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Oregon School Activities Association

Music Handbook



Tom Welter, Publisher
Peter Weber / Cindy Simmons, Editor

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OREGON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
25200 SW Parkway, Suite 1
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Phone: 503.682.6722 Fax: 503.682.0960

How to find information in the Music Handbook

*This handbook can be found on the OSAA website. Wording that has been changed from previous years is indicated by **bold italic** lettering. Linked references to other sections are **shaded** and Questions and Answers are shaded.*

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1. Solo State Championships

1.1. Philosophy

1.1.1. OMEA District Solo Contest. At the OMEA District Solo Contest, students are rated against a standard of excellence and not against each other. Judges provide written evaluations of each student's performance in a clinic session stressing constructive comments. This contest provides educational features and is intended to be an end result in itself for those students who do not qualify for the Solo State Championships. See the OMEA website, www.oregonmusic.org for additional district information.

1.1.2. Solo State Championships. The Solo State Championships is a limited contest provided by the OSAA for those select students who are eligible and wish to compete on the state level for a Solo State Championship. Brief written comments will be given, but the judges' primary purpose is to select the best performance in each category. Whether the student competes at the state level is purely an individual choice with the student and / or the school administration. The purpose of this contest is to provide an opportunity for talented students to achieve recognition on the state level.

1.2. District Solo Contest Rules

1.2.1. Solo contest only. Students may qualify for the Solo State Championships as soloists only; no ensembles are allowed.

1.2.2. Student eligibility

Individual eligibility rules to be satisfied by a music student in order to represent his or her school in competitive solo music activities are the same as for any other OSAA sport or activity (SEE OSAA Handbook Rule 8) with the following exceptions.

A. SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT. An eligible music student shall be a participant in the school music program.

B. CHARTER SCHOOL SOLO MUSIC EXCEPTION. A student enrolled in a non-member Oregon charter school may represent the public school located in the attendance boundary of the joint residence of the student and the student's parents in Solo Music competition if permission is granted by the principal of the resident public high school.

1. Q. If there is no music program available at the school for the instrument of a particular musician, i.e. no orchestra offered for a string player, may that student musician participate at the OMEA District or OSAA Solo State Championships representing the school?

A. Yes, if the application to participate is signed by a member of the music staff or the principal.

2. Q. If there is a program available at the school for a particular student musician, and the student does not participate in the school program, may that student musician participate at the OMEA District or OSAA Solo State Championships representing the school?

A. No.

1.2.3. Categories. The following categories shall be offered unless there are insufficient entries in that category. Should fewer than five participants qualify for a category during a particular year, that category shall not be contested at the State level that year.

flute	trumpet	cello	mezzo voice
clarinet	French horn	bass viol	alto voice
low clarinet	euphonium	orchestral snare drum	tenor voice
oboe	trombone	rudimental snare drum	baritone voice
bassoon	tuba	high saxophone	bass voice
mallets	violin	low saxophone	
timpani	viola	soprano voice	

1.2.4. Procedures for selecting Solo State Championships qualifiers. OMEA District contest judges must choose the three top 1-rated soloists in each category whom they feel are of Solo State Championships quality and list them in order of preference as eligible for the Solo State Championships. No ties are accepted. It is not possible to send the top-rated contestant in a category if no one in that category received a one rating. The decision of the district judge regarding selection of soloists and category as noted on the district report form is final.

1.2.5. Additional Solo State Championships qualifiers. In general, each OMEA District is limited to one contestant per category. However, the Solo State Championships chair may allow additional students in each category per district to participate in the Solo State Championships if the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student in question has received a superior rating at his / her OMEA District contest.
- (b) A vacancy exists in the student's category at the Solo State Championships.
- (c) The student in question is accepted by the Solo State Championships chair.
- (d) The OMEA District the student in question represents has a returning soloist who placed 1, 2 or 3 in the Solo State Championships the previous year and who again takes first in district.
- (e) If there are more than 15 contestants in a category at the OMEA District contest, one additional student may be sent to the Solo State Championships, i.e., and one for each additional 15 contestants. A returning soloist who qualifies under item D. above is an automatic Solo State Championships entry. Therefore, the designated first alternate would become an additional Solo State Championships entry for OMEA Districts with fewer than 15 contestants in a category at the district contest. Districts with more than 15 contestants in a category may send the returning winner, plus the designated first alternate, plus one for each additional 15 contestants (16-30, 31-45, etc.).

1.2.6. City solo contests. All participants chosen for the Solo State Championships must be chosen through the OMEA District contest. Cities that hold their own solo contests may not send contestants to the Solo State Championships.

1.3. Solo State Championships Rules

1.3.1. Solo State Championships Site and Date. The Solo State Championships shall be scheduled on a date and at a site arranged by the OSAA.

1.3.2. Eligibility

(a) **Student participants.** Individual eligibility rules to be satisfied by a music student in order to represent his or her school in the OSAA Solo State Championships are the same as for any other OSAA sport or activity (SEE Rule 8 in OSAA Handbook) with the following additional requirements:

- (1) **District Contest Requirement.** Students shall have qualified for the OSAA Solo music Championships through an OMEA District contest under the procedures listed previously in this Music Handbook.
- (2) **School Music Class Participation Requirement.** An eligible music student shall be enrolled in the class for the appropriate performing ensemble.

EXAMPLES:

String players shall be enrolled in a string/orchestra class.
Woodwind/Brass/Percussion players shall be enrolled in a band class.
Vocalists shall be enrolled in a choir class.

- (3) **Charter School Solo Music Exception.** A student enrolled in a non-member Oregon charter school may represent the public school located in the attendance boundary of joint residence of the student and the student's parents in Solo music competition if permission is granted by the principal of the resident public high school.

