



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
PERCUSSION ALLIANCE

Participant Handbook



OUR PHILOSOPHY

SCPA has been and continues to strive to be the only percussion circuit of choice for performing ensembles that demand the best in adjudication, organization, and overall excellence.



The purpose of the Southern California Percussion Alliance is to promote the growth of the percussive arts through competition, performance, and educational activities and to encourage goodwill, good sportsmanship, and camaraderie throughout the alliance.

In the context of these general purposes, SCPA has established an alliance of organizations for the mutual benefit of percussion ensembles, in order to provide these organizations with a competition circuit in the Southern California region.



Event Admission

Regular Season Show: \$12

Championships:

- Prelims/Semifinals (per event) \$25
- A & Open Class Finals \$25
- World Class Finals*† \$50-30

Championships Parking (daily): \$3

Children five and under are free at most events.

**All seats are individually ticketed at World Class Finals. Children two and under are free if sitting in a parent's lap. Any children needing their own seat will need a ticket / wristband.*

†An A/Open Finals ticket can be added to a World Finals ticket purchase at a reduced price of \$18.

Parents, Fans, Spectators

General admission seating is not guaranteed and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. It is the spectator's responsibility to ensure they are seated at least 15 minutes before a scheduled performance. Spectator doors will open 30 minutes before the start of the event.

Out of consideration for the ensembles, we ask that you remain in your seats during every performance and keep the aisles clear until the breaks between each performance.

All cell phones and 2-way radios should be turned off while inside the performance venue.

All forms of recording or live streaming of any performance are strictly prohibited. This is SCPA policy and is the only way to comply with United States copyright law. This policy is at the ensembles' request and we ask that you please honor their wishes.

Safety is paramount to all our performers. Therefore, the use of flash photography is strictly prohibited. Still photography (without a flash) is welcome for personal, non-commercial use.



Entry Fees

Regular Season Show: \$250

Championships (Prelims/Semis/Finals): \$500

Registration

Registration is paperless.

All [applications and forms of payment](#) are solely online. Payment is done through the SCPA website and will require a credit card or debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover).

Registration for SCPA Regular Season Shows closes two weeks before the date of the event. Registration for SCPA Championships closes on March 1st.

Two regular season shows must be attended in order to qualify for Championships.*

**This applies to ensembles from the following counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura. Ensembles from outside these counties may participate in Championships without attending a regular season show.*

SCPA Championships takes course over multiple weekends. Depending on facilities and when Easter falls, there may be a week “buffer” in between weekends.

There are no refunds.

No
Membership
Fees



Transfers & Withdrawals

Ensembles may transfer from one event to another without an additional fee via the login page on the website.

In the event that your ensemble needs to withdraw from an show, please email krothe@scpa.live. Withdrawing from a show after the show has closed will result in a \$150 fee. This fee will need to be paid prior to your ensemble's next performance.

Plus Pass

Plus Passes will be available as an add-on during initial registration. A plus pass provides your ensemble with ten (10) additional back-side wristbands for each performance of the season. The cost of a plus pass is \$100 per regular season show and \$300 for Championships. A plus pass can not be added or purchased after registration is complete.



Rules & Requirements

As a Circuit Partner, SCPA uses the WGI rulebook and adjudicator sheets and highly recommends that every director and staff member read the WGI rulebook thoroughly. Please visit wgi.org for more information.

Each SCPA ensemble is required to have a [Participating Ensemble Master Agreement](#) on file prior to the start of the season. This agreement is designed to be a single, comprehensive document that will cover items such as participant protection, copyright, liability, and scholastic eligibility. **This agreement must be on file with SCPA by December 15th.** Ensembles that do not have their agreement on file will not be allowed to compete at any SCPA event with no exceptions. If you have any questions regarding the master agreement, please contact krothe@scpa.live.

All adult instructional and administrative staff having regular contact with or authority over participants of any group participating in any SCPA event must complete the [“SafeSport™ Trained - WGI Sport of the Arts” participant protection course](#). This course should be completed prior to staff members having contact with participants. Ensemble directors shall collect course completion certificates for all staff members and keep them on file. These do not need to be submitted to SCPA upon completion but will need to be furnished upon request.

It is the responsibility of each ensemble to secure necessary permissions and licenses to arrange and perform any copyrighted material performed at an SCPA event.



Scheduling

Scheduling will be done in reverse order of registration date. A random draw will be used to break ties when two or more ensembles have completed registration on the same date.

Once the cap of 40 ensembles for a Saturday event or 35 ensembles for a Sunday event has been met, or the deadline has been reached (whichever comes first), the schedule will then be set.

Tentative schedules are typically published at least a week and a half before the event. Finalized schedules are published on the Thursday night preceding the event.

