2019 MUSIC ADJUDICATION CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA
JULY 25, 2019

1. Welcome & Role of CHSAA Adjudicators
   a. One of our main purposes of interscholastic activities is to assist students to develop life lessons and skill.
   b. These life lessons include leadership, dedication, developing a work ethic, respect for others, goal setting and problem solving.

2. Responsibilities
   a. Arrive early to the contest: At least 30-45 minutes prior to the first performance.
   b. Review details of the festival/contest with the festival manager. Make sure you have all of the supplies that you need. If you arrive late, you burden the site manager as well as the first performing group. If you are missing materials or supplies, you won’t have a chance to gather what you need and be mentally prepared to judge.
   c. You must remain on the time schedule established. In order to stay on time, adjudicators must listen and notate at the same time, and have clear plan and schedule for the on stage clinics.
   d. Professionalism: It is the responsibility of the adjudicator to make participants as comfortable as the situation allows. Greet all participants warmly and thank participants when they have completed their performances – this is true for both spoken comments and when you give your clinic on stage.

3. Adjudicator Comments/Clinic
   a. **Judge the way the system is set-up now, not the way you remember it or think it should be. Follow the rubric.**
   b. Judges should adopt the “Three C’s Method – Compliment, Criticize and Correct”
   c. Compliment: Clearly state positive aspects of the performance that are genuine and educationally based.
   d. Criticize: Comments must be constructive and educational in nature, not simply to point out errors.
   e. Correct: The goal is to provide avenues for student improvement and should constitute a significant portion of your efforts. This portion provides the most value to the student and director.
   f. Adjudicator Sheets
      i. Make sure that you make positive AND constructive comments on your sheet. Both sides of the boxes should be filled out.
      ii. The comments portion of the adjudication form should have more value than the actual ratings. The efforts of the students are responsive to the instructions by their teacher. How loud, how fast, how much rubato, are determined by the teacher and taught through hours of rehearsal. With that in mind, comments should be made specifically for the teacher. The adjudicator’s task, however, is to help the students, perhaps through the assistance of the teacher. As such, comments should be written in a
manner that is understood by both the students and the teacher. Your comments may
well support what the teacher has already told their students, or the teacher may not
know how to address a problem are

g. **Recorded comments** must be positive for both the directors and students. Many times the
directors listen to these as a class, and it needs to be addressed to the group as a whole so that
it is a positive learning experience. More comments are encouraged – we do not want a lot of
downtime on the recording, but it must be pertinent information.

i. Your verbal comments should accurately reflect your written comments. Directors
should have an understanding of what rating they are about to get – even if the rating
sheet is lost.

ii. Have you addressed issues and offered a remedy for improvement? Please do not get
“hung up” on one issue, that may be your pet peeve. Address all issues, and offer
solutions.

h. **Please remember that final ratings are not based on a mathematical average. If
there are large discrepancies between the three judges, the site manager should confer with
the judges to determine the final rating. Widespread discrepancies must be resolved by the
judges by adjusting ratings. A I, II, and III simply cannot happen.**

i. Our recommendation is that judges collaborate after the first few groups so that
adjustments can be made if acoustics/concert hall space is a limiting factor, and to verify
that judges are all in line.

4. **On Stage Clinic**

i. Make sure only 1 adjudicator goes up each time.

ii. Always shake hands and introduce yourself to the director. Thank them and the
students for performing.

iii. Have a discussion with the site host regarding the timing prior to the festival beginning.
Some hosts prefer 5 minutes buffer between groups in order to stay on schedule, and
some prefer 10 minutes. Please communicate that with the performing group so they
know why you may be cutting the clinic short.

iv. Clinics should be educational and should be as specific and beneficial as possible.

5. **Group Attire/Appearance & On State Tuning**

a. Should you judge a group down if they are not matching and or if one of the students has
purple hair? Should you belittle a director if they have tattoos?

i. NO! We judge on what we hear, and not what we see. If you feel that a group’s
performance is effected negatively by their attire, you can make a private comment to
the director, but your ratings should reflect the performance on the stage.

b. If a group tunes on stage, please don’t rate them down. Make a note that excessive tuning it
not appropriate for the stage, but do not rate them lower. It simply hurts them in the long run
as they won’t have as long of an on-stage clinic.

6. **Photocopied Music/Digital Downloads & NFHS Courses**

a. [Copyright Discussion Nationally – NFHS Learn Course – TAKE IT!](#)
b. All festival performances are required to provide the judges with three Original Scores for their adjudication reference. If there are copies, you should look to see if there is a note that accompanies the copies. Any questions – please comment to your CHSAA rep or the manager AFTER they have completed their performance on stage.

c. Copyright laws are very serious, however, this is still an educational experience, and the groups should be allowed to perform.

d. **NFHS Band Safety Course – NFHS Learn!**

e. **NEW & Revised Music Adjudicator Course – NFHS Learn – Coming September 1st**

7. Sight Reading
   a. Sight reading conference call scheduled in January to discuss any changes or updates.

8. EVALUATIONS
   a. We are starting to ask Directors to evaluate their adjudicators at the conclusion of the contest. This is not to scare you, it’s just a tool that we have asked our programmer to add so that we can continue to raise the level of consistency across the state. I will reach out to you individually with positive comments and or concerns.

9. NEW – CHSAA
   a. **We need more hosts! Orchestra especially – we cannot grow unless we get more schools to host. Do you know if any who may be interested?** Both band and orchestra sites in Colorado Springs are needing a new site.
   b. Recording Company & Dropbox – All festivals will utilize Dropbox for the adjudicator comments and professional recordings. This should make your lives much easier with a technology contact onsite.

10. Next Steps – Festival Manager
    a. Timeline (Tentative). Email will go out in October to ask for availability in the Festival Manager Website. Please don’t put your availability in NOW. The system is not ready.
    b. Additionally, please indicate all dates that you are available. Many dates change at the last minute due to testing schedules, and the fewer dates you put in, the slimmer your chances of adjudicating.
    c. Finally, make sure your profile is updated and current in the festival manager website. This is how we will assign, so if you can judge both band and vocal, please indicate that so you can be assigned appropriately.

11. THE END