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# Contest Rules

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## Western United States Pipe Band Association

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[www.wuspba.org](http://www.wuspba.org)

Last Amended November 12, 2011  
Effective immediately

## Part I. SOLO CONTEST RULES

1. Solo Registration: A solo competitor is any piper, snare drummer, tenor drummer, bass drummer or drum major who enters solo competition sanctioned by the WUSPBA. The solo competitor must register with the WUSPBA before being allowed to compete.

Members of affiliated associations do not need to register with the WUSPBA, but must include a membership number on their entry form and show proof of membership at the registration/tally table prior to the event on the day of the contest.

2. Solo Judges: Judges for solo contests sanctioned by the WUSPBA must be approved by the Executive Committee of the WUSPBA. Contest sponsors for WUSPBA sanctioned solo contests will be provided with appropriate lists of qualified judges as part of the sanctioning process. Contest sponsors wishing to use judges for WUSPBA sanctioned solo contests not on the WUSPBA list must obtain advance approval of their judges by the WUSPBA Executive Committee.
3. Solo Sanctioning Fees: Games sponsors must pay a solo-sanctioning fee, to be determined periodically by the members of the WUSPBA at the Association's AGM.
4. Games Sponsors: Games sponsors will be responsible for any solo competition rules which they deem necessary to conduct a solo competition for which the WUSPBA does not provide, so long as they are not in conflict with any WUSPBA rule, and prior approval is obtained from the Executive Committee.

Game sponsors will be provided with this set of rules and any other assistance within the means of the WUSPBA as part of the sanctioning process. A more detailed description is available in the "WUSPBA Piping and Drumming Handbook."

5. Competition Events: Recommended events for solo piping and drumming competitions and the number of tunes to be submitted by competitors in each event are listed in the sections below. Game sponsors need not offer all of these events. Sponsors wishing to offer competitions not listed must obtain advanced approval from the Executive Committee; such request should be made in writing.
6. Order of Play: Solo piping and drumming competitors will play in the order determined by the game sponsor. In general, the first to enter is the last to play. The games sponsor has the right to adjust any pre-assigned times in order to eliminate large gaps in the contest due to scratches or disqualification. It is the responsibility of solo piping, drumming and drum major competitors to arrive on time, to check in with the appropriate Games Official, and to check periodically on the timeliness of his or her contest. The Games sponsor should make every effort to notify individuals of changes in the times of competitions, and any changes should be posted in a central location as they occur.
7. Solo Leets:
  - 7.1 Subdividing large entries: Where a solo contest will consist of more than approximately 20 entries, the contest will be divided into two or more smaller sections. These sections can be determined randomly or by age, by the contest sponsor. As Grade IV is the entry-level event for solo competition, it is strongly suggested that an under-18-years-old event be offered. Separate prizes will be awarded for the separate sections within each grade.
  - 7.2 If there is an overall trophy for the grade, have a playoff between the section winners or put multiple names on the trophy. Where possible, the playoff adjudicator should not have judged any of the original grade sections. All playoff competitors must be notified of the playoff time and location no later than 30 minutes before the start of the contest playoff.

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8. Tuning: Pipers shall be limited to a five-minute tuning time for all solo events. Pipers in Grades III and above shall be required to march during the March portion of any contest unless physically handicapped and unable to do so.
9. Drummers' Accompaniment: Drummers shall be required to provide their own accompaniment. No recorded music.
10. Grading: It is the intent of WUSPBA that soloists should perform in appropriate grades as reflected by the Performance Rating System (PRS) (*see section 13 below*). To encourage musical development and to maintain fairness in our contests the Music Board will review the PRS ratings of the top 10 aggregate placings in Grades II, III, and IV at the end of the competition season. Prior to December 1 the Music Board will recommend to the Executive Committee that any competitor who has participated in at least 5 contests in a season and with at least 60% of adjudicators indicating that said competitor is playing above the level at which he/she is currently playing be moved up to the next level. The EC will decide on the recommendations from the Music Board within 14 days of receiving these recommendations. If the EC decides that a competitor should move up a grade, that competitor will be notified via e-mail within 2 days of that decision. If a competitor disagrees with this decision, he/she can appeal this decision to the EC in writing explaining the reasons for the disagreement. The EC will then have 14 days to review the appeal, render a final decision, and notify the competitor.
11. Protests: Decisions of the judges are final. Solo competitors found to be in violation of these WUSPBA solo competition rules and/or the Code of Conduct will be disqualified and may be subject to other penalties as determined by the Executive Committee. Protests must be made in writing on the field prior to the awarding of prizes.