(4) Timely submission of application form. Students shall have submitted online a complete application form that has been accepted by the Solo State Championships Chair at least 30 days prior to the Solo State Championships.

(b) Schools. In order for a student representative of a school to be eligible to participate in the Solo State Championships, the school must be registered with the OSAA to participate in solo music activities.

1.3.3. Fees. Neither school nor individual participant entry fees shall be charged to schools with contestants in the Solo State Championships. Funds for administration of the Solo State Championships shall be generated from OSAA membership dues, activity fees and corporate sponsorship agreements.

1.3.4. Entry deadline. Individual student qualifiers and their directors are responsible for seeing that their complete entry forms are submitted online through the OSAA website to the Solo State Championships Director prior to the deadline established by the Solo State Championship Director. Incomplete or late entries shall not be accepted.

1.3.5. Multiple entries. Vocal soloists may enter only one vocal category; instrumental soloists may enter multiple categories.

1.3.6. Selections. Soloists shall choose their own selections with the understanding that judges will look favorably on only the best possible literature.

1.3.7. Changing Selections. Soloists may perform a different number for the Solo State Championships from that used at the district contest but they are not required to do so.

1.3.8. Musical Scores. Soloists shall furnish each of the three judges with a legal score of the solo. Soloists are reminded to take care of this requirement early since it takes time to order or borrow this many copies of a selection. Failure to comply shall result in penalty or disqualification by the judge.

1.3.9. Time Limit. The time limit on solos shall be 10 minutes. Timing of the 10 minutes shall begin after the student has been announced by the room monitor. There shall be strict adherence to the time limit; soloists exceeding the time limit shall be interrupted by the timekeeper in the room and required to stop.

1.3.10. Awards. All soloists in the Solo State Championships shall receive certificates in recognition of their participation. The top five performers in each category (or a maximum of 50% of the participants in a category- whichever is fewer) shall receive medals at an assembly scheduled at the conclusion of the Solo State Championships.

1.4. Solo State Championships Adjudication

1.4.1. Judge selection procedures. Judges shall be selected by the Solo State Championships Director or the Director's appointed representative and approved by the OSAA.

1.4.2. Adherence to the rules. All judges shall be expected to become acquainted with, and to cooperate with, the rules of the Solo State Championships in rendering fair, accurate, sympathetic and constructive judgment.

1.4.3. Communication between judges. Judges may not, in any way, communicate with each other in arriving at their decisions and final ratings. The three judges' scores shall be totaled to compute a final score, which shall determine the winners.

1.4.4. Points of judging. (See also percussion-rating scale below.)

(a) Quality of sound: Beauty and control of tone; focus, resonance, clarity, and warmth; intonation; uniformity of vowels (vocalists).

(b) Technique: Facility / accuracy; attacks, releases; articulation / bowings / diction; rhythm, including accuracy of note and rest values, duration, pulse, correctness of meters; selection and control of tempo.

(c) **Musicality:** Stylistically valid interpretation; control and range of dynamics; phrasing; expression.

1.4.5. Numerical rating scale. (See also percussion-rating scale below.) Judges shall assign a numerical rating to the performance based on 100 points for each of the categories previously listed. The numbers would represent the following:

96-100 Perfection – comparable to a performance by a mature artist – would be rare (but possible) in a high school performance.

90-95 Superior performance – a performance of the highest caliber – distinctive in every respect.

80-89 Excellent performance – definitely a one rating in a district contest but not worthy of the highest rating in one or more essential qualities.

70-79 A good performance – but not outstanding. Shows accomplishment and marked promise but lacking in one or more essential qualities.

69 or below An average performance

1.4.6. Other factors. Each judge shall also award up to 30 points for literature selection, difficulty and stage presence.

1.4.7. Percussion rating scale. Percussion categories shall be judged on a 100-point scale covering appearance, tone, position, holding of implements, dynamics, difficulty of solo, and execution.

1.4.8. Ties. In the case of a tie for any of the first five places, the two performers shall tie for the higher place, the next place shall be skipped and a duplicate medal shall be ordered.

1.4.9. Evaluation forms. The judges' evaluation forms including brief written comments to the performer shall be distributed to directors at the conclusion of the Solo State Championships day; forms not collected by directors shall be mailed to the directors following the Solo State Championships.

1.4.10. Results. Medalist results shall be posted on the OSAA website soon after the contest. A numeric score array by category shall also be posted on the OSAA website.

1.5. OMEA District Contest Chair's Duties

1.5.1. Judge selection and orientation. The OMEA District chair needs to select the district judges with care. Judges should be briefed thoroughly on the philosophy behind the district contest prior to the event. The district contest chair should hold a conference with each judge after the day's judging to determine which contestants are eligible for the Solo State Championships. If more than one superior rating is given, the judge must be required to list the contestants 1, 2, 3, in order of preference with no ties accepted. It is recommended that the district chair hold the adjudication check for each category until that category is resolved.

1.5.2. Splitting categories. The practice of splitting large categories among several judges shall, of necessity, have to be abandoned. One judge must hear all entries in a category if a meaningful decision is to be made as to which contestant should qualify for the Solo State Championships.

1.5.3. Announcement of Solo State Championships Qualifiers. At the conclusion of the OMEA District contest (preferably in a brief awards ceremony), district chair shall recognize each student who qualified for the Solo State Championships from the district, pending acceptance of a complete online application form from that student by the Solo State Championships Chair.

1.5.4. Reporting results to the Solo State Championships chair. OMEA District chairs shall submit the following information to the Solo State Championships chair immediately following the conclusion of the district solo contest:

Names of those recommended for the Solo State Championships plus their school, city, name of composition and composer, name of judge, and the usual statistical information requested on the district contest report form.

