

BAND CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. TIME AND PLACE:

There shall be only one contest, which shall be the final contest. This will be held in the Convention City on a date and at a time to be determined by the Department Contest Supervisory Committee.

2. SUPERVISION:

Such contest shall be under the supervision of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee.

3. ENTRY BLANKS:

The Department Adjutant will mail copies of these rules and regulations and entry blanks to the commanders or presidents of all Legion bands of record in the Department.

4. ENTRY:

Not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention, each competing band shall forward by Registered Mail to the Department Adjutant, on said prescribed form, a list of its members with their membership card numbers for the current year, if members of The American Legion, certified by the Commander and Adjutant of such organization. Nonmembers of The American Legion shall be so designated on the entry blank.

Entry blanks must be postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention or the unit will not be permitted to participate in the contest.

Any band may, up to fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention, make additions or deletions from the roster submitted on the entry blank filed 45 days prior to the opening of the Department Convention. Such changes must be postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention and shall be certified by the Commander and Adjutant of such organization as aforesaid. No prize will be awarded any band until its eligibility has been approved by the Department Adjutant.

5. ELIGIBILITY:

No Band will be eligible to compete in the contest unless at least 20% of its members playing in competition are bona fide members of The American Legion, in good standing, with a membership card for the current year. No member shall compete with more than one Band.

A Band is one supervised by an American Legion Post or Posts, County, District or City Council organization, The American Legion organizations having assumed responsibility for and control over the personnel, the training and the equipping of the Band for such a period of time as to evidence the permanency of the relationship between The American Legion organization and the unit. That this unit must be made up of at least 80% residents of the State of Michigan. That they should hold all regular practice sessions in the State of Michigan within fifty (50) miles of their Post Home and be known locally as a Michigan American Legion unit. The American Legion organization that has such a unit will send to the Department Headquarters, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention, an affidavit to the extent of what they have done to have a Band. The affidavit must be signed by at least three (3) officers of The American Legion organization that has such a unit. This will enable the Department Contest Supervisory Committee to rule on the qualifications of eligibility of the unit.

Such contest shall be open to all such bands desiring to compete, having a minimum of twenty-five (25) pieces.

Drum Majors or Color Guards taking any part in the contest will not be counted towards the minimum membership, but are subject to judging and all other requirements and must be bona fide members of The American Legion in good standing with a membership card for the current year.

6. PARADE:

Each organization entering such contest must participate in the parade with at least 80% of its competing personnel. However, members of competing bands who are physically handicapped by reason of age or other condition, may be excused from the parade without penalty, provided that such personnel be declared at the meeting of the representatives and the excused physically handicapped does not exceed 10% of the concert band personnel in competition. It is suggested that while passing the reviewing stand in the parade, bands maintain a cadence of 120.

7. MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES:

At a time and place to be specified by the Department Contest Supervisory Committee, one (1) representative of each Band shall meet with the representatives of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee to receive instructions and transact any business which may properly come before such meeting. Each band shall be represented by A MEMBER OF THE UNIT OR OF THE SPONSORING POST at the drawing for position in the contest. If unable to appear, it may delegate the authority IN WRITING

to a member of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee. Failure to comply is cause for a penalty to be assessed. No judges are to be present at this meeting.

8. JUDGES:

At least two music judges and an inspection judge, if used, shall be selected by the Department Contest Supervisory Committee. While judging, absolute privacy will prevail.

9. POINTS:

Bands will be judged on the following points:

a. Inspection	A PENALTY CAPTION
b. Ensemble, General Effect, Instrumentation	30 points
c. Interpretation, Expression, Conduction	30 points
d. Articulation, Intonation	30 points
e. Repertoire	<u>10 points</u>
TOTAL	100 points

10. SELECTIONS:

Each Band shall be allowed to play a warming-up number of its own selection before playing the official contest numbers, not to consume more than five (5) minutes of time, and not to be judged.

All Bands will be required to play:

- a. A march of its own selection not to consume more than five (5) minutes of time.
- b. A selection of its own choosing OTHER THAN A STREET MARCH.
- c. Each Band planning to enter competition must send in to the Department Contest Supervisory Committee a conductor's score in duplicate, of the selections they plan to play at the Department Band Competition so that the Department Contest Supervisory Committee may forward them to the Band Judges who can familiarize themselves with the score. The Band **must** play the selections they submit.
- d. The Selections chosen are rated on their repertoire.

11. PENALTIES:

A Band violating Rule 5 shall be disqualified, and its position and standing in the contest shall be forfeited.

Any Band violating Rule 7 will be assessed a two (2) point penalty.

A Band violating any rule, or part of a rule, for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized one point (1) for each such violation.

For any display or unsportsmanlike conduct at the site of the contest there shall be a penalty of a minimum of two (2) points up to and including disqualification.

12. AWARDS

The judges will sign their individual score sheets and turn them over to the representative or representatives of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee, who will compute the markings and announce the results. Bands will be given a copy of score sheets as soon as practical after the conclusion of the contest.

The Band winning first place shall be known as the "State Champion Band" of The American Legion.

The winner of first place will be awarded the plaque representing the FRED T. BOLTON TROPHY, title to which shall remain in The American Legion, Department of Michigan.

The winner of first place, beginning with the year 1960, shall also be awarded a Championship Flag, title to which shall remain in The American Legion, Department of Michigan and be awarded from year to year.

The Championship Flag must be turned in to the Department Contest Supervisory Committee fifteen (15) days before the competition for presentation to the winner at the close of the convention contest. Bands and sponsors will be held responsible for the condition of the flag.

13. REGISTRATION FOR DEPARTMENT CONVENTION:

All units will pay a minimum Entry Fee of \$15.00 if they have housing and proper insurance. Any unit that desires insurance or housing, shall pay a Registration Fee of \$2.00 per head. Any person who is a delegate will pay the regular delegate fee. If any unit fails to register and is not already covered by insurance, they will not be allowed to share in the Music and Drill Fund.