

REGISTRATION PACKET

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RULES & REGULATIONS

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IMPORTANT DATES

BAND REGISTRATION

DEC. 3rd – FEB. 20th

LINEUP ANNOUNCED

MARCH 9th

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

MARCH 13th



MEDIA, PROMOTIONS, & CONTESTS

- ⚡ EVENT MEDIA
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- ⚡ SOCIAL MEDIA CONTESTS – NEW!



TERMS & CONDITIONS

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- ⚡ MEDIA RELEASE
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- ⚡ SIGN & SUBMIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM



• RULES & REGULATIONS •

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Gulf Beaches Rotary Spring Break Waterfront Festival's Battle of the Bands (BOTB), further referred to as "the event" or "the competition", is held at ROC Park in Madeira Beach, FL, and is scheduled for **Thursday, March 13th, 2025**. To qualify for BOTB, all band members, band representatives, roadies, and parents/guardians (of members <18yo) must:

- Read the Rules and Regulations and accept the Terms and Conditions outlined in this Registration Packet
- Provide proof of identification (copies of a driver's license or school ID)
- Sign, date, and submit the Acknowledgement form (page 9 of the Registration Packet)

NOTE: All band members must be under 25 years old (by 3/13) in order to perform

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- **THE BOTB DIRECTOR** (also the Event Coordinator & Artist Liaison)
 - Communicates with and provides updates to the Gulf Beaches Rotary Club (the event hosts).
 - As the Artist Liaison, the BOTB Director is also responsible for communicating with bands/band reps before, during, and after the event to ensure all participants get the most out of their BOTB experience.
 - Reserves the right to make changes to the information outlined in the Registration Packet and any point in the competition, if deemed necessary
 - Assumes the role of event emcee the day of the event, while keeping track of points earned in contests/challenges before the event (see page 7), point deductions received during the event (if applicable), before relaying the judge's final results to the crowd after the end concludes.
- **THE BAND REPRESENTATIVE (BAND REP)**
 - Could be any of the following: band leader, band manager, studio manager, or school/college director.
 - Is the main point of contact for the BOTB Director, and should be timely in responding to communications (1-2 days max), otherwise the band's participation may not be permitted.
 - Responsible for completing all sections of the Online Registration form, uploading all required documentation, and submitting everything before the **February 20th, 2025 deadline**.
 - **The band's Stage Plan (Stage Plot & Input List)**
 - **Signed Acknowledgement forms and proof of identification for themselves, all band members, Roadies, and parents/guardians (if <18yo)**
 - If for any reason the band rep does **not** submit the required documentation by the deadline, the band will not be permitted to compete in the event.
 - Ensure that they and all band members are available on the day of the event (**Thursday, March 13th, 2025**).
 - If for any reason the band is unable to compete on this date after submitting their Online Registration form, the band representative must notify the BOTB Director no later than **Sunday, March 9th, 2025**, to allow adequate time to update the band lineup and make changes to the schedule.
- **ROADIES (OPTIONAL)**
 - Could be any of the following: the band rep (if not in the band), a friend, a band member's parent, etc.
 - Each band is allowed one (1) roadie to assist with set-up and tear-down the day of the event.
 - Roadies must have a signed Acknowledgement form and proof of identification uploaded in the Online Registration form in order to be allowed on stage the day of the event.
- **PARENTS/GUARDIANS (if band member is <18yo)**
 - **Both the band member (who's <18yo) and their parent/guardian** must have a signed Acknowledgement form and provide proof of identification submitted with the Online Registration form.



