

Colorado Bandmasters Association  
Revision of 4A/5A Format  
Initial Outline

**This format revision is simply for discussion at this point in time. I would ask the members of the marching committee who are 4A/5A directors solicit input from other 4A/5A directors during the 2013 marching season. Class size numbers, number of bands in state are all suggestions and can be revised as needed.**

**Intent-** To provide smaller 4A and 5A bands a format that enables them to compete with one another that also encourages greater student participation and success/growth in their instrumental program.

To encourage growth in band programs through comparable band size competition while encouraging all groups to aspire to participate in the Open Class.

**Classification Structure:**

This applies to schools with enrollment 1,101 or more from previous year according to CDE.

*\*any band from 1A-3A may petition to be in any of the 4A-5A classifications*

Silver: under 55 musicians

Gold: 55----80 musicians

Open: any number of musicians but required of bands over 80 musicians

Musician is defined as wind and percussion performers. This excludes color guard and drum majors.

**State Championship Format:**

Friday would be Prelims and Finals for Gold and Silver

10 Silver class bands in prelims

12 Gold class bands in prelims

10 bands in finals (6 from Gold class and 4 from Silver class)

32 total band performances in the day. (currently we have 28 bands in quarterfinals)

Saturday is Prelims and Finals for OPEN

20 bands in prelims (currently we have 24 bands in semifinals)

14 bands in finals (currently we have 16 bands in finals)

## **Awards:**

### **Silver and Gold Classes—**

Semifinals- banner and recognition for all Semifinalists who do not qualify for Finals.

Finals- banner and place recognition for all bands—**there will be no State Champion declared for these divisions; only placements in their respective Division.** I.e. 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Gold Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Gold Division, etc.

Caption awards for Effect, Music and Visual will be awarded.

### **Open Class:**

Semifinals- Banner and recognition for all Semifinalists who do not qualify for finals

Finals: Placement Awards 14-1 Finalist Banner

4A Class Awards 3<sup>rd</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>-and 4A State Champion—medallions + banner + trophy

5A Class Awards 3<sup>rd</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>- and 5A State Champion—medallions + banner + trophy

Caption Awards—Effect, Music, Visual

**CBA Grand Champion (top placement overall)- Trophy and Banner**

## **Advantages:**

Saves on travel expenses for many bands as they have only one day of competition.

Possible to have the top band or the top two bands from Gold and Silver advance to Saturday.

Smaller 4A/5A bands have a more even chance of competing and can participate in a prelims/finals.

Promotes a level of success for smaller bands that should help them grow.

## **Disadvantages:**

Gold and Silver do not see Open bands?? Similar to 1A-3A...

No room for any delays due to weather---might have a one-performance show.

Expenses vs. Revenue---large stadium—small crowd on Friday, potential decrease in number of bands on Saturday compared to current format could result in lower revenue.

Increased costs in ordering more trophies, banners, judge expenses, etc.

As stated this format includes 42 bands, the current format includes 44 bands.

## **Procedures:**

Directors will have to declare if they intend to compete in Open Class prior to the start of the marching season.

Gold, Silver and Open Class bands will still qualify through a regional process.

Directors will be responsible for the integrity of declaring the number of musicians.

## **Options:**

It may still be possible to retain a quarterfinal/semifinal/final format for the Open Class but that could mean having 14-16 open class bands in quarterfinals on Friday and then cutting 2-4 bands. It would also require the use of 6-8 automatic qualifier bands that would only compete on Saturday. This could also require the use of another stadium, another set of judges, another set of workers to run the event, etc.

