

2023 Owl Marching Invitational Directors Packet

The following information is provided for our inaugural Odem Owl Marching Invitational to be held at the Odem Owl Stadium on Saturday, September 23rd, 2023. You will be responsible for all information and local ground rules included in this packet, so please read carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email me at rashs@oeisd.org or call me at my cell phone (361)537-6191

General Information

1. Arrive at Odem High School (1 Owl Square, Odem, TX 78370) 30 minutes prior to your scheduled warm-up time. Please try to avoid being there in advance of that if you can help it so we may maintain our parking lot flow. You may wait for your entry time along the back end of 'Owl Square' if you need a place to park until that time. Have your buses unload students at the Southwest High School Parking Lot. Your equipment trucks will unload at the North-East end of the High School Parking Lot (Other Half). A monitor will meet you and stay with you until you have left the field and returned to your buses. PLEASE INFORM SPOUSES, BAND STAFF, SUPERINTENDENT, and PRINCIPALS that they may NOT park in the bus parking lot.
2. Once equipment has been loaded onto the trucks/trailers after the performance they must move to the truck lot shown on the map. Buses should be moved to the Baseball field parking area. Should we need additional vehicles to move we may also use our Tennis Court/Pool Parking Lot.
3. If you have larger props that need assembly, there is a grass area by the Odem-Edroy ISD Marquee sign adjacent to the lot that you may use for that purpose. Entry to the field is through a double wide gate with no overhang to limit size.
4. Warm-up areas will be in our Grass Band Practice Field (see maps). No pit warm-up allowed at stadium or parking lot. In case of bad weather, or excessive heat for prelims, the warm-up area may be moved inside our Band Hall and Jazz Room/Stage. Please look at the maps to see Inclement Weather warm-up sites.
5. Warm-up time is 30 minutes. Your time includes entering and exiting the warm-up area. At the 25-minute mark, you will need to start moving your band out of the warm-up area and head to the stadium. There are restrooms available inside the high school for students in the main hallway.

6. An extended goal line is used as the starting point for the bands. Your band will wait there until the preceding band has completed their performance. When the official on the track gives you a signal, the stadium announcer will say “(Name of Band) High School, you may now enter the field to prepare for your performance.” You will then begin moving into starting position for warm-up/set-up, and the 5-minute set-up time will begin on the scoreboard clock. Timing and announcements will be according to UIL rules so be familiar with them. This includes the use of the UIL Script timing. The scoreboard clock will stop with 20 seconds left and be reset to 8:00, and drum majors will be introduced as the clock is being reset. The final 20 seconds will be kept on a stopwatch in the Press Box. When those 20 seconds have expired, the Scoreboard Clock will change from 8:00 to 7:59 and judging of your show shall begin.
7. Owl Stadium has artificial turf with painted standard markings. Any pit or prop equipment pushed or pulled on the field surface must have large inflatable tires or tires with a minimum of 8-inch wheels (pneumatic wheels/casters). Any equipment with smaller wheels must be lifted and placed into position.

Anything that leaves a residue on the turf will not be permitted and Violators will be billed for damage!

(i.e. Glitter, fire extinguishers, fog machines, confetti, and powder)

There is a 7-lane artificial surface track around the football field which may be used to move equipment and personnel. All gasoline-powered vehicles must have protection under the chassis and be free of leaks. Electric vehicles need no such protection.

8. All band members are to remain off the field except during their performance. Band directors are asked to strictly enforce this policy. Directors will be held responsible for the behavior of their students.
9. There will be EMS personnel on hand for the contest prelims. Most medical issues at marching contests tend to be due to dehydration. Please ensure that your students properly hydrate so that they can have the best possible experience at the Owl Marching Festival!
10. Balloons are prohibited at Owl Stadium, either by participants or spectators. Noisemakers, i.e. air horns, cow bells, etc., are not allowed. Please inform your parents and supporters that balloons and Noisemakers will not be allowed in the stadium.
11. Umbrellas (and other shading devices) must be completely closed and lowered while bands are performing. (Please inform your parents of this in advance)
12. No video equipment will be allowed into the Stadium except by authorized personnel, and live streaming of performances is not permitted. A video pass will be provided to each band to admit them to the filming area beside press box.

