

1ST PRIZE: \$2,000 2ND PRIZE: \$1,000 3RD PRIZE: \$500	“BATTLE OF THE BANDS”	SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2026 4601 LINCOLN HIGHWAY DOWNINGTOWN, PA 19335
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Battle of the Bands Rules and Regulations

- 1) The Battle of the Bands will occur on Saturday, September 12th, 2026 at the Downingtown VFW Post 845. Rain date is Sunday, September 13th, 2026.
- 2) All bands wishing to be considered to play in the Battle of the Bands must submit an entry form and a demo via CD, YouTube or other agreed upon form to the Committee. There is **NO ENTRY FEE**. Entry forms are available at the Downingtown VFW Post 845, on our Facebook Page (Veterans of Foreign Wars – Post 845 – Downingtown, PA), on the website (www.vfw845.org) or by contacting a committee member listed below. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59pm Friday, March 6, 2026. At its sole discretion, the committee may use prior engagements or viewings as a bands form of demo. If possible, a committee member may attend a band(s) appearance to help with the choosing of the bands.
- 3) From the submitted band applications, 7 bands will be chosen to appear in the Battle of the Bands and will be notified on or before Monday, March 30, 2026. Alternate bands will also be chosen in case one or more of the top 7 bands need to drop out due to unforeseen circumstances. *At this time all band members and crew will be required to sign Release of Liability Waivers and Artist Photo, Intellectual Property Release Agreements.*
- 4) All competing bands are required to promote the Battle of the Bands via social media and/or other sources of communication. Since there is no entry fee, bands will also be required to participate in advanced ticket sales by selling 20 tickets. These requirements help ensure the events success as well as helps you be sure you are bringing a routing crowd. Crowd voting will also help determine the 2 finalist bands. Also, crowd applause may be used if there are any ties to determine bands moving on to the finals or overall winner. The deadline to turn in your advanced sales ticket proceeds is Friday, May 15, 2025. If a band(s) fails to sell the required 20 tickets before this deadline the band may be replaced or penalized points at the discretion of the committee. The advance sales tickets will be provided to the competing bands as soon as possible after selection. A committee member will be tracking ticket sales progress regularly. *General ticket sales will be available to the public after the May 15 deadline as to not interfere with the bands selling of their tickets.*
- 5) The order in which the bands perform will be by a random draw on Monday, July 27th, 2025 at 6:00 pm. It is important to have a representative of your band to attend the drawing. At this meeting we will also review the rules, discuss equipment set ups regarding stage size, drum sets, amps, microphones, sound systems, and lighting.
- 6) On the day of the Battle, the first band will start their set at 12:00 noon sharp with each subsequent band starting on the hour i.e. 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and so on. Each band will be given 10 minutes to set up and 10 minutes to break down.
- 7) A set must be at least 25 minutes in length but not exceed 30 minutes. Plan accordingly! If a set exceeds the 30-minute limit, the band will be stopped and penalized 5 points from their total score. If a band fails to play the minimum set of 25 minutes it will result in a penalty of 5 points for every minute not played under the 25 minutes and/or possible disqualification. If a band does not start their set at their designated time they will be penalized 5 points for every minute they start late. If a band starts more than 10 minutes late, they could be disqualified since they cannot get the minimum of 25 minutes play time before the 30-minute clock ends. Technical difficulties or extenuating circumstances that are not the fault of the band will be taken into consideration.
- 8) After all bands have played their sets, Judge's points and audience votes will be tallied (see Judging criteria). The 2 bands that accumulate the highest point totals from these criteria will advance to the Finals. Ties will be settled by fan applause. The Finals will start immediately after announcing the 2 finalists. The Finals will be Judges points only from a clean slate. First round points and fan voting points do not carry over to the finals.
- 9) Any distasteful behavior, and or damage to the Downingtown VFW Post 845 from band members and their crew will result in the automatic disqualification at the hands of management and/or committee.

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POINTS CRITERIA

Judging Points – Maximum of 100 points

Musicianship: 1 to 5 points each

Was the performance well planned _____

Was each band member on point _____

Evidence of rehearsal _____

Band know the lyrics _____

Band appeared ready and prepared to play _____

Bands Interaction with the Audience: 1 to 5 points each

Band introduce themselves _____

Physical and verbal interaction _____

Confident interaction with the audience _____

Creativity: 1 to 5 points each

Arrangements _____

Distinctiveness _____

Fun and passion of performance _____

Quality of dress/costumes _____

Quality of Performance: 1 to 5 points each

Bands confidence and competence _____

Stage presence _____

Set list well-constructed _____

Where the lyrics distinct _____

Audience Participation: 1 to 10 points

Was the crowd engaged and enthusiastic _____

Sound: 1 to 10 points

DID THE BAND SOUND GOOD _____

Judge #1 Total Points

Audience Voting

Each band will receive addition points based on audience voting.

Each person attending can only submit 1 vote for the band of their choice.

Each band will receive 1 point for each vote cast for them.

Audience Voting Total Points

Total Points: Includes all Judge and Voting Criteria Points

The Finals will be a tally of the Judges rating each of the two bands on a scale of 1 to 100.

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