Written protests must be accompanied by payment of a deposit in the amount of \$5. Such deposit shall be returned if the complaint or protest is upheld, but may be forfeited if the complaint or protest is found to be unwarranted.

12. Changes to Solo Contest Rules: Solo contest rules for pipers, drummers and drum majors may be changed by a majority vote of members at the Annual General Meeting of the WUSPBA. Band votes shall count as SEVEN (7) and solo votes shall count as ONE (1).

Any member registered with and in good standing with the WUSPBA may submit rule change proposals so long as they pertain to solo competition. Proposed changes must be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the WUSPBA in order to be published no later than 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting at which they will be considered by the membership.

13. Performance Rating System: The WUSPBA has instituted a performance rating system to rate competitors, by ranking the top six players from first through sixth. No points are given on the score sheet. In addition to the ranking of the top six players, the adjudicator will assess each player in musical, technical and tonal expectations for the grade. There are five performance levels:
  - Level 5 – Above the grade level
  - Level 4 – At the upper end of the grade level
  - Level 3 – In the middle of the grade level
  - Level 2 – At the lower end of the grade level
  - Level 1 – Below grade level

## Part II. Rules and Recommendations for Solo Piping Competitions

Piping competition is organized into six grades according to ability and experience. The lowest grade, Grade 5, is restricted to individuals competing only on the practice chanter and is not open to any individual who plays the bagpipes in other solo or band contests. Competition in Grade 5 is unsanctioned and does not require solo membership in the WUSPBA. The recommended requirement in Grade 5 is one (1) four-parted march or two (2) two-parted marches in 2/4, 4/4 or 6/8 time signature.

All other grades are sanctioned and their recommendations are as follows. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the following events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the following number of tunes according to grade and type of competition.

When an event requires the submission of multiple tunes, the competitor does not have the privilege of organizing the tunes into "sets". For example in the case of professional MSR, the competitor submits 4 marches, 4 strathspeys, and 4 reels, and may be required to play any one of the marches with any one of the strathspeys with any one of the reels.

Competition event	Number of tunes to be submitted
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(In light music, minimums of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.)

### **PROFESSIONAL PIPING**

2/4 March	Submit four tunes
Strathspey and Reel	Submit four of each tune, play one of each
2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit four of each tune, play one of each
6/8 March	Submit three tunes, play two
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit three of each tune, play one of each
Jig	Submit four jigs, play one tune (tune may be required to be played twice through at choice of person responsible for scheduling)
Piobaireachd	Submit four piobaireachd

### **GRADE 1**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two of each tune, play one of each
6/8 March	Submit two tunes
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit two of each tune, play one of each
Piobaireachd	Submit three piobaireachd
2/4 March	Submit two tunes
Strathspey and Reel	Submit two of each tune, play one of each
Jig	Submit two jigs, play one tune (tune may be required to be played twice through at choice of person responsible for scheduling)

### **GRADE 2**

2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two marches, one strathspey and one reel, play one of each
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set
6/8 March	Submit one tune
Piobaireachd	Submit two piobaireachd
2/4 March	Submit two tunes
Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Jig	Submit two tunes

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**GRADE 3**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe	Submit one tune
Jig	Submit one tune
6/8 March	Submit one tune
Piobaireachd	Submit one piobaireachd

**GRADE 4**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
Slow March	Submit one tune, minimum 32 bars of music
Piobaireachd	Submit one piobaireachd (submit ground and next numbered section)
6/8 March	Submit one tune

Competitors may not elect to compete outside their grade with one exception: Where a games organizer does not offer piobaireachd for grade IV, a grade IV competitor may compete in a grade III piobaireachd event according to the rules for grade III piobaireachd.

### Part III. Rules and Recommendations for Solo Snare Drumming Competitions

Snare drumming competition is organized into five grades according to ability and experience. The lowest grade, Grade 5, is restricted to individuals competing only in playing rudiments on a practice pad and is not open to any individual who plays on the snare drum in other solo or band contests. Competition in Grade 5 is unsanctioned and does not require membership in the WUSPBA. All other grades are sanctioned and their requirements are as follows.

Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the following events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the following number of tunes according to grade and type of competition. Each snare-drumming competitor will be accompanied by a minimum of one and a maximum of two pipers for any event where accompaniment is required.