BAND SPECIFICATIONS

BAND MEMBERS

- Each band must consist of **a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) members.**
- All bands must be amateur status in order to qualify, meaning they cannot be signed by a label and their music should not be receiving regular airtime on the radio and/or TV.
- Professional singers, instrumentalists, or instructors cannot participate as band members.
- Bands may not use pre-recorded sound material (background music and/or backing tracks) as the entire show must be performed live.
- Bands must follow all instructions given by the BOTB Director, Stage/House Managers, Sound Engineer, and any BOTB volunteers/staff during the event.
- If a band wishes to make a change to the members in their band, that change is subject to review by the BOTB Director, and **must be made at least 3 days prior to the event (Monday, March 10th, 2025).**
 - **For example:**
 - If you want to add a keyboard player to your band and they weren't listed in your Online Registration form, if notified in advance, your request should be approved as long as the band rep submits their Acknowledgement form/proof of identification **at least 24 hours (1 day) before the event.**
 - If you don't notify us and/or if the keyboard player does not submit their registration forms 24 hours before the event date, they will **not** be permitted to perform in the competition.
- Band members are expected to **dress appropriately the day of the event.**
- Clothing must be free from images and/or language that might be deemed offensive, including obscenities, sexual content, drugs, alcohol, or any other subject matter not suitable for a family audience.

CATEGORIES & AGE REQUIREMENTS

RISING STARS	AGES	MIXED-CATEGORY (Choose Category based on MAJORITY)	AGES	LEGENDS IN THE MAKING	AGES
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL	7-11yo 11-14yo	MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL	11-14yo 14-18yo	HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG ADULT	14-18yo 18-25yo

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION

- Proof of identification must be included in the Acknowledgements form or uploaded directly to the band's Online Registration form for all band members, parents/guardians (if <18yo), band reps, and roadies for identification purposes the day of the event (school IDs or driver's licenses are preferred, but any official picture ID will suffice).
- The day of the event, a volunteer will cross-check everyone's ID's at band check-in with ID's submitted with the band's Online Registration to confirm names and band member's ages before they're allowed on stage.
- Only band members, band reps, and roadies whose identification **has been confirmed** will be permitted on stage – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
 - Should the BOTB Director discover that a band member was not truthful about their age or that band members on the Online Registration do not match the band members the day of, the entire band will be disqualified from participating in the event.



ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT

BAND CHECK-IN, SET-UP & TEAR-DOWN, & REQUIREMENTS

- Bands must arrive at band check-in **at least one (1) hour before they are scheduled to perform on stage.**
- Performance time slots will be chosen at random prior to the event, and **all bands will be notified of their assigned place in the lineup no later than February 27th, 2025.**
 - The BOTB Director reserves the right to change a band's spot and time slot in the lineup for any reason.
- While one band is playing, the next band in the lineup **must meet the House Manager backstage at least 10-15 minutes before they're scheduled** in order to unpack their instruments and warm-up before going on.
 - Bands waiting to perform must remain quiet and respectful when backstage to ensure the focus remains on the performing band.
 - If all band members are not present 10-15 minutes before going on stage, the band risks point deductions or disqualification (if communication for the delay is not provided in a timely manner).
- When one band is done performing, the band (and roadie, if using one) are expected to pack up their instruments/equipment as quickly as possible so the next band can set up on stage within their allotted time.
- **Bands must be present when their category's winners are announced in order to qualify to win.**
 - The Rising Stars category winner will be announced mid-competition to account for younger performers.
 - If the winners are announced but the winning band is not present to accept their trophy, the BOTB Director will make an announcement, awarding the title to the first runner up instead
- Arriving at the beginning/leaving at the end of the event will show **good sportsmanship** on your band's behalf, and we highly encourage all bands to show your support for the other bands performing on stage!
 - Yes, at the end of the day, BOTB is a competition – but it's more than that!
 - It's about bringing our local music community together and sharing what we love to do with other people our age who share the same passions as we do – **COMMUNITY > COMPETITION!**

JUDGES & SCORING

- The scoring criteria is designed to keep the contest open to all ages and skill levels, while keeping the event fair, competitive, and fun for all competitors.
- Judges are instructed to ignore "genre bias," that is, not to reward a band for playing a type/style of music that the judge personally likes, and conversely, not to penalize a band simply because the music isn't agreeable with the judge's personal taste.
- At the end of each band's performance, the total number of points a band receives from each judge will be added together to reach the band's final score (all scores will be announced once each category concludes).
- No band or anyone affiliated with the band shall make contact, in any way or manner, to any of the judges in connection with the scoring of the competition.
 - Any band members and/or associates of the band who argue the decision of the judges may be considered unruly and may be disqualified from the competition.
- Should any band or band rep feel the need to discuss the final ruling, those discussions should be brought up **with the BOTB Director directly**, who will relay questions/concerns to the Judges.

THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGING PANEL ARE FINAL AND IRREVOCABLE – NO EXCEPTIONS.



POINTS, DEDUCTIONS, & DISQUALIFICATIONS

JUDGING CATEGORIES & SCORING CRITERIA

- **FOUR MAIN CATEGORIES:** Musicianship, Creativity, Performance Elements, & Audience Engagement
- **FIVE SUB-QUESTIONS PER CATEGORY:** 5 points per question = 25 points per category
- **TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS:** 25 points per category x 4 categories = 100 points total

POINT DEDUCTIONS (MAY INCLUDE, BUT ISN'T LIMITED TO):

- **Five (5) points** – for each minute a band exceeds its allotted stage time | for each instance where profane language isn't edited out of song lyrics
- **Ten (10) points** – if a band is late to band check-in | if a band is late to meet the House Manager backstage without proper communication beforehand | if a band is disruptive while waiting to go on stage | if band members incite inappropriate behavior/violence from the crowd | for poor sportsmanship reported to/observed by BOTB Director/Staff

DISQUALIFICATIONS (MAY INCLUDE, BUT ISN'T LIMITED TO):

- A band member wasn't truthful of their age on the registration form
- Band members at band check-in do not match the band members included on the Online Registration
- Inappropriate language or gestures were used on or off-stage
- The band didn't meet the House Manager backstage before their performance time
- The band wasn't in attendance at the end of the competition
- An affiliate of the band exhibited poor behavior/conduct or poor sportsmanship
- The band or their affiliates incited violence from the crowd at any point before, during, or after the event
- Showing poor behavior, including publicly disputing the decisions made by the Judges in an unruly manner
- Band members were seen under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol
- The band or their affiliates didn't adhere to the Rules and Regulations and/or Terms and Conditions for BOTB
- **We reserve the right to revoke the title of a winning band if band members and/or their affiliates get disqualified for any of these reasons.**
 - If the winning band's title is revoked, the band who scored first runner up in that category will be awarded the title instead – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

SPORTSMANSHIP

• Hallmarks of GOOD sportsmanship include:

- Respecting one's opponents before, during, and after the event, both online and in person.
- Being able to win without gloating, and being able to lose gracefully.
- Arriving at the beginning/staying until the end of the event to show other bands your support.

• Indicators of POOR sportsmanship include:

- Using profane or threatening language, showing hostility, expressing anger, or antagonizing behaviors aimed toward BOTB Staff or another band or in the competition.
- If reports or observations of poor sportsmanship are brought to our attention, the band in question will be disqualified from the competition and future BOTB competitions.



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICIES

SONG CHOICES & SONG LYRICS

- The band's name, song choices, and song lyrics must be suitable for a family audience.
- Song lyrics (originals and covers) must not contain any obscenities, including:
 - Swearing, derogatory or sexually explicit language, inappropriate underlying messages, offensive toward a person's race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or anything else that would warrant an advisory warning per recording industry standards.
- **Original song lyrics must be submitted through the Online Registration form for lyrical review.**
- If performing cover songs, please ensure that all song lyrics are revised to reflect these standards.

BEHAVIOR & CONDUCT

- Professional and courteous behavior is expected from all band members, the band rep, roadies, family members, and associates of the band at all times, including interactions with other bands, event attendees, event volunteers/staff, the BOTB Director, and all Partners of the event.
 - This includes refraining from using foul language (both on and off stage), singing about inappropriate themes/subjects, using inappropriate gestures during their performance, being disrespectful or offensive of a person's race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, or disability
- Any band or affiliates that engage in these actions before, during, or after the event will face disqualification.

