

TAPPS Music Meeting Minutes June 2009  
June 11, 2009

A. Welcome

1. Call meeting to order- Vena Williams, State Director
2. Opening Prayer- Curt Coffey, State Meet Coordinator
3. Introductions

B. Meets

1. Region Meets

- a. Dates-Certification deadline midnight March 19<sup>th</sup> (4 weeks prior to the State meet)
- b. Locations- consider having solos one day and ensembles another
- c. Coordinators- split the duties between two or more people.
  - 1) Certification deadline the 19th.
  - 2) I will be meeting with the University hosts on the 22 and 23 with our final numbers (minus any scratches) so they have time to find the right number of judges and provide what we need.
  - 3) it takes a whole week to make the 4 state schedules and then the schedules have to be posted 2 weeks in advance for the schools to have time to plan accordingly for their trips.
  - 4) I can be a little flexible with the use of Saturday the 20th, but the results have to be entered into tappster and verified that day. I know it is difficult with the spring break schedules, and many regions face these challenges. Those meets usually occur in February or during spring break.

2. State Meets-

- a. Dates
  - 1) Art March 26, 27 (Easter April 4)
  - 2) Academic April 9-10
  - 3) Vocal Music April 16 and Instrumental Music April 17
- b. State Music Location
  - 1) 1A/2A/3A University of Mary Hardin Baylor
  - 2) 4A/5A Hardin Simmons University
- c. Restructure for future, nothing is certain. We are still exploring options for this current year. If there is a change in this status it will be determined before September 1.

c. TAPPster changes

1. Rank large ensemble pieces to list in order of performance- possibility.
2. Sight-reading adjudication forms were not correct on the site this year. They included the Song titles of the Large Ensemble pieces. This will be adjusted in tappster.
3. We will ask the programmer to make the 3 judge events automatically set the program to print 3 copies of the adjudication forms so that photo copies will not have to be made also.
4. New report for meet hosts- Count by category and school- gives the number of events per school per event and a total for all. This will help with hiring judges and preparing the schedule.
5. A new spot on the Entries link will show up for PML songs that will require the Specification of PML to be listed. Ex. The PML may say: play 2 mvt. You will enter that information in tappster. Not all UIL pieces have specifications. You will just type none if nothing is listed.

D. Discussions

1. Middle School Participation

- a. Same as last year. Only 8<sup>th</sup> graders that are performing members of the top performing group may participate in one ensemble and need approval. See the manual for specific details.

- b. If your region wants to hold a middle school meet aside from the TAPPS high school meet, then that will give the students an opportunity to become experienced as they wait for High School for other entries (solos, etc).
  - c. There will be no 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the year 2010-2011.
  - d. After the meeting, Vena went to the board to request the addition of 6<sup>th</sup> and or 7<sup>th</sup> graders to be allowed back into the one single ensemble. The board denied the request.
2. Limiting Entries
- a. Problem- competition is not competitive--No one can compete with the few schools that bring more than 5 medium type ensembles per category. There was no decision made to limit the number of entries for this year.
  - b. UIL does not have large ensembles at the State level. Suggestion to choose a Varsity group and the others are Non-Varsity groups. There was no decision made to only allow a Varsity group to advance to state.
  - c. Directors say they want the competition to be challenging but as soon as there are a few 2's posted at state, they think it is too tough. The judges at the State meets do not judge on UIL level- we are not UIL. A comment from a judge at a State meet, "Judging naturally varies from Region to Region, and while some performers are very good, others should not be here." Those present at the meeting were in agreement that high standards should be kept. Entries advancing to State should think of the standard of entering into the State contest receiving a 2 rating and then proving to the judges they deserve a 1 rating. The current assumption for most is that a 1 rating was received at Region so that is what is expected at State.
3. Performing songs not on the UIL PML. Do we want to have a process for allowing music not on the list to be performed? The UIL has a application process and it is decided by a committee. There was no desire for those present to want to have a process for additional songs. The PML has plenty of challenging pieces to choose.
4. Changing the required levels of solo and ensemble
- a. Solos-
    - 1) once a student performs a level of solo and receives a 1 rating at Region, they must perform the next higher level the following year –This is encouraged but not a new rule.
    - 2) only class one advances to state—no change was made for this rule. Class 2 for 1A/2A/3A solos still advance.
    - 3) If class 2 advances, less points awarded to 1 ratings—this was agreed.
    - 4) Instrumental solos memorized unless off the non-memory list for the UIL—this was not passed.
    - 5) Small/Medium/Large Ensembles – There were lots of suggestions for changing the levels to make the difficulty a little more challenging. Refer to the new manual for the changes made.
5. Tie Breaker of some sort for overall State places? There was no decision at this time. A change may be made in coming months after discussion with a committee.
6. Jazz Band will only play 2 pieces not 3.
7. State fees change instead of \$4 per student per event, fees like Region. I will look at the numbers, but it will be similar to the way Region is structured. There is a severe disadvantage to those groups with more than 25 students in a large ensemble (\$100) and a large ensemble with only 8 students (\$24) when they all use the same amount of judging time and resources.
8. Chaperones and Volunteers
- a. Chaperones
    - 1) 1 adult for every 10 students. A form will be submitted at registration of the state meet with the names and cell numbers of the chaperones with a main contact person listed.
    - 2) Chaperones will be responsible for monitoring the students not on stage and those off stage. Some will need to travel with the groups to the rooms especially if they have stuff

carried with them (costumes, etc). Students should be monitored at all times. Staff should be monitored at all times.

- b. Volunteers
  - 1) Each school has to have a volunteer sign up for 1 hour of service to the meet.
    - (1) Monitor rooms
    - (2) time-keeper
  - 2) Each school brings their own stage set-up crew if your students are not going to set up their own stands. The Inst groups got behind even with the universities providing a few people to help with the set-up. It takes longer for the university host to figure out the set-up than it would for a few people for your own school to set up the stage. Our manual states 20 min for set-up, warm-up, and tuning, but it always takes longer for set-up because you are not doing your part to set up.
9. Sight Reading Process-
  - a. what is allowed? what is not allowed? The instruction sheet will be more specific.
    - 1) Accompanist may give the tonic triad and starting pitches. Once the triad and pitches have been given, NO VOCAL SOUND may be produced by students.
    - 2) Director asks for the triad and pitch.
    - 3) You may only chant before the triad and pitch is given
  - b. SR is only 1 meet level for UIL so there is a limited amount of SR music, especially since we use 3 levels this year. TAPPS will continue with the 3 levels of music.
10. We discussed the performance areas from both State campuses. Vena will work with the Universities to make sure things are set and will make some adjustments where things were crowded, stands not provided or even pianos not provided.
11. New Teacher Orientation October 3, 2009 in Salado. This will be a great opportunity to become familiar with Tappster and the manual.
12. TAPPS Newsletter- Lee Mead
  - a. [www.tapps.net](http://www.tapps.net)-- click on 'newsletter' or the picture of newsboy in lower left corner
  - b. The newsletter can be used to publicize activities and for student/teacher/school interest stories. The more you submit, the more your students are recognized.
  - c. He is looking for pictures—especially from fine arts events.