

TAME AREA/STATE LEVEL MARIACHI CONTEST RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Every High School Varsity Mariachi that makes a First Division at the TAME Area Mariachi Contest will automatically qualify for the TAME State Mariachi Contest. In the event that no Mariachis earn a First Division in their classification at the Area Contest, the judges will determine which two Mariachis will represent their Area within their classification at the TAME State Mariachi Contest. Selection procedures and finances shall be determined by the Director of Operations, with adherence given to the rules, procedures, and guidelines within this document. Classification for Mariachis will be as assigned by UIL.

2. The TAME Area Mariachi Contest will use a panel with three adjudicators. The honorarium paid to judges shall be equal to the amount paid to UIL Concert Contest judges.

3. TAME Membership year is from August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018.

Membership dues are:

- Active Member \$40.00 add \$2.00 if paying by credit card
- Retired Member \$20.00
- College Student Member \$15.00
- Friends of Mariachi \$15.00
- Business Member \$50.00

The membership deadline for Active members is October 31, 2017. After that date, membership dues increase to \$60.00. (As determined by the standing committee)

3. Entry Fees: Varsity Mariachi-Area Contest fee \$250.00
JV/Non-Varsity, MS/JH Mariachi-Area Contest fee \$200.00
Varsity Mariachi-State Contest fee \$250.00

3. To register for the TAME Area Mariachi Contest, you will need to submit:

- ✓ An Entry Fee check made out to TAME
- ✓ Area Entry Form with **Director's Statement of Responsibility signed and date**
- ✓ Student certification Form 1 signed and date
- ✓ Music Selections Form 2
- ✓ TAME AREA checklist

These must be postmarked or hand delivered by Nov 17, 2017 to:

John Vela, TAME Dir. of Operations
PO Box 3230
Alice, TX.78333

Cell# 361-701-0823

If a check cannot be processed in time, a Purchase Order made out to TAME will be accepted.

***Please note the change of address for TAME, your accounts payable should have the current address. If a W9 form and/or vendor packet is needed, please contact the Director of Operations via email at: tame.director@yahoo.com**

TAME Competition Rules

These rules were created specifically for TAME sponsored competitions (functions) and are a revised version of UIL/TMEA regulations. The reason for not selecting exact UIL/TMEA regulations is that many components do not match the needs of Mariachi competitions. For the purpose of TAME competitions, only the rules in this handbook should be used.

Mariachi Directors and Assistant Directors must be Active TAME members in order for their mariachis to participate in TAME functions. **Mariachi consultants or instructors who work directly with the mariachi in any fashion and accompany the groups on stage must also be Active TAME members.**

Instrumentation: Mariachi ensembles shall consist of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 24 members.

A Standard Mariachi ensemble should consist of at least:

- 3 violins (any distribution of parts)
- 1 trumpet
- 1 guitarrón
- 1 vihuela
- 1 guitar

* The above **minimum** instrumentation is a suggestion for participation in TAME sponsored competitions.

While this instrumentation will not be penalized, a variance of instrumentation that might have an impact on balance and blend would be.

- A general guideline on instrumentation would be 3-4 violins for every trumpet and three armonia (guitar, vihuela and guitarrón). The guitarra de golpe and arpa are optional. Doubling of guitar would be ok, but doubling of guitarrón and vihuela could over balance the ensemble. This is only a guideline and not a rule. Director's discretion is advised.

Any other instruments can be added or doubled as long as the standard instrumentation is included. While judges shall be instructed to criticize instrumentation only insofar as it affects the balance and general effect of the performance, schools are encouraged to conform as closely as possible to the accepted standards of instrumentation.

- All players must play an instrument on stage (no solo singers)
- **Each Vocalist must be a contributing member of the ensemble. An instrument cannot be used as a prop to "fake" a performance or to try to "bend" the vocalist/instrumentalist rule with minimal instrumental-musical contribution. This infraction could result in disqualification from the contest. Directors, you must be aware of this rule.**

Non-Varsity/JV and MS/JH mariachi groups can use a more liberal instrumentation, such as; 2-3 Guitarrónes, 2-3 Vihuelas, 3-4 Guitars etc. as for the purposes of inclusion.

Eligibility: The no pass / no play UIL eligibility rule will apply to all TAME functions.

- **Amateur Rule:** As per UIL constitution and contest rules, the amateur rule only applies to athletic contests and not music. (Section 400 and 430 of the UIL constitution)
- High School students are eligible to participate in competition
- **Seventh and Eighth Grade Students. In composite organizations (4A, 3A, 2A, A), a seventh or eighth grade student may compete in the mariachi ensemble provided that**

the majority of the ensemble members are in grades 9 - 12 (51%). For 5A and 6A, 95% of the group must be in High School.

