

## INVITATION TO THE 74TH ANNUAL TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL

### Greetings Director:

The **Tri-State Band Festival Committee** invites you to join us in the celebration of **74 years of *high school band marching tradition*** in the longest continually operating competition in the Midwest!

This year's competition will be held on **Saturday, September 27, 2025** in Luverne, Minnesota. We would be honored to have your band participate in our festival.

In **1951**, high school bands from around the region marched down Main Street in Luverne for the first time in competition. Developed and nurtured by community volunteers, the Tri-State Committee continues to work hard to make this a great learning experience for high school marching bands. The **Luverne High School Marching Band** and the **Luverne Middle School Marching Band** will serve as hosts for the competition.

The Tri-State Committee continues to work on improving and fine-tuning all aspects of the day. We welcome your input and will strive to make this festival a wonderful, educational experience for your students.

The Tri-State Band Festival coordinates our competition with Brandon's **Big Sioux Review**. This offers your students the opportunity to compete in two great festivals in one day—less than 20 miles apart! A special award, the ***Star of the Great Plains***, is presented to the band with the highest combined scores in the competitions on this day!

**Join us in Luverne on Saturday, September 27th! Marching band fans from throughout the Midwest know that Luverne, Minnesota is the place to be the last Saturday in September. Give us the opportunity to host you and your marching band! It would be our honor to welcome you to this competition!**

Sincerely yours,

 

**Missy Buckland & Becky DeBoer**

**2025 Co-Chairs**

**Tri-State Committee**

**213 East Luverne Street**

**Luverne MN 56156**

**507-283-4061**



# **74TH ANNUAL TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, September 27, 2025**

**9:30 am: Parade Competition | 12:30 pm: Field Competition**

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR/DIRECTORS: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE CONTACT(S): \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL CONTACT(S): \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (Grades 9 – 12): \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check or circle the competition(s) you will be participating in:*

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PARADE ONLY      | \$75.00 entrance fee           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIELD ONLY       | \$75.00 entrance fee           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PARADE AND FIELD | \$100.00 combined entrance fee |

*Please check or circle the class you will be competing in:*

Class A       Class AA       Class AAA       Class AAAA

Tri-State CLASS ASSIGNMENT is based on SCHOOL ENROLLMENT in grades 9 through 12.  
Bands may move up a class in the competition at the discretion of the director.

Class A	1 to 250 students
Class AA	251 to 500 students
Class AAA	501 to 999 students
Class AAAA	1,000 and over

**TAKE PART IN 2 COMPETITIONS IN ONE DAY!**

The Big Sioux Review held Brandon, SD the evening of September 27, 2025!

Win the Star of the Great Plains Award (highest combined score from both competitions) following the BIG SIOUX REVIEW! Only 17 miles from Luverne!

RETURN THE REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Luverne Area Chamber | 213 E. Luverne Street | Luverne, MN 56156 | 507.283.4061

Or e-mail: [luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us](mailto:luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 25, 2025**

**REGISTER NOW...PAY LATER...WE WILL INVOICE!**

**TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL – SEPTEMBER 27, 2025**  
**COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**PARADE RULES:**

1. General Effect Music, General Effect Visual, and Colorguard front judges will be on the reviewing stand to the right of the bands. The Music Performance, Visual Performance and Percussion will adjudicate from the street.
2. Bands must assemble on time for the parade. **PENALTY: May be assessed.**
3. Trailers will not be allowed on the parade route without authorization by Tri-State Band Festival Committee.  
**PENALTY: Disqualification.**
4. The judging area is 80 yards prior to the judges' trailer and 20 yards past the trailer. Total time in the judging area may not exceed 5 minutes. (From the time the first band member enters until the last band member leaves the judging area shall not exceed 5 minutes.) **PENALTY: May be assessed.**
5. Use of mechanized vehicles, animals, and pyrotechnics of any kind, including fireworks, discharge of firearms, or any hazardous materials shall not be permitted. **PENALTY: Disqualification.**
6. Bands may not leave any "debris" along the parade route. **PENALTY: Disqualification.**
7. Any band may choose to move up a competitive class.

