



2020 v-USBands Participant Guide

INTRODUCTION TO v-USBANDS

Welcome to the inaugural v-USBands season! Since its first event in 1988, USBands has supported the development of scholastic performing ensembles through exceptional service, adjudication and venues. The USBands organization has been dedicated to serving the music education community no matter the challenges with a willingness and ability to pivot to address the needs of educators and students. In 2020, USBands has once again adapted its model to create **v-USBands** to provide meaningful performance opportunities for students and quality assessment to help educators improve their programs.

Our overall guiding principle is to provide ensembles, regardless of style, size, and experience, an opportunity to be successful, thus positively complementing the benefits students experience with their involvement in scholastic music. The regulations that govern USBands' events are minimal by design. USBands prides itself on a user-friendly approach to support and service, in which directors and performers can fully enjoy the performance process without the concern of punitive rules and penalties.

As a director, instructor, or supporter of a participating ensemble, please familiarize yourself with the material in this Guide so you're able to take full advantage of everything USBands has to offer.

Thank you for joining USBands to celebrate our 32nd year of service in support of music programs across the nation. Best wishes for a great year!

HISTORY

The organization now known as USBands was founded in the fall of 1988 by The Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps, with a single competition held in the former Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands of New Jersey. Now in our 32nd season, the USBands calendar includes more than 100 local, state and regional events across the country, concluding with two National Championship events in November. With over 600 ensembles participating in fall events across 17 states, USBands has grown to become the largest independent scholastic music organization in the nation.

In addition to marching events in the Fall, USBands offers an Indoor Color Guard and Percussion circuit through the winter/spring. Other programs include student leadership workshops, adjudicator training seminars, other educational opportunities for music programs, and presentations to boosters.

PHILOSOPHY

Our focus is centered on the educational development of today's students into tomorrow's leaders, using the performing arts to provide opportunities for hands-on, interactive learning and achievement. By providing support and performance opportunities for students, we serve your educational mission and help raise awareness to the importance of scholastic performing arts programs.

GOALS

- To keep music educators engaged with the reason they originally became educators – the students.
- To create an atmosphere whereby music educators can use music to teach life lessons such as discipline, perseverance, and commitment to excellence.
- To provide high-quality, educational and positive performance opportunities for students.
- To provide instructional support for ensemble directors and staff.
- To provide constructive and consistent evaluation and adjudication.
- To support music education by generating popular interest in scholastic performing arts performance and competition.
- To promote innovation, creativity, and growth for ensembles around the nation.

Any regulations outlined in the following pages are designed not to restrict, but rather to enhance the overall experience for our participating students. The USBands adjudication system places emphasis on music and performance over design and visual components. While every aspect of performance is taken into consideration, this emphasis ensures that the performers are rewarded for their own achievement on the field.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2020

First Week of September: Registration Opens for the **v-USBands** Virtual Performance season
 Registration for each week closes 7 days prior to the video submission date.

EVENT	REGISTRATION DATE	VIDEO SUBMISSION DATE	ADJUDICATION DATES	FLOMARCHING DATES
FloMarching Kick Off	Tues Sept 15	Tues Sept. 22	Sept 22-Sept 25	Sept 26-27
Yamaha Cup	Tues Sept 22	Tues Sept 29	Sept 29-Oct 2	Oct 3-4
DeMoulin Invitational	Tues Sept 29	Tues Oct 6	Oct 6-Oct 9	Oct 10-11
Zildjian-Vic Firth Challenge	Tues Oct 6	Tues Oct 13	Oct 13-Oct 16	Oct 17-18
Remo Invitational	Tues Oct 13	Tues Oct 20	Oct 20-Oct 23	Oct 24-25
State Championships	Tues Oct 20	Tues Oct 27	Oct 27-Oct 30	Oct 31-Nov 1
National Championships	Tues Oct 27	Tues Nov 3	Nov 3-Nov 6	Nov 7-8
V-USBands Grand Finale	Tues Nov 3	Tues Nov 10	Nov 10-13	Nov 14-15

Definitions:

Registration Date: Date by which school confirms participation by individuals, ensembles and bands

Submission Date: Date by which all submissions from schools will need to be confirmed by e-Adjudicate. 12 noon Eastern.

