

Southern Branch of the WUSPBA Bylaws

ARTICLE I NAME

1. The name of this organization shall be the **Southern Branch of the WUSPBA**, hereinafter referred to as the **SBWUSPBA**.

ARTICLE 11 OBJECTIVES

1. The objectives of **SBWUSPBA** shall be:
 - 1.1 To encourage and promote the arts of Scottish and Irish bagpiping, Scottish and Irish drumming, Scottish and Irish Bagpipe Bands and Music, and Scottish and Irish Drum Majoring.
 - 1.2 To create an bond of friendship and fellowship between all Scottish and Irish pipe bands, pipers, drummers, drum majors, contest sponsors, and persons interested in these arts and culture.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the **SBWUSPBA** is automatically granted to any registered Scottish and Irish pipe band, piper, drummer, and contest sponsor registered and a member in good standing of the Western United States Pipe Band Association residing in, or with head quarters in the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**.
 - 1.1 The geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA** is Southern California South of and including Bakersfield, California, Southern Nevada including the Las Vegas, Henderson, and Laughlin metropolitan areas, and the State of Arizona.
2. Classes of Membership:
 - 2.1 **Competing** Scottish and Irish Pipe Bands are those member bands who are competing in the grades established by the Western United States Pipe Band Association and who are in good standing with the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Each competing band shall have seven votes for pipe band competition matters, bylaws changes, and for the election of officers.
 - 2.2 **Juvenile** Scottish and Irish Pipe Bands are those in which all but one musician are 18 years old or less and who are in good standing with the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Each juvenile band if competing, shall have seven votes for pipe band competition matters, bylaws changes, and for the election of officers. If the juvenile band is not competing, it shall have one vote for bylaws changes and for the election of officers.

2.3 **Associate Member** Pipe Bands are any Scottish and Irish Pipe Bands that do not plan to compete but who have joined, and are in good standing with the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Associate member pipe bands shall have one vote for bylaws changes and for the election of officers.

2.4 **Band Members** are those musicians that are members in good standing in any of competing, juvenile, and associate member bands within the area of the **SBWUSPBA**. Band members are non-voting members of the **SBWUSPBA** unless they are designated as a band's representative. Each band may have one band representative for voting purposes.

2.5 **Solo Competitors** are pipers, drummers, and drum majors who compete in contests sponsored by the Western United States Pipe Band Association, that reside in the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**, and who are in good standing with the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Solo competitors have one vote on solo competition matters, bylaws changes, and election of officers.

2.6 **Adjudicator Members** are pipers, drummers, and drum majors residing in the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA** who are in good standing and have become eligible to judge at contests sponsored by the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Adjudicator members shall have one vote on band contest matters, solo contest matters, bylaws changes, and for the election of officers.

2.7 **Individual Associate Members** are persons residing within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA** who support the objectives of the **SBWUSPBA** and the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Individual associate members have no voting privileges.

2.8 **Contest Sponsor Members** are those members from a Western United States Pipe Band Association sponsored contest held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**. Each contest sponsor member shall have one vote on pipe band contest matters, solo contest matters, bylaws changes, and the election of officers.

3. Each class of membership shall have voting privileges as outlined above, who are members in Good standing with the Western United States Pipe Band Association. No member, in any class shall be individually responsible for the financial obligations of the **SBWUSPBA**.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

1. The officers of the **SBWUSPBA** shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the **SBWUSPBA**, or at pre-scheduled special meetings. These elected officers comprise the **Executive Committee** of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Executive Committee** shall have the power to conduct the business of the **SBWUSPBA**, and to enforce and interpret these bylaws. All officers of the **SBWUSPBA** shall serve two year terms of office. The President and Treasurer elected in alternate years to the Vice-President and Secretary.

1.1 The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **President** shall be responsible for the overall business of the **SBWUSPBA** including the coordination and work of the other elected officers. As an elected officer the **President** shall serve as a Western United States Pipe Band Association representative at all contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**.

1.2 The **Vice-President** shall act as the **President** whenever he, or she is not present, or unable to perform their duties. As an elected officer, the **Vice-President** shall serve as a Western United States Pipe Band Association representative at all contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**.

1.3 The **Secretary** shall have custody of such books and papers as directed by the **President**. The **Secretary** shall be responsible for all correspondence of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Secretary** shall notify the membership in advance of the **SBWUSPBA** of all meetings. The **Secretary** shall keep minutes of the meetings of the **SBWUSPBA** and proceedings of the elected officers of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Secretary** shall assist in the preparation of an annual report to be presented at the annual general meeting of the Western United States Pipe Band Association, and at the annual general meeting of the **SBWUSPBA**. As an elected officer, the **Secretary** may serve as a representative of the Western United States Pipe Band Association at any contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Secretary** has special duties for and during elections per Article VI, and may appoint assistants with the approval of the **Executive Committee** to act as a temporary **Elections Committee** help accomplish these tasks.

1.4 The **Treasurer** shall establish and maintain a bank account in the name of the **SBWUSPBA**, and keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the branch. The **Treasurer** present a financial statement to be included in the annual report of the **SBWUSPBA**. he **Treasurer** shall receive all incoming amounts of money, and shall issue checks to cover all disbursements of money as directed by the **President** of the **SBWUSPBA**. As an elected officer, the **Treasurer** may serve as a representative of the **SBWUSPBA** at any contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Treasurer** may appoint a **Financial Committee** with the approval of the **Executive Committee** to assist with the accomplishments of these tasks, and to conduct audits.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

1. The **Annual General Meeting** of the **SBWUSPBA** shall be held within the first three months of the calendar year. The date, time and location shall be determined by the **Executive Committee** of the **SBWUSPBA**. The membership shall be notified by a posting on the website of the Western United States Pipe Band Association, and by any other means as directed by the **Executive Committee** of the **SBWUSPBA**. At the **Annual General Meeting** a report and a financial statement on the affairs of the branch shall be presented. Old and new business shall be presented and discussed. An election of officers shall be conducted. An election on any changes to the Bylaws of the **SBWUSPBA** shall be conducted. An election on any changes to the contest rules and bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association to be presented by the **SBWUSPBA** shall be conducted.

