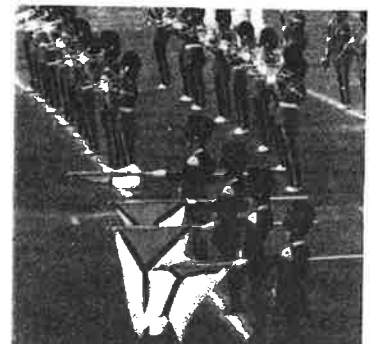


CLASSIFICATION



HOW BANDS ARE CLASSIFIED FOR THEIR DIVISION

by Robert Everitt

What the new classification is designed to do is (1) mathematically rate bands and (2) have bands of the same relative size and strength together.

Now let's look at the basic system.

All bands are classified on the basis of their score in a 25 point system utilizing six (6) criteria.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| | POINTS | SIZE | | | PLACEMENT |
| 1. BAND SIZE | - 8 - | 122 and up | | 4. CHAMPIONSHIP | - 2.0 - 1st |
| | - 7 - | 112 to 121 | | | - 1.5 - 2nd |
| | - 6 - | 102 to 111 | | | - 1.0 - 3rd |
| | - 5 - | 92 to 101 | | | - .5 - Attending |
| | - 4 - | 82 to 91 | | | |
| | - 3 - | 72 to 81 | | | |
| | - 2 - | 62 to 71 | | | |
| | - 1 - | 0 to 61 | | | |
| | | SIZE | | 5. CLASS THE | CLASS |
| 2. FRONT SIZE | - 4 - | 71 and up | | YEAR BEFORE | - 4 - YANKEE |
| | - 3 - | 55 to 70 | | | - 3 - LIBERTY |
| | - 2 - | 39 to 54 | | | - 2 - AMERICAN |
| | - 1 - | 0 to 38 | | | - 1 - INDEPENDENCE |
| | | RATING | | | |
| 3. FINAL RATING | - 3 - | TOP $\frac{1}{3}$ | | 6. COMMISSIONER'S | RATING |
| | - 2 - | MIDDLE $\frac{1}{3}$ | | RATING | - 5 - Excellent |
| | - 1 - | BOTTOM $\frac{1}{3}$ | | | - 4 - Very Good |
| | | | | | - 3 - Average |
| | | | | | - 2 - Fair |
| | | | | | - 1 - Poor |



CLASSIFICATION



The first two criteria deal with band size and front size and make up 48% of the evaluation. With these two areas the number of performing members a band has is rated.

In the next three criteria (1) rating, (2) championship, (3) class, the bands' performances from the year before are evaluated. The final rating takes the bands' scores from cavalcade shows of the year before and averages them. Then all bands of the cavalcade are placed in order from the highest to lowest and then divided into Top $\frac{1}{3}$, Middle $\frac{1}{3}$, Bottom $\frac{1}{3}$.

Next the bands are rated as to their finish at the Championship Show, since it is the only time during the season that all the bands in a given class meet on the same field.

The last area is the bands' class from the year before.

The final criteria is the commissioner's rating. In this area a band's staff, past record and observations by the chief judge and commissioner are converted to a five point scale. All bands are rated on the same scale.

Now that each band has a number evaluating its program, all the bands are placed in order from highest to lowest scores. The bands are now broken into four classes by grouping bands of approximately the same point totals.

A band cannot move more than one class in a given year so that a major strain will not be placed on a program at one time.

Band directors declared before the Spring Cavalcade meeting what their projected band and front sizes will be and preliminary classification is set up. Directors now have to September 1st to make their final declarations should it affect their classification.

Should a new band wish to enter the cavalcade, the commissioner will evaluate the band's past record and experience and place this new band in one of the four classes.