PROHIBITED ACTIONS (ON & OFF-STAGE)

- As this is a family-friendly event, all band members must refrain from using profanity or any offensive forms of communication, including indecent, inappropriate, or obscene body gestures while on and off-stage.
- For the safety of band members, BOTB Staff, and BOTB attendees, band members should not invite crowd members onto the stage during their performance.
- While on stage, bands must not participate in any potentially dangerous stage moves that could result in injury, such as throwing/tossing instruments and/or jumping off the stage.
- Supporting and/or inciting unruly behavior or actions that may be unsafe to the band or event attendees, such as fighting, moshing, or other potentially violent actions.
- Should any of these actions occur, the band will be disqualified from the event for putting event attendees, crowd members, and festival-goers at risk.

THE USE OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL, & TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON-SITE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

- **Use of drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products is strictly prohibited for all band members, band representatives, and roadies during the course of the event (even if they are over 21yo)**
- Any bands members, band representatives, and/or roadies who are suspected or appear to be under the influence of a prohibited and/or illegal substance will result in band disqualification and barring from future competitions, and if necessary, event authorities will notified and asked to assist with their removal.



• MEDIA, PROMOTIONS, & CONTESTS •

MEDIA

Photos and videos taken/recorded during the competition **must give Spring Break Battle of the Bands** proper credit by appropriately tagging us in all social media posts, stories, reels (etc.), using our official social media handle and event hashtags below:

- Spring Break BOTB social media handle – @springbreakBOTB
- Spring Break BOTB hashtags – #springbreakBOTB, #BOTB2025, #MadBeachBOTB

EVENT PROMOTION

We strongly encourage all participating bands and their affiliates to promote the event through the band's website(s), social media pages, and band members' personal accounts. When posting, be sure to tag @springbreakBOTB and use the official BOTB hashtags listed above.

Why Promote the Event?

- By helping us spread the word online and on social media, you'll:
 - Showcase your enthusiasm for being part of the competition.
 - Help grow BOTB within the local music community.
 - Encourage your friends, family, and fans to attend the event.
 - Increase overall event visibility, supporting its growth year after year.

Benefits of Social Media Engagement

- Promoting the event and engaging your followers can directly impact your success during the competition:
 - **Audience Engagement:** This makes up 25% of your band's overall score. The more fans in the crowd cheering for you, the better your score!
 - **Crowd Favorite Award:** New for 2024, the audience will vote for their favorite performance while the judges deliberate. Having strong crowd support increases your chances of taking home this special recognition!

START BUILDING EXCITEMENT NOW TO ENSURE YOUR BAND SHINES ON AND OFF THE STAGE!

CONTESTS – NEW!

This year, we're excited to introduce **mini contests** for all registered bands leading up to Battle of the Bands! These monthly challenges are designed to help the community – and us – get to know all the talented bands competing this year.

Why Participate? There are plenty of benefits for bands who join the fun, including:

- **Increased Visibility:** These contests will highlight your band to a wider audience.
- **Boosted Community Engagement:** Build connections and excitement among fans and fellow musicians.
- **Social Media Growth:** Drive more traffic to your band's platforms by taking part in interactive and creative challenges.
- **Win Small Prizes:** Some contests will come with small prizes, but you'll need to participate to find out what they could be! You don't want to miss the chance to win while having fun!

How It Works

- Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on new contests, challenges, rules, and deadlines
- Each challenge will have a deadline and offer opportunities to earn extra points toward your overall score on the day of the event.
- Contest details, including themes and submission guidelines, will be posted online.

Pro Tip: Participating in as many challenges as possible gives your band an edge going into the competition. Don't miss out on the chance to score points, win prizes, and connect with the community before the big event! Stay tuned, get creative, and let's make this year's Battle of the Bands unforgettable!



