

Hello!

Congratulations on advancing to the UIL Area E Marching Contest. We look forward to seeing you and your groups.

The contest will be at the Waller ISD Stadium on Saturday, December 12, 2020. The Waller ISD Stadium is located at 20735 Stokes Road, Waller, TX 77484.

It is important that you share the attached information about parking and tickets with your bus drivers, truck drivers, and parents so that they know which stadium entrances to use and how to purchase tickets. **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR YOUR PARENTS TO BE AWARE THAT ALL TICKET PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE.** You will receive detailed information and instructions for purchasing tickets prior to date they become available.

Included in this packet are the following items:

General information
Map displaying parking, warm-up areas and field access for participants

If you have any questions that aren't covered in this letter, please feel free to call. Good luck as you finish preparing for the UIL Area Marching Contest. Please make note of the following phone numbers in case you need to contact us on the day of the performance

Grant McWilliams (281) 808-3495-cell
Bill Duggan (281) 638-3213-cell

Sincerely,



Grant McWilliams
Director of Bands, Waller ISD
281-808-3495
mmcwilliams@wallerisd.net

General Marching Contest Information

Prior to Arrival: All students, staff and support personnel will be expected to complete appropriate health screenings, as required by your school district, prior to departing your campus to attend this event.

Arrival: Plan to arrive in plenty of time to unload and make it to your designated warm-up area at your scheduled time. If you begin warm-up late, you will not be allowed extra time. Buses and instrument trucks should use Gate B from Stokes Road (coming from 290, this will be the second entrance). Buses and trucks will park in the visitor parking lot. All Prop assembly should take place in this lot. Bands should begin moving to the warm-up area no less than 15 minutes before their scheduled warm-up time. Band members and auxiliary groups may not begin their marching or playing warm-ups prior to the designated time. Playing and marching warm-ups must take place in the designated warm-up areas.

Face Coverings: All students, staff, support personnel and spectators will be expected to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.

Restrooms will be available on the visitor side of the stadium. The visitor side bleachers will be open for participants and chaperones only. Please make sure your students follow proper social distancing, mask guidelines, and spectator etiquette when in the stands and/or concourse.

First Aid: A first aid station will be available on the home side of the field house near the front ensemble field entrance.

Required Forms: All [scripts](#) and [entry forms](#) must be emailed to Bill Duggan (bill.duggan@uilregion13.com) by December 10, 2020.

Guides: A guide will meet you to escort you to warm-up approximately 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time.

Warm-Up: Bands will have 30 minutes to warm-up. To promote social distancing, additional time has been added between groups in the warm-up areas. You may enter your designated warm up area 5 minutes prior to your official start time; however, you may not begin your playing or marching warm up prior to the official warm up start time. (This includes auxiliary groups.) The schedule of performance times indicates warm-up **Area A or B. Refer to the property map provided in this packet for those specific locations.**

- Time-keeping devices such as metronomes or jam blocks, megaphones or similar voice amplification devices, and audio systems may be tested and used in the band warm-up areas, but *must* remain at a reasonable volume depending on the acoustics of the warm-up area and proximity to other bands/warm-up areas, judging areas, and the Performance Field.
- Wireless microphones and audio and/or lighting control devices may interfere with performances in the stadium and, therefore, may not be used in warm-up areas.
- You may only warm-up during your specified warm-up time. **PLEASE FACE AWAY FROM THE STADIUM WHILE USING THE WARM-UP AREAS.**
- There will be designated front ensemble warm-up areas in the bus/truck parking lot. In order to minimize the potential for sound to bleed over into the stadium, we ask that no metals and only soft mallets be used during the warm-up time. This is to avoid having to move equipment to/from the band warm-up areas. Battery percussion will need to use the band warm-up areas, so if you would like your front ensemble to warm-up with the battery and/or winds, you will have to push the equipment to the regular warm-up zone. We appreciate your cooperation.
- All bands must leave the warm-up area at the designated time. A contest official will be on hand to inform you of your time restrictions. We will use cell phone time as the official contest time.

Passes and Access:

- Only the head director of each band will be allowed access to the press box. Entry to this area is by way of the elevator located in the center of the home concourse. You will receive a head director pass that will allow you access to this area.
- Additionally, you will receive four badges that will allow access to the spectator seating area.
- Parents in your travel party will not need passes to help with pushing equipment onto and off the field. During the performance, parents should practice social distancing along the front wall of the home sideline. If chaperones wish to view performances from the home side spectator seating area, they must purchase a ticket through the ticketing system.
- A section of seats will be blocked off as a designated directors' viewing area at the top of section D.
- Four complimentary tickets for administrators will be emailed to you prior to the event. If you would like a guest pass for the press box VIP area for any administrators or school board members you must submit a request prior to the event.

