

Indiana State School Music Association, Inc.

HIGHLIGHTS AND RULE CHANGES FOR 2023-2024

GENERAL

2023-2024 ISSMA Festivals Manual – The entire manual, including adjudication sheets, is available in the “Directors Only” area of the ISSMA Website. Recent changes have been highlighted in red. Hard copies of the manual will not be mailed to teachers. Access to the Directors Only area requires registration with an individual director login.

Fee Increases – Due to the uncontrollable increase in event expenses, the ISSMA State Board voted to increase fees for the 2023-2024 school year. (see Financial Guidelines, Music Festivals Manual **p. 93**)

Safety: Any school, or student of a school, who creates a discipline or safety concern at any performance site and is reported to the ISSMA Executive Director will be subject to an investigation by the Executive Committee if the Executive Director deems the circumstances are of a serious enough nature. *This includes the use of propane, charcoal, or other open-flame devices for preparing food at any ISSMA event.* A warning or a one-year suspension from participation for the organization in question will be the penalty. If deemed appropriate, other such disciplinary measures may be imposed upon the student, director, or school. **p. 7, V.B**

MARCHING BAND

Classification – *No classification changes will be accepted after the official entry deadline has passed.* **p. 9, VII.E.2**

CATEGORY	ENROLLMENT	TOTAL PERFORMERS
Festival	unlimited	unlimited
Scholastic B	939 or fewer	55 or fewer
Scholastic A	940 or more	110 or fewer
Open D	549 or fewer	unlimited
Open C	550-939	unlimited
Open B	940-1799	unlimited
Open A	1800 or more	unlimited

Medical Passes – *Participating bands will be provided a maximum of 2 Medical Staff Passes for each marching band event upon request at the time of entry. These passes will provide field access for authorized medical personnel to attend to any special needs students or medical emergencies that may arise during the performance sequence. Persons wearing a medical pass will not be permitted to serve as prop personnel.* **p. 9, VII.H.5**

Summer Showcase and Festival Class Warm-up - Festival Class Bands will be allotted one 24-minute Music Warm-up period in the event schedule prior to performance. *An optional Physical Warm-up time will be included in the event schedule and will take place in the area designated by the host.* **p. 11, VII.M.2 & p. 14, VII.P.3**

Scholastic Class Warm-up – *Scholastic Class Bands will be allotted a 16-minute physical warm-up period prior to the 32-minute music warm-up period.* **p. 11, VII.M.3.a**

For Comment Only – *Performance for Comment Only is not an option at any ISSMA Marching Band event.* **p. 15, VII.R.2.k**

(OVER)

Scholastic Class Finals Qualification Procedure - p. 15, VII.R.1.d

- i. 32 Bands will qualify for Scholastic Finals, 16 in Scholastic B and 16 in Scholastic A.
- ii. Bands qualifying for Scholastic Finals must first achieve a Gold Rating at Scholastic Prelims.
- iii. The top 50% scoring bands at each site in each Classification will automatically qualify.
- iv. For Classifications at a site that have an odd number of bands, the automatic qualifiers would be 50% plus 1.
- v. If all potential qualifying groups at a site in a particular classification do not receive Gold Ratings, then only the groups that did would receive automatic bids.
- vi. If all 16 spots in a Classification are not filled at this point, then the next highest scores regardless of site will be used to fill out the remaining open slots.

Open Class Invitational - *The number of bands allowed to participate will be dependent upon the number of Scholastic Class Bands registered, with a maximum of 30 total performing bands at a site.* **p. 16, VII.S.3.b**

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

Revised String Manual –The String Group I Required List Solo & Ensemble Manual has been revised and is available to view and/or download under the “Resources” link on the ISSMA website.

JAZZ/SHOW CHOIR EVENTS

Classification - *No classification changes will be accepted after the official entry deadline has passed. Exception: Groups may change ONE group level up to three weeks prior to the event.* **p. 23, IX.E.3**

Adjudication - *Performance for Comment Only is not an option at this event.* **p. 24, IX.J.8**

Vocal Jazz Ensemble - *If an a cappella choir composition is utilized, it must be performed a cappella.* **p. 24, IX.L.6**

Adjudication Forms – Copies of the revised adjudication forms can be found in the ISSMA Manual on **pgs. 70 - 77.**

Adjudication – The clinic has been eliminated from the State Jazz event. *The adjudication panel will consist of three performance hall adjudicators. All Section and Solo awards, as well as the Honor Ensemble, will be determined by the entire judging panel.* **p. 28, X.A.13**

Show Choir Division – The name of the Unisex Division has been changed to the Univoiced Division.

Show Choir Classification – *A Large School shall be defined as 1560 students or more, and a small school as 1559 students or fewer, based upon DOE enrollment statistics from 2022-2023 school year.* **p. 28, X.B.5**

CONCERT ORGANIZATION

Instrumental Sight-reading Rules - p. 35, XI.L.7.h & p.40, XII.M.7.g

During the 10-minute preparation period, the conductor and students will use the educational process implemented by the conductor to introduce a new piece of literature. The conductor may use the period before the sight-reading demonstration to prepare the ensemble using methods discussed and applied during typical classroom instruction. These methods may include, but not be limited to, the following rehearsal techniques:

- i. *The students may play the music individually, in small groups, or with the full ensemble.*
- ii. *The students and/or the conductor may also do any or all of the following to prepare the music during the instruction period: sing, count, clap, air bow, practice fingerings/slide positions, tap rhythms.*
- iii. *Except for tuning timpani, the conductor may not play an instrument at any time.*
- iv. *The conductor or students may not utilize electronic or technology devices.*

Choral Sight-reading Rules - p. 35, XI.L.8.e,g,h,j & p. 41, XII.M.8.e,g,h,j

e. It is not permissible for the director to actualize or demonstrate at any time during any of the sight-reading process. (Exception: Establishing Tonality)

g. During the preparation period of the rhythmic exercise, it is not permissible for the director and/or students to actualize, sing, demonstrate, or play on the piano any part of the exercise.

h. During the preparation of the melodic and harmonic exercises, students are permitted to sing and actualize rhythms, pitches, harmonies, and voice leadings. Students may work independently or in neighboring groups of two or three students. It is not permissible for individual students to lead the ensemble during the preparation period. At no time will a whole section and/or the full ensemble be permitted to practice the exercise in-sync with each other, with the exception of sections that have three or fewer singers.

j. In reference to parts h and I above, a penalty of no less than one full point per infraction will be assessed under "Process of Instruction" on the judging sheet.

Sight-reading Adjudication Forms – Updated Choral and Instrumental Sight-reading Adjudicator's Comment Sheets can be found in the Music Festivals Manual on **p. 83, 85, 87, 89**.

Adjudication – *Performance for Comment Only is not an option for this event. Exception: Group IV H.S. Concert Organization Sight-reading. p. 33, XI.J.9 & p. 39, XII.K.7*

Group I Qualification Required Numbers for Choirs – *When a Required number is an a cappella, it must be performed without ANY instrumental parts. p. 37, XII.F.4.e*

Group I Qualification Adjudication - *When feasible, a web-based scoring system may be used at the Group I State Qualification Event for recorded commentary and scoring. When a web-based scoring system is used, the current adjudication sheet will only be provided as a placemat for judges to use as a reference in their scoring and recorded commentary. p. 39, XII.K.8*

Group I Qualification Timing - *Any warm-up and/or performance timing penalty will be one point deducted from the total concert score of each judge for each minute or part thereof exceeding the time allotment stated above. p. 39, XII.L.3.d*

***Specific changes in rules have been printed in italics.**