



F O U R  **S T A T E S**
PERFORMING ARTS ASSOCIATION

CONTEST MUSIC POLICY
25-26



CONTEST MUSIC POLICY



SECTION I - PURPOSE & AUTHORITY

This document sets forth the official policies and procedural requirements governing the use of sound equipment during warm-up and the submission and playback of competitive performance music at all Four States Performing Arts Association (FSPAA) sanctioned events. These policies are binding upon all participating units.

SECTION II - WARM UP SOUND POLICY

Participating units are permitted to utilize sound during body and equipment warm-up within designated warm-up areas, subject to the following conditions:

1. Units may provide and utilize their own sound amplification equipment for warm-up purposes.
2. FSPAA will endeavor, when practicable, to provide a speaker for warm-up use at each event; however, the provision of such equipment is not guaranteed and remains contingent upon venue resources, availability, and logistical constraints.
3. Units electing to rely on an FSPAA-provided speaker do so entirely at their own discretion and risk.

Technical and Time Considerations

- Bluetooth connectivity and pairing with unfamiliar sound equipment is inherently variable and may result in delays.
- No additional warm-up time shall be granted for:
 - Bluetooth pairing difficulties
 - Device incompatibility
 - Software or hardware malfunctions
 - Any other technical issues related to personal playback devices or audio files



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Advisory Notice

FSPAA strongly advises all units to arrive fully prepared with:

- A personal speaker when possible, and
- All necessary cables, adapters, dongles, and playback devices required for their specific audio setup.

Failure to do so shall not constitute grounds for schedule modification or exception.

SECTION III - PERFORMANCE MUSIC POLICY

All competitive performance music must be submitted electronically via *CompetitionSuite* in accordance with the deadline outlined below.

Mandatory Submission Deadline

- Thursday at 11:59 PM (local time) during the week of the scheduled event.

This deadline is established to allow FSPAA sufficient time to:

- Secure, organize, and verify submitted audio files
- Prepare performance sound for the assigned sound engineer
- Maintain an equitable, uninterrupted contest schedule

Unit Responsibility

The responsibility for timely and accurate submission of contest music rests solely and exclusively with the participating unit. This includes ensuring that:

- The correct audio file is uploaded
- The file is functional and playable
- Submission occurs prior to the stated deadline



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Failure to Meet Deadline

In the event that a unit fails to upload performance music by the prescribed deadline:

- FSPAA may, at its sole discretion and as a courtesy, attempt to provide an auxiliary audio connection or dongle on the contest floor.
- The availability of such equipment is not assured, nor is FSPAA obligated to provide it.

Limitation of Liability

If a unit:

- Fails to meet the submission deadline and
- Is unable to play their music due to unavailable adapters, incompatible devices, or technical malfunction

Then:

- FSPAA bears no responsibility or liability for:
 - A performance proceeding without music
 - Delays in performance
 - Any adjudication, scoring, or competitive impact resulting from missing or inaudible music.

No additional performance time, reruns, or accommodations shall be granted under such circumstances.

SECTION IV - GENERAL PROVISIONS

- These policies shall be enforced uniformly and without exception.
- Participation in an FSPAA event constitutes acknowledgment and acceptance of all terms set forth herein.
- FSPAA reserves the right to amend or clarify these policies as necessary to ensure the integrity and efficiency of its events.