



## 2023 POLICIES & PROCEDURES





**RATLIFF STADIUM** is one of the premier high school stadiums in the country! USA Today has ranked Ratliff Stadium as one of the “**Top 10 High School Venues in the United States**” [October 2001]. According to some, Ratliff Stadium is “**The epicenter of High School football**”. It is the only High School football stadium listed in ESPN’s “**100 Most Important Sports Venues**” and *Maxpreps* lists Ratliff Stadium among the “**10 Stadiums You Must See Before You Die**” [August 2012].



In addition to football, soccer, softball and tennis, the stadium complex is host to the annual West Texas Relays, other area track and field events, UIL Regional and Area Marching Band contests, Special Olympics and graduation ceremonies. Recent upgrades to Ratliff Stadium include the installation of a state of the art sound system and two scoreboards with 4K HD video replay capabilities, the latest *Matrix Artificial Turf* [2021], improvements to handicapped seating in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the addition of an elevator.

Ratliff is the home field for the **ODESSA BRONCHOS** and the **PERMIAN PANTHERS**. The stadium has been host to many high profile games. The stadium has seen crowds of 25,000 when the standing room sections are made available.



# RATLIFF STADIUM Facts and Figures



<b>Built:</b>	1982
<b>Cost:</b>	5.6 million
<b>Capacity:</b>	24,000
<b>Video:</b>	Two Integrated <b>Daktronics 4K HD</b> video boards, graphic and replay capable giving Ratliff Stadium more video capability than any other high school football stadium including three NFL stadiums.
<b>Sound:</b>	State-of-the-art sound system. CD and MP3 capable.
<b>Press Box:</b>	Elevator and stair accessible to the following: <b>FLOOR 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Press area</li><li>• Scout area</li><li>• TV/Video Productions booth</li></ul> <b>FLOOR 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Home and Visitors Coaches' booths</li><li>• Home and Visitor Radio booths</li><li>• Public Address &amp; Game Timer's booth</li><li>• Superintendent and Athletic Director's Box</li></ul> <b>FLOOR 3</b> (open air) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video balcony</li></ul>
<b>Playing Surface:</b>	Hellas Matrix® Synthetic Surface (installed 2021)
<b>Locker Rooms:</b>	Home and Visitor locker rooms and restrooms Home and Visitor coaches' room Home and Visitor training areas Officials' locker room is located in a separate building
<b>Concession Stands:</b>	Multiple Concession stands on either side of the stadium

## RATLIFF STADIUM Directions

**From the East via I-20:** On the East side of Odessa take Exit 121 onto the service road. At the traffic signal, turn right onto Loop 338 and travel North 5.1 miles to Yukon Road. Turn left on Yukon Road and go 1.0 miles west to the Stadium Entrance on the right. Traffic delays are to be expected.

**From Midland via Highway 191:** Exit 191 at the Loop 338 sign on the East side of Odessa and proceed to the traffic signal. Turn right on Loop 338 and travel North 2.8 miles to Yukon Road. Turn left on Yukon Road and go 1.0 miles west to the Stadium Entrance on the right. Construction and traffic delays are to be expected.

**From the North via Highway 385:** As you approach Odessa from the North, you will see Schlemeyer Airport on the left. Proceed to the next traffic signal. At the traffic signal turn left onto Yukon Road and travel 1.8 miles east to the stadium entrance on the left. Traffic delays are to be expected.

**From the West via I-20:** Exit I-20 at the 113 Exit and continue a short way to Loop 338 to the North. Turn Left onto Loop 338 and travel 6.6 miles to Yukon Road. Turn right onto Yukon Road and travel 3.8 miles east to the stadium entrance on the left. Traffic delays are to be expected.

**From the South via Highway 385:** As you enter Odessa from the South Highway 385 becomes coincidental with Grant Street and later with Andrews Highway. Continue North to Yukon Road. Turn right onto Yukon Road and travel 1.8 miles east to the stadium entrance on the left. This route goes through downtown Odessa and delays due to traffic are to be expected!



