## The Estates at Pecan Park

## DJ and Live Entertainment Questionnaire

- 1. Do you have my date open?
- 2. How long have you been in business? If you are interviewing a live band, you'll want to ask how long the musicians have played together. The key is to make sure you book the specific singer and/or bandleader that you liked in the demo. The players will take their cues from them.
- 3. How many weddings have you done? How many do you do in an average weekend?
- 4. What sets you apart from your competition?
- 5. Are there any other services that you provide, such as lighting design?
- 6. How far in advance do I need to secure your services?
- 7. Can you provide me with 3–4 recent brides that I can contact for references?
- 8. What is your pricing? Does this include setup and breakdown between ceremony and reception locations?
- 9. How much is the deposit and when is it due? When is the final payment due?
- 10. If the event lasts longer than scheduled, what are the overtime charges?
- 11. What is the continuous music charge? For bands, bookings traditionally run for 4 hours divided into 4 sets, each lasting 45 minutes with a 15-minute break. If you want "continuous music," i.e. with band members trading breaks, there is usually an additional charge.
- 12. When can I expect to receive my contract from you?
- 13. Are there any additional fees that could accrue that I am not taking into account, like travel expenses or charges for special musical requests?
- 14. What is your refund policy if for some reason I need to cancel or alter my date?
- 15. Do you carry liability insurance? This usually only applies to production companies that also supply lighting, effects, etc.
- 16. If I hire musicians for the ceremony and want them to play at the wedding rehearsal, what is the extra charge?
- 17. Do you have a DVD of your music or a video link to a prior wedding where you performed?
- 18. Can you assist me in choosing the music for my processional, recessional, father-daughter dance, etc.?
- 19. How extensive is your music library or song list? What genres can you cover? Can I give you a specific list of songs I want or don't want played?
- 20. Are we guaranteed to have the perfomer(s) of our choice at our event?
- 21. If the DJ or one of the band members scheduled for my event is unable to perform for some reason, do you have a backup replacement ready to go?
- 22. Can you provide wireless mics for the ceremony?
- 23. Does any of your equipment require special electrical outlets that I need to inform my wedding site about?
- 24. Do you bring backup equipment?
- 25. What kind of space or stage do you require for the DJ or band? If my site doesn't provide what you need, will you make arrangements for the stage or am I responsible for renting it?
- 26. How much time will you need for setup, sound check and breakdown on the day of the event?
- 27. What music will be provided during the breaks?
- 28. How many people will you staff for my event?

29.

\*Discuss with your site manager any restrictions that might affect your event, like noise limits, a music curfew and availability/load of electrical circuits. Also check with your facility and caterer about where and what to feed the performers.

\*It is YOUR responsibility to be specific about how you expect your performers to be dressed. Any extraordinary requests (period costumes, all-white tuxes, etc.) are normally paid for by the client.

\*Make notes of your general music preferences before you meet with your DJ, bandleader, etc. Not only will this help you determine which entertainment professionals are a good match for you, it will guide them in preparing your set list.