Ready Position:

- **Bands/guard/props** will enter at the **VISITOR** field gate at the field house end of the stadium. Once the previous band's performance ends, your groups will be allowed to move up to the goal line of the side 1 end zone. You may use the entire width of the field to pre-stage at that time as long as you do not cross the goal line prior to the start of your official set-up time. There will be an announcement signaling the beginning of your set-up time. A WISD director will be there to direct your groups into place.
- The **Front Ensemble** will enter at the **HOME** field gate and stage on the concrete area beside the field house. Front Ensembles will be allowed to move up to the ready position (goal line) after the previous band's performance. Front Ensembles may move onto the field when your group is announced. A WISD director will be there to direct your groups into place.

Electrical Power is located at the 50-yard line on the home side. We will have an easily accessible extension cord there for you to plug into if needed. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU DO NOT TAKE OUR EXTENSION CORD WHEN EXITING THE FIELD.

Performer and Equipment Exit:

- **Band members/guard/props** will exit toward the back corner of the scoreboard end (side 2) of the field and continue out through the visitor side (see map).
- **Front ensembles** should move forward and then EXIT THE SAME GATE THEY ENTERED staying IN FRONT of the next group that will be preparing to enter along the side line (see map).

Six minutes before your scheduled performance time, the announcer will say: “_____ High School, you may take the field.” From that point, you will have 6 minutes to set up your band on the field. Activities may include warm-up and/or cadence.

UIL Marching band script and timing guidelines may be found at the link below (this has been revised for 2020):

[Revised 2020 UIL Script \(fillable\)](#)

NOTE TO DIRECTORS: The 6-minute set-up and 8-minute performance clock will be programmed on the scoreboard. Warm-up or pre-show is permitted during the 6-minute set-up time; however, judges will be

instructed to not begin their evaluation until the 8-minute clock shows 7:59. If you do not wish to utilize the entire 6-minutes of set-up you may hold your band at the field entrance to coordinate your ready time with the beginning of the announcement.

UIL Marching Band Regulations

Section 1105: REGION MARCHING BAND CONTEST

Constitution and Contest Rules — University Interscholastic League

- Please remind parents of the **“no balloons”** UIL policy!

Use of Electronics with Marching Band (From the UIL Office)

ELECTRONICS AND AMPLIFICATION IN UIL MARCHING BAND CONTEST PERFORMANCES

- If you are doing anything remotely exotic, contact the UIL state music office and make sure it is ok. Have them follow up with an email to Mr. Quillen.

Q & A from UIL on props: Marching Band Props Statement from UIL

Spectator Admission: Spectator Admission is \$5 plus the convenience and handling fee charged by our online ticketing system. Further information and links to purchase tickets will be sent prior to the date tickets go on sale. There will be a limit of 4 tickets per transaction. There will not be a box office at this event. Capacity will be limited to 2,400. If tickets remain at the time of the event, purchases must be made through the online ticket system. Tickets will become available per the following schedule:

- December 7-9: 240 tickets will be available to purchase by each band
- December 10: Any unsold tickets will be available for purchase by any band
- December 11 – end of event: Unsold tickets will be available to the general public

Performers: Seating for performers, chaperones, and staff without badges will be on the visitor side. Anyone wishing to watch performances from the spectator side must purchase a ticket.

Concessions: The Waller Band Boosters will have concession stands on both sides of the stadium open during the contest. No outside food may be brought into the stadium. A menu and meal options should you wish to pre-order meals for your entire band will be sent to you during the week of November 30.

T-Shirt Sales: T-shirts will be available for sale on the home side of the stadium.

Video of Performance: If you would like to video your performance, please complete the Marching Band Educational Use Video Agreement at this link: [Marching Band Educational Use Video Agreement](#). Those who have completed the form will receive a video pass that will allow access to the film deck on the 3rd floor of the press box FOR YOUR PERFORMANCE ONLY.

Local Ground Rules Use of Field Turf Surfaces at Waller ISD Facilities

Motorized vehicles are not allowed in the stadium.

It is the expectation for any group using WISD facilities to adhere to basic guidelines for appropriate weight distribution when moving and staging equipment and props in and on the field turf surfaces.