# RATLIFF STADIUM Policies and Regulations – 2023 Athletic Season

- Dressing rooms and field access will be opened **2.5 hours** prior to game time.
- Only coaches and team medical staff will be allowed on the sideline or in the locker room. Coaches should discourage parents from entering the locker room area and the playing field before, during, and after the game.
- Only working coaches, athletic staff, and student workers are allowed in the press box. All other requests for press box access must be secured from the ECISD Athletic Office: **(432) 456-9051**
- No open-toed shoes, sandals, or flip-flops on or around the game field and track.
- No children (unless players/performers) are allowed on the field before, during, or after the game.
- All game filming is located on the third floor of the press box. This floor is open to the elements. Plan accordingly.
- A clear bag policy is in effect for all spectators. All school, athletic & other bags are subject to search.
- Visiting school administration and coaches will be responsible for their sideline, athletes, visiting crowd, and all school-related activities associated with their district. Visitors and/or the appropriate school district will be held responsible for any disruptions and/or damages.
- **DISTRICT ATHLETIC PASSES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THE PLAYOFFS.** Any person (athletic administration excluded) with a local district athletic pass will need to go to the ticket office to buy a ticket.
- All tickets will be purchased online through *Hometown Ticketing*. Game tickets will go on sale each Monday morning for that week's game. Here is the link to buy tickets: <https://www.ectorcountysd.org/Page/5674>
- There will be **no re-admittance into the stadium** once a valid ticket holder has left the stands and exited into the stadium parking lot. You may only re-enter if you buy a NEW ticket. In the event the stadium is evacuated because of severe weather or bomb threat, patrons will be allowed to re-enter the stadium once it has been deemed safe.
- Visiting media is welcomed. Please have an authorized ECISD MEDIA field pass. Contact the ECISD Athletic office for more information on how to obtain all media credentials: **(432) 456-9051**
- Photographers and all media will not be allowed to enter the "players' box" (20-yard line to 20-yard line).
- No camera stands/tripods are allowed in the stands due to spectator visibility.
- The following items are not permitted in the stadium, strollers, umbrellas, outside food/drink, tobacco products, alcohol, firearms/knives, pets, air horns/whistles/sirens and portable heaters.
- Umbrella usage is only permitted at the Ratliff South Complex around the fence line.
- The Ratliff Stadium Complex shall not be used to advertise, promote, sell tickets, or collect funds for any purpose without prior approval of the ECISD Athletic Department.
- All tailgating must be along the NORTH fence of the parking lot.
- Only authorized persons are permitted on or near the playing field; those in possession of a sideline pass, students in uniform, and their sponsors. Spectators are not allowed on the playing field before, during, or after the game. Climbing or jumping over rails or walls is strictly prohibited.
- No on-field PA or warm-up music (*vocal PA used by the band is allowed*) by visiting teams. GAMETIME RADIO® will provide pregame and post game music in-house.
- Air horns (*any device that uses air to make a noise that would be a disruption to fellow spectators or to the athletes on the playing field*), sirens and whistles are not permitted in the stadium at any time.
- No drones or any Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) of any kind are not allowed on Ratliff Stadium grounds. Flying drones in and around stadiums is prohibited. Specifically, UAS operations are prohibited within a radius of three (3) nautical miles of the stadium. The FAA also bans any UAS that is in the direct flight path of an adjacent airfield. Ratliff Stadium is one (1) mile from Odessa-Schlemeyer Airfield (KODO).
- Live animal mascots, confetti, or balloons will not be permitted. (*UIL Rule*)
- Durable signs of a *positive nature* may be displayed at all district and playoff games with the approval of the game administrator. No paper signs or posters with a *negative or intimidating message* will be displayed.
- No large or oversized posters will be allowed in the stands that could distract the athletes on the field or block other patrons' view of the playing field.
- No vehicles, of any kind are allowed. Stadium personnel will move equipment to the sideline if needed. (*i.e. Band equipment, team medical*)
- Outside food and drink are not allowed inside the stadium. This applies to ALL support groups.
- All ice chests (*other than those for the teams*) are prohibited.
- Ratliff Stadium is the property of the ECISD and is an alcohol, drug, weapon, and tobacco-free campus. There is **ZERO TOLERANCE** for these products.
- Victory Bells and other large props (*run-through tunnels and/or band props*) will need approval by the stadium manager before their use. Props must not mark the track or the field and must rest on a protective base.