**FIELD RULES:**

1. **COMPETITIVE AREA**
  - The competition field will be a regulation size football field, 160 feet wide by 300 feet long, including a "pit" area 15 yards either side of the 50 yard line. The boundaries of the field will be marked and the field will be lined every 5 yards and divided into thirds by hash marks.
2. **FIELD ENTRANCE and EXIT**
  - A field entrance may be made from either end zone or the back sideline.
  - Bands may troop the stands. Trooping may only start when the entire band has cleared the field. Any instruments may play while trooping. Drums must use a "drum tap" once the band has cleared the stands. Bands must troop from west to east.
3. **TIMING**
  - All bands must report to the competitive area 15 minutes prior to their scheduled performance time.
  - A 60 second warm-up is allowed prior to the official introduction and performance.
  - All bands must be in competition for a minimum of 8 minutes to a maximum of 11 minutes.
  - Following the conclusion of their performance, bands will have a maximum of 2 minutes to exit the field.
4. **EQUIPMENT**
  - The use of mechanized vehicles, animals, and pyrotechnics of any kind, including fireworks and the discharge of firearms, or any hazardous materials shall not be permitted. **PENALTY: Disqualification.**
  - Bands may not leave any "debris" on the field when the field show is completed. **PENALTY: Disqualification.**
  - Dropped equipment of any kind will not be penalized. Dropped equipment may be retrieved by band personnel, festival official, or judge without penalty. However, returned equipment must be accepted by the band personnel. **NOTE: Dropped equipment may still negatively affect other scoring.**
5. **OPERATIONAL RULES**
  - No band may use the competition field prior to the competition.
  - To avoid conflict with bands in competition, there will be no musical warm-up prior to the 60 second starting line warm-up. All practicing must be done in one of the designated practice fields.
  - Drum-lines may warm-up on the south side of the school in the areas identified on the map.
  - All set-ups (pre-ground equipment, electric sound equipment, etc.) must be completed after the preceding band has exited the competition field and before the band has begun their performance.
  - No non-uniformed member will be permitted on the competition field at any time during the show.
  - A competing band director may conduct only from outside any boundary line.
  - Directors may not contact any judge during the competition.
  - Each competing director is entitled to confirm their own group's points or point total.
  - If two or more bands have a tie in their final score, the higher placement will be awarded to the band with the higher "raw score" (subtotal before penalties). If after using the criteria a tie still exists, the highest general

effect total will be used to determine placement.

- The Outstanding Winds award will be taken from the Music Performance score.
- Bands will be allowed to have two designated photographers in the area of the field during the band's performance. *Photographer passes can be given to each band performing on the field.*
- Bands with special warm-up procedures shall have a representative in the Crow's Nest to tell the announcer when the band is ready to: "Take the Field in Competition."

#### 6. CLASS

- Any band may choose to move up a competitive class.

#### SCORING SYSTEM – YOUTH IN MUSIC:

200.0 – General Effect Music:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 10%
200.0 – General Effect Visual:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 10%
200.0 – Music Performance:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 10%
200.0 – Visual Performance:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 10%
200.0 – Percussion:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 5%
200.0 – Colorguard:	Content (100.0) & Achievement (100.0) = 5%
TOTAL SCORE:	100.00

#### ADJUDICATION:

The Tri-State Band Festival contracts with Tri-State Judging Association to provide judges for the competition.

#### TROPHIES AND SPECIAL AWARDS

- Tri-State Band Festival Parade Sweepstakes Trophy: This trophy is awarded to the band with combined top score of the parade competition.
- Tri-State Band Festival People's Choice Parade Trophy: This trophy is awarded to a parade band selected by a committee of Luverne residents who are not on the festival committee.
- Tri-State Band Festival Field Sweepstakes Trophy: This trophy is awarded to the band with the combined top score of the field competition.
- Tri-State Band Festival People's Choice Field Trophy: This trophy is awarded to a field band selected by a committee of Luverne residents who are not on the festival committee.
- Tri-State Band Festival Class Trophies: Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place bands in each class for the parade and field competitions.
- K.M. Getman Originators Award: This award will be a special award made to the band which, throughout their Tri-State Band Festival participation, best exhibits their pride, spirit, enthusiasm, friendliness and unity of high school marching bandsmen. In 1951 Ken Getman and other originators of the festival saw a need for an educational opportunity for bands to share ideas and see one another perform. This award commemorates the past ideas and future hopes of the Tri-State Band Festival. Judging for this award will be done by members of the Tri-State Band Festival Committee and community who have worked with and observed bands the entire day.
- Special Unit Awards: Auxiliary Unit Plaques will be awarded in field competition to the top band in each category for Outstanding Drum Major, Outstanding Auxiliary, Outstanding Percussion, and Outstanding Winds. These plaques will be given in addition to the regular awards.
- Participation Awards: All bands participating in the Tri-State Band Festival shall receive a participation award.