Competition event	Tunes to be submitted
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(Minimums of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.)

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two sets, play one
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit two sets, play one
Drum solo	Submit one unaccompanied solo of 2-5 minutes

#### **GRADE 1**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set
Drum solo	Submit one unaccompanied solo of 1-3 minutes

#### **GRADE 2**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set

#### **GRADE 3**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
6/8 March	Submit one tune
Strathspey/Reel	Submit one tune of each type. To initiate the contest, the piper will strike up on an E; the drummer will then count off 4 beats; judging will begin with the first beat of the strathspey.

#### **GRADE 4**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
6/8 March	Submit one tune

A minimum of one and a maximum of two pipers provided by the competitor will accompany each solo snare drumming competition where accompaniment is required. No recorded music. Snare drum competition will be held as a separate event.

## Part IV. Rules and Recommendations for Solo Tenor Drumming Competitions

Tenor drum competition is organized into five grades according to ability and experience. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the following events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the following number of tunes according to grade and type of competition. All grades are sanctioned, and their requirements are as follows:

Competition event	Tunes to be submitted
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(Minimums of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.)

### **PROFESSIONAL**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set

### **GRADE 1**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set

### **GRADE 2**

March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set

### **GRADE 3**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
Strathspey and Reel	Submit one tune of each type. To initiate the contest, the piper will strike up on an E; the drummer will then count off 4 beats; judging will begin with the first beat of the strathspey.

### **GRADE 4**

2/4 March	Submit one tune
6/8 March	Submit one tune

A minimum of one and a maximum of two pipers provided by the competitor will accompany each solo tenor drumming competition. A maximum of one snare drummer may also accompany each solo tenor drumming competitor but is not required. No recorded music. Tenor drum competition will be held as a separate event. Performances will be evaluated in the same manner as snare drumming, with an additional category being "Visual Effect."

## Part V. Rules and Recommendations for Solo Bass Drumming Competitions

Bass drum competition is organized into two (2) grades according to ability and experience. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the following events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the following number of tunes according to grade and type of competition. All grades are sanctioned, and their requirements are as follows:

<u>Competition event</u>	<u>Tunes to be submitted</u>
(Minimums of four (4) parted tunes are required except where noted.)	
<b>Professional</b>	
March, Strathspey, and Reel	Submit one set
Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one set
<b>Amateur</b>	
March	One march in the competitor's choice of any time signature.

A minimum of one and a maximum of two pipers provided by the competitor will accompany each solo bass drumming competitor. A maximum of one snare drummer may also accompany each solo bass drumming competitor but is not required. No recorded music. Bass drum competition will be held as a separate event.

## Part VI. Rules and Recommendations for Drum Major Competitions

1. Solo Drum Major competition is organized into two categories, Adult/Open Class and Under 18 Juvenile Class. Competitors shall be confined to their registered class. A juvenile may register with WUSPBA as, or move up to Adult/Open Class and will no longer be allowed to compete in juvenile competitions.

Games sponsors do not have to offer these events. However, if a drum major competition is offered with no juvenile category then a registered juvenile competitor may compete in the open class for that contest only. Their score will not count toward the Champion of Champions award.

2. Drum Major Champion of Champions
  - a. Major Championships. At least five games are to be designated as Major Championships by WUSPBA prior to the start of the competition year. At these games, points are to be awarded for the first five placings on each day of competition.

The requirements for games to host a Major Championship are: a proper size field, trophy or medals, prize money for Open competitors, and a sanctioned judge from the established WUSPBA panel, RSPBA or reciprocal association. All contests will be run according to RSPBA rules and regulations.

- b. Scoring
  - 1st place = 5 points
  - 2nd place = 4 points
  - 3rd place = 3 points
  - 4th place = 2 points
  - 5th place = 1 point
- c. Aggregate winners. Some Games Sponsors award Aggregate winners according to their own rules. These scores will not count toward the Champion of Champions. Only the scoring as detailed in Section 2b are to be used to determine the Champion of Champions.
- d. Ties. If any competitors are tied, the winner is to be determined by flourishing preference. If the flourishing scores are tied, Marching and Department score will be used to determine the Champion.