- **Saturday events:** Using the standardized awards time of 9 P.M., we will work backwards from there to set the start time of the event.
- **Sunday events:** Sundays typically start at 10 A.M.; we will work forward from there to set the awards time of the event.

A Championships primer will be released on the website a couple of weeks prior to SCPA Championships. The primer will contain detailed information on Championships schedules, performance order, and seeding.

There will be a one-hour meal break at each event. Most events will feature a split awards ceremony, with the early awards taking place during this break.

Facilities

- Open flames, of any kind, are prohibited in ALL areas, including the parking lot. There is no smoking anywhere on campus.
- Do not use bus/truck parking lots or warm-up areas for feeding performers. Please find an alternative space that is not blocking an easement. If in a walkway, truck/bus lot, or potential warm-up zone, be prepared to be asked to relocate.
- Warm-up areas are first come, first served. Leave nothing behind in the warm-up zone when you depart for your performance. This will ensure the zone's availability for another ensemble.
- Only a labeled practice floor may be used for warm-up at SCPA events. No floors of any kind may be used in the "lot" at SCPA Championships. There is to be no "taping of grids" at any SCPA events.
- The use of motorized vehicles at the competition site is prohibited. All equipment and/or props must be moved "by hand".
- The gymnasium will have at least 55' from the front boundary line to the back stands. The entrance and exit doors for performers will be double-doors, without the middle insert bar, with at least 5' of width and 6'6" of height clearance. There will be a grounded 110v outlet centered on the front and back boundary lines. We cannot guarantee side outlets, but you may use them if they are available.
- There will be a floor folding area near the exit of the gymnasium. A covered or indoor area will be provided in the event of rain.
- There will be a Hospitality Room for directors and staff members only. This room is not for boosters, performers, or drivers.
- There will be concessions with sufficient food for lunch, dinner, and snacks. Please support our show hosts.
- All ensembles must vacate the campus within an hour after the start of awards.

Arrival

An adult representative should check the group in upon arrival to an event.

Do not arrive more than 2½ hours before the start of the event. This will be strictly enforced. The host cannot be expected to staff the parking lot any earlier. This is especially important for early Sunday events.

Unloading/set-up will begin 2 hours before your scheduled performance time. This will be strictly enforced.

Ensemble parking is guaranteed for buses, trucks, semis, and carpool vehicles carrying six (6) or more performers. Due to lot capacity, all other vehicles must park in the Spectator Lot on a first come, first served basis. Drop-offs cannot be accommodated.

RVs are not permitted at SCPA events.



Floor Crew

All non-performing helpers will need a wristband or badge.

Check-In Packet Inclusions

- Ten (10) "staff" wristbands for admission or twenty (20) if Plus Passes were purchased.
 - Five (5) front-side wristbands.
 - Five (5) back-side wristbands or fifteen (15) if Plus Passes were purchased.
- A predetermined amount of "performers" wristbands (determined by the declared number of performers from your online application)*. Performer wristbands **MUST BE WORN** in order to perform.

**If your ensemble has not properly supplied SCPA with its member totals, the instructor/director must return with all the performers to receive their "performers" wristbands. Otherwise, performers are not needed at Check-In.*

Current show schedules, the floor layout document, and campus maps clearly showing the layout of the warm-up zones, silent zones, Hospitality, Tabulation, etc., are available on our website and should be viewed prior to arriving at the event.

Seating

All performers must sit in the back stands (or designated area for performers if no back stands exist). Only those with a spectator/front-side wristband are allowed on the spectators' side. There will be no warnings and your ensemble may be penalized for each infraction. *Note: Due to room capacity, SEATING FOR PERFORMERS IS NOT GUARANTEED.*

Designated seating will be available for your non-performing helpers. Eighteen (18) seats will be available in the first two rows on side one for designated staff and floor crew personnel. Three (3) additional "up top" seats will be designated near the judging area for the sound engineer and key staff. Coordinate in advance who will sit where.



Rain Plan

Ultimately, each ensemble is responsible for their own "rain plan". The host will provide as much protection from the elements as possible, but there are no guarantees. However, every SCPA show host will provide a protected area in which to fold your floor following your performance (either covered or indoors).

Below are a few items to always have on hand:

- Tarps
- Clamps
- Towels
- EZ-Ups
- Ponchos

It is always a good idea to pad your timing when creating call-sheets to compensate for any inclement weather.



Etiquette

Directors and instructors should remind their boosters and parental support that we must always conduct ourselves at the highest levels of professionalism.

Confronting host volunteers, SCPA Staff, or other ensembles is not in line with the values we try to strive for within and around the alliance.

Although confrontations are the exception and not the rule, please note that it is a sure-fire way to be penalized or disqualified from the competition.

Proper protocol for conflict resolution: The director or instructor of the ensemble (no parent or other liaisons, please) should report to Tabulation and inform an SCPA staff member that you need assistance. For host specific issues, report to Hospitality or Check-In locations.