Adjudication Dates: Dates that adjudicators provide evaluation on submitted videos. Commentary will be provided immediately to the school upon the completion of the evaluation.

FloMarching Dates: Dates videos will be available for viewing on FloMarching from 9AM Saturday to 11:59PM Sunday each week.

TYPES OF PARTICIPATION

USBands is excited to offer **v-USBands**: a virtual performance option for individuals, ensembles and bands of all sizes and skill levels.

Performance opportunities and evaluation criteria have been created in several categories including Individual, Ensemble, Pep Band/Standstill and Marching Band. Details follow on each of the categories below. Please contact Marching@usbands.org if you have any questions after reviewing.

Individual - Evaluated by 1 Adjudicator per instrument or discipline. Please reference the Judging Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Percussion
- Visual

• Performer(s) will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

Ensemble (25 students and fewer) - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators. Please reference the Judging Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Brass - May be any combination of brass instruments of 25 and fewer students. (i.e. all trumpets or combination of several brass instruments)
 - Woodwind - May be any combination of woodwind instruments of 25 and fewer students. (i.e. all saxophones or combination of several woodwind instruments)
 - Percussion - May be any combination of percussive instruments of 25 and fewer students. (i.e. all front ensemble, all battery or combination of both)
 - Visual - Intended for Color Guard or Visual Ensemble of 25 and fewer students. May be any combination of Flag, Rifle, Sabre, Dance, and/or prop.
 - Mixed Ensembles - Any combination of instruments or Instruments and Guard of 25 and fewer students.
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- Marching Ensemble options are available with drill, choreography and staging encouraged.
 - Ensembles are recommended to have 25 or fewer participants to keep in accordance with the CDC guidelines for group gatherings during the COVID-19 crisis.
 - To encourage participation, Ensembles with more than 26 members can participate in their Instrumental or Visual Category. USBands may segment these groups into a separate class based on number of submissions and/or level or performance. Please contact USBands at Marching@usbands.org with any questions.
 - Mixed ensembles with 26+ members will be considered Division 1 Marching Bands

• Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

Standstill and Pep Bands - (26+ students) Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators

- Directors have the discretion to enter Standstill or Pep Bands based on the repertoire performed and content and nature of the performance,
- Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

Marching Bands - Evaluated by 3 Adjudicators. Please reference the Judging Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Division 1 (26-50 members)
- Division 2 (51-74 members)
- Division 3 (75-99 members)
- Division 4 (100+ members)

- Band divisions may be revised based on registration numbers. Additional groups or classifications will be announced prior to September 15, September 29 and October 20.

- Bands with less than 25 members can choose to participate as a Division 1 Marching Band at the Director's discretion.

- Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

Creative Class - Evaluated by 2 Artistry Adjudicators

- Open to any mixture of acoustic, digital, cross-genre musical/visual groups including choral and string groups as well as other forms of artistic expression including spoken word, fine arts, theatre etc.
- Enhanced or processed video performances are allowed and encouraged

- Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

UNSCORED PARTICIPATION

Adjudicated Exhibition: Ensembles and Bands will have the option to submit a video and receive commentary and feedback without having their results announced and video posted on FloMarching. Simply let USBands know by emailing Marching@usbands.org.

VIDEO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

	Individual	Ensembles	Pep Bands/ Standstill	Marching Bands	Creative Class
Introduction	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute
Name of Performer in Introduction	Yes	No	No	No	No
Name of High School in Introduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Ensemble or Band in Introduction	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Performance Program in Introduction	Optional	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Musical Selection(s) in Introduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recommended Performance Time	2:00-4:00 minutes	2:00-4:00 minutes	2:00-4:00 minutes	2:00-6:00 minutes	2:00-6:00 minutes
Minimum Performance Time	No	No	No	No	No
Maximum Performance Time	5:00 minutes	5:00 minutes	5:00 minutes	8:00 minutes	8:00 minutes
Judging begins with first note or movement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note: No timing penalties will be levied in the **v-USBands** platform.