- If a seventh or eighth grade student performs with a high school group, they cannot also perform with a junior high group.
- Students cannot perform with more than one group on the same instrument, exception-students performing in more than one group (ex. Varsity-JV) must do so on a completely different family of instruments, i.e. Violin and Trumpet or Vihuela and Guitarron. Vihuela/Guitar/Guitarra de Golpe are considered the same armonia.
- Students competing in more than one group cannot be a solo singer in both groups, it is one or the other.
- A participant in TAME competitions shall meet the eligibility requirements of each school and should be certified to represent his or her school in competition by the school's principal or the principal's designee.
- Only registered students can participate in the competition. If a registered student does not participate in the Area competition due to ineligibility, and the mariachi advances to state finals, that student can participate at state provided that eligibility has occurred.
- A mariachi can participate in Finals with fewer students that participated in Area, but if more compete in Finals, their name must appear on the original Area Entry Form 1.
- The designated form with principal's signature needs to be submitted in registration packet.

Time Limitation:

The required time limitation at the TAME Area and State competition for ALL groups is a minimum of 7 minutes and maximum of 12 minutes.

At the Area Contest, failure to comply with these time limitations could result in the lowering of the overall rating by the TAME executive board (or proxy). For example an overall 1st Division would be lowered to a 2nd Division.

At the TAME State Contest, if a Mariachi does not meet the time requirement, a deduction of **100 points per individual judge's score** will also occur. This deduction will not be applied in the event of a third party disruption such as sound system issues, weather, acts of God or circumstances beyond our control have occurred. If this is the case, no deduction will be applied.

- Time begins when first note is played and stops when last note is played.
- Order of Performance: Contest order will be determined by a double blind drawing of places by the TAME director of Operations prior to the Area Contest. All Directors are encouraged to attend the drawing for contest order.
- Music Selections: Individual songs or "popurri's" are permitted as long as a son jalisciense or a song in the style of a son jalisciense is included within the performance (a complete son is not required as long as it is included).
- Schools are required to perform a minimum of two songs, one of which is in the style of a son jalisciense. Be aware of the minimum time limit of seven minutes.
- The two songs can also be performed as part of a popurri. A tema can also be included, but does not count as one of the two songs.
If mariachis advance to State Finals, the music selections can be changed as long as a son jalisciense or a song in the style of a son jalisciense is included.
Not playing a son jalisciense or a song in the style of a son jalisciense will be an automatic disqualification. The son or a song in the style of a son jalisciense cannot be the "tema."
- A varsity or non-varsity/JV mariachi may not repeat music within 4 years of playing it at the Area Contest and/or State Finals.
- A middle school mariachi may not repeat music within 2 years of playing it at the Area Contest.
- School "temas" can be repeated.

- **Music Scores:** Each director of the mariachi ensemble shall supply each judge with a numbered conductor's score of the selections to be performed. The head judge is instructed not to permit performance to begin until the scores have been received. The score needs to include vocal parts written out and with words under each note. All instruments used need to be written out in the score with the exception of the harp if it is following the guitarrón line (please note in the score). Please write out score in page format not in landscape and enlarge music that needs no straining of eyes. A score with two systems per page and eight to twelve bars per system should be adequate. The scores need to be notated as performed. If playing a "popurri," music should be notated as performed including transitions and modulations. The following scoring guide should be used in score order:

Violins include bowings, articulations/dynamics

Flutes (if used)

Trumpets include articulations/dynamics

Flugel horns (if used)

Voice (include coros)

Harp (if notating it) You may specify that harp will follow the guitarrón line

Armonías (in rhythmic notation with mánicos)

Guitarrón (notate inside the staff Low A to High A. Single string notes maybe notated outside the staff)

If a score is purchased, please make sure that the above information is included (It can be in a different layout), otherwise, you will need to transcribe it in a notation program as requested.

A condensed score Violins in one stave and Trumpets in one stave may be used. No individual instrument parts will be accepted. That is not a score. Scores need to be published or computer generated. No handwritten scores will be accepted.

At Area contest, if a director flagrantly submits an incorrect score, the group will be penalized 25 points off their lowest judge's score.

At State, each judge will deduct 10 points from their individual overall score.

District-Mariachis: All District mariachis are not allowed to participate. MS and HS Academies may participate, since they are a single school entity.

Judges: All judges will be certified by TAME. A list of judges who have fulfilled their requirements will be sent to each member. Active members may choose from the list who they would like to judge their contest. These names will be considered for the judging assignment. Judges who accept a judging engagement cannot have had prior contact with the mariachi they are judging including, but not limited to: providing clinics, private lessons, listening to recordings, watching video tapes, critiquing or any other form of instruction to the mariachi, individuals or directors. This would result in a conflict of interest.

Conferences: Mariachis shall compete according to the UIL conference they are classified in (C, CC, CCC, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A or 6A). Schools cannot compete in a different conference unless the entire school is moved by up UIL for music.

Memorization: All Varsity groups must have their music memorized. JV, Non-Varsity and Middle School groups have the option of using music stands. If you are going to use music stands, you will be responsible for providing them.

Conducting/playing: Directors cannot conduct or play in the mariachi.

TAME Area Contest Judging Procedure:

A three (3) judge panel will be used for the Area contest.

Each school will receive a rating based on their performance.