## **Part VII. BAND CONTEST RULES**

1. All bands, mini-bands and soloists competing in WUSPBA-sanctioned games must be members in good standing of the WUSPBA or an ANAPBA-affiliated piping association to be eligible to participate in such contests.
2. No member of the Association or of the approved Panel of Judges may take part in any contest not authorized by the Association, within the area of its effective jurisdiction as determined by the Executive Committee except with the written permission of the Executive Committee.
3. All Association Contests shall observe the following rules:
  - a. Order of Play: each band taking part in a contest shall send a representative to draw for order of play, which shall take place on the field not less than two hours before the contest. When a band is not represented at the draw, the draw for said band would be carried out by a member of the executive committee. The order of play will be decided by ballot and the time and order of play will be posted at the association headquarters. An official clock shall be on display to reflect the official time as well as to record the length of band medleys. These clocks shall be furnished by the WUSPBA, and maintained and supplied on loan by each branch. Any band refusing or failing to play according to the draw may be disqualified.

In case of emergency, contact the onsite WUSPBA Representative or a member of the WUSPBA Executive Committee.

Contest sponsors/organizers wishing to conduct a pre-draw prior to the contest day may do so providing that (i) prospective permission has been obtained by the Executive Committee, and (ii) at least one WUSPBA representative (member of the Executive Committee, WUSPBA-appointed WUSPBA Representative, or official designee) will be in attendance when the Sponsor makes the pre-draw for order of play. Draws held without WUSPBA representation will not be valid. In such cases, a valid draw will be conducted the day of the contest.

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After bands have been notified of the order of play, whether established by draw or pre-draw, the order of play may not be changed unless (i) all competing bands, the contest organizer, and the WUSPBA Representative have agreed to the change, and (ii) all parties are notified of the change in order of play no less than one hour prior to the time of the affected contest..

Each competing pipe band required to perform as part of the obligation(s) to the game sponsor must be allotted a minimum of one (1) hour for preparation/tuning prior to it's scheduled individual competition time, and a minimum of ten (10) minutes between events running concurrently.

- b. Sets: In the March, Strathspey and Reel contest:
  - i ). Grade 1 bands will be required to submit two sets consisting of tunes that are all at least four (4) parts in length. Drawing to determine which set shall be played shall be conducted at the line immediately prior to each band's competition.
  - ii ). Grade 2 bands will be required to submit two sets consisting of tunes that are all at least four (4) parts in length. Drawing to determine which set shall be played shall be conducted at the line immediately prior to each band's competition.
  - iii ). Grade 3 bands will be required to submit one set consisting of tunes that are all at least four (4) parts in length.
  - iv ). Grades 4, 5 and Juvenile bands will not compete in MSR competitions.
  - v ). Two-parted tunes played twice over are not acceptable.
- c. Band Representative's Duties: A representative shall be held responsible for the prompt attendance of his or her band on the contest field. The first band to compete will be advised at the draw as to the time it must be at the starting point in the contest arena; thereafter, it is the duty of each succeeding band to move forward as directed by the stewards. To reduce the gap between final tuning and competing to the lowest possible margin, there will be a five (5) minute MAXIMUM time period from the conclusion of one band's performance or from the posted time of play, whichever is later, to the appearance of the following band (in the same contest) at the starting position ready to play, or face disqualification. The officials shall mark off final tuning areas in the closest possible proximity to the contest arena, and bands should move forward to these areas upon request. Stewards may be provided as an aid to bands, but they carry no responsibility for the attendance of any band in the playing area. The final responsibility rests with each band to be at the starting point as and when required, and any band failing to do so and not complying with official instructions is subject to immediate disqualification.
- d. Local Rules: The local contest rules, after approval by the Executive Committee, shall become a part of the general Contest Rules and shall be adhered to for that contest.
- e. Band Numbers: Grade I, II and III bands taking part in a pipe band contest shall comprise not less than ten (10) players: six (6) pipers, two (2) side drummers, one (1) bass drummer, and one (1) tenor drummer. Grade IV bands taking part in a pipe band contest shall comprise not less than nine (9) players: six (6) pipers, two (2) side drummers, and one (1) bass drummer. Grade V bands taking part in a pipe band contest shall comprise not less than eight (8) players: five (5) pipers, two (2) side drummers, and one (1) bass drummer. Juvenile bands taking part in a Juvenile-only pipe band contest shall comprise not less than eight (8) players: five (5) pipers, two (2) side drummers, and one (1) bass

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drummer. If a bass section contest is held, such a section must consist of at least one (1) bass and one (1) tenor.