- 1.6. **Solo State Championships Director's Duties.** The Solo State Championships shall be conducted by Solo State Championships chair (the OMEA Second Vice President) under the supervision of the OSAA. The Solo State Championships chair shall arrange for the following:
 - 1.6.1. **Site chair.** A site chair should be appointed to take care of selecting Solo State Championships personnel, preparing rooms, tuning pianos, and setting up the headquarters office where final ratings will be computed and kept secret until the final assembly.
 - 1.6.2. **Entry forms.** District chair should be furnished with two types of entry forms - one for the district chair and one to be issued to the student soloists.
 - 1.6.3. **Adjudicators.** The Solo State Championships chair should contact and confirm all Solo State Championships adjudicators and make arrangements as necessary for transportation and housing.
 - 1.6.4. **Tentative program.** A tentative program listing competitors and the schedule of activities to all contestants should be distributed as soon as possible after the entry deadline. Enclose an extra copy for the director for local publicity purposes.
 - 1.6.5. **Souvenir Championship Program.** A souvenir championship program should be created and provided to the OSAA to be printed. The program shall provide the student's name, school, name of solo, composer, publisher, names of judges and their titles.
 - 1.6.6. **Awards assembly.** A final awards assembly should be arranged. Confirm awards with the OSAA.
 - 1.6.7. **Final Report.** The Solo State Championships chair should submit a final report to the OSAA and the President of OMEA. Include: number of students involved and final results of the Solo State Championships.
- 1.7. **Host School Duties.** The host school shall furnish the following:
 - 1.7.1. **Performance areas.** Eleven auditoriums or large classrooms with acoustical qualities and isolation from outside sounds to be used for an 8-hour day. Rooms must be capable of handling an audience of 75 to 150.
 - 1.7.2. **Pianos.** Pianos must be provided in each of the auditoriums tuned to A-440 immediately prior to the Solo State Championships. Any costs incurred in tuning and/or moving pianos shall be reimbursed by the OSAA.
 - 1.7.3. **Solo State Championships officials.** Adequate Solo State Championships officials (estimate 20 may be responsible students) must be provided to guard doors and to keep spectators from leaving or entering during a number; to announce each student by his/her contestant number (not name), and his/her selections; and to assist judges in seeing that the Solo State Championships is run smoothly.
 - 1.7.4. **Student lunch facilities.** Facilities where students may eat lunch should be arranged.
 - 1.7.5. **Practice rooms.** Practice rooms where students may warm up should be arranged.
 - 1.7.6. **Site preparation.** The site chair shall assist in publicizing the event through appropriate local media, with the assistance of the OSAA office. The site chair shall post appropriate signage provided by the OSAA as necessary to assist contestants and spectators to navigate the host facility.

2. State Qualifying Band / Orchestra / Choir Events – Rules and Procedures

2.1. Philosophy

- 2.1.1. Large group festivals or contests such as OSAA League Contests, OMEA District Contests and Invitational Contests provide an opportunity for school performing groups to be evaluated against a standard of excellence. They also provide an opportunity to qualify for the Band, Orchestra and Choir State Championships.
- 2.1.2. This format provides flexibility for differing philosophies among districts and leagues, but certain requirements must be followed if groups wish to qualify for the state championships. The Large Group Festival / Contest is, however, designed to be an educational activity in itself through providing groups with an independent written and / or verbal critique of their performance strengths and weaknesses.

2.2. Eligibility

2.2.1. Individual student eligibility.

Individual eligibility rules to be satisfied by a music student in order to represent his or her school in competitive music activities are the same as for any other OSAA sport or activity with the following additional rules:

- (a) **SCHOOL MUSIC CLASS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT.** An eligible music student shall be enrolled in the class for the appropriate performing ensemble.

EXAMPLES:

String players shall be enrolled in a string/orchestra class.

Woodwind/Brass/Percussion players shall be enrolled in a band class.

Vocalists shall be enrolled in a choir class.

- (b) **3A, 2A, 1A BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHOIR EXCEPTION.** For 3A, 2A and 1A schools, students in the 7th and/or 8th grades of feeder schools may represent the high school they will be attending in band, orchestra and choir competitions.

2.2.2. School eligibility

- (a) A school must be a member of an OSAA League in order for a group from that school to be designated the winner of that League.
- (b) A school must pay the entry fees determined by the Contest Director.
- (c) A school must be registered with the OSAA to compete in the designated music activity.

- 2.2.3. **Accompanist eligibility.** Choir accompanists may be adults. All performers in band and orchestra must be eligible students.

- 2.3. **Divisions.** There shall be five divisions (6A, 5A, 4A, 3A and 2A/1A) for concert bands and concert choirs and one division each for full orchestra and string orchestra. School music classifications are determined by OSAA the same as in athletics.

2.4. Group size

- 2.4.1. **Bands / Orchestras.** There shall be no restrictions on the size of groups.
- 2.4.2. **Choirs.** There shall be no restrictions on the size of 2A/1A, 3A or 4A classification groups. 6A and 5A schools must qualify and compete with their large concert ensemble; chamber choirs are not permitted.

2.5. Multiple Participation

- 2.5.1. **School.** A school may enter as many concert groups as it wishes in a State qualifying event, but must designate in advance which group is seeking State qualification. Additional groups may perform and be evaluated at the State qualifying event, but shall not be eligible for State

qualification. No school may apply for more than one choir, one band, one string orchestra and one full orchestra to participate in the state championships.

- 2.5.2. Student.** Students may be entered in only one like organization on the same instrument or voice, excluding wind players and percussion in full orchestra.

- 2.6. Performance order.** Performance order shall be scheduled randomly to the extent possible.

2.7. Literature

- 2.7.1. Required literature.** Each group shall perform one selection from the appropriate level current required state music lists. Higher-level music may also be used.

