

October 31, 2016

Congratulations on qualifying for the ABODA Division I State Marching Band Festival to be held on Saturday, November 5, 2016. Your host school, Dobson High, is located at 1501 Guadalupe Road, Mesa, AZ 85202. Please review the following information in preparation for the event.

### **EQUIPMENT TRUCK & BUS PLANNING:**

All equipment trucks and buses must enter the west side of campus from Guadalupe Road at the traffic light and flow from the west side to the east side of campus throughout the festival. Once buses and equipment trucks are unloaded, they will be parked either directly east of the stadium (buses) or directly south of the stadium (trucks). Volunteers will be available throughout campus to offer assistance. We would ask that buses be shut off when not in use, as the sound of running buses can interfere with the performances.

### **CHECK-IN PROCESS:**

Directors: A Directors Check-in Tent will be located southwest of the Auditorium (refer to Facilities Map). A packet will be provided for you which includes wristbands for your volunteers/staff, a program and any additional final information necessary. Each school will have hosts that will serve at the directors' pleasure throughout the performance experience.

Performers and others riding the buses: These individuals will be stamped while exiting the buses for admittance into the show.

Additional Individuals: Those individuals who are not stamped or who do not have a wristband may purchase a ticket at the stadium for \$10. Cash or credit cards will be accepted.

### **WARM-UP AREAS:**

Bands will be assigned a warm-up area based on the show schedule. Please respect the assigned times and areas and render mutual respect to all participating schools. Ultimately, it is a top priority to ensure that the warm-up process does not affect anyone's performance at the Stadium. Other important points to consider:

1. The assigned warm-up area is approximately the size of a football field for each band. It is suggested that front ensembles warm up on the east side of the warm-up areas to ensure they are staged at the shortest distance to the stadium.
2. When warming up, there is only one entrance/exit to the warm-up area. Please avoid setting up equipment that will block other bands from accessing the warm-up fields.
3. Consider using drum sticks or softer clicking devices to keep time.
4. Additional warm-up areas for visual warm up are located north of the official warm-up area. Additionally, color guards may warm up on the tennis courts, provided that timing devices can't be heard from the stadium. This is on a first come, first served basis.
5. **IMPORTANT:** No music or visual warm-ups are allowed in the parking lots, streets, or pathways leading to the stadium. Schools will promptly be asked to relocate.
6. An ABODA Official will be located in the warm-up area (as per new ABODA Board Policy). Please advise your entire staff of this change in the process.

## **TRANSITION FROM WARM-UP AREA TO STADIUM:**

Bands, as a general rule, will be escorted from the warm-up area to the stadium 15 minutes prior to the performance time. It is advised that a member of each school's staff decide if more time is needed and make adjustments accordingly.

## **FIELD ENTRANCE/EXIT:**

The performance process flows from southwest to southeast (side 1 to side 2) with the press box located on the south side of the stadium.

## **BAND SEATING AFTER THE PERFORMANCE:**

The stadium stands area north of the field (Visitor's Side) is reserved for all performing participants. The stands area south of the field is reserved for spectators who pay admission to the festival. Concession stands and restroom facilities will be available on both sides of the stadium.

## **VIDEO ACCESS:**

Box5 Media is contracted by ABODA to video record all festival performances. They will be the sole provider for all participants and will have a digital copy online for each participant after the performance. Bands will not be issued a video pass for the event.

## **CONCESSIONS, PROGRAMS & SOUVENIRS:**

Please inform your students and parents that there will be full concession stands available throughout the festival. No outside food or drinks (except water) will be allowed in the stadium area. Our administration has asked that, under no circumstances, should there be off-site grilling/propane-powered sources to cook food. A Concession Stand menu will be sent out later this week.

If you are still interested in the \$5 Box Lunch: Firehouse turkey, ham, or veggie sub; chips or cookie; water – please contact me on or before Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. It's a quick, easy, and inexpensive way to feed your group!

Event programs will be on sale for \$10 – cash or credit card.

Additional vendors include: Box5 Media (videos), Anton Sports (shirts), and additional food vendors on the south side of the stadium.

## **PICTURES:**

Immediately after your performance, your band will take a picture with Jolesch Photography. Expect this to take an additional 15 minutes or so.

## **AWARD CEREMONY:**

Refer to the Festival schedule to determine when your school's awards ceremony will preside. Drum majors (only) will meet on the southwest side of the stadium, close to the performance entrance. The selection for the State Marching Championships will occur after the Division I-B Awards Ceremony.

## **ABODA JUDGING PANEL:**

Head Judge: **Eric Haenfler**

Musical Performance: **Mark Harting**

Music Performance: **Bill Humbert**

General Effect: **Mark Hoskins**

Visual Performance: **Jeff Goldsmith**

Percussion: **Chris Spangler**

Color Guard: **Chad Quamme**

## **SPECTATOR PARKING & ENTRANCE:**

There are five (5) parking areas on campus that will be filled in the following order, depending on the time of day. Overflow parking at St. Timothy's Catholic Church (northwest of the Dobson campus) will be available after 5:15pm.

Please share this information with your organization beforehand, knowing that overflow parking lots will add additional walking time to the Stadium. Spectators are encouraged to carpool in order to ensure all participants have reasonable parking access to the festival. Arriving early is strongly advised.

Ticket sales and the main entrance for spectators is located on the southwest side of the stadium. Tickets are \$10, cash or credit accepted. NafME and AIA cards allow free admittance into the event.

Good Luck as you prepare for the final days of the marching band season! Should you need to contact me, prior to or on the day of the event, my cell number is: 480.283.5286.

Rob Lubbers  
Host Coordinator