**ALL GUIDELINES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME**

# RATLIFF STADIUM Pregame and Half-Time Regulations



## PREGAME

- Pregame activities at Ratliff Stadium must be completed and the field cleared of all non-team personnel no later than 5 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (7:00 PM). This includes the National Anthem, all school songs, etc. In addition, the team personnel need to be fully aware of the timing of pregame events and have their captains and teams ready to go, immediately, at the appropriate times. This will permit the unhindered administration of the coin toss, and, thus, the prompt starting of the game. All pregame and halftime info will be emailed to the athletic offices by WEDNESDAY of the game week.
- No on-field PA or warmup music (*vocal PA used by the band is allowed*) by visiting teams. GAMETIME RADIO® will provide pregame and postgame music in-house.
- Large props (*run-through tunnels and/or band props*) will need approval by the stadium manager before their use. Props must not mark the track or the field and must rest on a protective base.

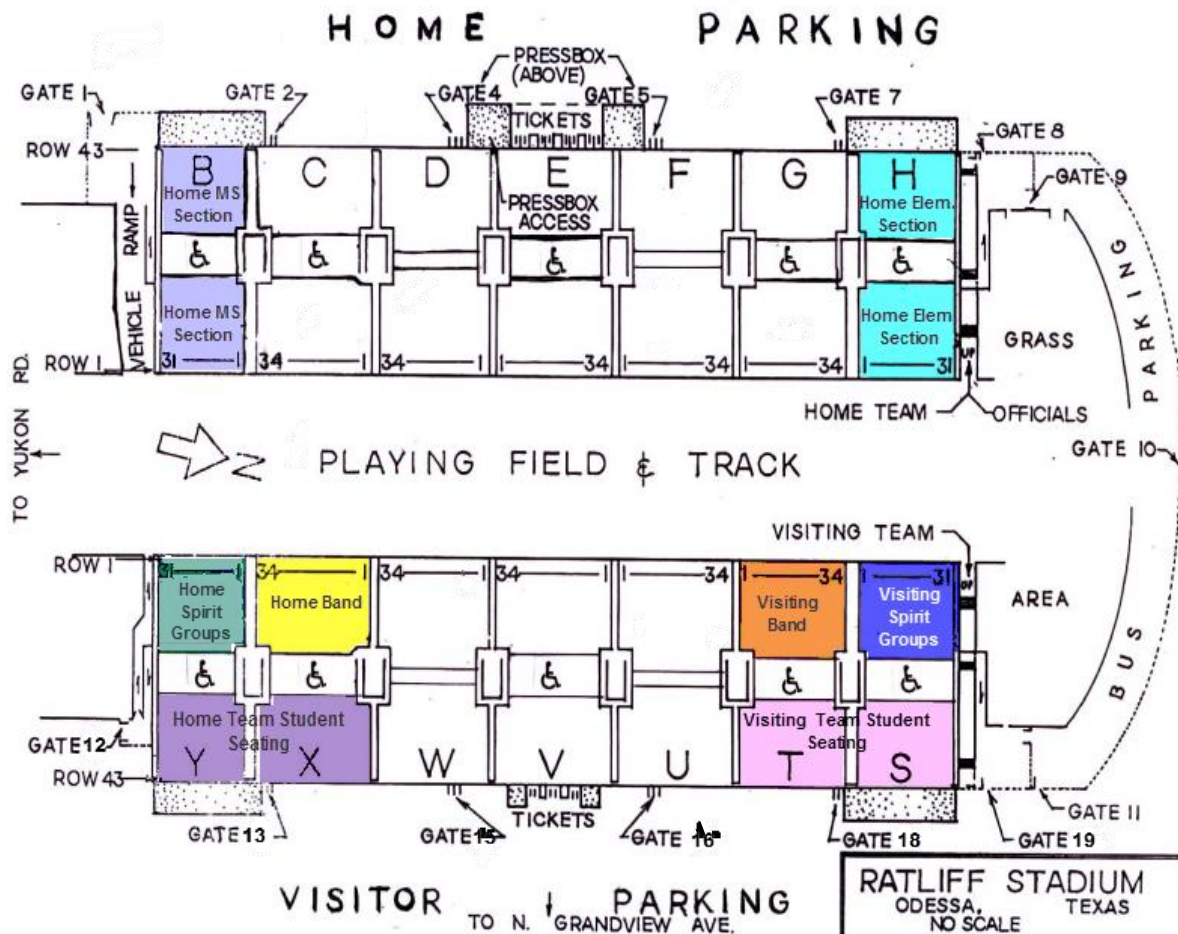
## HALF-TIME

The NCAA Football Rules specify a penalty will be assessed to the home team at the beginning of the second half if the half-time exceeds allowable limits. Texas high schools play by NCAA rules; therefore, the following half-time regulations will be enforced:

