

2021-22 IESA Music S&E Contest Format

The Music Advisory Committee is recommending that for the 2021-22 school year each interested school host their own S&E contest. The goal is to continue to encourage students to participate in the activity and give them an opportunity to perform an adjudicated event in a flexible environment.

The guidelines contained in this document are intended to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets and potential for illness through safe practices such as social distancing, proper hygiene, and appropriate protective equipment. This is not an exhaustive list, and school officials may take additional measures based on requirements set forth by their school district and/or local health officials. Please understand that even with this guidance, there is still risk of transmitting illness at events such as practices and competitions. Additionally, with the changing nature of the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, these guidelines may change.

Format: Schools may choose to host their contest virtually or in-person **so long as it meets the guidelines set forth by the CDC, the Illinois Department of Public Health, ISBE and local health and safety standards.** Contests do not have to be concluded in one day if it is not feasible.

Dates: Schools may host contest at any time from January-April 15, 2022.

Contest Sites: Schools will host events for only their own students.

Contest fees and Participant Information: Any contest fees and participant information will be collected locally.

Eligibility: Please make sure that students are academically eligible for your contest.

Events: Schools may offer those events they feel comfortable in performing within current social distancing guidelines.

Adjudication Forms: IESA will provide access to adjudication forms for each contest. Forms will be downloaded and printed by each individual school.

Rules: All contest rules and limitations apply.

Judges: Each school will select their own judges. We encourage schools to find volunteers to serve as judges, judge the contestants themselves, or recruit other directors to judge their performers.

Awards: Schools will complete an Award Order Form and submit to the IESA Office.

Best of Day: Schools may submit the following number of Best of Day (BOD) selections based on the total number of entries. Please count both instrumental and vocal entries into your total.

i.e. 4 vocal solos + 1 woodwind solo + 5 brass ensembles= 10 entries (1 BOD selection)

1-20 entries= 1 Best of Day selection

21-60 entries = 2 Best of Day selections

61+ entries= 3 Best of Day selections

In-Person (Live Event)

General Guidelines

- Schools may determine if live activity events can be safely conducted.
- **IDPH** - All current Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines must be followed.
- **Face Coverings/Masks** - When indoors, masks must always be worn.
- **Social Distancing** - Distancing between individuals, of at least 6 feet must always be maintained.
- **Capacity** - Student participants, coaches/directors, paid/volunteers, judges, and media are considered a group of 50 people.
- **Spectators** - Spectators are at the discretion of local school districts. If hosts allow spectators, they must always wear facial coverings and maintain 6-ft. social distancing throughout the entire event. NOTE: Some sites may not permit spectators.
 - Local school districts COVID-19 policies and procedures may be followed.
 - Small events are most effective in maintaining fewer competitors, school personnel, officials, and spectators. Smaller invitational events make it easier to space out competitors to ensure for appropriate social distancing. Small contests must adhere to the event capacity guidelines outlined by IDPH, as well as those outlined in this document.
 - Hosts can have multiple rounds of students at a contest provided the rounds of students are completely spaced out so that they do not intermingle or wait in common areas.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and equipment.
 - Have sanitation materials (disinfecting wipes, sprays, hand sanitizer, etc.) in prime locations for attendees.

General Practice Requirements and Considerations for Coaches/Directors:

- Coaches/Directors must wear face coverings at all in-person practices and competitions.
- Always require use of facial coverings for students.
- Communicate practice and all competition guidelines and COVID-19 safety protocols in a clear manner to student participants and their parents.
- For live practices (if the local school district allows live practices/rehearsals), consider conducting practices/rehearsals in “pods” of same students who are always practicing and rotating together. This will ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
- Keep accurate records of those students and staff who attend each practice/rehearsal in case contact tracing is needed.
- Always have a plan to maintain social distancing amongst students and staff.
- Electronic or virtual meetings are encouraged if possible.

Requirements and Considerations for Host Managers:

Prior to the Event

- Hosts can use any online management and scoring platforms.
- Email all event information in advance to participating schools or host virtual coaches'/directors' meetings to disseminate contest information in lieu of traditional in-person directors'/judges' meetings.
 - Electronic or virtual meetings are encouraged if possible.
 - If live meetings occur, utilize methods to keep directors/judges socially distanced during live directors'/judges' meetings. Eliminate or minimize the use of handouts/paper.
 - Face coverings for all contest personnel, contest officials and directors are required at live directors'/judges' meetings.
 - If a live meeting is being conducted, directors must still have the option to attend virtually if they are not comfortable meeting in person.

Arrival/Warm-Up

- Establish firm arrival times for participants. Participants who arrive early must stay in their bus/vehicles until the appointed performance time. Hosts may designate a home room waiting area for participants, so students do not have to wait on the bus/vehicles longer than necessary and are not congregating in the open areas.
- Warm-up Spaces - For contests, auxiliary spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, field houses, all-purpose rooms, multi-purpose spaces, music rooms, etc.) can be used as performance spaces and holding areas for student participants, contest personnel, spectators, etc. as long as all auxiliary spaces allow for social distancing and are kept at 50 people or less.