ADJUDICATION

USBands standards are in place to ensure an educational experience for all participating ensembles, based on the Adjudication Panel assigned.

The USBands adjudication system places emphasis on music and performance over design and visual components. While every aspect of performance is taken into consideration, this emphasis ensures that the performers are rewarded for their own achievement on the field.

Individual Performance – One adjudicator | Adjudicator captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts Total

Music Adjudicator- Winds (200 Points)	Music Adjudicator- Percussion (200 Points)	Visual Adjudicator - Flag,Rifle, Sabre, Dance (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Artistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Engagement • Communication • Presence • Expression ● 100 pts for Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intonation • Accuracy • Technique • Interpretation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Artistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Engagement • Communication • Presence • Expression ● 100 pts for Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tone • Accuracy • Technique • Interpretation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Artistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Engagement • Communication • Presence • Expression ● 100 pts for Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement • Dynamic Effort Qualities • Training • Visual Musicality

Ensemble Music Performance – Two adjudicators | One for Music and One for Effect | Each Adjudicator’s captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts Total

Music Adjudicator (200 Points)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchestration • Creativity • Variety • Relationship of Musical Elements ● 100 pts for Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blend and Balance • Rhythmic Accuracy/Tempo Control • Style/Idiomatic Interpretation • Tone Quality/Intonation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Program Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination • Musical Continuity/Flow • Pacing • Creativity ● 100 pts for Performance Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Musical Effects • Communication • Emotion • Engagement

Ensemble Visual Performance – Two adjudicators | One for Visual and One for Effect
 Each Adjudicator's captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts Total

Visual Adjudicator (200 Points)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Composition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchestration • Depth of Design Elements • Variety • Visual Musicality ● 100 pts for Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Style • Form Control through Time and Space • Awareness/Recovery • Precision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Program Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination • Visual Continuity/Flow • Pacing • Creativity ● 100 pts for Performance Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Visual Effects • Communication • Emotion • Engagement

Creative Class – Two adjudicators evaluating Program and Performance Effect | Adjudicators captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts Total

Program Effect - 100 pts total	Performance Effect (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuity/Flow ● Pacing ● Creativity ● Variety of Effects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Achieved Effects ● Communication ● Emotion ● Engagement

Standstill & Pep Bands – Two adjudicators; No Size Divisions | Adjudicator captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts Total

Music Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points Total)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchestration • Creativity • Variety • Relationship of Musical Elements ● 100 pts for Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blend and Balance • Rhythmic Accuracy/Tempo Control • Style/Idiomatic Interpretation • Tone Quality/Intonation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 100 pts for Program Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination • Musical Continuity/Flow • Pacing • Creativity ● 100 pts for Performance Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Musical Effects • Communication • Emotion • Engagement

Division 1-2-3 Marching Bands - Three adjudicators | One adjudicator for Music, One for Visual, One for Effect | Each Adjudicator's captions are totaled and divided by 2 = 100 pts Total
(Weighted system formula may be considered and applied)

