

CONSTITUTION  
OF  
MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
BAND DIVISION

**I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools – Band Division.

**II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote education in the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools; to teach instrumental music, in close cooperation with the schools and communities; and to secure recognition on the part of school administrators and boards of education for music as an integral and vital part of complete educational development, entitled to recognition as a curricular subject. To this end we endeavor to give each child a worthwhile activity as well as to provide a lifetime of enjoyment and appreciation.

**III. AFFILIATION**

This organization is affiliated with and subject to the rules and regulations of the Academy Activities Commission.

**IV. BAND DIVISION OFFICERS**

**A. OFFICERS**

The representative power of this association shall be vested in the Executive Board, consisting of the officers duly elected by the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools Band Division membership. The Executive Board has the authority to disburse funds at its discretion. Financial reports shall be made at business meetings. The officers of the association shall constitute the Band Division officers and will meet when called by the president. This board will determine the general policy of the association; select the MAIS – Band Division Clinic students and outline the agenda for all business meetings. The immediate past-president is a member of this board.

## **B. DUTIES**

1. The duties of the President/Treasurer shall be to preside at all meetings and act in the executive capacity throughout his/her term of office. In his/her absence, the Vice President, and Secretary shall preside respectively. The president will handle all funds and give a proper accounting when called for. The president will be responsible for all communications to the organization.
2. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President, maintain a current directory of all directors with contact information and keep records of all meetings. He/she will also be responsible for assisting the President with communications when needed.
3. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the logistics and running of all MAIS functions, including Marching Festival, State Band Clinic and Concert Festival. With the President he/she shall secure all judges and clinicians and negotiate payment to such. He/she will be responsible for the logistics and location of all association meetings.

## **C. ELECTION**

1. At the spring meeting, an election shall be held for the office of Vice President. This office will start on the first day of June. Nominations for the Vice President's office shall be made from the floor.
2. The existing Vice President will become the President at this point.
3. The office of Executive Secretary is not electable but selected by the President in the event it becomes open.
4. In the event the President leaves the association, the Vice President shall take over that position immediately. If the Vice president is no longer a member of the association, a replacement will be elected at the next meeting. If both officers leave the association, the Executive Secretary will function as President until the next meeting, when both offices will be elected from the membership.

## **V. MEMBERSHIP**

### **A. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

Those who are actively engaged in teaching in the MAIS or directing instrumental music in Elementary, Junior High, or High School, having paid annual dues, and are in good standing with the MAIS, are designated as active members. The decision of the Executive Board is final with regard to eligibility for membership.

## **B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**

Any person who is interested in instrumental music and does not qualify in Section A is designated as an associate member upon payment of annual dues. Associate members may attend meetings and activities of the association and enter into discussion at meetings when recognized by the presiding officer. The decision of the Executive Board is final with regard to eligibility for membership.

## **C. DUES**

Each member school shall pay annually, by or at the Fall Meeting in September, a four hundred dollar (\$400.00) fee to the association for its band program. This entitles its Band Director(s) to active membership in the Band Division, Marching Festival and Concert Festival entrance fees, and Clinic fee.

## **VI. MEETINGS**

Three (3) regular meetings shall be held during the year. The President, with the permission of the Executive Board, may call other meetings, if and when they deem it necessary. If such a meeting is called for the purpose of transacting important business, each member must be duly notified of the time and place and nature of business to be dealt with at least one week in advance.

- A. The first meeting will be held at the earliest possible date of the new school year.
- B. The second meeting will be held at State Clinic.
- C. The third meeting will be held prior to the end of the regular school year.
- D. A copy of the agenda will be sent to the headmaster and band director of each member school.
- E. Fifty percent (50%) of the member schools will constitute a quorum.

## **VII. AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended in the following manner:

1. A copy of the proposed change(s) must be mailed to all members at least (10) days prior to the meeting.
2. The members present at a regular scheduled business meeting will constitute a quorum. A majority vote of active members is sufficient for the passage of business. Quorum for a Called Meeting is fifty percent (50%) of active membership.
3. All amendments must be passed at two (2) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings to become effective.

## **VIII. RECOGNIZED EVENTS**

The Mississippi Association of Independent Schools – Band Division shall sponsor the following events:

- A. State Band Clinic
- B. State Band Festival
  - 1. Marching
  - 2. Sight-Reading
  - 3. Concert

#### **IX. GENERAL RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN RECOGNIZED EVENTS**

Any member school of the MAIS may participate in the events according to the rules and regulations hereinafter provided.

- A. To participate a school:
  - 1. Must be a member of the MAIS – Band Division
  - 2. Must have paid entry fee as required
- B. All bands may participate in the following events:
  - 1. Concert
  - 2. Sight-Reading
  - 3. Marching

**BYLAWS  
TO THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
BAND DIVISION**

**DISCIPLINE**

The band director is responsible for control of students who represent their school and are involved in any sanctioned Band Division event. Any incidents will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Band Division and further referral may be made to the Affairs Committee of the Academy Activities Commission.

