to provide marching band activities featuring the best adjudicators across the United States. In 1996, the USSBA, Cadets and Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps were incorporated under the banner of Youth Education in the Arts (YEA!). Today, the USSBA is the largest membership based independent scholastic music organization in the Nation.

EXPERIENCE

The USSBA is the sister organization to the Cadets and Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps. The commitment to excellence shown by both of these organizations carries over to the USSBA by taking the practical, real world experience gained throughout the creative and competitive world of the contemporary drum corps activity and sharing it with member bands on a variety of different levels.

PHILOSOPHY

The USSBA's focus is on the educational development of today's music student, as well as the administration and facilitation of quality events. The goal is not to restrict but rather enhance the programs within the world of marching music.

The USSBA adjudication system rewards performance and effect. The form or method(s) a band chooses to communicate their idea(s) is/are wide open to all styles.

GOALS OF USSBA

- Provide educational, exciting and positive performance opportunities for high school band students
- Provide experienced instructional support for band directors and staff
- Provide constructive and consistent evaluation and adjudication
- Support music education by generating popular interest in band performances and competition
- Promote innovation, creativity, and growth for bands in the region and the nation

NORTHERN & SOUTHERN STATES CHAMPIONSHIP ORDER OF APPEARANCE

The USSBA utilizes a point system to determine the order of appearance.

Performance order in any group begins with the band who has accumulated the fewest number of points in that group. The determination of performance times continues in ascending order. The band with the most number of points performs last.

In establishing a formula for creating an "order of appearance", the intention of USSBA is to reward those who contribute to USSBA through participation in weekly sanctioned shows. This is done by allocating point for each show in which a band performs.

At the same time, USSBA also allows for those who may not reside in a region where events are available on a weekly basis.

The "seeding" formula, awards points for the highest scores achieved in a sanctioned USSBA show during the season.

Bonus points are awarded for appearances in regional championships, invitational "special" events, and the state championships.

THE POINT ALLOCATION SYSTEM

Order of appearance for the Championships will be determined by the number of shows in which a band participates through and including November 4th, and the band's highest score achieved on or before October 21, 2007. This will allow time schedules for championships to be set in an organized manner.

Any band withdrawing from a show after October 21st, will lose (1) point for the appearance PLUS, an additional point for late exit from the schedule.

Points for Appearances at Competitions:

- 1) Each local show in which a band participates will count as one (1) point.
- 2) Participation in Regionals will earn two (2) points for the band.
- 3) Bands participating at a State Championship will earn three (3) points. A band can earn only one (1) three-point award. If a band is to appear at more than one State Championship (appearing as a guest outside the region), that appearance would be counted as two (2) points, or as an appearance in a Regional Championship.
- 4) SUPER SATURDAYS – Any Band appearing in two shows over one day, will receive (1) bonus point, plus, the points for appearance in the two different events.

TIES

In case of a tie, the first tiebreaker is the total number of USSBA shows a band participates in, including Regional Championships, Showcase, and State

band by Oct 8th. The number will be verified by USSBA Personnel at a variety of events. If the USSBA office does not receive this count by Oct 1st, the highest number in that band's group size will be used in determining that band's ticket requirement. Any exceptions must be approved by the USSBA director.

Tickets are shipped to each school at least two weeks prior to the event, along with additional optional tickets. Any unsold tickets, along with all required monies are due at registration.

Tickets will be sent to the attention of the band director at the school address. In addition, an e-mail, fax will announce their mailing. It is the responsibility of the band director to claim these tickets. A signature, acknowledging the receipt of tickets, will for the purpose of the USSBA, act as confirmation of delivery. It is the band director's responsibility to claim and to distribute the tickets, and to manage the process.

Number of Members	Tickets	Number of Members	Tickets
Under 20	25	150-159	205
20-24	30	160-169	215
25-29	35	170-179	230
30-34	45	180-189	245
35-39	50	190-199	255
40-44	55	200-209	270
45-50	65	210-219	280
51-59	75	220-229	295
60-69	85	230-239	310
70-79	100	240-249	320
80-89	115	250-259	335
90-99	125	260-269	345
100-109	140	270-279	360
110-119	150	280-289	375
120-129	165	290-299	385
130-139	180	300 +	400
140-149	190		

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Performing members must be enrolled in grades 7 through 12 of the competing/performing school.

