

BRN
CADENCE
Guidelines and Rules

ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Percussion ensemble members should be enrolled in high school and not over 19 years of age. Each ensemble appearing at the Ultimate Drumline Championship shall be prepared to show proof of age.

1.2 All performers of any percussion ensemble competing must be approved for participation by the principal of the sponsoring school. Each percussion ensemble shall submit an Eligibility Certification Form provided by BRN, to be completed and submitted by the band director.

1.3 No percussion ensemble may compete with less than six (6) members on the floor of competition at any time including the student conductor (optional).

PENALTY: Disqualification – any ensembles violating any requirements in the ELIGIBILITY section shall be disqualified from that contest and must forfeit any scores, placements or awards

COMPETITION AREA

2.1 For the purpose of interpretation, the “competition area” shall measure a minimum of fifty feet by Eighty-four feet (50’ x 84’) and does not include entry ramps, hallways, bleachers or seating area. Percussion ensembles are permitted to utilize the entire designated competition area for their performance. All performers must be in the designated competition area when performance time begins. Depending on the performance venue, BRN will authorize additional competition area space whenever possible and include that information in the diagram (footprint) to be made available to all competing percussion ensembles to identify the competition area. While the competition area will be increased whenever possible, all percussion ensembles must be prepared to perform within a minimum fifty foot by eighty-four foot (60’ x 90’) competition area.

2.2 All BRN contest sites must have a minimum of seventy feet by one hundred feet (70’ x 100’) to accommodate a “safety zone” of five (5) feet from any spectator seating. If no spectators are seated on the sides, then the safety zone may be measured from the left and right walls of the competition area. This will ensure the minimum fifty foot by eighty-four foot (50’ x 84’) competition area within the minimum seventy feet by one hundred feet (70’ x 100’) of the contest site.

2.3 Once performance timing begins, no performer may enter the safety zone. All equipment and props (including all sound equipment) must be grounded within the competition area except during setup and teardown. No props or equipment may be staged within the safety zone and no choreography outside the competition area, including the safety zone, is allowed.

2.4 The front boundary line shall be considered to extend the full width of the competition area and shall be clearly marked at a minimum of five (5’) feet from the first row of spectator seating.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty shall be assessed for each member for each boundary violation of the competition area

2.5 Any use of floor coverings (tarps) must fit in the designated competition area at each particular contest site and cannot enter the safety zone.

2.6 Grounded power sources shall be available at the front of the center line of the competition area. Ensembles must provide their own extension cords. Power specifications will be available on the competition area footprint for each event.

2.7 Power sources must be dedicated for ensemble use only and have no other electrical devices using designated power sources.

SCORING

3.1 The elements in the Ultimate Drumline Championships to be judged are:

3.1.1 Performance Quality = Thirty points (30 points)

Creativity = Ten points (10)

Entertainment = Ten points (10)

Musicianship = Ten points (10)

3.1.2 Technique = Thirty points (30)

Rhythmic Clarity = Fifteen points (15)

Difficulty = Fifteen points (15)

3.1.3 Group Execution = Twenty points (20)

Synchronization = Ten points (10)

Ensemble Control = Ten points (10)

3.1.4 Overall Effect = Twenty points (20)

Communication and Projection = Ten points (10)

Overall Impression = Ten points (10)

3.1.5 Timing and Penalties = Penalties assessed per rules

EQUIPMENT

4.1 For the protection of the wooden competition floors, all equipment must be properly taped or otherwise be prepared to assure that damage to the floors will not occur. Inspection will occur at all contests. Any damage to the floor that may occur (dragging the timpani, wheels on carts locking, etc.), will be the responsibility of the ensembles and is subject to penalty.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty to Disqualification at the discretion of the Timing and Penalty judge.

4.2 Definitions of **authorized** equipment:

4.2.1 Instrumentation is limited to those instruments typically utilized and recognized as part of a percussion section. Also allowed are electronic instruments recognized as normal stage and band rhythm section instruments. Conventional wind and/or string instruments (other than string bass and guitar) may not be used. Single tone, non-keyed horns (i.e. whistles, sirens, animal calls, etc.) may be used only if generating an effect, and may not be used in any melodic form.

PENALTY: Ten points (10.0)

4.2.2 Ensembles may use any electrical device within their program deemed safe by the Contest Administrator. The Executive Director has the ultimate decision regarding safety of any device in consultation with the Executive Director. Ensembles should consult with the Executive Director prior to using any equipment not specifically defined in these rules. Ensemble will assume any liability for issues arising out of the use of said electrical devices.