Competition

- Competition Rotation - Once one group of students, directors, competition personnel, spectators, and media for a combined total of 50 people completely vacate a space a new group of 50 can occupy that area. Time schedules should be spaced to reflect the necessary time to take the appropriate COVID-19 sanitation procedures in these areas.
- Awards – Live awards ceremonies should not be conducted. Consider using an online platform for results and awards announcements.
- Streaming – Contests can be streamed. Schools may use their preferred streaming service. It is the responsibility of the host and the competing schools to secure all appropriate copyrights and royalties necessary for streaming and performing. The Association is not responsible for copyright or royalties of competing schools.

Requirements and Considerations for Coaches/Directors at Events:

- Coaches/Directors are responsible for educating all attendees and ensuring social distancing is maintained between students. This means additional spacing while performing, coaching, or changing locations so that students remain spaced out, and no congregating of students occur. Always have a plan to maintain social distancing amongst students and staff.
- Require students to arrive at the competition venue already in contest attire.

Requirements and Consideration for Judges:

- Communicate the format and protocols in the judges' contracts.
- Adjustments to the number of judges may be made due to the size of the competition and the COVID-19 mitigation protocols (i.e.: Number of judges in prelims, semis, or finals, etc....).
- Face coverings are always required.
- Judges should be spaced 6-feet apart.
- Bring personal hand sanitizer and wash hands frequently. Refrain from shaking hands.
- Do not share equipment.
- Follow social distancing guidelines.
 - Communication with directors, participants, contest managers, or other judges must be done at the appropriate social distance.

Eating and Drinking:

- Ask students to bring their own water.
- Ensure 6-feet distance whenever students are eating or drinking.
- Replace face coverings immediately after eating or drinking.

General Requirements and Considerations for Students:

- Students should be responsible for their own supplies.
- Students should wear their own appropriate clothing and not share clothing with anyone. All equipment and attire should be washed immediately upon returning home.
- Hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer should be frequent at all practices and competitions.

- Students should tell directors immediately when they are not feeling well.
- Face coverings are always required.

General Requirements and Considerations for Parents/Guardians:

- Make sure students and immediate household members are free from illness before participating in practice and contest (if there is any doubt, stay home).
- Provide clearly labeled personal items for students.
- Help make sure that the student is washing/cleaning clothing and personal items after each use.
- Know facility/venue limitations on capacity/attendance prior to attending an event/ competition. Always maintain social distance and wear a face covering while in attendance at an event.

COVID-19 Resources Focusing on Performing Arts/Activities

The COVID 19 pandemic presents a myriad of challenges to high school athletic and activity programs. To help address some of those challenges, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) has developed a compilation of resources to assist school administrator and directors.

IDPH COVID-19 EMS-Regions Map - <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:37ae0de3-609b-4853-8622-b3b9c6d41781>

IHSA COVID-19 Information - <https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/COVID-19>

IDPH Community Guidance - <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance>

IDPH School Guidance - <http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance>

ISBE - <https://www.isbe.net/coronavirus>

NFHS Arts Education is Essential - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/nfhs-joins-52-other-nationalorganizations-to-support-arts-education-as-essential-for-students-during-covid-19-pandemic/>

TEACH Act Explained - Copyright Guidance for Distance Learning - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/nfhs-and-nafme-copyright-guidance-for-distance-learning/>

Copyright Guidance - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/copyright-covid-19-guidance/>

Understanding Copyright and Compliance Course - <https://www.nfhslearn.com/courses/understanding-copyright-and-compliance>

COVID-19 Aerosol Study - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/unprecedented-international-coalition-ledby-performing-arts-organizations-to-commission-covid-19-study/>

Music Resources

Fall 2020 Guidance for Music Education - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/fall-2020-guidance-formusic-education/>

Instrument Cleaning Guidelines - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/covid-19-instrument-cleaningguidelines/>

NFHS and Varsity Performing Arts to offer FREE Marching Band Show Program - <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/nfhs-helps-launch-together-as-one-a-free-marching-band-fieldshow-package-for-high-school-performing-arts-programs/>

Advocacy Webinars - <https://nafme.org/my-classroom/virtual-learning-resources-for-musiceducators/>

COVID-19 Resources and News - <https://nafme.org/covid-19/>

Free Professional Development Clock Hours - Articles for Teaching Online during COVID-19 - <https://nafme.org/community/elearning/free-nafme-academy-webinars/>

Bridging the Gap: Teaching and Learning Music Online Webinar - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSUaMelyCVc&feature=youtu.be>

Virtual Learning Resources for Music Educators - <https://nafme.org/my-classroom/virtual-learningresources-for-music-educators/>

NAfME Online Professional Learning Community - <https://nafme.org/my-classroom/nafme-onlineprofessional-learning-community/>

Resources for Music Educators and Distance Learning - <https://education.musicforall.org/>

Argument for Music Education - <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:f0288518-5385-44ef-b009-c21ad93de676#pageNum=1>

Resources for Music Educators and Distance Learning - <https://education.musicforall.org/> Letter Writing Campaign - <https://www.votervoice.net/NAFME/campaigns/73881/respond>

IDPH Music Guidance - <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/musicguidance>