- f. Band Formations: In the case of the March, Strathspey and Reel and March Medley contests, the performance and the judging shall commence at the line with the two traditional three-paced rolls, with the band playing into the circle. In the case of the Time Limit Medley Contest, the musical performance and judging shall begin at the line with bands playing into the circle. In both the MSR and Medley contests, bands must begin marching upon the first beat of the two traditional three-paced rolls; no marking time at the line.

Bands may play off or march out upon completion of their competition performance. All bands must be in exit mode immediately upon completion of no more than eight bars of music (pipe or drum).

- g. Dress: At all contests bands may wear the uniform designated by the Pipe Major provided that it is in good taste and does not conflict with any local contest rules.
- h. Band Registration: Each enrolled band shall furnish to the Band Registrar during the period of registration, a complete list of the members registered with the band. The list must be signed by the Pipe Major or Band Manager and must show each individual's name, address, phone number and role in the band. The Band Registrar shall return to the Pipe Major or Band Manager a signed, validated copy of the list which must be carried by the Pipe Major or by his or her deputy at all contests and shall be available for inspection by the Association representatives.

No person shall be allowed to play with a band in a contest who has not for thirty (30) days immediately preceding the contest date been a registered member of that band.

- i ). Period of Registration: The registration of all band members shall terminate at 11:59 pm on 31<sup>st</sup> December and the new registration period shall become operative on 1st January. Registration of new members not currently registered with a band shall be furnished to the Band Registrar at any time, but must be postmarked or be electronically time-stamped not less than thirty days (30) prior to the contest in which that new member will compete with the band.
- ii ). Registered Instructor Policy: Grade III, Grade IV, and Grade V, and Juvenile bands may register, for the competition season, one and only one piping instructor and one and only one drumming instructor who is also registered with another, higher-graded band. An instructor is defined as an individual from a higher-graded band who provides piping/drumming instruction on an ongoing basis to the lower-graded band in which the instructor is registered, i.e., an instructor is a registered member who regularly attends that band's practices and provides instruction at those practices. The instructor(s) shall not be permitted to make up the minimum number of pipers or drummers required for competition. A higher-grade band may have more than one piper or drummer who serves as instructors of Grade III, Grade IV, V, and Juvenile bands.

Instructor(s) must be clearly identified on each band's roster. Any change of registered instructor during the calendar year must be approved by the Executive Committee.

Juvenile Bands: Members of Grade V Juvenile bands may be registered with, and compete with, a higher graded band as well as their own Grade V Juvenile band.

Dual Musicians: A musician may play one instrument (pipes, snare drum, tenor drum, bass drum) with one WUSPBA band, and a different instrument with another

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WUSPBA band of a different grade, provided it does not affect the order of play.

- iii ). Transfer: A player registered with one band may, within the period of registration, transfer only once to another. All transfers must be declared to the WUSPBA Band Registrar in writing at least (30) days prior to the first contest in which that player will compete with the gaining band

In certain unique circumstances, a player who has previously transferred once to another band may request the Association to grant an exception and allow a second transfer to another band. The request shall be in writing and disclose the nature of his or her special circumstances. No transfer shall be allowed unless the transfer is approved by the Executive committee. The special request must be submitted to the Band Registrar at least thirty (30) days prior to the first contest in which the player will compete with the gaining band, and must be acted upon by the WUSBPA Executive Committee within 10 days after the request is received.

A Pipe Major, band Secretary or other authorized person representing the band from which the player is transferring may file a grievance with WUSPBA if the transferring member has failed to satisfy all obligations which might exist, or if the member has not returned all band property, including uniforms, musical instruments or other equipment belonging to the band. A grievance may be heard by the Executive Committee when accompanied by supporting documentation.

No member band may register any player who is registered with any other Pipe Band Association without the approval of the Executive Committee. Newly registered players, in this event, would be registered to that member band for that season's registration period.

- iv ). Penalties: Any member violating registration rules may be subject to suspension for such period as the Executive Committee may decide. A similar penalty will apply to the Secretary of other official of a band who knowingly lodges a false registration with the Association.
- v ). Juvenile Bands: Juvenile bands shall compete in their regular grade for the duration of the registration period and are subject to the rules of that grade.
- i. Judges' Duties: The judging of pipes and drums will commence with the first beat of the attack or introduction and shall cease on the last note in the last tune in the set being played. Each judge will be provided with score sheets suitably printed for the allocation of points and remarks. The score sheets must be completed in duplicate and passed to the steward at the end of each event. When less than the maximum number of points is awarded, the judge shall be required to provide constructive criticism in the remarks column. Judges shall not condemn a band for the setting of a tune. Judges shall be in the open, but must not approach nearer than two (2) yards to any member of the competing band, nor shall the judges converse with one another during the entire contest.