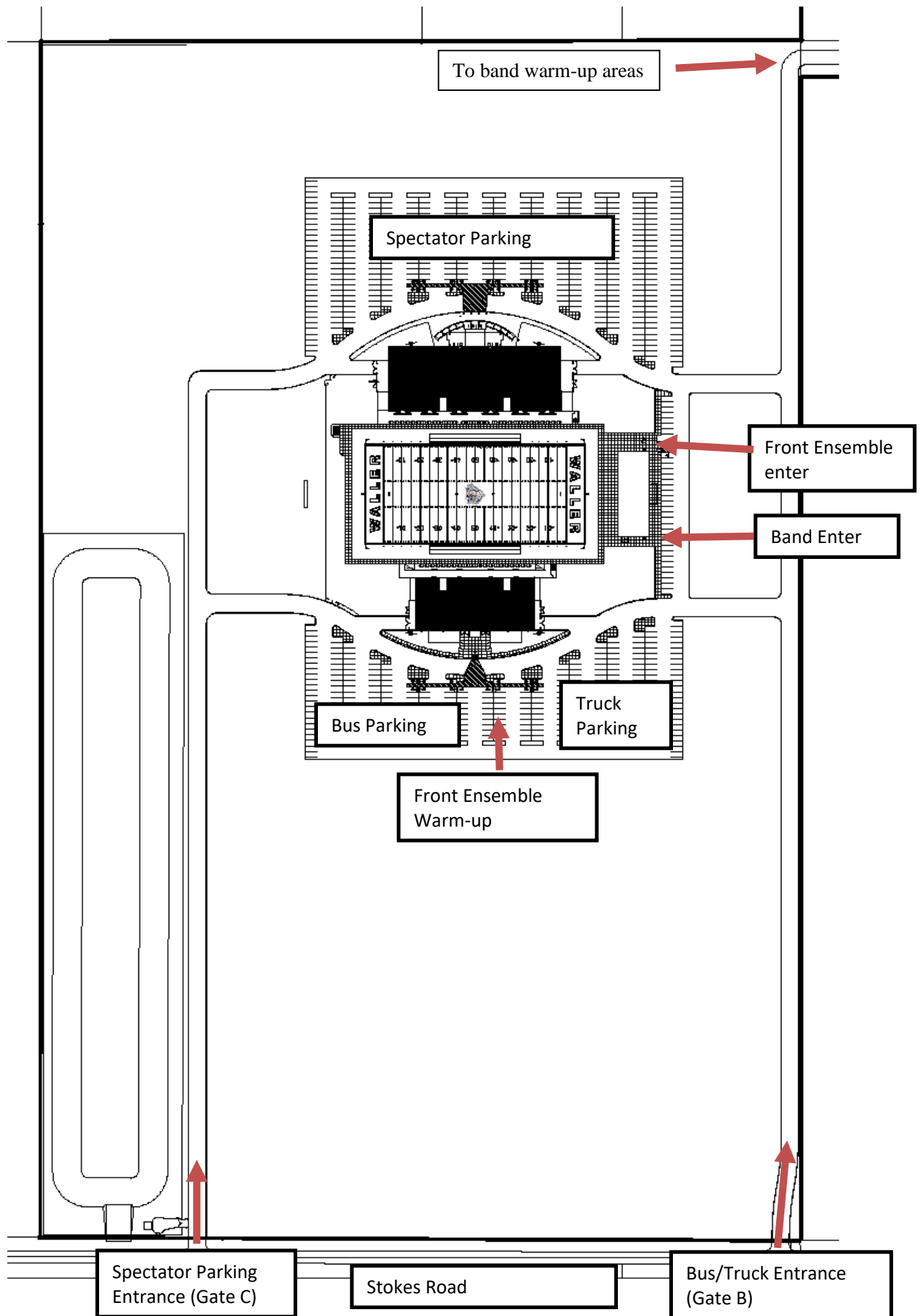
Any field props, or equipment, moved into and out of WISD turf facilities, shall be able to distribute its weight so that at no point in time is the turf subjected to use that may cause a tear in the turf. The following list consists of potential weight distributing mechanisms that may be applied to mitigate excessive wear and possible tearing of the turf.