Band Directors must complete and return a Registration Form prior to their first appearance in a USSBA show.

Bands registering in more than one (1) USSBA show must pay a membership fee of \$350. There is a discount rate for fees paid on or before September 1st of \$325.

Membership fees are refundable if a band participates in only one show.

USSBA CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

CLASSIFICATION: GROUPS

USSBA classification for participating bands is based on the total number of performers in each ensemble. This includes playing members, auxiliary (color guard, majorettes, etc.), and command personnel (drum majors, color guard captains, etc.).

This does not include members of an American Flag Section (or Honor Guard) when these members do not move or otherwise add to the effect of the program during the band's performance.

Group I:	1 to 43 members
Group II:	44 to 58 members
Group III:	59 to 77 members
Group IV:	78 to 103 members
Group V:	104 to 140 members
Group VI:	141 or more members

After a band has performed in one USSBA-adjudicated show, the band may request to move into a different group size, only with the approval of the USSBA Director.

Bands are counted by an USSBA Official at each contest. Bands in excess of their assigned group size will be re-classified accordingly. Notification will come from the USSBA office.

CLASSIFICATION: CLASSES

Bands will be further divided at Regional and Championship events. Bands will be assigned and compete in either Open Class, A Class, or Festival Class within each group. Non-competitive bands may compete in Festival Class in any event.

“*Open*” Class is for more seasoned or experienced bands.

“*A*” Class is for bands who are in the building years or are new to the competitive setting.

“*Festival*” Class allows bands to perform non-competitively at any of the USSBA-sanctioned shows, including the Regional and Championship events. Festival Class bands will receive critique tapes and will be awarded ratings of Superior (90-100), Excellent (80-89), Good (70-79), or Fair (69 & below).

Bands may choose to perform in Exhibition and will NOT receive critique tapes. These bands will be not be entered for competition. Festival bands are awarded participation plaques.

CLASSIFICATION BY COMMITTEE

A band’s classification for the season will be based upon a decision of the USSBA classification committee. The committee will consist of band directors, judges, and USSBA Administrators. Committee band directors cannot make recommendations on schools in their same group

After review, a listing of band classification will be presented to all bands by June 1st. A band director wishing to appeal the committee’s decision must submit a written request, signed by the school’s principal, to the USSBA Director. Appeals must be received by July 1 and a ruling will be made prior to the band’s first competition.

Criteria for committee classification will include, but not be limited to -

- Scoring
- History through the years
- Band Director Status
- Direct observation
- Comparison to other bands in the Group
- Potential

New bands to the USSBA will be classified in collaboration with the band director’s selection on the Registration form. The USSBA Director may review and make changes to a new band’s classification after their first performance. No changes in classification can be made after the next to last weekend in October.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SEEDING

The performing times for groups/classes at each state championship will be announced on October 3rd. The performance order within a group/class will be determined by random draw. The place and time of the draw will be announced.

The order will be posted at www.yea.org/ussba no later than 5:00 pm the day following the draw. Bands may add into the State Championships after this date. If they do, their performance time will be selected by random draw – that is, a number from 1-?. The number drawn will be the order of appearance in the assigned group for the band in question. Bands who have previously drawn the selected number or higher will be moved later by one time slot. Bands who have previously drawn lower numbers will not be effected.

USSBA NORTHERN & SOUTHERN STATES CHAMPIONSHIPS**PARTICIPATION**

To qualify for inclusion in the US Scholastic Band Association All-States Championships, a band shall:

- Be an active member of the US Scholastic Band Association.
- Participate in at least one (1) USSBA-sanctioned contest, excluding championships. Participation in host shows will count towards this requirement. If Championships is to be the only USSBA show attended by the unit, they may perform in exhibition but not be entered in competition, provided all other requirements are met.
- Pay the Membership Fee and pay all outstanding debts prior to Championships.
- Fulfill a ticket sales requirement. The ticket sales requirement is based on the table on page 15.
- Register for Northern/Southern States Championships by Oct 29, 2007.