The ratings are as follows:

Division 1-Superior (751-1000) points

Division 2-Excellent (501-750) points

Division 3-Good (251-500) points

Division 4-Needs Improvement (0-250) points

- In order to advance to state finals from area, varsity **mariachis will have to receive a division one rating in Area.**
- At Area, division ratings will be used with the following criteria:

Rating I	Rating II	Rating III	Rating IV
1 1 1	1 2 2	1 3 3	1 4 4
1 1 2			
1 1 3	1 2 3	1 3 4	1 4 5
1 1 4			
1 1 5	1 2 4	1 3 5	2 4 4
	1 2 5	2 3 3	2 4 5
	2 2 2	2 3 4	3 4 4
	2 2 3	2 3 5	3 4 5
	2 2 4	3 3 3	4 4 4
	2 2 5	3 3 4	4 4 5
		3 3 5	

Any mariachi that receives a First Division will receive a First Division trophy.

MS/JH mariachis that make a First Division will receive a Type C trophy and JV/Non-Varsity

mariachis that make a First Division will receive a Type B trophy.

Varsity Mariachis that receive a First Division will receive a Type A trophy.

Outstanding musician caption awards will be given to students at judge's discretion.

Tame State Contest Judging Procedure:

A five (5) judge panel will be used at the TAME State Contest. An Excel spreadsheet program will be used to enter and calculate judges point scores.

Judges will be provided with a tally sheet to help them keep track of their own scores. Each individual judge must not have a tie on their scores. After a school has competed, each judge must submit their comment sheets with their point scores to the contest office so that it can be entered in the computer. Once a score is entered, the computer and Excel program will calculate each score and convert to ranking. If there is a conductor's score violation, points will be deducted prior to ranking.

Each mariachi's high and low ranks will be dropped. The mariachi with the lowest composite rank of the remaining three (3) ranks will have the highest ranking except if a majority of the remaining three (3) judges have a mariachi as first. In this event, that mariachi shall be declared as first. If a majority of the remaining three (3) judges have a mariachi ranked as second or better, that mariachi shall be declared as second. All other mariachis will be ranked according to the remaining three (3) judges composite ranks. This paragraph super-cedes the possible situations described in Section A below:

In case of a tie, the majority of ALL judges selecting one mariachi over the other will decide the winner. For example, if two mariachis are tied by virtue of each receiving identical sum ranks as in this example:

	Music Judge A	Music Judge B	Music Judge C	Music Judge D	Music Judge E	Score
Mariachi A	1	2	5	3	7	10
Mariachi B	2	4	2	5	4	10

It should be noted the Judge A ranked the first mariachi above the second; Judge B ranked the first mariachi above second; Judge C ranked the second mariachi above the first; Judge D ranked the first mariachi above the second; and Judge E ranked the second mariachi above the first. This results in:

	Music Judge A	Music Judge B	Music Judge C	Music Judge D	Music Judge E	Score
Mariachi A	1st	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
Mariachi B	2nd	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	

With the winner of the Judges' Preference, (Mariachi A) is being placed above (Mariachi B) since (Mariachi A) has three judge's ranking them First.

Judges must initial the sheet where a tie was broken by judge's preference.

They will be no ties at State Finals, ties must be broken by judge's preference as noted above.

An Excel spreadsheet program will be used for tabulation scoring.

Directors will have a verification period (30 minutes max) to see scores before results are announced. All results will be final as agreed by judges.

Audio feedback will not be provided at State Finals competition this year 2017.

Mariachi Director: No director will be allowed to perform with the mariachi.

Uniforms: All mariachis are encouraged to wear a type of uniform, from simple black pants/skirts and white shirts to three-piece bordado will be acceptable. Sombreros are optional and no deduction in points will be given if they are not worn. Things such as neatness, clean and properly fitted attire, uniformity, attention to detail (botines, moños, sashes, hairpieces, earrings, cintos and botonadura) etc... will be evaluated.

Awards:

Every mariachi that competes at the State Finals will receive:

- **State Finalist Participation plaque or**
- **Trophies for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place in each conference**
- **1st, 2nd & 3rd place recipients will also receive student State Finalist Medals**
- **All awards will be presented at State Finals.**

Forfeit of Awards. In the event that an ineligible contestant participates in the competition knowingly or unknowingly, the penalty shall be forfeiture of awards.

Rehearsals: The eight hour UIL rule will be followed for TAME competitions.

- **Students can only rehearse 8 hours outside of the classroom per calendar week Monday to Thursday.**
- **Schools that do not meet during the day can add an extra 5 hours making a total of 13 hours per calendar week.**
- **The director of the Mariachi needs to maintain a reasonable and proper balance of pre-school and out-of-school rehearsal schedules.**
- **The eight-hour rule applies from Monday to Thursday. Students have Friday after the school day ends, Saturday and Sunday to rehearse. This is up to the discretion of the director and his administration.**

Other Information: Any questions, disputes or concerns need to be brought up by the Mariachi director to the TAME President. The President, Executive Board and Director of Operations may deliberate to resolve any issues. Mariachi directors need to educate parents about proper procedures and follow the "Chain of Command". ALL TAME RULINGS WILL BE FINAL.

These rules and procedures have been approved by the TAME State board in August of 2017.