(a) EXCEPTION: A substitute selection to a required music list piece may be used if written permission is obtained from the State Championships Director.

(b) PENALTY: A group, which does not perform a selection from the Required Literature List or a selection approved by the State Championship Director, shall be ineligible for consideration to participate in the state championships

- 2.7.2. Once stage timing begins,** everything that takes place, including tuning and warm-up chorales, is considered to be part of the performance and may be considered by judges when assigning scores.

- 2.8. Musical scores.** Three complete original scores or authorized copies of all music performed must be presented to the adjudicators.

- 2.8.1.** Score measures must be consecutively numbered.

- 2.8.2.** Scores must be labeled with school name and classification.

- 2.8.3.** Penalty for provision of unauthorized photocopied scores to judges. U.S. Copyright laws prohibit the use of photocopies unless approval is obtained from the publisher or their agent. The penalty for the provision of unauthorized photocopies shall be disqualification of the group from consideration for State participation.

2.9. Time Limits

- 2.9.1. Maximum time on stage.** 6A, 5A and 4A bands and **full** orchestras shall have 30 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; 3A and 2A/1A bands **and string orchestras** shall have 25 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; choirs shall have 20 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage. Each group must perform during its assigned time and adhere strictly to the time limit.

(a) On-stage time shall begin with the first step on the stage or first note of music (whichever occurs first), and shall end when the last participant steps off of the stage.

(b) EXCEPTIONS: Directors and members of the percussion section may enter ahead of the full group to assist in stage set up prior to the first step on the stage that starts the on-stage clock.

- 2.9.2. Minimum performance time limits.** Only actual music performed shall be timed; time between movements or selections shall not be included in the total time.

(a) **Bands.**

(1) 6A, 5A and 4A bands shall perform at least 18 minutes of music.

(2) 3A and 2A/1A bands shall perform at least 15 minutes of music

(b) **Choirs.** Choirs shall perform at least 12 minutes of music.

(c) **Orchestras.** Orchestras shall perform at least 15 minutes of music.

- (d) **Penalty for violations of minimum performance time limit rules.** Violation of the minimum performance time limit rules shall disqualify the group from consideration for State participation.

2.10. Adjudication

- 2.10.1. Adjudication forms.** Oregon Band Directors Association / Oregon American Choral Directors Association adjudication forms shall be used. Orchestras shall be adjudicated on Oregon Band Director Association forms using the 6A evaluation scale. Forms are available for download from the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage.

2.10.2. Criticism

(a) Written

- (1) Criticism shall be of a length and nature so as to aid in improving the performance.
(2) Criticism should correlate with the scores awarded.

- (b) **Oral.** Oral criticisms are permitted and encouraged, but must not be a substitute for written criticisms unless recorded.

- (c) **Recorded adjudicator's comments.** Tape-recorded criticism may be given in lieu of detailed written criticism.

- 2.10.3. Number of judges.** To maximize opportunity for State qualification, three performance judges should be provided at State qualifying events.

- (a) **Bands and Choirs.** In order for groups to qualify for the state championships, at least two of the adjudicators must be certified by the respective directors association for that activity (OBDA or ACDA). Only scores from certified adjudicators may be used for qualification.

- (b) **Orchestras.** Adjudicators should be experienced, respected directors.

2.11. Sight-Reading Event (Optional)

- 2.11.1. Philosophy.** Sight-reading scores do not count toward state championships qualification; however, a league may choose to include the sight-reading score as a factor in the determination of the league winner.

2.11.2. Music

- (a) **Grade.** Sight-reading music shall be one grade lower than the group's division.
(b) **Selection of music.** Sight-reading music shall be selected and furnished by the sight-reading judge or the festival / contest chair if their group is not performing at the festival.

2.11.3. Ratings

- (a) Sight-reading event scoring and rating shall be kept separately from the concert scoring and rating, but may be used in determining total points in competitive contests.
(b) A 60-point Sight-Reading Evaluation Form shall be used for bands, choirs and orchestras. Forms are available for download from the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage.

- 2.11.4. Sight-reading room procedure.** (See Music State Championship – Procedures section.)

2.11.5. Adjudication

- (a) Written comments shall be made in such a way as to aid in the improvement of the overall performance of the organization.
(b) The relative strengths of the various phases of performances shall be indicated.

- (c) Constructive verbal comments may be made, but the judge may not rehearse the group or ask them to play passages again.

2.12. Awards

- 2.12.1. Ranking shall be determined by the adding of scores of the three performance judges. A league may also choose to include the sight-reading score as a factor in the determination of the league placement.
- 2.12.2. An optional sight-reading award may be given.
- 2.12.3. Rankings shall not be posted, but will be mailed to directors.

RECOMMENDATION: Leagues or Districts may determine whether names of schools shall be included on this sheet, or numbers only.

- 2.13. **State Championships Application Procedure and Deadline.** Groups, which qualify for consideration to participate in the state championships, shall apply online to the OSAA using the "Application to Participate in the Music State Championships" form available on the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage. The online application form as well as any required recordings or other support materials must be received by the OSAA by the third weekend in April. LATE ENTRY FORMS OR SUPPORT MATERIALS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