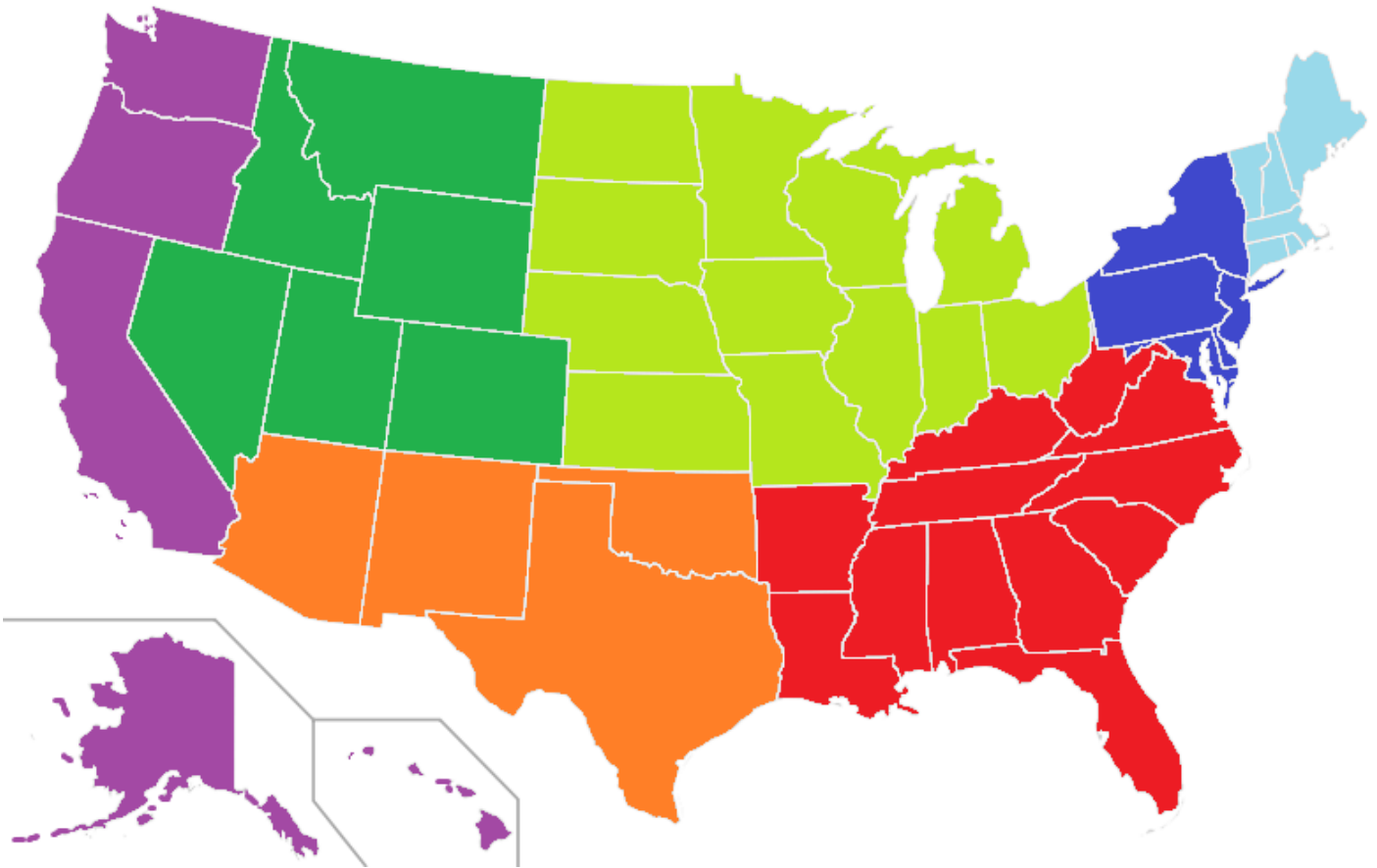
Music Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Visual Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points Total)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 pts for Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchestration • Creativity • Variety • Relationship of Musical Elements • 100 pts for Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blend and Balance • Rhythmic Accuracy/Tempo Control • Style/Idiomatic Interpretation • Tone Quality/Intonation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 pts for Composition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchestration • Depth of Design Elements • Variety • Visual Musicality • 100 pts for Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Style • Form Control through Time and Space • Awareness/Recovery • Precision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 pts for Program Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination • Continuity/Flow • Pacing • Creativity • 100 pts for Performance Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Effects • Communication • Emotion • Engagement

TYPES OF EVENTS

V-USBANDS EVENTS

- Competitions by Region or State depending on volume of submissions
- Open Enrollment for all events except **v-USBands** National Championship & Grand Finale
- Adjudication Categories
 - Instrumental/Visual
 - Ensemble
 - Pep Band
 - Standstill
 - Division 1-2-3-4 Marching Band
 - All Adjudication is conducted on a national basis up to 30 submissions per Category
- Category Sizing/Groupings
 - After 30 submissions per Category, Categories are segmented by Region (New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, Mountain West, West)
 - After 30 submissions per Category per Region, Categories are segmented by State in the designated Region (New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, Mountain West, West)
- USBands may provide “A” and “Open” classifications in State or Regional competitions based on the number of entries. Classification will be based upon prior USBands participation.