**PARTICIPATION IN STATE BAND CLINIC**

- A. Selection of participants will be made by Executive Committee, based on a recommendation of the band director.
- B. Students participating in clinic must comply with regulations as set by the Academy Activities Commission
- C. Rules and regulations regarding clinic will be included in information letter attached to clinic lists. The audition shall consist of the following three sections:
  1. Major and Chromatic Scales
    - a. Major scales should be memorized. Scales are C, F, Bb, Eb and Ab.
    - b. Students will be asked to play two of these scales selected by the judge as many octaves and at whatever tempo they desire.
    - c. The chromatic scale, full range of horn, will also be performed at whatever speed and range the student prefers.
  2. Prepared piece
    - a. The prepared piece shall consist of a selection of not more than one minute in length. The selection and difficulty shall be at the discretion of the student.
    - b. Both difficulty of the selection and the performance will be considered by the judges in their scoring.

3. Sight-reading

The sight-reading selections will be determined by the judges and will attempt to challenge all levels of ability; therefore, more than one selection will be used for sight-reading.
4. A system based on sight-reading and prepared piece being given equal weight.
  - a. Major scales (two selected by the judge from the required list); 10 points each maximum; 7 max points for one octave. Scales are C, F, Bb, Eb, and Ab.
  - b. Chromatic Scale – 10 points maximum
  - c. Prepared piece – 35 points maximum
  - d. Sight-reading – 35 points maximum
5. Exceptional seventh graders may, at the discretion of the band director, be placed on the clinic list if they meet requirements from Item 5, Section A.
6. The structure of the clinic will consist of two (2) bands.
7. A copy of the clinic audition material will be sent with the clinic letter in December.

## **PARTICIPATION IN STATE FESTIVAL**

### **A. Procedure**

1. The President shall assign a place on the program for each participating school. Placement shall be based on classification and distance from festival site. A band may request to perform at the end of their classification, at the end of the day or in a higher classification but may not move back in order.
2. Failure to report for participation: Each band must be present at the time and place scheduled. In case they do not report on time, the executive director shall proceed with the next number on the program without waiting for same to appear; and such participant shall be placed at the end of the schedule, if time permits, but shall not be given the place of another participant on the program. A

band may be disqualified for failure to report, decision in the matter being left to the discretion of the officers.

B. Classification of bands will be based on enrollment of grades 9 – 12 for Concert Festival as follows:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Class A  | Schools with an enrollment of 450-up  |
| Class BB | Schools with an enrollment of 350-449   |
| Class B  | Schools with an enrollment of 250-349   |
| Class CC | Schools with an enrollment of 150-259   |
| Class C  | Schools with an enrollment of 1-149   |
| Class D  | Any band that has not participated in State Festival in the past five (5) consecutive years may be allowed to enter Class D. Said band may then enter (1) class up until correct classification is reached. |

NOTE: Bands are classified on the basis of school enrollment for the current year. No band shall be required to advance more than one (1) classification in one (1) year regardless of the enrollment of the school.

C. Concert

1. Three copies of score of each selection for the use by judges shall be provided by each school, with each measure numbered consecutively and the name of the school written on each score. Photographic copies are allowed only with publisher's permission.
2. All bands shall play three selections of the director's choice. There is no required list for each classification. It is not required to play a march.
3. There will be at least three (3) years between performances of the same composition in concert festival.
4. Selections should be should be appropriate Concert Band Repertoire, regardless of difficulty or classification. Judges may comment on inappropriate literature in their evaluation of each band.

#### D. Sight-reading

Sight-reading shall be compulsory. Bands will be rated according to performance. The judge shall secure music, which shall not be known to participating bands until the time of the performance. Music will have a score for the director. No other band or director shall be permitted to be present in the room where adjudication is taking place, and they shall keep their band at a designated area away from the assembly room until time for their performance. There will be one judge with one score. Director will have (10) minutes with the band to use as they see fit. The judge will not be in the room at that time.

#### E. Marching

1. Entry in the marching event is strongly encouraged for all bands.
2. Each band must perform a minimum of four (4) minutes and must not exceed a maximum of ten (10) minutes. Bands who do not meet the minimum and/or maximum time limitations will have their rating lowered one (1) level.
3. Shows will be judged on playing, precision, content, and overall effect.
4. There shall be horizontal markers every five (5) yards and hash marks (according to the pattern of a football field marking) on the marching field.

### ADJUDICATION

- A. All judges shall be chosen by the Executive Director and President. Judges who have been satisfactory in judging previous festivals will be given preference.
- B. There shall be three (3) qualified judges for the concert event. One (1) will adjudicate sight-reading event. Three (3) judges will adjudicate the marching event. One (1) judge will adjudicate color-guard and dancers, one (1) judge percussion. One judge will adjudicate drum major.
- C. Judges shall prepare constructive criticism on tape and an adjudication sheet for each organization.
- D. The officers of the association shall tabulate the ratings given each participant, and this combination of ratings shall determine the final group rating of the participant according to the final plan.



1. Rating combinations which will place a participant in Division I:  
Superior (1,1,1), (1,1,2), (1,1,3), (1,1,4)
2. Rating combinations which will place a participant in Division II:  
Excellent (1,2,3), (1,2,4), (2,2,2), (2,2,3), (2,2,4)
3. Rating combination which will place a participant in Division III:  
Good (1,3,3), (2,3,3), (2,3,4), (3,3,3), (3,3,4)
4. Rating combinations which will place a participant in Division IV:  
Average of below (1,4,4), (2,4,4), (3,4,4), (4,4,4)

E. Rating combinations will be posted. This information, together with the comments of the judges, shall be given to the director representing each competing school following the marching event.

NOTE: During concert portion of State Festival, no one will be permitted to enter or leave the performing area while a performance is in progress.

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