- The maximum half-time length for UIL varsity games is **28 minutes**. Please note that half-time is not required to be this long. With the consent of both schools, half-time could be reduced to **24 minutes**. **Note:** JH, MS, and non-varsity half-time should not be longer than **20 minutes**.
- Timing for half-time will begin when all players and personnel have cleared the field at the end of the first half of play and the head referee signals to start the clock. The timer **will not wait** until the band is ready to begin.
- Bands/drill teams/cheer squads should be ready to come onto the field for their half-time show when the clock starts. Any delay by the visiting team's bands/drill teams/cheer squads could result in a penalty being assessed to the home school. Please do not exceed the allotted time limit.
- Football teams should have at least 3-4 minutes to warm up after the half-time intermission prior to the second-half kickoff.
- When homecoming activities and/or other half-time activities necessitate an extra-long half-time, it may be advisable for the visiting band/drill team/cheer squad to give up/shorten its show OR present it prior to the game and before pregame activities.
- Both schools will cooperate to ensure proper half-time procedures. Performing groups have up to **13 minutes TOTAL** to enter, perform, and leave the field. If a half-time performance includes multiple groups, they must complete ALL performances within the **13-minute period**.
- The ECISD Fine Arts Executive Director will warn band personnel and drill team/cheer instructors in the Public Address Booth if the maximum time limit is close to being violated. If the performing group goes over the **13-minute** time limit, the microphone will be turned off and the performing group will be asked to exit the field by the Ratliff Stadium Public Address announcer.

## RATLIFF STADIUM Seating Information

- |                                |              |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| • Home Team Band               | SECTION X    | [Lower Half] |
| • Home Team HS Student Seating | SECTION X, Y | [Upper Half] |
| • Home Spirit Groups           | SECTION Y    | [Lower Half] |
| • Home MS Section              | SECTION B    |              |
| • Home Elementary Section      | SECTION H    |              |
| • Visiting Band                | SECTION T    | [Lower Half] |
| • Visiting Student Section     | SECTION T, S | [Upper Half] |
| • Home Spirit Groups           | SECTION S    | [Lower Half] |



## RATLIFF STADIUM Sections with Wheelchair Accessibility

### Home Side

SECTION B  
SECTION C  
SECTION E  
SECTION G  
SECTION H

### Visitor Side

SECTION S  
SECTION T  
SECTION V  
SECTION X  
SECTION Y

# AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND STADIUM TICKET POLICY



The ECISD recognizes the needs of persons with disabilities, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and continues to make every effort to comply with ADA accessibility mandates.

In 2008, the ECISD added a significant number of wheelchair and companion seating for our fans with mobility impairments, along with improvements in the accessibility of concessions, and ticket booths. The ECISD strives to accommodate the individual needs of guests with disabilities and has adopted the following ticket policies.

## **Seats Reserved Exclusively for Individuals Who Use Mobility Equipment and their Companions:**

Use of this seating is limited to individuals who have mobility equipment and their companions. No season ticket or individual game ticket will be sold or exchanged to customers without disabilities (other than non-disabled companions of wheelchair users) in any wheelchair or mobility impaired location or companion seat. Persons who purchase (season or individual) or exchange tickets in the wheelchair or mobility impaired and companion seats will be subject to verification of the need for a wheelchair accessible or mobility impaired seating location.

Wheelchair seating is reserved for the exclusive use of wheelchair users and their guests and the purchase or use of these seating locations by non-wheelchair users is strictly prohibited and can result in ejection and/or forfeiture of ticket price. These seats are colored **BLUE**. Patrons who are not confined to wheelchairs and are mobility impaired are accommodated individually in areas with easy access as availability permits.