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The minimum number of judges engaged at any band contest shall be three.  
Composition: One shall be a piping judge, one a drumming judge and one an ensemble judge. Exception: In the case of a mini-band contest, only a piping judge and a drumming judge are required.

No judge shall be allowed to judge a contest in which his or her own band is competing.

- j. Band Officials at Contest: Officials and competitors only shall be allowed inside the enclosure. Any information shall be obtained from the steward or Association representative.

Any registered member who interferes with, threatens, or uses abusive language towards the judges, officials, stewards or members of the Committee at any contest shall be liable to suspension from membership of the Association.

- k. Executive Committee Members' Duties: A designated WUSPBA Representative shall be in attendance as the Association representatives at all contests and shall be co-opted to the Contest Committee for that day. The WUSPBA Representative shall supervise, check and initial the completed summaries of the judges' results. The Contest Committee thus constituted shall have the power to deal with all complaints, disputes, and protests relating to the contest and shall ensure that the rules of the Association are fully complied with.
- l. Protests: All complaints or protests should be made in writing and be lodged with the Executive Secretary or Contest Secretary, before the distribution of prizes, accompanied by a deposit of \$5.00. Such deposit shall be returnable if the complaint or protest is upheld, but may be forfeited if the complaint or protest is found to be unwarranted. If a complaint or protest by a band is lodged against any other band on the grounds of substituted personnel or other registration irregularities the matter shall be dealt with by the Contest Committee, whose decision shall be binding on all parties concerned. Should the aggrieved party disagree with the findings of the Contest Committee, they shall have the right of appeal to the Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final. Pending the result of the appeal all parties concerned shall accept the findings of the Contest Committee.

The Contest Committee, on the day of the contest and before the distribution of prizes, being satisfied that a band has willfully violated any of the rules, shall have power to debar such band from the prize list, suspend the decision of the judges and award the prizes to the respective bands next in order of merit. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act similarly after the contest if satisfied that a violation of the rules has taken place.

- m. Determination of Band Contest Results: Judging will be performed by a panel of one or two piping judges, one ensemble judge, and one drumming judge. Each judge will award a band a numerical score of between 0 and 100 points based upon that judge's evaluation of the bands performance. Judges shall not award the same numerical score to more than one band.

The contest organizer shall form a Tally Committee whose responsibilities will be the verification of judge's scores, and tabulation of the contest results. The Tally Committee should not contain any members of a band that has taken part in the contest being tabulated. The Tally Committee should include the WUSPBA Representative for the appropriate WUSPBA Branch, or their designated representative.

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The Tally Committee will determine the rank of the bands from the highest score to the lowest score according to each judge's respective numerical score. The Tally Committee will record the score and the rank for each band according to each judge. If the contest uses a single piping judge the score and rank for the piping judge will be duplicated and assigned to the values for the second piping judge. The rank of the two piping judges, the ensemble judge and the drumming judge will be added together. The overall band placement will be determined by the lowest sum of these values.

If two bands tie after this sum is determined the result of the tie will be broken by giving preference to the rank as determined by the ensemble judge.

Example 1. An example of a judging panel using two piping judges.

Band	Piping 1		Piping 2		Ensemble		Drumming		Total
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	
Band A	68	4	71	3	65	4	69	4	15
Band B	74	3	70	4	67	3	72	1	11
Band C	81	1	72	2	70	2	71	2	7
Band D	80	2	73	1	71	1	70	3	7

In Example 1, a two piping judges were used. "Band C" and "Band D" are tied with 7 points. Since "Band D" was the first place according to the ensemble judge, "Band D" has won this contest. "Band C" was the second place band; "Band B" was the third place band; "Band A" was the fourth place band.

Example 2. An example of a judging panel using a single piping judge is:

Band	Piping 1		<i>Piping 2</i>		Ensemble		Drumming		Total
	Score	Rank	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rank</i>	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	
Band A	68	4	<i>68</i>	<i>4</i>	65	4	69	4	16
Band B	74	3	<i>74</i>	<i>3</i>	67	3	72	1	10
Band C	81	1	<i>81</i>	<i>1</i>	70	2	71	2	6
Band D	80	2	<i>80</i>	<i>2</i>	71	1	70	3	8

In Example 2, a single piping judge is used, so the values for the two judges are identical (notice the italicized entry). "Band C" has won this contest. "Band D" was the second place band; "Band B" was the third place band; "Band A" was the fourth place band.

