**March the Plank Invitational (MTP)**

Rules and Regulations

1. Classification: bands will be classified according to the number of wind players. Bands may enter a higher classification, but may not enter a lower one. No 4A or 5A bands will be allowed to register for the MTP.
	* + 1. Class A up to 40
			2. Class AA 41-59
			3. Class AAA 60-79
2. The performance of each show should be between 6 and 10 minutes. Time slots for each band will be 20 minutes for each band. This includes set- up, on field warm up, performance, and exit. Cadencing off the field is allowed as long as sound is fully ceased 30 seconds after the logical conclusion of the show. Timing for the show will begin for each band when the drum major salute is given, and will end when the ensemble begins leaving the field. This 6-10 minutes should occur within the 20 (or 25) minute window provided by the schedule. To cause the event to be delayed by extending into another time slot, for whatever reason, may result in a penalty of 2 points being subtracted from the overall score per 30 seconds over the time limit. There will be no time penalty for an incomplete show under 6 minutes, though it will be up to the individual judge to assess whether or not the guidelines of their scoresheet was sufficed or not.
3. Scoring and Adjudication: The MTP will use a 5 judge format: There will be one judge each for Wind Music, Percussion Music, Wind/Percussion Visual, Guard, and Drum Major.
	1. The following point spread will be used:
		1. Superior 80-100
		2. Excellent 60-79.99
		3. Average 40-59.99
		4. Fair 20-39.99
		5. Poor 0-19.99
	2. Festival: Scores will be represented by Roman numerals with the following breakdown:

I-Superior

II-Excellent

III-Average

IV-Fair

V-Poor

Trophies will be awarded to those ensembles with overall rating of Superior and Excellent ratings, and for Superior and Excellent ratings in each caption. The overall score will be determined with the following weightings:

Wind Music- 35% (Score is weighted 7x)

Percussion Music- 15% (Score is weighted 3x)

Wind/Percussion Visual- 30% (Score is weighted 6x)

Visual Ensembles/Color Guard- 20% (Score is weighted 4x)

Example: If an ensemble received the following scores:

Wind Music- Excellent (II)

Percussion Music- Superior (I)

Wind/Perc. Visual-Excellent (II)

Visual Ensemble- Superior (I)

Then the overall rating would round to an Excellent (II)

* 1. Competition: Scores will be numeric. Trophies will be awarded to those ensembles with overall score of Superior and Excellent ratings, and for Superior and Excellent ratings in each caption. The overall score will be determined with the following weightings:

Wind Music- 35%

Percussion Music- 15%

Wind/Percussion Visual- 30%

Visual Ensembles/Color Guard- 20%

Trophies will be awarded for the 3 best overall scores in each caption, regardless of class, as well as the 1 best score for each caption in each class. Trophies are given for Wind Music, Percussion Music, Wind/Percussion Visual, Visual Ensemble, and drum major. A trophy will be awarded for the 2 highest overall scoring bands in each class. The three highest overall scoring bands, regardless of classification will receive trophies, including the Grand Champion Award.

1. **No director, staff, parent, or student from any participating band will be allowed in or near the press box at any time.**
2. All band and auxiliary officers participating in the awards ceremony must be in full uniform. Officers should line up on the front hash mark. These students will be directed there at 7:45pm. The awards ceremony will begin at 8:00 pm.
3. Band Directors may pick up their scores and flash drives at the conclusion of the awards ceremony in the press box. Recap Sheets will be emailed later that night.
4. The “March the Plank” adheres to the 5 Judge format set forth in these rules, which is a variation of Caption format, and is therefore registered as a “Caption” contest and festival.
5. Pike County High School, including the stadium, is a Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Free campus. Any use of these items by a member of a participating band or staff will result in prosecution and possible disqualification of the participating band from competition.
6. In the event of poor weather, it is the right of the competition host director and the Pike County Athletic Director to decide the following actions:
	1. The contest goes on as normal, but is delayed.
	2. The contest is turned to an indoor, musical based performance in which only winds (audio), percussion (audio), and drum major will be judged. Times may be altered.
	3. The contest if cancelled altogether, and the $100 (or $150 if performing and both Festival and Competition) registration fee will be returned to the participating bands. The performance bond ($500) is returned as usual.