



Directors,

As you prepare for the competition season, one of the most integral parts of your show is the soundtrack. The TCGC Sound Team wants your performance to be flawless and stress free. You can help by remembering these “best practices” for uploading music.

- Files in MP3 and M4a format are preferred. Other formats may not upload to the website or be compatible with our iTunes system.
- Please check the volume levels of your soundtrack prior to uploading. Especially those soundtracks that include spoken dialogue. Oftentimes the narration piece is at a softer level than the music and can be difficult to hear; this is especially an issue in a large arena so double check all sound levels.
- Utilize our email account sound@texascolorguardcircuit.org to communicate any changes to your program. It is also recommended that if you do make a change to email it to us so we can update our playlist and confirm receipt.
- Upload your soundtrack to your unit profile this week even if you haven’t made any changes. This will insure we have a “fresh” copy of your music and you have the peace of mind the file is correct.
- As a back-up please bring a FLASH DRIVE with your music to the show, if necessary we can play the soundtrack off of the flash drive, but we would prefer to have everything pre-loaded into our computers.
- Due to tight schedule, and potential for errors, we strongly suggest all music must be loaded into our playlist. While we will allow units to play their soundtrack off of an external device (iPad, phone), in the past this has proven to be an issue with sound quality and connectivity problems.
- Please make a sound check prior to your performance. We will be available during breaks to do sound checks and encourage each unit to do so. Remember that we are unable to do sound checks in the middle of a round. Breaks are noted on the performance schedule and are the only opportunity to conduct a sound check. Also, remember that the judges have set a maximum volume level. We will be happy to adjust your sound track within those limits.

As you can imagine, uploading all of the soundtracks is a time consuming task. For that reason we are requesting that all music uploads be completed by **9 p.m. Thursday**. This will give us time to finalize the playlists. Any changes made after that may not be able to be added to the playlist, so please bring a back-up file on a flash drive. Keep in mind the show begins at 8:00 a.m. Saturday and once we are in “show mode” we cannot upload any additional files to the playlist.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in helping the music upload process be successful and best of luck in the upcoming season.

Andy Ney and Rudy Aguilar
TCGC Staff Announcers