2.14. Responsibilities of Qualifying Event Contest Director

- 2.14.1. **Communicate the contest date, location and entry fees to schools.** The date must be set to allow ample time for state qualifying groups to submit applications and materials to the OSAA to be received by the third weekend in April.
- 2.14.2. **Arrange for certified adjudicators.** To maximize opportunity for State qualification, three performance judges should be provided at State qualifying events.
 - (a) **Bands and Choirs.** In order for groups to qualify for the state championships, at least two of the adjudicators must be certified by the respective directors association for that activity (OBDA or ACDA). Only scores from certified adjudicators may be used for qualification.
 - (b) **Orchestras.** Adjudicators should be experienced, respected directors.
- 2.14.3. **Arrange for the required adjudication forms.** Oregon Band Directors Association / Oregon American Choral Directors Association adjudication forms shall be used. Orchestras shall be adjudicated on Oregon Band Director Association forms using the 6A evaluation scale. Forms are available for download from the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage.
- 2.14.4. **Confirm that each group seeking to qualify for State has performed at least one selection from the Required Literature List.** Each group shall perform one selection from the appropriate level current required state music lists. Higher-level music may also be used. EXCEPTION: A substitute selection to a required music list piece may be used if written permission is obtained from the State Championships Director. PENALTY: A group, which does not perform a selection from the Required Literature List or a selection approved by the State Championship Director, shall be ineligible to participate in the state championship.
- 2.14.5. **Arrange for performance timing.** See "Time Limits" Rules earlier in this section. (Multiple timekeepers are recommended.)
 - (a) **Maximum time on stage.** 6A, 5A and 4A bands and *full* orchestras shall have 30 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; 3A and 2A/1A bands *and string orchestras* shall have 25 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; choirs shall have 20 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage. Each group must perform during its assigned time and adhere strictly to the time limit.

- (1) On-stage time shall begin with the first step on the stage or first note of music (whichever occurs first), and shall end when the last participant steps off of the stage.
- (2) EXCEPTIONS: Directors and members of the percussion section may enter ahead of the full group to assist in stage set up prior to the first step on the stage that starts the on-stage clock.
- (b) **Minimum performance time limits.** Only actual music performed shall be timed; time between movements or selections shall not be included in the total time.
 - (1) **Bands**
 - a) 6A, 5A and 4A bands shall perform at least 18 minutes of music.
 - b) 3A and 2A/1A bands shall perform at least 15 minutes of music.
 - (2) **Choirs.** Choirs shall perform at least 12 minutes of music.
 - (3) **Orchestras.** Orchestras shall perform at least 15 minutes of music.
 - (4) **Penalty for violations of minimum performance time limit rules.** Violation of the minimum performance time limit rules shall disqualify the group from consideration for state participation.
- 2.14.6. **Arrange for performance recordings.** In order to allow groups to submit recordings to satisfy state championships tape pool-qualifying procedures, ALL FESTIVAL / CONTEST CHAIRS MUST PROVIDE RECORDING SERVICES.
 - (a) **Band / Orchestra.** An audiotape or CD of the performance shall be provided.
 - (b) **Choir.** A videotape or DVD of the performance shall be provided.
- 2.14.7. **Confirm OSAA League SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) to Break Possible Ties for League Championship.** Only one automatic qualifier may be designated from each OSAA League. Leagues must be prepared to either break ties in the case of a tie for the League Championship, or forfeit the automatic qualifying position and have both groups placed in the tape pool.
- 2.14.8. **Immediately following the contest, submit a copy of the Large Group Contest Report to the OSAA.** Forms are available for download from the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage.

3. Music State Championships for Bands / Orchestras / Choirs – Rules and Regulations

3.1. Philosophy

- 3.1.1. This event is a limited championship to recognize musical excellence in Oregon's most outstanding high school bands, choirs and orchestras. It provides an opportunity for these accomplished groups to perform before each other and the public as a showcase representing the highest level of high school musicianship in the state.
- 3.1.2. This event aims to provide a stimulating and educational experience for student musicians and their directors, as an extension of their local instructional program. Qualifying to perform indicates a high level of achievement in music, and further recognition shall be afforded those groups who receive awards.

- 3.2. **Place and Date.** The OSAA Large Group State Championships shall be held on a date and at a site designated by the OSAA.

3.3. Qualifications for Participation in the Music State Championships

- 3.3.1. Any group wishing to perform at the Choir or Band and Orchestra State Championships shall have qualified for participation by performing at an OSAA League, OMEA District or Invitational contest that satisfied the requirements specified in this Music Handbook.

3.3.2. Automatic Qualifiers

(a) **Choir Automatic Qualifiers.** A choir that meets all three of the following criteria shall automatically be scheduled to perform if all other requirements are satisfied:

- (1) Win the OSAA League contest; AND
- (2) Receive at least two “I” ratings (81 or higher) from certified adjudicators using the appropriate evaluation scale for the school classification at the OSAA League Contest, AND
- (3) Receive an average score of 85 or higher from the three certified adjudicators at the OSAA League Contest.

(b) **Band and Orchestra Automatic Qualifiers.** A band or orchestra that meets both of the following criteria shall automatically be scheduled to perform if all other requirements are satisfied:

- (1) Win the OSAA League Contest; AND
- (2) Satisfy the following score requirements.
 - a) **Band.** Receive at least two ratings at the level and using the format specified below from certified adjudicators at the OSAA league contest.
 - 1) 6A – 75 or higher using the 6A/5A Scale.
 - 2) 5A – 70 or higher using the 6A/5A scale.
 - 3) 4A – 75 or higher using the 4A/3A scale.
 - 4) 3A – 70 or higher using the 4A/3A scale.
 - 5) 2A/1A – 75 or higher using the 2A/1A scale.
 - b) **Orchestra.** Receive at least two “I” or “1-” ratings (75 or higher) from qualified adjudicators using the 6A evaluation scale at the OSAA league contest. Should only one String Orchestra compete at an OSAA league contest, that group shall not be an automatic qualifier. However, that group shall be placed in the tape pool regardless of the ranking received. All qualifying Full Orchestras will be placed in the tape pool, regardless of the ranking received.

