

TO: Region Representatives to the TMEA/UIIL Music Advisory Committee

FROM: Dr. Bradley N. Kent
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University Interscholastic League

DATE July 30, 2021 (Deferred from Spring to Fall due to COVID-19)

SUBJECT: MAC Agenda Items and 2021 Region Representative Voting Process

Below you will find proposals that have been submitted to the Music Advisory Committee for deliberation and vote at your fall region meeting (deferred from spring due to COVID-19). To do so effectively it is important that each proposal be reviewed and considered so that you will know how to vote on behalf of your region. **NOTE: In lieu of the summer MAC meeting that is typically held in conjunction with the summer music conferences, region representatives will vote via online survey in late August. For state voting each region has only one voting representative in each of the three divisions: band, choir, and orchestra. Each of the three representatives will vote on general membership items. For proposals specific to a division, only the division representative from the region will vote.**

Also, during your region meeting please feel free to open the floor for discussion of any topic that might seem of importance to your colleagues. **You may then forward to the state office at music@uiltexas.org any new proposals that emerge and we will include them on the agenda for discussion at next year's spring region meetings.** Note that **three years must elapse** before any prior agenda item may receive new consideration.

- **Discussion Items** have been submitted since the prior year's spring meetings. A Discussion Item will be considered for vote at the summer meeting only after that item is presented and voted upon at the spring region meetings. A Discussion Item that receives a favorable vote at the summer meeting will become an Action Item the following year and receive a vote at the spring region meetings and the summer MAC meeting.
- **Action Items** originated as Discussion Items and received a favorable vote by the MAC for further consideration. Action Items that receive a favorable vote at the summer MAC meeting will go before the UIL Standing Committee on Music and Technical Advisory Committee to receive further consideration.

NOTE: Any proposal from last year's MAC agenda that does not appear below is due to one of the following reasons: 1) The item received a favorable vote from the MAC process and was advanced to UIL for consideration. (Any proposal that was advanced to UIL for consideration either went into rule or was not adopted by UIL); or 2) The item did not receive a favorable vote from the MAC at the summer meeting.

ALL DIVISIONS

No Proposals

VOCAL DIVISION

ACTION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by Region 10 Vocal Division.

UIL consider the following for high school and middle school choirs: 1) Non-varsity or sub-non-varsity true beginning groups be allowed to sing, at a minimum, SAB, SA, or TB. 2) Melodic leaps reduced and the rhythms simplified for true beginning non-varsity and sub-non-varsity groups. RATIONALE: UIL should encourage excellence, not only for those with years of prior training, but also for students just beginning their journey as fledgling musicians. Currently, a non-varsity or sub-non-varsity high school ensemble must sight-read, at a minimum, either SAB, SSA, or TTB. In addition, 4A, 5A, and 6A non-varsity and sub-non-varsity ensembles are required to sight-read music that could include a meter change, melodic skips up to a perfect fifth (including “do” to low “fa”), dotted quarter note rhythms, and up to 20% polyphony. These requirements may well be manageable for a large program with multiple choirs of varying levels, with solid, experienced leadership in each group. These requirements, however, do not realistically represent the skills of a true beginning choir.

ORCHESTRA DIVISION

No proposals

BAND DIVISION

ACTION ITEM (for vote by marching band directors only): Submitted by the Region 13 Band Division.

Create a Division 1 and Division 2 for 6A State Marching Band Championships. RATIONALE: 6A has the most disparity of enrollment between the largest school and the smallest school. This disparity creates a competitive advantage for larger schools in the following ways: 1) The larger schools have more students to draw from; 2) The larger schools can be more discerning with who they select for marching spots, while the smaller 6A schools have to march a higher percentage of students just to keep the playing field level and appear larger. This causes the larger schools to have a more elite group and a skill set that is higher due to the ability to pick and choose from a larger pool of performers.

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote by marching band directors only): Submitted by the Region 28 Band Division.

Create a Division 1 and Division 2 for all conferences for State Marching Band Championships. *RATIONALE:* All conferences have a disparity of enrollment between the largest school and the smallest school. This disparity creates a competitive advantage for larger schools in the followings ways: 1) The larger schools have more students to draw from, 2) The larger schools can be more discerning with who they select for marching spots, while the smaller schools have to march a higher percentage of students just to keep the playing field level and appear larger. This causes the larger schools to have a more elite group and a skill set that is higher due to the ability to pick and choose from a larger pool of performers. These two separate divisions would also align with the football playoff brackets that allows for multiple state champions in each classification.

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote by marching band directors only): Submitted by the Region 30 Band Division.

UIL Rule Change Proposal Regarding Marching Band Contest Starting Locations.

Section 1105, H.2 in the C&CR currently reads:

(2) Movement to Field Position. The contest chair will determine the ready position each band will assume prior to entering the field of competition. The position shall provide efficient and prompt access to the football field without interfering with other bands as they perform. This location will be clearly described in the marching contest packet.

Proposal: Amend the rule to read:

*(2) Movement to Field Position. The contest chair will determine the **staging** position each band will assume prior to **their performance**. The position shall provide efficient and prompt access to the **end zone** without interfering with other bands as they perform. This location will be clearly described in the marching contest packet. **During the two minute exit period for the previous performing band, the next band will move to the goal line. Keyboard percussion and front ensemble equipment may move to the 20 yard line if the field logistics allow for it. This will be determined in advance by the contest chair and clearly described in the marching contest information packet.***

RATIONALE: UIL events are hosted in a wide variety of stadiums across the state. In an advancement year, a band could have three different entrance scenarios within the same circuit (UIL). These are as diverse as the number of unique stadiums used in UIL competition. This is one of the only rules in the entire UIL C&CR that is NOT standardized. The above proposal seeks to rectify this. Since every football field used in the UIL system uses the same measurements, this would create a uniform system across the state and thus allow bands to have the same entrance setup throughout the UIL process regardless of the size of the stadium they are performing in. It also preserves the ability of the contest host to navigate their unique environmental situation and determine staging and access to the endzone.