4.3 Definitions of **prohibited** equipment:

4.3.1 No pyrotechnics, discharge of arms, pressurized canisters, dangerous materials, flammable liquids or gas will be permitted in or around the competition area.

4.3.2 Gasoline, electric or manual powered generators will not be allowed.

4.3.3 Use of lasers and flashcubes (electrical and chemical) will not be permitted.

4.3.4 Use of live animals is not permitted.

4.3.5 Use of powder, dirt or any other substance that lingers in the competition area past the interval time of the percussion ensemble shall be strictly prohibited.

4.3.6 Use of helium, including helium-filled balloons, shall be strictly prohibited.

4.3.7 No motorized vehicles will be allowed except for motorized wheelchairs used by disabled performers.

PENALTY: Ten point (10.0) penalty to Disqualification for use of any prohibited equipment

TIMING

5.1 Percussion ensembles will have six (6) minutes to be on and completely off of the competition floor. This includes entrance, setup, performance, and exit.

5.2 Each percussion ensemble, with all competing performers, shall remain in the competition area and be judged in all captions for a minimum of four (4) minutes.

5.3 The end of the maximum performance time is at the obvious conclusion of the show. All captions will be judged until the obvious conclusion of the show.

PENALTY: Five-hundredths of a point (.05) penalty per second for any timing violation

ENTRY

6.1 All performers must enter the competition area through the designated entry door, tunnel or ramp. Prior to the actual start of the performance time, percussion ensemble may utilize the competition area for setup and pre-show preparations.

PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty per performer for failing to use designated entry door, tunnel or ramp

6.2 All props must be able to fit through designated entry door, tunnel or ramp. No timing exceptions will be made for oversized props. Props will not be allowed in the competition area before the ensemble's performance time.

6.3 Any ensemble creating a delay in the schedule will be subject to penalty.

PENALTY: Five-hundredths of a point (0.05) penalty per second of delay up to 10 points.

6.4 Authorized equipment and/or props may be placed anywhere in the competition area by ensemble performers or anyone prior to the start of the performance. Any non-performers involved in set up must exit the competition area prior to the start of performance time.

PENALTY: One tenth of a point (0.1) penalty for each non-performer failing to exit competition area prior to performance time

6.5 Ensembles may include a playing entrance as part of the performance following introduction.

6.6 Timing for the "maximum performance time" will begin with the first step of body movement, first move of equipment, or the first note of music whichever comes first after the announcement ends. Judging will also begin at this time.

6.7 Once the performance begins, performers must remain in the designated competition area for the entire performance.

PENALTY: Five tenths of a point (0.5) penalty for each performer failing to remain in competition area for the entire performance

6.8 The front boundary line is inviolate at all times except for performers involved in entrance set up or tear down at the end of the performance. Boundary line violations (including first aid cases) do not constitute permanently leaving the floor. No penalties shall be assessed for broken sticks, mallets, or hardware falling over the front boundary accidentally.

PENALTY: One-tenth of a point (0.1) penalty for each member per front boundary violation

6.9 Floor coverings (tarps) may not cover the front boundary line at the beginning of performance time.

PENALTY: Two point (2.0) penalty

EXIT

7.1 Exit may be over any line at the conclusion of the performance.

7.2 All performers must exit the competition area through the designated exit door, tunnel or ramp.

PENALTY: Five-tenths of a point (0.5) penalty per performer for failing to use designated exit door, tunnel or ramp

PENALTIES

8.1 Timing and Penalty judges will assess all penalties for infractions that take place in the competition area. Executive Director may not waive competition area penalties. An ensemble has a right to challenge any penalty in consultation with the Chief Judge but any final decision regarding penalties will remain with the Timing and Penalty Judge.

8.2 Any ensemble violating any rule of part of a rule, breaching standard contest etiquette, or failing to comply with directions from contest personnel for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each such violation, not less than 0.1 point up to disqualification at the discretion of the Executive Director.

8.3 All timing penalties shall be 0.05 points per second. All boundary penalties shall be 0.1 points per offense.

8.4 During a performance, adult or non-performing student personnel may not coach, cue, etc., any performers or control any wireless lighting events outside the competition area.

PENALTY: .1 to Disqualification at the discretion of the Timing and Penalties judge.

8.5 All programs, soundtracks, thematic and costuming choices must reflect the qualities that would be acceptable for performance at BRN venue or suitable for marketing to sponsors on a national level.

PENALTY: Denial of performance or possible disqualification as determined by the Executive Director.

