

THE NSW SCHOOL BAND FESTIVAL

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND OTHER AUDIENCE MEMBERS



Positive attitudes and conduct help make Music Festivals such as the School Band Festival enjoyable for everyone.

Parents and other audience members can contribute to the sense of occasion and create a positive Festival atmosphere by:

Encouraging Respect

- Supporting your school Music Director by ensuring your child arrives on time and has brought all the required equipment to perform on the day.
- Listening to other performances on the day, not just your own school or child.
- Modelling appropriate audience behaviour with regards to respectful silence, appropriate applause etc.
- Thanking the Music Director, adjudicators, Festival officials, marshals and volunteers and encourage your child to do the same.
- Challenging any inappropriate audience behaviour exhibited by your child or students or accompanying parents associated with your school.

Understand and Support the Aims of the Festival

- Understand that the Festival is an educational and non-competitive event.
- Acknowledge that all participating ensembles are effectively competing against themselves, to strive for excellence in their chosen event level.
- Encourage and congratulate your child for trying hard, doing their best and having fun, regardless of the result they are awarded.

Respect Adjudicators and Officials

- Understand that the purpose of the SBF is to provide an authentic performance opportunity and meaningful educational feedback from music education professionals to assist schools in the ongoing development of their music programs.
- Appreciate that, while the SBF endeavours to bring a level of objectivity to the adjudication process, the decision is, ultimately, one person's view of a performance on that particular day.
- Accept decisions by SBF adjudicators and officials and deal with any disappointment issues in a controlled and adult manner.
- Appreciate that learning to cope with disappointment develops resilience in your child and can provide a positive learning and teaching opportunity.
- Understand that, in many instances, your heavy investment in your child's performance can colour your perspective of their performance. It is often the case that the students accept a disappointing result more readily than the adults in the audience.

SBF Codes of Conduct and your School Code of Conduct

- **Understand, uphold and support the relevant SBF Codes of Conduct.**
- **Understand, uphold and support your school Code of Conduct.**
- **Avoid any actions which might ruin the experience for your child. This might include things such as:**
 - **undue pressure.**
 - **public criticism of performance mistakes.**
 - **publicly challenging Festival officials/adjudicators.**
- **Poor behaviour at public performances such as the Festival may result in:**
 - **Risks to young people's wellbeing.**
 - **Reduced enjoyment for everyone.**
 - **Children and adults giving up music or music performance.**
 - **Fewer people willing to manage or support music programs, and officiate or volunteer at Festivals such as the SBF.**
 - **Risks to your school's reputation.**
- **Preventing poor conduct and behaviour issues requires a few key steps:**
 - **Music Directors, School Leadership teams, Parent Organising Committees and parents being prepared and knowing what to do.**
 - **Everyone adopting a positive attitude and accepting responsibility for their behaviour.**
 - **Music Directors, School Leadership teams and Parent Organising Committees proactively educating their school communities as to the purpose of the Festival and the reasons for their school's/child's involvement.**