v-USBANDS REGIONAL COMPETITION



- **Projected Regions**
 - New England
 - Mid-Atlantic
 - Southeast
 - Midwest
 - Southwest
 - Mountain West
 - West

v-USBANDS STATE COMPETITIONS



- State Championship Weekend (October 31)
- National Championship Weekend (November 7)
- v-USBands Grand Finale Weekend (November 14)

v-USBands State Championship Events

Virtual competition will be held in each category (Individual, Ensemble and Band) between programs in each particular state to award the State Champions.

v-USBands National Championship Event

Virtual competition will be held in each category (Individual, Ensemble and Band) between programs in each particular state to award the National Champions.

Participation in the National Championship is open to any Individual, Ensemble and Band which has participated in at least one **v-USBands** event prior to November 7, 2020.

v-USBands Grand Finale

Virtual competition will be held in each category (Individual, Ensemble and Band) between programs in each particular state to award the Grand Finale Champions.

Participation in the Grand Finale is open to any Individual, Ensemble and Band which has participated in at least one **v-USBands** event prior to November 14, 2020.

Mainly focused on a celebration of participation and performance - fun - fan favorite voting component, etc. More information on the **v-USBands** Grand Finale will be released after October 10.

RESULTS • RECAPS • AWARD CEREMONIES

Definitions:

Recaps: Details caption scores

Scores: Total scores for Individuals, Ensembles and Bands

Results: Placement for Individuals, Ensembles and Bands

- Public recaps and scores will not be posted for Week 1-3 of the **v-USBands** season.
- USBands will post only select results online
 - In keeping with USBands standards, results for places 1-5 in each Category (Individual, Ensemble, Band) will be posted.
 - For Categories with more than 5 participating Individuals, Ensembles or Bands, Superior, Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good ratings will be announced based on the corresponding totals.
- USBands will review the Results and Recaps protocol after Week 3 based on levels of participation to determine a fair and transparent policy regarding the announcement of results moving forward.
- All results will be sent to Band Directors via email at the time of the Award Ceremony
- Pre-produced Award Ceremony video event on FloMarching to be hosted Saturday evening at 7:00PM ET each week
- Separate plans for Awards Ceremonies and Results will be determined for the State and National Championships.

PARTICIPATION WITH USBANDS

Registration fees for **v-USBands** are as follows:

- Individual – \$25 per submission
- Ensembles, Pep Bands, Standstill Bands – \$50 per submission
- Division 1-2-3 Band – \$85 per submission

2020 MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION

Membership and Registration fees are assessed to offset the costs associated with providing every participant the highest levels of service, top adjudicators in the field, access to world class venues and virtual platforms, and other features to support the largest competitive circuit in the nation.

We encourage schools who plan to participate in USBands virtual and in-person events to consider taking advantage of a 2020-2021 Membership. Membership for 2020-2021 School Year is \$350.

2020-2021 Membership Benefits	
One Free v-USBands Submission	X
Dedicated Customer Support	X
Unlimited Virtual & In-Person Events	X
Exclusive Access to v-USBands Educational Platform	X
Discounted Winter/Spring Regular Season Registration	X
Priority Access + Discounts to Pre-Owned Yamaha Instruments	X
Complimentary Ultimate Drill Book Director License	X
Discounted Student Licenses for Ultimate Drill Book	X
Free Access to e-Adjudicate Level 100	X
Early Registration Access to 2021 Premium events	X

WITHDRAWAL FROM v-USBANDS EVENTS

Any ensemble may withdraw from a **v-USBands** event up to **1 week prior** to the video submission deadline.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP & GRAND FINALE ELIGIBILITY

Individuals, Ensembles and Bands will need to participate in at least (1) **v-USBands** event prior to November 7 to become eligible to participate in the National Championships and Grand Finale.