13. Admission for the general public is \$7.00 per person in advance, \$10.00 at the gate. There is no charge for pre-school age (5 and under) Children. Tickets are available at this link in advance: <http://odemhsband.ludus.com> We will accept cash and credit cards (fee required) at the gate. Tickets are valid for both prelims and finals as long as spectators do not lose their wristbands.
14. The ticket booth will be open about one hour before the start of the contest. The ticket booth will be open on the home side of the stadium (Northwest end). All seating is general admission and is on a first-come first-served basis. "Seat saving" will not be tolerated. OEISD personnel will enforce this if necessary. Please ask your fans to cooperate. The judges' area in front of the press box will be roped off. Please ask your fans to stay out of that area so as not to disturb the judges.
15. Band students and band sponsors will be allowed free admission to the visitors' stands. Students must wear some type of band uniform/shirt, or have a band director present to identify them as band members to be allowed admission to the visitors' stands. Any band student or band sponsor who wishes to view the contest from the home side must pay the admission fee.
16. There will be NO changing rooms. Restrooms are located in close proximity to the warm-up areas in the HS and there are some at the stadium on the far side by the concession stand.
17. A Video Pass will be issued at check-in on Contest day. That tag must be visibly displayed with the recording equipment upon entering the Stadium and when approaching the Press Box. You will be allowed the same 5-minute period to set up your recording equipment that your band has to set up for their performance, and the same 2-minute period to remove your equipment that your band has to clear the field at the end of their performance. The video area will be to the left of the press box as you look at it. Inform parents that NO OTHER VIDEO EQUIPMENT WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE STADIUM.
18. Passes for school personnel, i.e. bus drivers, assistant directors, other school administrators, etc., will be available at check-in. Gate passes are NOT for parents; parents who are accompanying your band must sit with the band on the Visitor side of the stadium.
19. For the safety of all participants please ensure that parents and or directors are supervising students throughout the contest!
20. Access in and out of the seating area will be restricted during each band's performance. We will close all entrances with 2 minutes left on the clock of each band setup time. Please inform your fans and students of this courtesy rule and advise them to show up at least 30 minutes before YOUR band performs.
21. Concession stands will be provided at the Home Side only for this event. The concessions are being run by the Odem Owl Band Boosters. PLEASE FREQUENT THEM OFTEN!

22. T-shirts and other souvenir items will be available and provided by TMF. (I have been assured that they will have better supplies than last year)
23. There will be an awards ceremony on the field at the end of the Prelims following the last band performance. All drum majors should report to the area under the scoreboard. Following the FINALS, there will be a Full Retreat of all Finalist Bands. Details will be distributed to those Directors following the Prelims. If you wish to leave earlier and miss awards that is understandable, just please let us know when you check in for finals.

NO OUTSIDE FOOD DELIVERIES TO THE STADIUM OR SCHOOL WILL BE ALLOWED. OUR BOOSTERS HAVE GREAT CONCESSIONS!!!

Scoring/Placement Procedures

Prelims

For the preliminary round of the competition bands will be judged using the UIL 5 Judge Area system with 3 Music Judges, and 2 Visual Judges. Additionally, there will be 2 Judges responsible for caption awards in Colorguard and Percussion awards. Those awards will be independent of the overall score for a band, but outstanding awards will be awarded to the best schools in each class.

Schools will be scored using the criteria UIL has set for that using Competition Suite to tabulate and send commentary back to directors at the conclusion of the Preliminary Round.

Each Class will have 1st through 3rd Place trophies awarded, as well as Best in Class Percussion and Guard.

1st-7th Place Overall bands will automatically advance to the Finals in the evening. Should no 1A/2A or 3A bands be in the 1st-7th Place overall, the top two bands in those classes will be awarded spots in the Finals Round. If those bands have advanced already, then the next ranking bands regardless of Class will advance to fill in 10 Finalist Spots. If needed with the class champion/runner-up there may be a maximum of 11 bands entered into the Final Round of competition.

There will a brief meeting with directors immediately following the announcement of Finalist Bands in the press box on Side 2 (Right Side Looking down at Field).

Finals

The final round of competition will move all participating bands into an Open Class format. Order of the bands will be random as drawn by directors when they arrive to check-in for the Preliminary Round of competition. The two Visual Judges will swap with two of the Music Judges for this round of competition.