Mobility impaired seating is reserved for the exclusive use of mobility impaired users and their companions and the purchase or use of these seating locations by non-mobility impaired users is strictly prohibited and can result in ejection and/or forfeiture of ticket price.

## **RATLIFF STADIUM ADA Ticket Policy**

### **Single-Game Tickets:**

Subject to availability of accessible seating, the ECISD will offer for sale single-game tickets for wheelchair or mobility impaired seats and companion seats to the same extent single-game tickets are offered to customers without disabilities.

### **Season Tickets:**

If wheelchair accessible or mobility impaired seating is needed, a person must come by the Athletic Office prior to the game to exchange their season tickets for wheelchair or mobility impaired tickets and companion tickets. These tickets are subject to availability. Season ticket sales for current wheelchair or mobility impaired users and their companions can be renewed in the same manner as customers without disabilities, except as noted in this policy. Wheelchair or mobility impaired users and their companions shall be afforded a choice of seating locations from among the available locations. The regular ticket price will apply to the purchase of these seats.

### **Exchanges:**

If wheelchair accessible or mobility impaired seating is needed, a person must come by the Athletic Office or ticket booth prior to the game to exchange their tickets for a wheelchair or mobility impaired ticket and companion ticket. These tickets are subject to availability.



# RATLIFF STADIUM Severe Weather Plan

Weather is consistently monitored during all games and events at the stadium. The Command Post has representatives from ECISD departments including athletics, police, local news, and facility operations. On active weather days, the Ratliff Stadium event crew will begin monitoring 3 hours before each event and 1 hour after. Ratliff Stadium will utilize our very own dedicated PERRY WEATHER STATION to monitor weather, provide advisories, warnings, and real-time lightning information. <https://perryweather.com/>



## RATLIFF STADIUM Lightning and Severe Weather Plan

ECISD Police, Odessa Police, and Ratliff Stadium Ushers may be pre-positioned when a 30-minute advisory is received so that if a decision is made to relocate they will be properly stationed before the Public Address announcement is made. This script may be amended based on actual circumstances. The Command Post will ensure that the Public Address announcer receives the proper script. The relocation announcement will be repeated as necessary to ensure that all stadium attendees are informed of what to do.

### **When lightning or severe weather is detected within (15) miles of the stadium:**

- Game management will notify the head referee.
- The Command Post will communicate via radio with the stadium's severe weather policy to all other police officers and inform them of any possible relocation plans. ECISD Police and Game Management staff will ensure that access is provided to the lightning/severe weather relocation points.
- Police officers will be stationed to direct the crowd to the proper lightning/severe weather relocation points.
- The ushers will be informed of the relocation points and will be positioned to assist in directing the crowd. The ushers will assist any persons needing assistance (such as disabled persons).

### **When lightning or severe weather is detected within (12) miles of the stadium:**

- A public address announcement will be made to inform those in attendance that the inclement weather is within (12) miles of the stadium and if patrons wish to vacate for safe shelter, they will be allowed to re-enter once it has been deemed safe to do so.
- Radio game broadcast (both home and visitor) will announce that lightning is within (12) miles and that patrons are being allowed to vacate the facility for safe shelter, and they will be allowed to re-enter once it has been deemed safe to do so.

### **When lightning or severe weather is detected within (10) miles of the stadium:**

- The competition/event shall be suspended. Public Address will supply information on where to seek shelter.
- All patrons will evacuate the stadium to a safe relocation area or their vehicles.
  - In case of a **TORNADO WARNING**, patrons will be asked to seek shelter in the stadium bathrooms and NOT return to their vehicles.
  - The press box will be evacuated **by a stairway** to the lowest level of the stadium and relocated to tornado safe areas.
- All athletes, referees, coaches, and other field personnel for the home and visiting teams will be evacuated to the stadium locker rooms for ALL severe weather emergency evacuations. All band, cheer, and other spirit organization members will be evacuated to the buses at the north end of the stadium.
  - In case of a **TORNADO WARNING**, these groups will be moved to the locker rooms, other tornado safe areas and the stadium bathrooms.

### **In cases of severe weather or lightning being detected PRIOR to the start of competition:**

- A maximum of 10 minutes could be used for the marching band, National Anthem and introductions, immediately following the 30-minute period of NO detected severe weather/lightning strikes. The home institution would have the option of whether or not the 10-minute period is added.