REGISTRATION & VIDEO SUBMISSION

Step 1: e-Adjudicate Registration

Step-by-Step Registration

- Click Register to create account or “Log In”
- Click “Start New Order”
- For first time users you will need to “Create an Ensemble.” Returning users will select “Ensemble Name”
- Select USBands
- Select Sub-Division
- Click on “Save and Continue” Button
- Click your choice of “Solo Upload,” “Ensemble Upload” or “Marching Band Upload.” This will advance you to the FloMarching site. *(If you have not have a FloMarching account, you will be asked to create one by submitting an email and password. You do not have to subscribe)*

Step 2: FloMarching Video Submission

Step-by-Step video upload

- Double check that you are logged into the correct event and category (Solo, Ensemble, Band).
- Drag and Drop video or Select Files to Upload
- Complete the Fields for Title, Description, State, Region and Performance Category
- Once your video is finished uploading you will want to click “Complete” which will generate a confirmation email containing the link for your video.
- Check the email account which is registered for FloMarching, You will have received an email entitled FloMarching Video Upload Confirmation.
- Click “This Link” to open a new browser window with your video. Copy the URL of the video.

Step 3: Return to e-Adjudicate for Remainder of Registration

- Paste the URL of the video from your browser into the field labeled “Address to the posted video or music”
- Choose Your “Caption” (i.e. Marching Band Div. 2, etc.)
 - “Assign a Judge” by selecting corresponding Judges (Music, Visual, Effect). You must select all judges for your Band or Ensemble in order for your registration to be complete.
- Click “Save and Continue”
- Click “Confirm Your Order”

- Choose “Payment Method”
 - Individuals registering independently will pay via Credit Card
 - Individuals associated with a school will utilize “School Credits” option
 - Ensembles & Bands will utilize “School Credits” option

Step 4: Upload Drum Major/Student Leadership Salute File

- The link to upload your band's "Salute Video" file is:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uQ6K7uheQp-6jTIAObZehhR7VDwmdUif?usp=sharing>
- Please make sure to include the name of your school/ensemble in this file.
- File should be uploaded by the Tuesday of your week of competition.
- Bands can upload separate Salute files each week. Please include the date of the event in the file title.

Video Tutorials to Uploading to e-Adjudicate & FloMarching

PDF Instructions

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11XNV2O6BTajyMyPXeKPbpyJYcx1Wz0yf/view?usp=sharing>

How to Create FloMarching Account

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XgNwRho5o0cIBvk8K97NJ_MQ43UQd8nN/view?usp=sharing

Video Submission - Part 1 of 3

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qaMrG5CqdfMiQz1BczsFc4x0bdIwbi0D/view?usp=sharing>

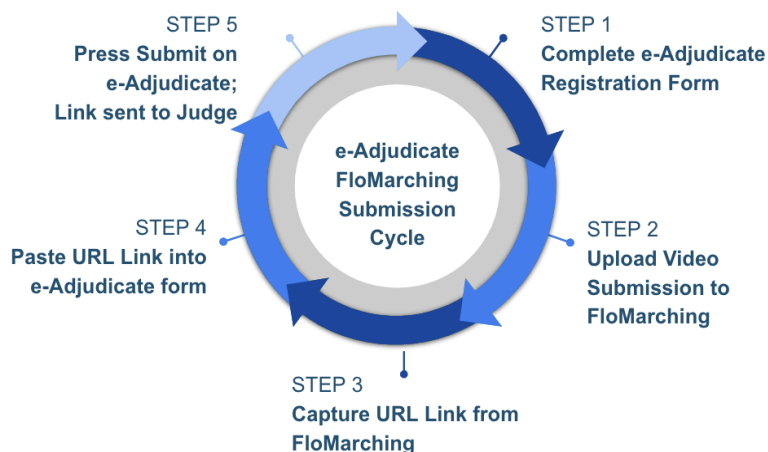
Video Submission - Part 2 of 3

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bjVm_Jeo3_w5u68etbtGtCIYPnH0xjo9/view?usp=sharing

Video Submission - Part 3 of 3

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JHN-2ggW9kwHONMoNwhFG2X7URi8jyyW/view?usp=sharing>

VIDEO SUBMISSION CYCLE OVERVIEW



REGULATIONS

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

USBands encourages participation by any student within their music program, as long as the student is in good standing as determined by each school's extracurricular activity policy. Participants must be full-time 6-12 grade students and enrolled in their area's school district.