2. **Special Meetings** of the **SBWUSPBA** may be held as directed by the **Executive Committee** of the **SBWUSPBA**. **Special Meetings** may also be held at the request of a majority of the membership of the **SBWUSPBA**, with such requests submitted in writing to the **Secretary** and bearing the signatures of the pipe bands, solo competitors, adjudicators, and contest sponsors within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**. Upon receipt of any such request the **Secretary** shall notify the **Executive Committee** immediately and the **Executive Committee** shall designate a date, time, and location of the special meeting. A notice shall be posted immediately on the Western United States Pipe Band Association website of the special meeting, purpose, date, time, and location. The membership of the **SBWUSPBA** shall also be notified by any other means of the special meeting as directed by the **SBWUSPBA Executive Committee**.
3. Conduct of meeting shall be informal, except in those instances where **Parliamentary Authority** must be employed. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of business in those instances.
4. A **Quorum** shall be one third of the active membership at any meeting of the **SBWUSPBA**.

ARTICLE VI ELECTIONS

1. **Elections** may be held at the annual general meeting, or any special meetings of the **SBWUSPBA**. There are three types of elections: (1) **Election of Officers**, (2) **Changes to the Bylaws of the SBWUSPBA**, and (3) **Recommended Changes to the Contest Rules and Bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association**.
 - 1.1 **Election of Officers** shall be by ballot of any members present at the annual general meeting, or special meetings of the **SBWUSPBA**, and by any members unable to attend such meetings who have sent in an official **SBWUSPBA** ballot by mail, or email to the **Secretary** of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Secretary** shall count all such absentee official ballots and present them by proxy during the election of officers. Nominations for elected officers must be sent to the **Secretary** by mail, or email 60 days in advance of the annual general meeting, or any special meetings where election of officers may occur. Nominees may also send in statements of qualifications, and campaign statements, which may be posted on the website after approval by the Western United States Pipe Band Association website manager. Any such statements may also be presented at the time of election of officers.
 - 1.2 **Changes to the Bylaws of the SBWUSPBA** must be presented in writing to the **Secretary** by mail or email 60 days in advance of the annual general meeting, or special meeting of the **SBWUSPBA**. Changes to the bylaws submitted will be posted on the website of the Western United States Pipe Band Association. Members of the **SBWUSPBA** may present any arguments for, or against the changes in writing, and such statements may be posted on the website by approval of the website manager, and read as part of the discussions on the changes

held at the annual general meeting, or special meetings. Adoption, or rejection of the changes shall be by ballot of any members present at the annual general meeting, or special meetings, and by any members unable to attend such meetings who have sent in an official **SBWUSPBA** ballot by mail, or email to the **Secretary** of the **SBWUSPBA**. The **Secretary** shall count all such absentee ballots and present them by proxy during the voting to adopt or reject the changes.

1.3 **Changes to the Contest Rules and Bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association** to be presented by the **SBWUSPBA** shall be conducted in the same manner as changes to the bylaws of the **SBWUSPBA** per Article VI, paragraph 1.2, above. However, any member band, solo competitor, or contest sponsor of the **SBWUSPBA** may submit proposed changes to the contest rules and bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association per the bylaws of that association.

1.4 **Official Ballots of the SBWUSPBA** shall be prepared as directed by the **Executive Committee**, and posted on the website of the Western United States Pipe Band Association by the **Secretary** of the **SBWUSPBA**. These **Official Ballots** shall include the names of the persons nominated for the offices open to election, any proposed changes to the bylaws of the **SBWUSPBA**, and any proposed changes to the contest rules and bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association to be presented by the **SBWUSPBA**. All such **Official Ballots** shall be posted on the website of the Western United States Pipe Band Association 30 days in advance of the annual general meeting and any special meetings of the **SBWUSPBA**. Members of the **SBWUSPBA** unable to attend the annual general meeting, or any special meetings, must submit their **Official Ballots** by mail, or email not later than 5 days before scheduled elections.

ARTICLE VII MUSIC COMMITTEE

1. The **Executive Committee** of the **SBWUSPBA** shall appoint a **Music Committee** comprised of at least one member band representative, one solo piper, and one solo drummer, to act as musical advisers. The **Music Committee** shall:

- 1.1 Review the results of the pipe band contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA** and after consultations with the leaders of the member bands make recommendations to move up, or down in grade as indicated by the contest results.
- 1.2 Review the results of the solo contests held within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA** and after consultations with the solo competitors make recommendations to move up, or down in grade as indicated by the results.
- 1.3 Determine the champions of each pipe band grade, and each solo competitor grade for the year as indicated by the contest results within the geographical area of the **SBWUSPBA**.
- 1.4 Assist any contest sponsor, clan, or persons with the award of scholarships offered, and other awards for any member band or solo competitor as indicated by the contest results.

ARTICLE VIII MISCELLANEOUS

1. The **SBWUSPBA** is a branch of the Western United States Pipe Band Association. In all matters not covered in these bylaws, the contest rules and bylaws of the Western United States Pipe Band Association shall apply.
2. The **SBWUSPBA** is a member of the Western United States Pipe Band Association, and the Code of Conduct adopted by the Western United States Pipe Band Association is applicable to all members of the **SBWUSPBA**.