## RATLIFF STADIUM Resuming Normal Operations

Competition or an event may be resumed after **30 minutes** of no severe weather or detected lightning strikes within a (10) mile radius AND by the approval of the head referee, BOTH athletic directors, BOTH head coaches, and the ECISD Police Department. This 30-minute time period includes a 10-minute warm-up for a football game. Patrons will be allowed to re-enter the stadium once it has been deemed safe. Along with PA announcements, radio stations **KICKS 99.1** or **KMCH 96.9** will help broadcast the resumption of stadium activities.



# LET'S BE CLEAR... LET'S BE SAFE!

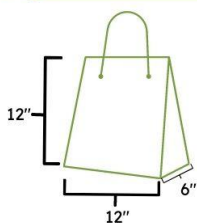
In an effort to enhance security and more efficiently process spectator entry at the Ratliff Athletic Complex, ECISD Athletics has implemented a Clear Bag Policy. This policy regulates the size and type of bags that may be carried into the Ratliff Athletic Complex.



This is in line with other large High School, College and Professional venues across the state and nation. **LET'S BE CLEAR** will include Ratliff Stadium, Ratliff South Fields, Ratliff Softball Complex and Ratliff Tennis Complex. Clear bag policy has been in effect since August 1, 2020, and we are ECISD proud to continue to provide safety precautions for students, coaches and fans.



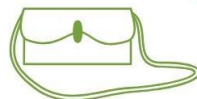
## Permitted



**CLEAR PLASTIC BAG**  
can not exceed 12" x 6" x 12"



**ONE-GALLON FREEZER BAG**



**SMALL CLUTCH BAGS**  
(DO NOT HAVE TO BE CLEAR)  
cannot exceed 4.5" x 6.5"

>Bags must be clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC and have no more than one logo imprint not exceeding 4.5" tall x 3.4" wide

**PROHIBITED** OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK IS AT ALL VENUES WITHIN THE RATLIFF ATHLETIC COMPLEX



## Not Permitted (Non-Clear)



**BACKPACKS**



**DIAPER BAGS**



**PRINTED PATTERN PLASTIC BAGS**



**FANNY PACKS**



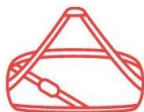
**PURSES**



**REUSABLE GROCERY TOTES/BAGS**



**MESH OR STRAW BAGS**



**DUFFLE BAGS**



**LARGE TOTES**



**\*CAMERA OR VIDEO BAGS**



**BINOCULAR CASES**

\*Exceptions may be made for members of the news media upon prior arrangement and inspection by an ECISD Athletic Game Administrator



Medical bags, although not clear, may be allowed entry after inspection by an event administrator

Blankets will be allowed to be carried over the arm in cold weather.

Propane Heaters are not allowed in the stadium



For more information, contact the ECISD Athletic Department or review the complete policy with bag examples on the ECISD Athletic Web site at [ectorcounttyisd.org](http://ectorcounttyisd.org)

**LET'S BE CLEAR...LET'S BE SAFE!**



**NO  
STROLLERS**

*Welcome to*  
**ECISD**  
Athletics Department





**NO  
UMBRELLAS**

**WHILE AT THE STADIUM PLEASE OBEY THE BELOW RULES AND REGULATIONS**

 <p><b>NO RE-ENTRY</b></p>	 <p><b>NO OUTSIDE FOOD / DRINK</b></p>	 <p><b>NO SMOKING</b></p>	 <p><b>NO ALCOHOL</b></p>
 <p><b>NO FIREARMS / KNIVES</b></p>	 <p><b>NO PETS</b></p>	 <p><b>NO AIR HORNS / WHISTLES / SIRENS</b></p>	 <p><b>NO PORTABLE HEATERS</b></p>

**CLEAR BAG POLICY IN EFFECT**

**LET'S ENJOY WITH FULL ECISD SPIRIT**

Scan Below For Stadium Policy



LET'S STAY CONNECTED |  @ECISDAthletics |  [www.ectorcounttyisd.org](http://www.ectorcounttyisd.org)



*GET YOUR*

# TICKETS ONLINE

**SCAN QR CODE**

**TO PURCHASE  
TICKETS NOW**



OR DOWNLOAD THE

**HOMETOWN FAN APP**

