
Contest Rules



Western United States Pipe Band Association

www.wuspba.org

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Part I. Solo Contest Rules

1. General Rules

- 1.1. 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. The registration period for all solo members shall terminate at 11:59 pm on December 31 and the new registration period shall commence on January 1.

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 table prior to any event on the day of the contest.

- 1.2. Solo Judges: The Executive of the WUSPBA must approve Judges for solo contests sanctioned by the WUSPBA. Contest sponsors for WUSPBA sanctioned solo contests will be provided with 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.
- 1.3. Solo Sanctioning Fees: Games sponsors must pay a solo-sanctioning fee. The amount is determined periodically by the members of the WUSPBA at the Association's AGM.
- 1.4. Band Sanctioning Fees: Games sponsors must pay a band-sanctioning fee. The amount is determined periodically by the members of the WUSPBA at the Association's AGM.
- 1.5. Games Sponsors: Games sponsors may enforce 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."

- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. 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 disqualifications. 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.
- 1.8. Solo Leets: Where a solo contest will consist of more than approximately twenty (20) entries, the contest should be divided into two or more smaller sections. The contest sponsor determines the players in each section either randomly or by age. If there is an overall trophy for the grade, there should be a playoff between the section winners. 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 thirty (30) minutes before the start of the contest playoff.

- 1.9. Grading: It is the intent of WUSPBA that soloists should perform in appropriate grades as reflected by the Performance Rating System (PRS). To encourage musical development and to maintain fairness in our contests the Music Board will review the PRS ratings of the top ten (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 five (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 fourteen (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 two (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 fourteen (14) days to review the appeal, render a final decision, and notify the competitor.
- 1.10. Contest Placings: In any contest, the judge will rank the top six competitors from first through sixth with no ties. No points are awarded for solo competitions.
- 1.11. Performance Rating System (PRS): 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 and each competitor will be assigned:
- Level 5 – Above commonly accepted grade level
 - Level 4 – In upper quartile of commonly accepted grade level
 - Level 3 – At commonly accepted grade level
 - Level 2 – In lower quartile of commonly accepted grade level
 - Level 1 – Below commonly accepted grade level
- 1.12. Violations: 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.
- 1.13. Protests: The decisions of the judges are final. 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.

2. Piping

- 2.1. Grade Designation: Piping competitions shall be organized into the following classes:
A: Open (Highest category for light music and Piobaireachd)
B: Amateur light music grades-1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
C: Amateur Piobaireachd grades-1, 2, 3, and 4

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.

All other grades are sanctioned and the competition requirements are outlined in Tables 1 and 2. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the 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 Open MSR, the competitor submits four (4) Marches, four (4) Strathspeys, and four (4) Reels and may be

WUSPBA Contest Rules

required to play any one of the Marches with any one of the Strathspeys and any one of the Reels.

- 2.2. Tuning: Pipers shall be limited to a five-minute tuning time for all solo events.
- 2.3. Marching: 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.
- 2.4. Playing in Another Grade: Competitors may not elect to compete outside of their grade.
- 2.5. Tune Requirements: The tune requirements for each grade and each event are outlined in tables 1 and 2. In light music, a minimum of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.

Grade	Competition Event	Number of Tunes to be Submitted
Open Piping	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit four (4) tunes of each type, play one (1) of each.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit three (3) of each type, play one (1) of each.
	2/4 March	Submit four (4) tunes.
	6/8 March	Submit three (3) tunes, play two (2).
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit four (4) tunes of each type, play one (1) of each.
	Jig	Submit four (4) jigs and play one (1) tune (it may be required that the tune be played twice through at the choice of the person responsible for scheduling).
Grade 1	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two (2) of each type, play one (1) of each.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit two (2) of each type, play one (1) of each.
	2/4 March	Submit two (2) tunes.
	6/8 March	Submit two (2) tunes.
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit two (2) of each type, play one (1) of each.
	Jig	Submit two (2) tunes and play one (1) tune (It may be required that the tune be played twice through at the choice of the person responsible for scheduling).
Grade 2	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two (2) Marches, one (1) Strathspey and one (1) Reel. Play one (1) of each.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
	2/4 March	Submit two (2) tunes.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune.
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Jig	Submit two (2) tunes.
Grade 3	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune.
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe	Submit one (1) tune.
	Jig	Submit one (1) tune.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune.
Grade 4	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

	Slow March	Submit one (1) tune with a minimum of thirty-two (32) bars of music.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune.

Table 1. Solo Light Music Piping Events and Requirements

Grade	Competition Event	Number of Tunes to be Submitted
Open	Piobaireachd	Submit four (4) Piobaireachd.
Grade 1	Piobaireachd	Submit three (3) Piobaireachd.
Grade 2	Piobaireachd	Submit two (2) Piobaireachd.
Grade 3	Piobaireachd	Submit one (1) Piobaireachd
Grade 4	Piobaireachd	Submit one (1) Piobaireachd and play the ground and the next numbered section.