We at SCPA pride ourselves on the professional level of our adjudication panels. In order to ensure their return for future shows/seasons, we must maintain a level of tact and common-sense etiquette throughout the critique session. Any undesirable behavior will suspend the ensemble and the individual(s) responsible from critique.

Awards & Finals Qualification

Regular season shows: A corporate sponsor will provide awards (cases, hardware, sticks, mallets, cymbals, drumheads, gift certificates, etc.) for the top three (3) ensembles in each class.

There are no trophies or plaques given at regular SCPA events.

Championships PRELIMS: There will be a recognition ceremony at the completion of each day of Prelims (leaders only). The scores and placements will be announced as well as the ensembles advancing to Finals the following weekend. NOTE: Regardless of rank, a minimum net score of "75.0" must be achieved in order to advance to Finals.

Championships FINALS: Medallions will be awarded to every performer from the top three (3) ensembles in each class (Gold, Silver, & Bronze respectively). An SCPA "Champions" trophy will be awarded to the top ensemble in each class.

Retreat

For all shows other than Finals, retreat will be leaders only, **not to exceed 3 representatives** per ensemble. Championship FINALS will be a full retreat; for all members.



Adjudication

An SCPA adjudication panel will consist of five judges:

- Effect-Music (E-M)
- Effect-Visual (E-V)
- Music (M)
- Visual (V)
- Timing & Penalties (T&P)

Our adjudicators are some of the finest in the country. We draw from the WGI pool of judges as well as respected instructors past and present from high-profile programs throughout the country. Having an adjudication panel of qualified individuals from all regions of the United States helps to alleviate regional inflation of scores as well as giving a sense of national relativity for those ensembles traveling to WGI World Championships.

The Finals portion of Championships will feature a "double" panel of adjudicators.

Recaps & Critique

Recaps are available via your [CompetitionSuite](#) account. Critique will be held in the Tabulation or Hospitality Room, depending on the venue and will begin 15 minutes following the final performance of the day. Ensemble staffs will be called in performance order.

All instructors are required to listen to their commentary before entering critique. Commentary is available through your CompetitionSuite account. Additional information about CompetitionSuite is available in the Tabulation Room for new ensembles.

Critique is available at regular season shows for all ensembles currently registered for SCPA Championships. There will be no critique at SCPA Championships.

Contacts

Board Members

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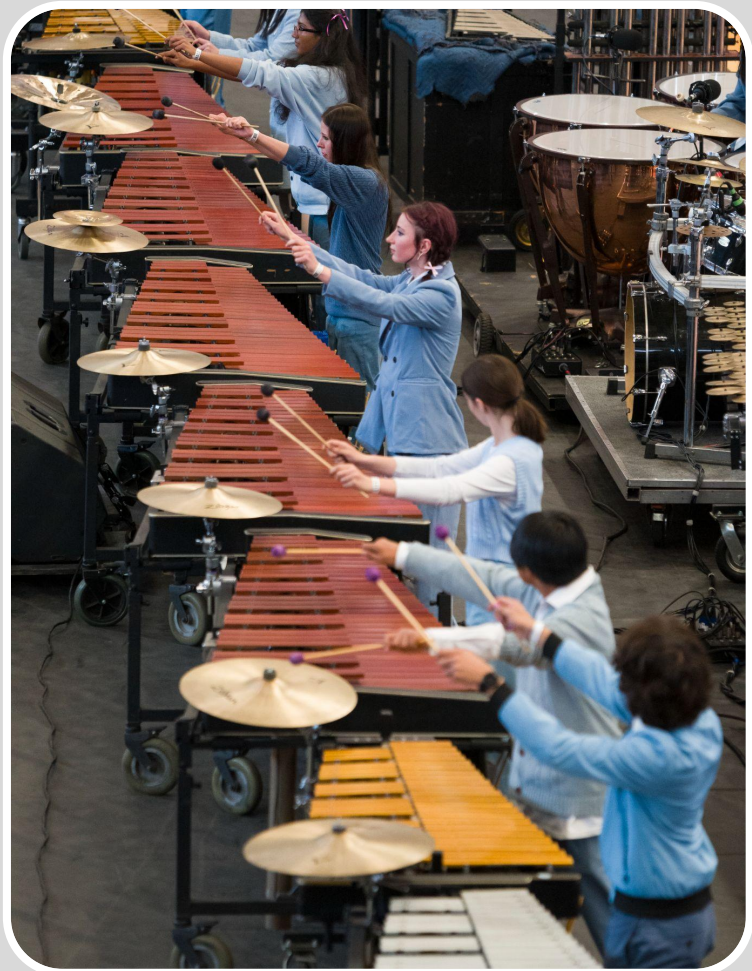
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