• TERMS AND CONDITIONS •

"I/WE" REFERS TO:

BAND MEMBERS, BAND
REPRESENTATIVES, ROADIES &
PARENTS/GUARDIANS (if <18yo)

LIABILITY WAIVER

I/WE –

- Waive, release, discharge, and hold harmless the Gulf Beaches Rotary Spring Break Waterfront Festival's Battle of the Bands, its coordinators, staff, volunteers, and all Partners involved in enforcing any of the above noted, from all liability, claims, damages, loss, or injury to my person or property*, even injury resulting in death, which has been or may be sustained in consequence of our participation in the event.

MEDIA RELEASE

I/WE UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT –

- To hereby grant Battle of the Bands and all Partners the right to use photos and videos recorded during the competition in advertising, marketing, promotion, and/or merchandising, including future publicity purposes.
- Battle of the Bands and all Partners of the event have the sole discretion in determining the extent and manner of use (including no obligation of use) of any photos and videos recorded during the competition.
- The band's name, instrumentation, and likenesses may be used in advertising, marketing, or promotional material relating to this competition without any compensation or rights to royalties for such use.
- All photos and videos will be viewable to anyone online, including being posted on the all Battle of the Bands websites and related social media pages.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I/WE CONFIRM THAT –

- I am between the ages of 7-25 years old.
- I will be present one (1) hour prior to their performance time for band check-in.
- I will meet the House Manager backstage discreetly and respectfully, 10-15 minutes before the band who's scheduled prior to us in the lineup.
- Failure to comply with anything outlined in the Registration Packet and/or any violation of these rules by any member of my band, our representative, roadies, associates, or anyone affiliated with my band may result in our immediate disqualification.
- I will abide by the official Rules and Regulations, Terms and Conditions, and all decisions made by the Battle of the Bands Director and Event Coordinators, which shall be final in all respects.
- I will commit to participating in the 2025 Battle of the Bands Competition on March 13th, 2025, at ROC Park on Madeira Beach, FL.

I/WE UNDERSTAND THAT –

- This is a family-friendly event, and any behavior and/or actions that are considered inappropriate for this event will be grounds for disqualification and/or title revocation.
- *We are fully responsible for the oversight and safety of all instruments and/or equipment.
- It is not the role and/or responsibility of the BOTB Director, Stage/House Manager, Sound Engineer, BOTB staff/volunteers, or Partners of the event to keep track of our instruments and/or equipment while they are overseeing important functions of the event.
- The BOTB Director reserves the right to disqualify us from the event and future events should we break any of the Rules and Regulations and/or Terms and Conditions of the event, as outlined in the Registration Packet.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

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• SIGN, DATE, & SUBMIT THIS PAGE •

- All band members, band representatives, roadies, and parents/guardians (if <18yo), **must sign, date, and submit this Acknowledgement form with the band's Online Registration.**
- To mark when bands arrive the day of the event, we check ID's at the band check-in table
- The only individuals permitted on stage will be those whose ID matches the one submitted with the band's Online Registration – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

BAND MEMBERS, BAND REPRESENTATIVES, & ROADIES

ROLE	
PRINT	
SIGN	
DATE	

ATTACH PICTURE OF PHOTO ID
(or upload copy to Online Registration)

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

RELATIONSHIP	
PRINT	
SIGN	
DATE	

ATTACH PICTURE OF PHOTO ID
(or upload copy to Online Registration)



DIRECTIONS FOR BAND REPRESENTATIVES

SIGNED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORMS

- Once all necessary parties have provided you with their signed Acknowledgements, **please scan them all as ONE PDF and upload them to the Online Registration form**
- Please ensure that forms submitted for band members <18 years old also has a parent/guardian's signature included

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION

- Band members, band representatives, and roadies will need to include a copy of their photo ID so we can confirm their identity upon check-in on the day of the event
- The only people allowed on stage will be those you submit during registration (as long as we can confirm their identity by checking their ID's during band check-in at the event)

Feel free to reach out to the BOTB Director at director@springbreakbotb.com if you have any questions