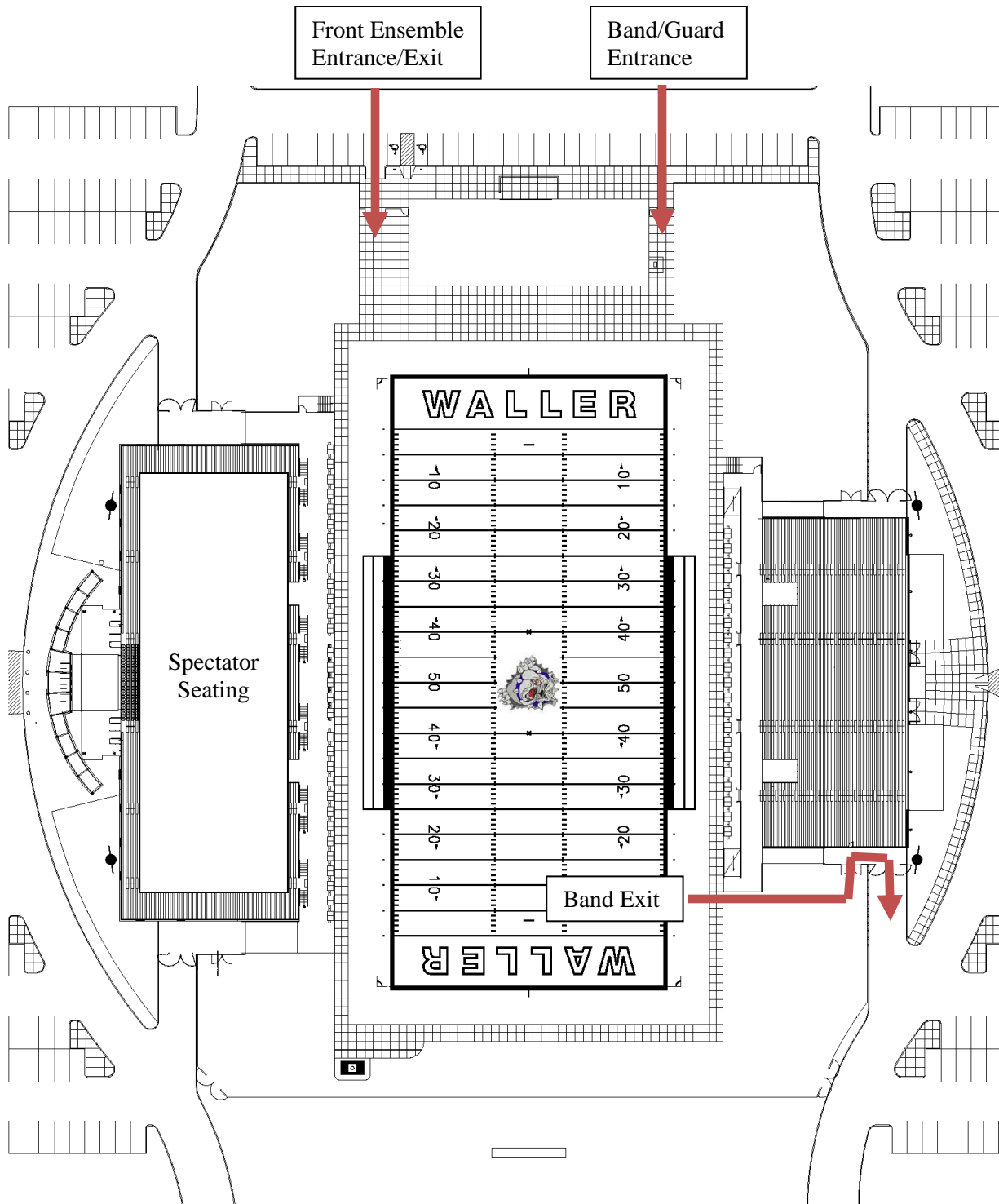
Pneumatic Tires: Do not subject the turf to loads greater than 35 pounds per square inch (i.e. pneumatic tires shall be inflated to a maximum of 35 psi). By the same token, pneumatic tires shall not be deflated to the point that they drag across the turf potentially causing a tear either.

Flat Free Tires: Typically referring to solid rubber or plastic tires. These tires are rated for maximum capacities typically ranging anywhere from 50-300 lbs depending on its size. Do not overload these type of tires. Overloading these tires will cause rutting and “catching” of the turf. This usually occurs on A/V carts that are overloaded with speakers, etc.

The following are common causes of turf damage that should be avoided by all groups using the turf:

- Wheels or casters that are not operable, or otherwise stuck in a sideways position or locked to not roll appropriately.
- Wheels or casters that are not designed, by size, to travel on such a product and tend to “sink in” to the turf.
- Wheels or casters with braking levers, that are under stress from being over weighted, that will stick into the turf and create a risk for tears.
- The use of props or stands with sharp points in the contact place within the turf that risks puncturing the field. Such points should be appropriately padded to protect the turf.
- The “dragging” of equipment or props across the field turf surface.







Map Key

Path to Warm-Up ■■■■■■

Path to perform ■■■■■■

Exit Path ■■■■■■