(c) **Definition of OSAA League Contest.** All references to “leagues” in this rule are referring to OSAA Leagues. An OMEA District Contest DOES NOT count as an OSAA League Contest for the purpose of automatic qualification. However, if there is no OSAA League Contest, the OSAA league members may by vote designate an OMEA District Contest to serve as the OSAA League Contest for the purpose of determining an automatically qualifying OSAA League winner.

3.3.3. Tape* Pool Qualifiers

*NOTE: For the purposes of this rule, “tape” refers to either a videotape or a DVD for Choirs, and to either an audiotape or CD for Bands/Orchestras.

(a) **Choir Tape Pool Qualifiers.** A maximum of 24 - 6A choirs, 12 – 5A choirs, 12 – 4A Choirs, 12 – 3A Choirs and 12 - 2A/1A choirs shall be scheduled to perform at the state championship. After all automatic qualifiers have been scheduled, the additional performance opportunities shall be provided to choirs selected from a tape pool.

- (1) Any choir that received at least two “I” ratings (81 or higher) from certified adjudicators at a qualifying contest is eligible to apply to be placed in the tape pool from which the remaining Choir State Championships performing groups are selected.

- (2) Any league winning choir that does not satisfy all three of the above “automatic qualifier” criteria is eligible to apply to be placed in the tape pool from which the remaining Choir State Championships performing groups are selected.
 - (3) All choirs placed in the tape pool but not selected to perform shall receive certificates from the OSAA in recognition of the honor of consideration for state level participation.
- (b) Band and Orchestra Tape Pool Qualifiers.** A maximum of 20 – 6A bands, 12 – 5A bands, 10 – 4A bands, 10 – 3A bands, eight 2A/1A bands, **15** string orchestras and six full orchestras shall be scheduled to perform at the state championship. After all automatic qualifiers have been scheduled, the additional performance opportunities shall be provided to groups selected from a tape pool.
- (1) Any band or orchestra that received qualifying scores from two or more certified adjudicators at the same qualifying contest is eligible to apply to be placed in the tape pool from which the remaining state championships performing groups are selected.
 - (2) If no band or orchestra from an OSAA league contest reached the qualifying standard, the highest non-qualifying performance from the league, regardless of score, is eligible to apply to be placed in the tape pool from which the remaining state championships performing groups are selected.
 - (3) The top scoring 3A and 2A/1A band from each festival or contest, regardless of score, is eligible to apply to be placed in the tape pool from which the remaining state championships performing groups are selected.
 - (4) If fewer than 10 – 3A bands or 10 – 4A bands meet the qualifying standard in that classification, openings in performance opportunities for that classification may be filled with qualifying bands from the other classification, so long as the total number of performing groups does not exceed twenty bands.
 - (5) If fewer than eight – 2A/1A bands or 12 – 5A bands meet the qualifying standard in that classification, openings in performance opportunities for that classification may be filled with qualifying bands from the other classification, so long as the total number of performing groups does not exceed twenty bands.
 - (6) The tape pool adjudicators have the option to adjust the ratio of string to full orchestra groups scheduled to perform (14 string orchestra / six full orchestra) depending on the quality of performances on the recordings reviewed.
 - (7) All bands and orchestras placed in the tape pool but not selected to perform shall receive certificates from the OSAA in recognition of the honor of consideration for state level participation.
- (c) Recorder malfunction.** In the case of a malfunction by the equipment recording a qualifying performance, an alternative recording may be submitted for tape pool consideration if the conditions under which the alternative recording was created are approved in advance by the OSAA. The OSAA shall grant permission only if the conditions under which the alternative recording is produced are as similar as feasible to those of the original qualifying performance.
- (d) Tape pool review process.** Tape pool entries shall be reviewed and timed by at least two qualified out-of-state adjudicators.
- (1) **League results adjustment.** If a group is not selected to perform at State by the tape pool adjudication panel, and that group received a higher combined score from the league contest adjudicators in the “live” performance at the league contest than a group from the same league which was selected to perform at State by the tape pool adjudication panel, the following adjustment shall be made. The group that received the higher combined score from the league contest adjudicators shall be inserted by

contest administrators into the tape pool ranked list one rank higher than the group selected by the tape poll adjudication panel, and the ranks of the subsequent groups shall be adjusted one rank lower as necessary. Once league results adjustments, if any, have been made by the contest administrators, the results of the Tape Pool Review Process shall be released.

- (2) **Notification.** The results of the tape pool selection process shall be posted on the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, on the Choir or Band/Orchestra homepages as soon the results become available.

- 3.3.4. Eligibility.** The Assistant Executive Director of Student Activities for OSAA shall verify the eligibility of each group applying to participate in the state championships.

(a) Student Eligibility.

Individual eligibility rules to be satisfied by a music student in order to represent his or her school in competitive music activities are the same as for any other OSAA sport or activity (SEE OSAA Handbook Rule 8) with the following exceptions.

- (1) **SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT.** An eligible music student shall be a participant in the school music program.
- (2) **3A, 2A, 1A BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHOIR EXCEPTION.** For 3A, 2A and 1A schools, students in the 7th and/or 8th grades of feeder schools may represent the high school they will be attending in band, orchestra and choir competitions.
- (3) **CHARTER SCHOOL SOLO MUSIC EXCEPTION.** A student enrolled in a non-member Oregon charter school may represent the public school located in the attendance boundary of the joint residence of the student and the student's parents in Solo Music competition if permission is granted by the principal of the resident public high school.

- (b) **Group Eligibility.** Groups must represent OSAA member schools registered to participate in music activities.

- (c) **Accompanists.** Choir championship accompanists may be adults. All performers in band and orchestra championships must be eligible students.

- (d) **Penalty for use of ineligible participant.** Use of an ineligible participant shall disqualify the group from consideration for awards.