NORTHERN & SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS TICKET INFORMATION

Northern/ Southern State Championships have a fee requirement associated with the event. There are 2 options to fulfill this requirement:

1) Pay the entry fee

OR

2) Fulfill a ticket requirement. The USSBA offers bands an option to convert the entry fee into a set amount of tickets. This provides an opportunity for the band to raise the funds to cover the fee. Each band will receive an allotted number of tickets for the event. The band’s cost will be discounted from the face value of the ticket.

Band Directors are required to submit an accurate count of the members in their

If a band is only participating in State Championships and not Northern or Southern States Championships, the ticket requirement is per table 1 (see below).

If a band is also participating in either Northern or Southern States Championships, the ticket requirement is per table 2 (below).

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS TICKET INFORMATION

Required tickets are shipped to each school at least two weeks prior to the event, along with additional optional tickets. Any unsold tickets, along with all required monies are due, at registration for the State Championships.

Tickets will be sent to the attention of the band director at the school address. In addition, an e-mail, fax, or standard mail will announce their mailing. It is the responsibility of the band director to claim these tickets. A signature, acknowledging the receipt of tickets, will for the purpose of the USSBA, act as confirmation of delivery. It is the band director’s responsibility to claim tickets, distribute tickets, and to manage the process.

**Table 1
Ticket Requirement
Bands that DO NOT Participate in Northern/Southern States Championships**

Group I	37
Group II	50
Group III	71
Group IV	94
Group V	115
Group VI	143

**Table 2
Ticket Requirement
Bands that DO Participate in Northern/Southern States Championships**

Group I	18
Group II	25
Group III	35
Group IV	45
Group V	55
Group VI	70

RULES OF PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE AREA

The basic performance area will be a regulation size football field, 160 feet wide by 300 feet long, marked in 5 yard intervals from goal line to goal line. Bands may start and/or conclude their performance anywhere on or off the regulation size field. There are no boundary penalties.

HASH MARKS

The USSBA will only guarantee hash marks known as “high school” hash marks. These hash marks are measured at 53’4” from each sideline.

REPORTING TIME

Bands must report to the gate fifteen (15) minutes prior to their performance time. Reporting later than that time may result in a 0.50 point penalty for every minute late.

Any band reporting more than ten (10) minutes late may be disqualified from the competition. The band may be permitted to still perform in judged exhibition at a later point in the show. This will be at the USSBA show coordinator’s discretion.

Report any emergency circumstances to the designated USSBA show staff person.

PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING TIMES

Each band will have an interval of time on the field established by the USSBA in which they will set up, warm up, and perform. This time begins once the USSBA Show Official prompts the band to enter the performance area. The interval time will be no less than fourteen (14) minutes and no more than fifteen (15) minutes and will be determined on a show by show basis.

A penalty of up to five tenths (0.50) of a point may be assessed for each sixty (60) seconds over. This penalty must be approved by both the event manager and the show coordinator.

The Show Coordinator may start time on a band if they fail to enter the primary performance area when instructed to do so.

Warm-ups may flow directly into the program and may be played in any direction.

EQUIPMENT USE

The use of mechanized vehicles during the performance is prohibited. Mechanized vehicles may not drive onto the performance field. The penalty for violation of this rule is disqualification.

The use of fire extinguishers, water that is released onto the field, live animals, or pyro-

technics (including fire batons) is prohibited at all USSBA shows. This also includes the release or use of any and all materials that may result in debris on the field. The penalty for violation of this rule ranges from one (1) point to disqualification.

Any damage to the field or material left on the field after a band’s performance will result in a penalty ranging from one (1) point up to disqualification, depending on the severity of the damage. The amount of the penalty given is at the discretion of the show coordinator. Any and all costs incurred to clean or repair the impacted area, will be borne by the offending band.

There are no restrictions on the number or types of electronic music, instruments or amplification systems that may be used.

EQUIPMENT PLACEMENT AND RETRIEVAL

Anyone (adult, student, non-student) may place, move, or remove equipment any time during a band’s performance. Individuals who are used only to move equipment, hold props, etc., and who do not appear in uniform will not be counted in the total number of performing members of the band.

