



**Texas Bandmasters Association
Convention/Clinic July 26-28, 2018**

**The Complete Marching Season
Part 2: Summer Band - Systems and
Processes are the Key!**

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PART 2 – SUMMER BAND

- Early percussion camp
 - Benefits of the “pulse of the marching band” to have a head start
 - The drumline instruments are “new” compared to the winds
 - Be careful of UIL 10-hour rule
- Physical conditioning
 - Get the students out of their summer bodies
 - Possible hired help?
 - Dance workouts to get students accustomed to future choreography
 - Marching becomes the “easy” part
- Marching Fundamentals
 - KEEP IT SIMPLE...it’s just walking
 - Shape of the leg
 - Shape of the foot
 - Control of the upper body
 - Focus only on the concepts you’ll actually need
 - Forward March
 - Backward March
 - Slides
 - Direction Changes
 - Multiple Step Sizes
- Playing Fundamentals
 - KEEP IT SIMPLE
 - Breathing (tubes?)
 - Long tones
 - Articulation/Style
 - Flexibility/Technique
 - ALWAYS MOVE THE FEET
 - Fundamentals should be at show tempos to create easy application
 - Focus on tone production...while moving the feet...at appropriate tempos
 - Create style exercises to replicate parts in your show
- Audition process/Spot assignments
 - Use the first week of summer band fundamentals to see who “gets it” and who doesn’t
 - Based partially on band auditions in spring
 - You can hide bad players, you can’t hide bad movers
- What to do with your “extra” students (JV/Alternates/Shadows)
 - Write extra drill so that everyone marches at games
 - Develops students for the future
 - Makes it easier to fill holes for injuries/eligibility
 - Trading spots
 - Limits student development for the future
 - Prop movers
 - The least skilled students move the biggest objects on the field???
 - 2 marching bands
 - Competitive marching band (only primary marchers)
 - Pep Band (everyone)
 - Still limits development for the future
- Drill team/Stands tunes/Shorts
 - Learn ALL of these during the first week or two of summer band
 - Helps build their “faces”
 - Make your stand tunes the tunes you have to play for your drill team
 - Learn “shorties” to play in the stands

- Tempo selection
 - Have a plan to ensure success at final show tempos
 - Try to keep the tempos as concise as possible
 - Only work at necessary tempos
- Click Tracks & Use of technology
 - This will simplify the drill learning process IMMENSELY!!!
 - Any tempo changes in the music are the same EVERY TIME!
- Wireless met
 - Met must be in the back
 - Create a met "wall" on the back sideline
 - Tempo controlled from ipad/Dr. Beat connected to a wireless transmitter
 - Kenny Cable
- Social events
 - This is the hardest time of the year
 - There has to be time for fun
 - At least one activity a week
 - Band Olympics
 - DCI at the movie theater
 - Parent Marching Night
 - Local fire truck hosedown
 - Water balloon fight