- 3.3.5. School entry limitations.** Each school may enter only one band, one choir, one string orchestra and one full orchestra.

3.4. Music State Championships – Procedures

- 3.4.1. Divisions.** There shall be five divisions (6A, 5A, 4A, 3A and 2A/1A) for concert bands and concert choirs and one division each for full orchestra and string orchestra. School music classifications are determined by OSAA the same as in athletics.

3.4.2. Group size

- (a) **Bands / Orchestras.** There shall be no restrictions on the size of groups.

- (b) **Choirs.** There shall be no restrictions on the size of 2A/1A, 3A or 4A classification groups. 6A and 5A schools must qualify and compete with their large concert ensemble; chamber choirs are not permitted.

- 3.4.3. Group performance order.** Group performance order shall be set by the OSAA. The OSAA will consider requests for general performance times (i.e., "as early as possible," "mid-morning", "afternoon", etc.) for groups with school event conflicts, special travel considerations due to distance, etc., if a request is made on the application form. However, it may not be possible to honor all requests. Order shall be scheduled randomly to the extent possible.

3.4.4. Literature

- (a) **Required literature.** Each group shall perform one selection from the appropriate level current required state music lists. Higher-level music may also be used.
- (1) **EXCEPTION:** A substitute selection to a required music list piece may be used if written permission is obtained from the championship director.
- (2) **PENALTY:** A group, which does not perform a selection from the Required Literature List or a selection approved by the State Championship Director, shall be disqualified from consideration for awards.
- (b) **Once stage timing begins,** everything that takes place, including tuning and warm-up chorales, is considered to be part of the performance and may be considered by judges when assigning scores.

3.4.5. Musical scores. Three complete original scores or authorized copies of all music performed must be presented to the adjudicators.

- (a) Score measures must be consecutively numbered.
- (b) Scores must be labeled with school name and classification.
- (c) **PENALTY:** U.S. Copyright laws prohibit the use of photocopies unless approval is obtained from the publisher or their agent. Should unauthorized photocopies be provided, the group will be allowed to perform, but shall not be scored.

3.4.6. Time Limits

- (a) **Maximum time limits.** 6A, 5A and 4A bands and **full** orchestras shall have 30 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; 3A and 2A/1A bands **and string orchestras** shall have 25 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage; choirs shall have 20 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage. Each group must perform during its assigned time and adhere strictly to the time limit.
- (1) Due to time constraints, tuning should take place in the warm-up room, rather than on stage.
- (2) On-stage time shall begin with the first step on the stage or first note of music (whichever occurs first), and shall end when the last participant steps off of the stage.
- (3) **EXCEPTIONS:** Members of the percussion section may enter ahead of the full group to assist in stage set up prior to the first step on the stage that starts the on-stage clock. For the Band / Orchestra State Championships, the timer shall notify the director when the chairs and stands are set and the on-stage time will begin. The timer shall not provide additional time for percussion set up.
- (4) **Maximum time limit violations - penalty.** Groups exceeding the maximum allowed time on stage shall have five points deducted from the combined total of the points awarded by the judges.
- (b) **Minimum time limits.** Only actual music performed shall be timed; time between movements or selections shall not be included in the total time.
- (1) **Bands**
- a) 6A, 5A and 4A bands shall perform at least 18 minutes of music.
- b) 3A and 2A/1A bands shall perform at least 15 minutes of music
- (2) **Choirs.** Choirs shall perform at least 12 minutes of music.
- (3) **Orchestras.** Orchestras shall perform at least 15 minutes of music.
- (4) **Minimum time limit violations - penalty.** Groups failing to perform for the minimum time shall have five points for the first 30 seconds or portion thereof under-time, and

an additional five points for each subsequent 30 seconds or portion thereof under-time, deducted from the combined total of the points awarded by the judges.

- 3.4.7. Sight-Reading.** Each group shall sight read in accordance with sight-reading rules found in this Music Handbook. NOTE: All members of the performing group shall be required to sight-read. Failure to satisfy this requirement shall result in the disqualification of that group from consideration for award or recognition. EXCEPTION: Due to the large size of some bands and full orchestras and possible space limitations of the sight-reading room, those groups shall be limited to 80 performers without penalty to the performing group. Selection of the performers shall be at the discretion of the director.

3.4.8. Band / Orchestra Sight-Reading Room Procedure

- (a) Groups shall be judged from the time the first member enters the sight-reading room until the last member leaves the room.
- (b) Groups shall be responsible for seating themselves. Groups with more than one director, such as an assistant director, student teacher, and/or percussion instructor, must designate which director will lead the group during sight-reading. Only one director will be allowed to give instructions and direct the group during sight-reading. When the group is ready to perform, the adjudicator shall then read or explain the following statement to the group:

"Do not remove the music you are about to receive from the envelope until told to do so. Failure of any students to abide by this request will result in a deduction of five points from our total scores."
- (c) The adjudicator shall read or explain the following statement to the group:

"I will tell you when to open the envelope containing your music. You will have seven minutes for your director to talk you through this selection. Your director may not sing or clap rhythms or communicate the rhythms in any way to you, however the director may request that you finger the notes and/or sing them back and/or clap rhythms. You may not play your instrument at any time during this seven-minute period; any student playing an instrument will cause your group to forfeit five points from your total sight-reading score. Tympani may tune during this time."
- (d) The adjudicator shall ask if there are any questions. When questions have been answered, he shall instruct the group to remove the music from the envelopes and the seven-minute period shall begin. During the seven minutes, the director will receive a two-minute warning and a thirty-second warning. At the end of the seven-minute period, the adjudicator shall explain the following information to the group:

"While the group is sight-reading the music, the director may call rehearsal marks, sing lines with the sections- do almost anything to keep the group together. It is acceptable to regroup after stopping and start again, but a group doing so may not score as high as a group performing the music without stopping."
- (e) The group then performs the sight-reading selection.
- (f) Upon completion of the sight-reading selection, the adjudicator shall read or explain the following:

"Put your music back in the envelope from which it came, and pass it in to me. Failure of any student to pass in a part at this time will result in a five-point deduction in your total sight-reading score."
- (g) If time permits, the adjudicator may give verbal comments to the group on their performance.