**Mini-bands:** Mini-band contests shall be tabulated as described above, except that no ensemble judge is required. If no ensemble judge is used, all ensemble scores and placement values should be counted as zero. Ties will be broken by giving preference to the band with a higher ensemble score if any ensemble judge is used. If no ensemble judge is used, ties will be broken by giving preference to the mini-band with a higher piping score.

**Piping Trios & Quartets:** Piping trio and quartets shall be tabulated as above with only piping judges to be considered. If multiple piping judges are used, ties shall be broken by a consultation of judges.

**Drum Salute:** Drum salute contests shall be tabulated as above with only drumming judges to be considered. If multiple drumming judges are used, ties shall be broken by a consultation of judges.

## *WUSPBA Contest Rules*

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Determination of Aggregate Prizes: Contest sponsors holding more than one sanctioned contest within a single grade may elect to award an aggregate prize for the best overall band within a single grade. This is determined by adding the total points awarded to each band for both contests. The lowest combined total is the aggregate winner for that grade. In the event more than one band has an identical combined total, the ties will be broken by the adding the order of finish in the MSR contest for Grades I, II, and III and ties will be determined by the order of finish in the Timed Medley contest for Grade IV and Juvenile-only contests. In Grade V contests, ties will be broken by the order of finish in the Quick March Medley.

- n. Band Points Sheets: The original judges' score sheets shall be given to the bands after the distribution of prizes. The duplicate sheets will remain with the Association.
- o. Summary Sheets: As soon after a contest as possible, the WUSPBA Representative shall compile a summary of the results and submit a copy to the sponsor for posting.
- p. Mini-bands: A mini-band shall consist of four (4) to six (6) pipers, two side drummers, one bass drummer, and zero (0) to two (2) tenor drummers. The contest sponsor may select the type of music with the concurrence of the Association Executive Committee.
- q. Time Limit Medley Event: This will be a graded contest.
  - i ). Grade 1 bands will play from five (5) to seven (7) minutes.
  - ii ). Grade 2 bands will play from four (4) to six (6) minutes.
  - iii ). Grade 3 bands will play from three (3) to five (5) minutes.
  - iv ). Grade 4 bands will play from three (3) to five (5) minutes.
  - v ). Timed Medley events will not be sanctioned for Grade V contests.
  - vi ). All applicable grades – The bands have free choice of tunes. The music, however, must be that played upon the Highland Bagpipe, Snare Drum, Tenor Drum and Bass Drum.
  - vii ). The set played for the Time Limit Medley shall not be the same set used in the Quick March Medley.
- r. Drum Salute: A drum salute contest will conform to the following requirements: Instruments will be restricted to Bass, Tenor, and Snare drums; no piping or other accompaniment. Minimum numbers shall be one (1) bass and two (2) snares. Time limit - three (3) minutes maximum.
- s. Drum Majors: Drum Major contests will be judged by the WUSPBA sanction rules [RSPBA rules]. No changes will be allowed without formal amendment changes approved by WUSPBA. Contests will be judged by WUSPBA approved and qualified judges.
- t. Quick March Medley Event (QMM): This will be a graded contest limited to Grade IV and V bands only. Tunes played must consist of quick marches in any time signature(s). Bands will play from two minutes, forty-five seconds (2:45) to four minutes, thirty seconds (4:30). The set played for the quick march medley shall not be the same set used in the time limit medley event.

