Official Timing Procedures (from the C&CR)

The official time for each band will be kept according to the following guidelines:

- (A) The contest chair will designate an official timekeeper. (In Region 5 the official time will be kept by the Field Coordinator)
- (B) Bands will be scheduled with five minutes between performances and a maximum of fifteen minutes per band.
- (C) Bands may use the five minutes prior to their performance in any way they deem appropriate in order to assume their starting position and prepare for the beginning of their show. Activities may include warm-up and/or cadence.
- (D) Each band will be announced with 45 seconds remaining on the 5-minute clock. The beginning of their announcement will indicate that the performance time shall begin in 45 seconds.
- (E) The actual timing and adjudication for the show will begin at the end of the five minutes.
- (F) At the conclusion of its performance the post script will be read while each band will have two minutes to exit the field and clear the marching surface of all equipment, instruments and props. The use of either instrumental or verbal cadence is optional. A band that fails to be clear of the field (outside the sidelines or end lines) or continues to use instrumental or verbal cadence at the end of the two minutes will be disqualified.
- (G) A band leaving equipment or instruments on the sideline in such a manner that these items impede the movement of the next band into its starting position is subject to penalty in accordance with Subchapter E.