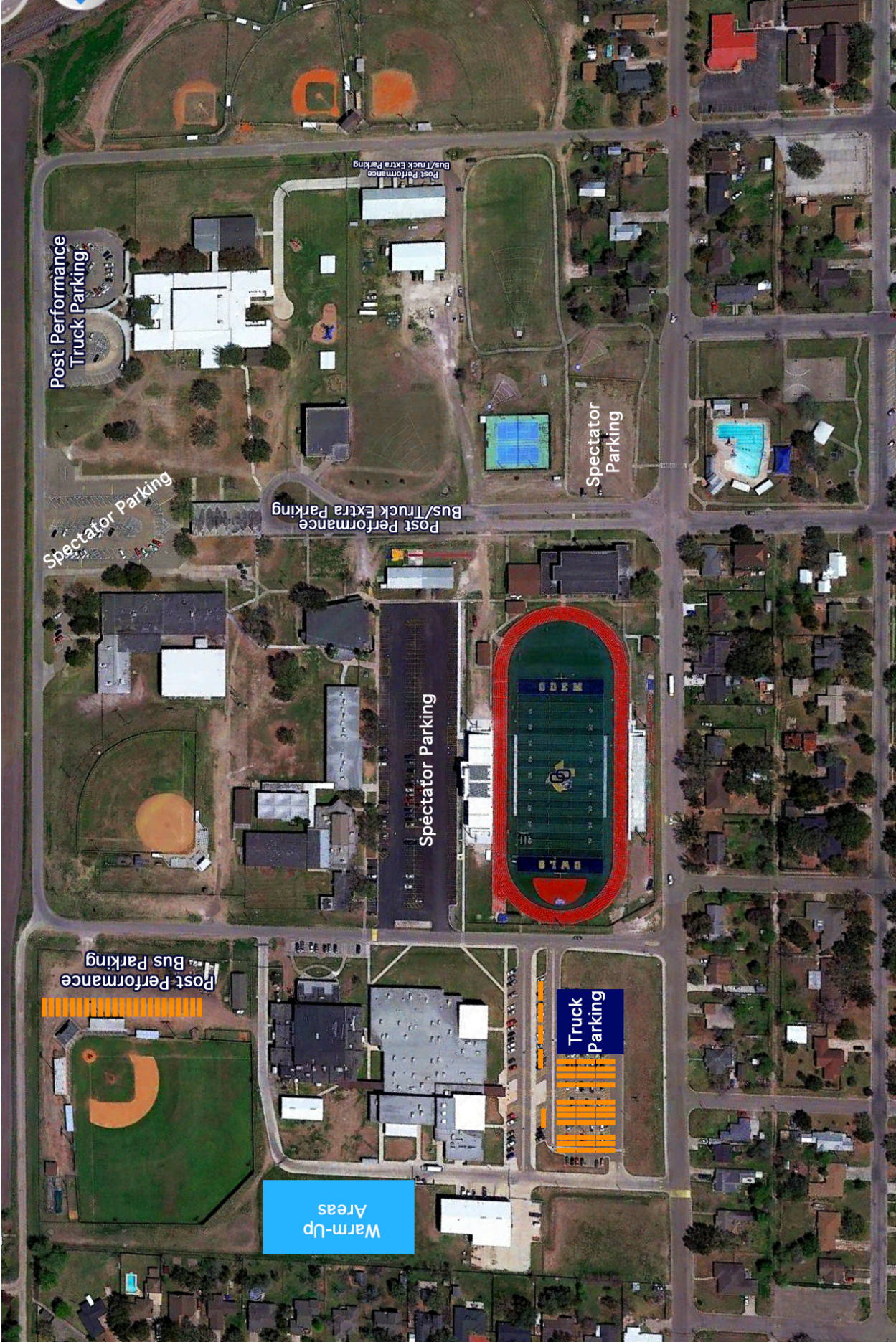
Once again UIL's 5 Judge Area scoring system will be used for this round of competition utilizing the Competition Suite system. Guard/Percussion judging will again take place independent of final placement of bands. Grand Champion, Runner-Up, and 3rd Place Trophies will be awarded to the top three placements, as well as Outstanding Overall Guard/Percussion and Runner-Up caption trophies will be awarded.

As noted in the above section there will be a Full Band Retreat on the Field for the Final Awards.

Final Notes

Please keep in mind that operating a contest of this magnitude requires tremendous planning. Our volunteers will do their best to make this a great experience for you and your band; however, you can help by making sure that your students, staff members, and parents adhere to the rules. If you have any questions, please call my cell phone at 361-537-6191. On behalf of Odem-Edroy ISD, we want to wish you and your band the best of luck!

Steven Rash
Director of Bands
Odem High School



Post Performance
Truck Parking

Spectator Parking

Post Performance
Bus/Truck Extra Parking

Post Performance
Bus/Truck Extra Parking

Spectator
Parking

Spectator Parking

STADIUM

Post Performance
Bus Parking

Warm-Up
Areas

Truck
Parking





