

# Hello everyone, and welcome to another Weekend in Wildwood!

The Warm-up lot will be in the same location as last year, in the far convention center parking lot right past the beach balls. All trucks should enter through the Hand Avenue entrance. This will allow for a straight shot into the lot. Once you enter the lot, all trucks will park and unload on the right hand side of the lot. Please only bring equipment vehicles in the parking lot, as there is not a lot of extra room. Playing is only allowed in the warm-up blocks, please do not play in the unloading area.

There is a noise ordinance in Wildwood that we ask that you adhere to, weekdays from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm and weekends from 8:00 am – 9:00 pm. In the event that your allotted warm-up time falls outside of these you may only play in the designated areas as noted in the schedule. TIA is not responsible for your unit in the event you break this ordinance.

When you receive your schedule there will be a breakdown of times.

The first time is when you may begin your musical warm-up inside your assigned block. Please note that you will have 35 minutes. We ask that you stick to these times as there will be another group waiting to start their warm-up.

The second time is when your block in the back of the hall will be available. At this time, you may move your floor, props, etc into the assigned block. We ask that you do not move anything into the back of the hall more than 15 minutes prior to this time, as we would like to keep the room accessible for the units going onto and coming off of the floor. **We also ask that you do not park your truck in the loading zone. Be kind to the other units and unload what you need to and then move the truck until after your unit's performance.** There is NO playing in the back of the Hall!!!

The third time will be when you need to start moving to the convention Center. Please understand that the boardwalk can be crowded at times, and that the next unit is waiting for their time. The last two times are your report to the ready line, and your performance time.

For Finals, we have it listed by place in prelims. So if you are 4th in Scholastic Regional A in Prelims, find that time slot on the warm-up schedule for your times. We will try to have fully updated schedules with your Finalist packets.

In the event of bad weather, volunteers may not man the warm-up lot. Please be smart and do not use your performance floors outside. In the event the show gets behind for whatever reason, there will be communication from inside the Convention Center to outside to let you know.

Once again we will be putting into effect the late to line Penalty. If you hit the 2-minute mark in your set up and you are not ready to perform due to electronic issues, you will have the choice to perform without them, or go off the floor and come back on after the next unit. If you choose to go off, you will be assessed a 2 point penalty, and will need to set up and perform. If your electronics do not work on the second time you must go without them. We are on a very strict schedule and must not get too far behind. Please be prepared to move once you are given the signal to do so.

At the end of Saturday night's finals, please load your equipment after your performance and move your truck back to the warm-up lot. After the awards we would all like to celebrate and enjoy the evening, we appreciate the promptness of having everything loaded and out of the building/dock as quickly as possible.

**We do have a few new additions this year:**

### **The Steve Rook Champions Trophy.**

In the memory of our friend and mentor, the NJA has established this award. The trophy will be presented to each class champion, and you will be able to take a photo with it. The trophy is a marching snare drum, and after each season a plaque will be added to the drum with the champions of each class on it. It will be on display in Wildwood for all to see. This is to honor the legacy of Steve, and the values of education that he stood for.

### **Drum Jawn**

On Sunday from 9:00am - 12:00pm The Jersey Surf will be bringing their Mobile Music Lab to Wildwood. You can come and go as needed to support the other units you have performing throughout the day. Here is some info on the event.

The Drum Jawn expands on the drum circle concept to create a multi-station interactive experience that functions more like a percussion carnival than a single facilitated session. Students rotate through a series of hands-on music-making stations, each featuring a different genre or tradition -- areas may include Scottish Pipe Band drumming, steel pan, rudimental and rope drumming, and world percussion. It is decidedly NOT about marching percussion, but exposure to styles and techniques beyond the standard field and floor offerings.

Each station runs on a ~30 to ~45 minute rotation, giving participants a genuine taste of each style without a long-form commitment. Think of it as a Whitman's Sampler for percussion -- a curated set of short, memorable experiences that expose young musicians to traditions and genres well outside the typical scholastic ensemble curriculum.

What this delivers for your event:

The Mobile Music Lab team will professionally facilitate a drop-in, drop-out drum circle for students who have completed their competitive performance. This is not a structured sit-down session with a single, specific start and finish. Participants can enter and exit freely, making it a natural fit for a competition day where schedules vary and group sizes shift throughout the afternoon.

Our staff will bring enough instruments to support more than 100 simultaneous participants and will manage the flow of the activity from open to close. Everything is handled by our team -- setup, facilitation, and teardown.

The event will be outside of the main entrance, or in the Ballroom depending on the weather.

If you need anything or have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Adam Street

NJA Percussion Caption Head

[Adam.street@njatob.org](mailto:Adam.street@njatob.org)