CLASSIFICATION – GROUP SIZE

USBands classification for participating ensembles is based on the total number of performers, not the size of the student population at their school. **This count includes playing members, auxiliary (color guard, majorettes, etc.), and command personnel (drum majors, 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. Ensemble sizes are grouped as follows:

Division 1 26-50 Members

Division 2 51-75 Members

Division 3 75-99 Members

Division 4 100+ Members

Revised 9/15

Additional Divisions may be added to the **v-USBands** platform based on the number of submissions per Division or can be modified on a State or Regional basis to ensure balanced participation and adjudication. Any changes to the Marching Band Divisions will be communicated via email to registered bands and updated in the Participation Guide on or about September 29 and October 20.

A USBands official will conduct an independent count to confirm the number of performers in each ensemble is accurate.

USBands reserves the right to reclassify ensembles based on the data collected via submission. If it is determined that reclassification is needed, a written notice will be generated by the USBands office.

RULES OF PERFORMANCE

MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE AREA

The performance area will be a regulation size football field, 300 feet wide by 160 feet deep, marked in 5-yard intervals from goal line to goal line. The ensemble may start or conclude its performance anywhere on or off the competition field. **There are no boundary penalties.**

VIDEO SUBMISSION

Performance for all non-Creative Class individuals, ensembles and bands will be a single unedited video, shot focused on the performers – simply recorded and not enhanced.

Creative Class individuals, ensembles and bands can utilize a full range of editing and audio/video effects.

EQUIPMENT – USE

There are no restrictions on the number or types of electronic music, instruments or amplification systems that may be used. This includes any use of voicing/singing, sampling, or other uses related to the performance of pre-recorded digital media. If there is a concern regarding the integrity of live performance, the USBands office will communicate the concern to the director.

EQUIPMENT - PROHIBITED

In accordance with the traditional USBands guidelines, the use of motorized vehicles during the performance is prohibited and motorized vehicles may not drive onto the performance field. The use of drones in and around the performance area and venue is prohibited. However, the use of such devices as part of the Creative Class (such as drones to video the performance) would be permitted with prior written approval from the participating school's administration and ensuring that all safety protocols and local laws are observed.

The use of fire extinguishers, water that comes in contact with the field surface when used as a prop, animals, and/or pyrotechnics (including fire batons) are prohibited at all USBands events. This also includes the release or use of all materials that may result in debris on the field. However, the use of such devices as part of the Creative Class would be permitted with prior written approval from the participating school's administration and ensuring that all safety protocols and local laws are observed.

Failure to comply with these standards would result in the submitted video being rejected and appropriate fees returned.

EQUIPMENT –THE AMERICAN FLAG

If an ensemble chooses to display the American Flag, all the respect, etiquette and dignity traditionally afforded our national emblem must be shown.

CAPTION AWARDS

v-USBands State and National Championship Events:

The following awards will be presented within each Band in Division 1-2-3:

- **Best Music:** Awarded to the ensemble with the highest average score in the two Music captions.
- **Best Visual:** Awarded to the ensemble with the highest score in the Visual caption.
- **Best Overall Effect:** Awarded to the ensemble with the highest average score in the two Overall Effect captions.
- **Best Percussion** *Awarded to the ensemble with the highest score awarded by the Percussion adjudicator.*
- **Best Color Guard** *Awarded to the ensemble with the highest score awarded by the Color Guard adjudicator.*

CONTACT v-USBands

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Lainey Braatz

850-320-0099 | lbraatz@usbands.org

FloMarching Customer Service

<https://support.flosports.tv/>

e-Adjudicate Customer Service

657-204-3286 | customerservice@e-adjudicate.com

USBands

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