



*RULES /
GUIDELINES
2024*

Color Guard Categories – Solo and Small Ensemble

There are three categories of competition to enter.

Solo – 1 performer only on any form of equipment to include but not limited to dance, flag, rifle, sabre or prop. **Routine must have a traditional piece of equipment in the routine, ie: flag, rifle or sabre.**

Small Ensemble – groups 2 to 4 are considered small ensemble to be performed on any form of equipment to include but not limited to dance, flag, rifle, sabre or prop.

Large Ensemble – groups 5 to 8 are considered Large ensembles to be performed on any form of equipment to include but not limited to dance, flag, rifle, sabre or prop.

Routine must have a traditional piece of equipment in the routine, ie: flag, rifle or sabre.

ALL ROUTINES ARE TO BE STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHED

If you have any questions, please contact us at 619-656-6089.

Color Guard Ensemble/Solo Classification

JH/MS, High School and Masters ability level determines its competitive division at a SD Solo Ensemble Competition.

Your Colorguard instructor must sign your classification form confirming your ability level based upon the given criteria.

Junior High School

JH/MS Beginning – 0-1 year experience

JH/MS Intermediate: 1-2 years experience or approval from instructor.

High School

Beginning Flag: 0-1 year experience and routine is on flag and dance only

Beginning Weapon: 0-1 year experience on the piece of equipment - routine to include weapon. (rifle or sabre)

Intermediate Flag: 1-2 years experience and routine is on flag and dance only

Intermediate Weapon: 1-2 years experience on the piece of equipment - routine to include Rifle and or Sabre

Advanced Flag: 3+ years experience and routine is on flag and dance only

Advanced Weapon: 3 + years experience on the piece of equipment - routine to include Rifle and or Sabre

Masters Division

Masters Division: 5+ years experience or graduated from High School.

Color Guard Registration Information

Please complete the Registration form found at [ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Registration Form must be filled out at least **14 days prior** to the contest date.

For the convenience of scheduling, please register as early as possible even if you do not know the specific names of your soloists or ensembles. You must submit your solo and ensemble names and grade levels 14 days before the competition you are attending.

Late entries must call to confirm space availability and each late entry will be charged an additional \$20 for each routine entered. Confirmation packets & contest schedules will be emailed one week prior to the competition. SD Solo Ensemble will post a preliminary schedule on our website the weekend before the event with a final update on the Wednesday evening prior to the contest.

Color Guard Competition Entry Fees

Competition fees are as Follows:

20.00 per Solo

45.00 per Small Ensemble

60.00 per Large Ensemble

Refund Policy

Refunds must be requested in writing and received in our office at least 14 days prior to competition date. Phone calls are not acceptable. Ensembles and individuals that cancel entries after that time will not receive any refund! All entry fees must be paid by the date of the competition or performers may not be allowed to participate in the contest!

Color Guard Ensemble/Solo Routine Guidelines

1. Including set up/entrances/breakdown/exits, Ensemble/Solos have a total of 5 minutes floor time per routine. In Advanced and Masters division Ensemble/Solos will be given 6 total minutes. Entrances and exits are not judged.
2. Total routine time with set-up and breakdown of props and backdrops should not exceed time limits itemized above. A one point penalty per minute will be assessed for exceeding routine time limits.
3. Music must be recorded on compact discs with only 1 track on each disk Or MP3 Player with one track. Bring back up CDs to avoid technical problems.
4. Performance area is 96' x 50'. (Regulation basketball court)
5. All props and backdrops should be taped to avoid damage to wooden floors, and should be constructed to fit through a gymnasium 7' double door with center cross bar removed.

ALL PROPS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE HOST SCHOOL PRIOR TO PERFORMANCE!

Color Guard Solo Guidelines

1. Nine grade divisions will be offered:
 - 2 – in JH/MS division
 - 6 – in HS division
 - 1 – Masters division
2. Solo routines will need to be 2-3 minutes. A 5 point penalty will be assessed if the performance is greater than 3 minutes and 15 seconds.
3. Oral critiques & score sheets will be given to soloists.

Color Guard Ensemble Guidelines

1. Duets, Trios, Quartets, & Large Ensembles (2-4 Small Ensemble / 5-8 Large Ensemble may compete).
2. Nine grade divisions will be offered:
 - 2 – in JH/MS division
 - 6 – in HS division
 - 1 – Masters division
3. Division for any ensemble is determined by the age or highest talent division.
4. Ensemble routines will need to be 2 to 4 minutes in length. A 5 point penalty will be assessed if the performance is greater than 4 minutes and 15 seconds.
5. Oral critiques and score sheets will be given for each ensemble.

Judging Criteria

Judges will provide oral critiques on all Solo and Ensemble Performances. Score sheets indicating the numeric scores for each caption will accompany the recorded critiques.

Note: At a SD Solo Ensemble Color Guard Competition, judges will deduct points if any part of the choreography, costuming or music is deemed inappropriate.

Color Guard Awards

Medals for all divisions of solo Competition. Medals for all divisions of Ensemble Competition. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies for the overall teams scoring the highest average points tabulated from all routines and averaged with the total routines brought to competition to give an average team score. (at least 4 participants from a school to be tabulated for this award)

There will also be (2) Overall Outstanding Awards.

REPERTOIRE/COMPOSITION SHOWMANSHIP/PERFORMANCE

