

AREA C OPEN MARCHING CONTEST

UIL Regions 3(3A/4A), 4, 9, 10, 19, 21, 25(4A), 33

GENERAL INFORMATION

2026-2027

General Admission to Area C 2A 3A 4A events: To Be Determined (TBD)

The following information is for **2A, 3A, and 4A** band directors who select "INTENT to participate" in the OPEN CLASS Area C Marching Contest. Bands that have chosen "Military Class" are not eligible for this "Open Class" contest.

2A OPEN CONTEST

DATE: The Area C 2A Contest is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2026 at Spring Hill HS Stadium

WEATHER INTERRUPTIONS: The weather will be monitored with a lightning detector during the contest. The field and stands might have to be vacated. Additionally, there could be a thirty-minute delay, or the contest could be postponed.

2A ESTIMATES: It is estimated there will be about seven 2A Open Class bands at Area out of the seventeen 2A bands that will probably make a first division (includes military). 2a prelim performances should start about 1:00pm and end about 3:00pm. The state UIL office has granted us an ongoing waiver to allow prelims to stand as final results. 2A results will probably be announced at 3:30pm.

Remember, this is an ESTIMATE.

3A OPEN CONTEST

DATE: The Area C 3A Contest is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2026 at Whitehouse HS Stadium.

WEATHER INTERRUPTIONS: The weather will be monitored with a lightning detector during the contest. The field and stands might have to be vacated. Additionally, there could be a thirty-minute delay, or the contest could be temporarily postponed. If we continue to have unsafe weather, we will delay the contest until Sunday, October 25th with a later start time.

3A ESTIMATES: It is estimated there will be about twenty 3A Open Class bands compete out of the twenty-nine 3A bands that will probably make a first division (includes military). Prelims will probably start about 10:00am and end about 4:45pm. 3A finals should start about 6:15pm and results announced about 10:00pm.

Again, these are ESTIMATES.

4A OPEN CONTEST

DATE: The Area C 2A/4A Contest is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2026 at Pine Tree HS Stadium.

WEATHER INTERRUPTIONS: The weather will be monitored with a lightning detector during the contest. The field and stands might have to be vacated. Additionally, there could be a thirty-minute delay, or the contest could be temporarily postponed. If we have continuous unsafe weather, we will delay until Monday, November 2nd using the same schedule as much as possible.

4A ESTIMATES: It is estimated there will be about twenty-one 4A Open Class bands compete out of the thirty-four 4A bands that will probably make a first division (includes military). 4A prelims should start about 9:30am and end about 4:45pm. 4A finals should start about 6:45pm and results announced at 10:30pm.

Remember, this is an ESTIMATE.

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED (MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 24 HOURS, OR THE NEXT SCHOOL DAY IF 24 HRS FALLS ON SUNDAY OR A HOLIDAY):

- Text or email me immediately after your contest whether or not your band will be coming to Area.
- Signed AREA OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM This form also serves as invoice. (available on Region 21/Area C web site)
- AREA (ANNOUNCER'S) UIL MARCHING BAND SCRIPT (available on Region 21/Area C web site)
- UIL MARCHING BAND EDUCATIONAL USE VIDEO AGREEMENT (email receipt)
- Additionally, please bring or mail a school check made out to **UIL AREA C MUSIC EVENTS c/o Mike Bullock** (The fee is stated on the Entry Form. A W-9, should you need it, is attached to the Entry Form. [on Region 21 Area C web site])

Documents may be sent via:

- Scan and email to mikebullock@me.com (This is the preferred method)
- Or take pictures and text to 903 258-0832 (when photographing, forms must be on a flat dark surface, showing all 4 corners)
- US Mail is not an option because of the delivery time

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The contest will be conducted according to the rules of the *UIL Constitution & Contest Rules*. Please read and understand the rules prior to attending the contest. Directors should review Section 1106: Area Marching Band Contest, as posted on the UIL State web site.
2. After making a first division (certification) at Region, directors must immediately text or otherwise notify Mike Bullock whether or not they plan to attend Area, and submit official entries within 24 hours or by the following school day in case 24 hour falls on Sunday or a holiday.
3. The contest schedule should be posted the third day after the final Region Contest (if timely notification by directors of all certified bands is made.) The order of bands is determined by a combination of randomization and distance.
4. Admission is listed at the top of this document highlighted in yellow. Tickets may be purchased at the gate. Bus drivers & school administrators will be admitted free with presentation of school ID. UIL Athletic passes are not accepted. Children 6 and under are free. Band chaperones must have chaperone passes. Passes (hand stamps) will be available when you arrive at contest. Please limit these complimentary passes to your bus chaperones. Each band student and departing spectator must have his/her hand stamped for reentry into the stadium. This is also necessary for the 2A/4A contest held at two sites; only one admission is necessary for both sites.
5. Contest Timing is where bands will be most vulnerable for a mandated disqualification. Please review the C&CR rules regarding timing. Details of the timing procedures are included in Local Ground Rules (*posted on Region 21 Area C web site*). We will operate on a 15-minute performance schedule and 45-minute warm-up schedule.
6. Video will be provided by MEDIA SERVICES of Lufkin. All bands will receive a video.
7. Prelim comments, recordings, and results will be available to directors via Competition Suite and as UIL rules governing contest software dictates. Video might be on a jump drive, so bring proper equipment if you would like to view your performance.
8. Prelim Verification: There will be a break at the end of Prelims. At this time, one director from each band will meet to review the ranking of the bands. All protests must be made prior to the announcement of the results. As in the past, we will use a top-half/bottom-half draw for area finals. For example (with a 10-band scenario), bands that are ranked 6-10 in prelims will be the first five performance slots (randomly) in finals. Bands that rank 1-5 in prelims be the last five performance slots (randomly) in finals.
9. After Prelims, the Drum Majors of all bands will assemble on the press box side of the field during tabulation time. Drum Majors should be in full uniform. All bands will be introduced and presented a participation plaque, then bands that will be advancing to the Finals will be announced.
10. At the end of Finals, we will have a RETREAT of finalist bands. During retreat, one director from each band will meet to review the ranking of the bands. That director will not be able to be with their band during retreat. More info will posted as soon as it is available. All protests must be made prior to the announcement of results. Finals ranking and those bands advancing to State will then be announced.

If you need any additional information or have any questions, contact your Region Executive Secretary or Mike Bullock, e-mail: mikebullock@me.com During the contest, you may text or call me on my cell phone; (903) 258-0832.

Best Wishes and Good Luck!
Mike Bullock, Exec Sec,
UIL Area C 2A 3A 4A