USE OF THE NATIONAL FLAG

The use of the national flag is optional. If a band does choose to display the American Flag, all the respect and dignity traditionally afforded our national emblem must be shown. Failure to display the flag properly will result in a one (1.00) point penalty.

CRITIQUES

Each band’s staff will have fifteen (15) minutes to meet with judges at the conclusion of all shows (excluding some regional events and the championship contests). The order in critique will be based on performance order. Three bands’ staff will be admitted into the critique room at a time. The three groups will rotate through three stations of judges: music, visual and effect at five minute intervals. If a band’s staff is not present when called into the critique room, their critique time may be forfeited. The critique format may be changed by the USSBA show coordinator with notice to participating bands.

WITHDRAWAL FROM USSBA SHOWS

Any band may withdraw from a USSBA sanctioned show up to three weeks prior to the event without penalty. After that point, a withdrawal will result in a monetary fine and suspension from further USSBA events until that fine is received by the USSBA Director. During the suspension period, the offending band will not gain any credit towards their seeding points for championships. The associated fine will

Example

Effect Music	25.0
Music Perf-Ind	27.0
Music Perf-Ens	28.3
<hr/>	
Raw Score	80.30
Multiply by .84 =	Final Score: 67.45

HOST BANDS PERFORMING IN SHOWS

Bands who are hosting a show have the following options:

- Compete - If a host band decides to compete, it will compete at the same time as other bands in its class. The host band will have the option of performing last in its class. The score will be included on the re-cap sheet. The score will be included as a possible high score.

If a host band decides to perform in either type of exhibition described below, the time of the performance will be determined by the show host.

- Perform in judged exhibition - Numerical scores of bands who perform in judged exhibition will not appear on the recap, and will not count towards high scores for championship seeding.
- Perform in a non-judged exhibition – no sheets, no tapes.

Participation in the contest in any performance capacity, though, will count towards championship seeding points. (See page 16)

The host band will decide which option it will take no later than two weeks before the show date. This information must be communicated to the USSBA office.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

PARTICIPATION

All bands, whether members or non-members of the USSBA are eligible to participate in the US Scholastic Band Association State Championships.

Each State Championship show has a fee requirement associated with the event. There are 2 options to fulfill this requirement:

1) Pay the entry fee

OR

2) Fulfill a ticket requirement. The USSBA offers bands an option to convert the entry fee into a set amount of tickets. This provides an opportunity for the band to raise the funds to cover the fee. Each band will receive an allotted number of tickets for the event. The band’s cost will be discounted from the face value of the ticket.

Example:

Effect Music	25.0
Effect Visual	30.0
Music Perf-Ens	28.3
Vis Perf	31.0

Raw Score: 114.30

Divide by 4 = 28.575 (round up)

Calculated Missing Fifth Score: 28.6

Then use the normal procedure to arrive at the total score.

Effect Music	25.0
Effect Visual	30.0
Music Perf-Ens	28.3
Vis Perf	31.0
Music Perf-Ind	28.6

Raw Score 142.9

Divide by 2 = Final Score: 71.45

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, the following procedures should be followed.

- Band directors should report to the USSBA Show Coordinator at the 50 yard line.
- Music will be the only aspect of the performance to be evaluated. Thus, the scores of only three judges will be counted in determining the final score.
- Individual Music Performance will be judged from the same level of the performers.
- Ensemble Music Performance and Music Effect will be judged from the stands.
- Each adjudicator will assign scores as they would normally do. The scoring criteria for the week will remain the same.
- If a Percussion and/or a Colorguard judge are/is present, they may judge all units as they normally would, however in a clinic setting there is no score assigned. The show sponsor determines whether to allow the colorguards to perform indoors.

be paid to USSBA. The fine will then be forwarded to the show sponsor to cover expenses and lost income resulting from the withdrawal. The monetary fine schedule is as follows:

Group I:	\$250	Group II:	\$300
Group III:	\$350	Group IV:	\$400
Group V:	\$450	Group VI:	\$500

PASSES - STAFF, CHAPERONE, AND CREW ACCESS

Staff, chaperone and equipment crew passes will be issued for each member band for a given season based on group size assigned. The passes may be used for access to any USSBA show prior to Championships. Once these passes are distributed, no other passes will be made available. These passes must be displayed at all times at events.