- (h) The adjudicator shall dismiss the group when the student assistant has accounted for all parts of the sight-reading selection.

3.4.9. Choral Sight-Reading Room Procedures

- (a) After the groups have seated themselves in the sight reading room, the adjudicator may give the choir a few words of greeting and welcome, then read the following:

"Before you perform the sight-reading exercises, you should know that although it is important to try to sing each exercise accurately without interruption, it is acceptable to regroup after stopping if necessary. It is important to choose a tempo at which your group can succeed; faster is not necessarily better. Your director will be allowed to establish the key of each exercise by having you sing or listen to a scale or chord pattern. Your director's role, once you begin, will be to give starting pitches and tempos, and to start and visually conduct the choir during the performance of each exercise. Are there any questions?"

- (b) The adjudicator will continue:

"Your director will have two minutes to study the four sight-reading exercises before you are allowed to look at the music. You must remain silent during this two-minute period. Are there any questions?"

- (c) The adjudicator will give a copy of the music to the director and signal the director's assistant to begin timing the two-minute director's study period.

- (d) At the end of the two-minute period (or sooner if the director is ready and has informed the adjudicator), the adjudicator's assistant will say "Time!" The adjudicator will say to the choir:

"You will now receive the sight-reading music. A folder of music is located under each of your chairs. Please pick up the folder under your chair, take out the music, and place the folder back under your chair. Your director may not sing, tap or speak rhythms or vocal lines to you; he (or she) may only tell you what to watch for. You may not sing during this discussion period upon penalty of a five-point deduction from your score. Are there any questions?"

- (e) The adjudicator's assistant will time the one-minute discussion period and all succeeding discussion periods and say "Time!" at the end. The adjudicator will then say:

"The first exercise is for rhythm only. Your director will have one minute to discuss the first exercise with you. When the timer calls "Time!" you will SPEAK the first exercise on a neutral syllable such as 'tah'. Director, you may begin your discussion."

CHOIR PERFORMS

- (f) Adjudicator: "The second exercise is a melody exercise. Your director will have one minute to discuss this exercise with you. When the timer calls "Time!" you will SING this melody using a neutral syllable, numbers or solfege. Director, you may begin your discussion."

CHOIR PERFORMS

- (g) Adjudicator: "The third exercise is a two-part exercise. Your director will have one minute to discuss this exercise with you. When the timer calls "Time!" you will SING this melody using a neutral syllable, numbers or solfege. Director, you may begin your discussion."

CHOIR PERFORMS

- (h) Adjudicator: "The fourth and final exercise is a four-part exercise. Your director will have two minutes to discuss this exercise with you. When the timer calls "Time!" you will SING this exercise using the printed words. Director, you may begin your discussion."

CHOIR PERFORMS

- (i) After the sight-reading performance is complete, the adjudicator shall read the following statement:

“Please pick up the folder from under your chair, return the music to the folder, and place the folder under your chair. All parts will be checked after you depart. If it is determined that your group removed any music from the sight reading room, your school will be assessed a five-point penalty.”

- (j) If time permits, the adjudicator may give verbal comments to the group on how to improve their ability to read music on first sight.
- (k) The adjudicator shall dismiss the group when the adjudicator’s assistant has noted that all folders have been placed back under the chairs.
- (l) The adjudicator shall finish writing comments, tally the score and staple the score sheet to a copy of the music on which marks were made during the performance. As time allows, the adjudicator’s assistant will deliver the score sheets to the registration table for tally.

3.4.10. Warm-up. Warm-up shall be allowed only in the designated warm-up area during the assigned warm-up time.

3.4.11. Adjudication

- (a) **Quantity.** Three performance judges and one sight-reading judge shall adjudicate each group in the state championships.
- (b) **Judge selection.** Judges shall be recommended to the OSAA by the championship director from current lists of certified adjudicators or qualified out-of-state judges. At least one judge for each division shall be from out-of-state.
- (c) **Adjudication forms.** Oregon Band Directors Association (bands and orchestras) and Oregon American Choral Directors Association (choirs) adjudication forms shall be used. Sample forms are available for download from the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, Choir or Band/Orchestra homepage. Sets of the specific evaluation criteria used by adjudicators to complete the forms are available from the OSAA.

3.4.12. Criticism

- (a) Each adjudicator shall provide written criticism, EXCEPT
- (b) Tape-recorded criticism may be provided in lieu of detailed written criticism.

3.4.13. Awards

- (a) **Student certificates.** Student members of all groups shall receive certificates in recognition of participation at the state championships.
- (b) **Determination of winners.** The three performance judges' scores plus the sight-reading score (if available) shall be totaled to determine the winners in each classification. In the case of a tie for any of the first four places, the groups shall tie for the upper place, the next place shall be skipped and an additional trophy shall be ordered.
- (c) **Awards.** A certificate shall be presented to the director of each participating group. Trophies shall be presented to the top 50% of the groups in a division up to a maximum of five awards per division.
- (d) **Awards assembly.** Final awards shall be presented in public at the state championships.

3.4.14. Results distribution. Judges' comments shall be made available to directors following the awards assembly. A “masked” score array including score totals only with school names removed shall be included in the results packets distributed to directors at the conclusion of the state championships, and shall be posted on the OSAA website, www.osaa.org, Choir or Band/Orchestra home pages.