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- u. **March – Slow Air – 6/8 Event (MS68):** will be a graded contest limited to Grade V bands only. Tunes played will consist of 2 parts of a march of any time signature, which will be played into the circle starting with the traditional 3 beat rolls, followed by 2 parts of a slow march, any time signature, and finishing with a 2 parts of a 6/8 march. This is not a timed event. The tunes used in the MS68 must be different from those used in the QMM.
4. Any band may enter an Open competition regardless of grading.
5. **Challenging Up.** A games sponsor may elect to provide the option for bands to play up to the next higher grade, in order to increase participation of bands at higher grades. Bands may play up under the following conditions.
- a. The games sponsor must indicate that they will offer the opportunity to challenge up on the approved entry form. The game sponsor must disclose any restrictions on the number of bands that will be permitted to play up, and how the bands will be chosen in the event more entries are received than there are opportunities to challenge up.
  - b. The game sponsor must disclose in advance any policies for prize money should a band place in contests in more than one grade.
  - c. The games sponsor may decide on the day of the event that time or resources do not allow any or all bands to challenge up.
  - d. The band must enter all events in their normal grade, in addition to the event(s) in which the band is challenging up.
  - e. The band must meet all requirements for numbers of players and music for the grade and event in which the band is challenging up.
  - f. The band may only play members currently on their official roster. Bands may cut members prior to performance in the event(s) in which the band challenges up.
  - g. The band must accept all conditions and limitations resulting from the extraordinary situation, such as limited time between events, lack of time to retune, and commitments to the games for participation in mass bands, or other requirements. No protests based upon these conditions will be permitted.
  - h. Results in any contest where a band that challenges up will not count toward any standing in season long standings, championships, or imply that a band is a candidate for upgrading, or imply that any band bested by a lower grade band shall be a candidate for downgrading.
  - i. In cases where a grade 5 Quick March Medley contest is not offered, grade 5 bands may compete in the grade 4 Quick March Medley contest. These contests will be treated as combined contests, and are not subject to the other challenge up rules. Aggregate points will be earned for these contests.
  - j. If a grade 5 band wishes to challenge up in a Timed Medley contest, or in a Quick March Medley contest when a grade 5 contest is offered, all other rules apply.
6. **Critique.** If the contest sponsor wishes to allow it, bands may play for critique at WUSPBA sanctioned contests if they are paid competing bands in good standing with the WUSPBA, or another ANAPBA-affiliated piping association. Bands playing for critique should be scheduled to play at the beginning of the grade in which they are wishing to critique. Bands may play if they do not meet the minimum required number of players, and may use substitutes that are not registered with the band. Bands must adhere to the same music, time, and instrument requirements appropriate for the contest being critiqued. Bands must appear in an appropriate uniform.

## Part VIII. MASSED BANDS

All Grade 1 drum sections will be used for the piano parts of the massed band tunes:

*When the Battle's O'er and Green Hills of Tyrol.*  
*Cornwaith Mill (No Awa' ta Bide Awa')*  
*Barren Rocks of Aden (2 parts)*  
*Highland Laddie (2 parts)*  
*Scotland the Brave (Piper's Delight)*  
*P/M J. K. Cairns*  
*Bonnie Dundee*  
*Amazing Grace*

Band members participating in a massed band shall be correctly dressed in the uniform of their band as designated for the massed band by the Pipe Major. The Games Committee shall bar band members not in uniform from the massed band.

In the event minimum representation in a massed band is a requirement for payment to bands of any fee or award, band representation shall be reckoned after exclusion of band members out of uniform.

Appropriate behavior and dress are expected of bands at all massed band ceremonies. Inappropriate behavior during massed bands includes smoking, drinking, wearing hose rolled down, wearing unauthorized items of clothing, and creating a disturbance by leaving ranks and/or talking in ranks when asked to stand at attention or at ease. Bands exhibiting these or other behaviors deemed inappropriate by the Executive Committee may be fined a portion of their travel money, said fine to be determined by the Executive Committee and to go to the treasury of the Association.

Should the Games Sponsor find it desirable, this Association will organize and operate the Massed Bands Display with the assistance of the Sponsor's Stewards. Notification of this desire must be made in writing to the Executive Secretary no later than 60 days prior to the Contest. In order to help defray the expenses involved, the Sponsor will be charged a fee of \$100 for these services.

### **Games Procedural Recommendation, non-binding, but to be recommended to all games and Drum Majors**

#### Amazing Grace

Whereas, it has been brought to the attention of the WUSPBA Executive Committee and Music Board that the massed bands playing of Amazing Grace is often of poor quality in terms of unison, especially in the middle and back ranks.

Whereas, consistent with the stated WUSPBA Bylaw objective of "promoting ..... pipe band music" and the WUSPBA Code of Conduct goal to "promote the advancement of pipe band music"

It is therefore resolved and recommended that Drum Majors participating at WUSPBA massed band events during the playing of Amazing Grace:

1. Not use the symphonic style of conducting which is difficult for many pipers to follow.
2. In lieu of using any symphonic style conducting, to use the mace in a simple down/up motion to replicate the foot beat of the solo piper.

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Further it is resolved and recommended that if a Drum Major is not participating at massed bands the solo piper be positioned so as to provide maximum visibility to as many massed band pipers as possible and to utilize a pronounced foot beat in order to provide massed band pipers the best possible visual timing reference.