The Pass allocations are as follows:

Group I:	10 passes	Group II:	15 passes
Group III:	20 passes	Group IV:	20 passes
Group V:	25 passes	Group VI:	25 passes

USSBA ADJUDICATION

The USSBA uses a floating 5-box Criteria Reference System on all adjudication sheets. Each box will start at a predetermined range of scores at the beginning of the marching season. As the season progresses, the range of scores within each box increases. (Visit www.yea.org/ussba for sample sheets)

Silver Star USSBA Shows consist of five adjudicators:

Visual Performance	20 points
Individual Music Performance	20 points
Ensemble Music Performance	20 points
Overall Effect, Music Emphasis	20 points
Overall Effect, Visual Emphasis	20 points

In Silver Star USSBA Shows, if requested by the show sponsor, Percussion and Color Guard scores will be given by other qualified adjudicators on the panel.

Gold Star USSBA Shows consist of the five adjudicators noted above as well as two additional judges. The two additional adjudicators are:

Percussion	20 points
Color Guard	20 points

The Percussion and Colorguard judge scores are not included in the determination of ranking and rating.

Regionals, States, North and South States and National Championship contests will include a five-adjudicator panel as well as a percussion and color guard judge.

SPECIAL AWARDS

In addition to placement awards, Special Awards will be awarded at regular season contests as well as Championships. At Silver Star USSBA Shows, these awards will be judged by the five-person panel. At Gold Star USSBA Shows, additional judges will adjudicate these awards. The following special awards may be given:

Best Music	Best Visual
Best Overall Effect	Best Color Guard
Best Percussion	

Best Visual, Music and Overall Effect: Awarded to the band with the highest average score in those respective captions. The Visual Performance caption relates to Best Visual.

Best Color Guard: Awarded to the band with the highest combined score awarded by the Overall Effect (Visual) Judge and the Ensemble Visual Performance Judge, in the absence of a color guard judge.

Best Percussion: Awarded to the band with the highest combined score awarded by the Overall Effect (Music) Judge and the Ensemble or Individual Music Performance Judge, in the absence of a percussion judge.

SCORES AND POLICIES

The USSBA scoring system is based on 40.0 points per judge. With 5 judges having 40.0 points available, the raw score is out of a possible 200.00.

This number is then divided by 2 to reach the total score out of a possible 100. (Remember the percussion and color guard scores are based on 20.0 points and do not count in the total score.)

Example:

Effect Music	25.0
Effect Visual	30.0
Music Perf-Ind	27.0
Music Perf-Ens	28.3
Visual Perf	31.0
<hr/>	
Raw Score	141.30
Divide by 2 =	Final Score: 70.65

MISSING ADJUDICATOR POLICY

Each show sponsored or sanctioned by the US Scholastic Band Association should have a minimum of five adjudicators. In the event a judge does not arrive at the event, the remaining four judges are to be reassigned using the following policy.

In the event one music judge is missing, the remaining two should be assigned to Music Performance Ensemble and General Effect Music.

However, if a percussion judge has been assigned to the show, the percussion judge should be moved to one of the music captions. The chief judge will make the call as to what person goes to what caption.

In the event one visual judge is missing, the remaining one should be assigned to General Effect Visual. From this perspective he or she can discuss performance, but his general discussion and assignment of scores should be from an overall perspective.

However, if a color guard judge has been assigned, the color guard judge should be moved to one of the visual captions. The chief judge will make the call as to what person judges what.

In terms of scoring, each adjudicator will assign scores as he would do normally, using the 40 point sheet. The scoring guidelines for the week will remain the same. The tabulator will add the four raw scores and divide by four (4).

This average will be used as the “placeholder” for the missing 5th raw score. Add all five raw scores, divide by two (2) and arrive at a final score/percentage.

Essentially, we are judging the performance with 4 judges. We do assume that the score for the missing caption would be near the average for the other 4.

If a judge appears late to the show, he should begin judging immediately, but his score should not be counted in the total until the beginning of a new group.