Table 2. Solo Piobaireachd Requirements

3. Snare Drumming

- 3.1. Grade Designation: Snare drumming competitions are organized into six (6) grades each denoting a specific expectation of ability and experience. The grades are from 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, and Open ranging from introductory to advanced. The lowest grade, Grade 5, is restricted to individuals competing only on the practice pad playing rudiments and is not open to any individual who plays the snare drum in other solo or band contests. Competition in Grade 5 is unsanctioned and does not require solo membership in the WUSPBA.

All other grades are sanctioned and the competition requirements are outlined in Table 3. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the number of tunes according to grade and type of competition.

- 3.2. Drummers' Accompaniment: Each snare drumming competitor in grade four (4) or higher will be accompanied by a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of two (2) pipers obtained by the competitor, or in the absence of accompaniment, a piping recording may be substituted. There can be no drum scores playing on the recording. It is the responsibility of the competitor to provide the music and audio device and its operation.
- 3.3. Playing in Another Grade: Competitors may not elect to compete outside of their grade.
- 3.4. Tune Requirements: The tune requirements for each grade and each event are outlined in table 3. A minimum of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.

Grade	Competition Event	Number of Tunes to be Submitted
Open Snare	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit two (2) sets.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit two (2) sets.
	Drum Solo	Submit one (1) unaccompanied solo of two (2) to five (5) minutes.
Grade 1	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
	Drum Solo	Submit one (1) unaccompanied solo of one (1) to three (3) minutes.
Grade 2	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
Grade 3	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play

WUSPBA Contest Rules

		four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) tune of each type. To initiate the contest, the piper will strike up on an E; the drummer will then count off four (4) beats; judging will begin with the first beat of the Strathspey. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
Grade 4	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two parted tune twice over.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.

Table 3. Solo Snare Drumming Events and Requirements

4. Tenor Drumming

- 4.1. Grade Designation: Tenor drumming competitions are organized into five (5) grades each denoting a specific expectation of ability and experience. The grades are from 4, 3, 2, 1, and Open ranging from introductory to advanced.

All grades are sanctioned and the competition requirements are outlined in Table 4. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the number of tunes according to grade and type of competition.

- 4.2. Drummers' Accompaniment: Each tenor drumming competitor will be accompanied by a minimum of one (1), and a maximum of two (2) pipers provided by the competitor. The competitor may also provide one (1) bass drummer and/or one (1) snare drummer (optional). In the absence of accompaniment, a piping recording may be substituted. It is the responsibility of the competitor to provide the music and tape recorder and its operation. Performances will be evaluated in the same manner as a snare drumming competition with an additional category of "Visual Effect."
- 4.3. Playing in Another Grade: Competitors may not elect to compete outside of their grade.
- 4.4. Tune Requirements: The tune requirements for each grade and each event are outlined in table 4. A minimum of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.

Grade	Competition Event	Number of Tunes to be Submitted
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WUSPBA Contest Rules

Open Tenor	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
Grade 1	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
Grade 2	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
Grade 3	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
	Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) tune of each type. To initiate the contest, the piper will strike up on an E; the drummer will then count off four (4) beats; judging will begin with the first beat of the Strathspey. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
Grade 4	2/4 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.
	6/8 March	Submit one (1) tune. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.

Table 4. Solo Tenor Drumming Events and Requirements

5. Bass Drumming

- 5.1. Grade Designation: Bass drumming competitions are organized into three (3) grades each denoting a specific expectation of ability and experience. The grades are Open, Intermediate, and Amateur ranging from introductory to advanced.

All grades are sanctioned and the competition requirements are outlined in Table 5. Game sponsors do not have to offer all of the events in each grade. However, when events are offered, individual competitors shall submit the number of tunes according to grade and type of competition.

- 5.2. Drummers' Accompaniment: Each bass drumming competitor will be accompanied by a minimum of one (1), and a maximum of two (2) pipers provided by the competitor. The competitor may also provide one (1) snare and/or one (1) tenor drummer (optional). In the absence of accompaniment, a piping recording may be substituted. It is the responsibility of the competitor to provide the music and tape recorder and its operation.
- 5.3. Playing in Another Grade: Competitors may not elect to compete outside of their grade.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

5.4. Tune Requirements: The tune requirements for each grade and each event are outlined in table 5. A minimum of four-parted tunes are required except where noted.

Grade	Competition Event	Number of Tunes to be Submitted
Open	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
	Hornpipe and Jig	Submit one (1) set.
Intermediate	2/4 March, Strathspey and Reel	Submit one (1) set.
Amateur	March	Submit one (1) March in any time signature. The drummer must play four (4) different parts of music. However, the piper may either play a four-parted tune, two (2) two-parted tunes, or one (1) two-parted tune twice over.

Table 5. Solo Bass Drumming Events and Requirements

6. Drum Major

6.1. Grade Designations: Solo drum major competition is organized into two categories: Adult/Open Class and Under 18 Juvenile Class. A juvenile may register with the WUSPBA as an Adult/Open competitor 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.

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.

6.2. Champion of Champions:

6.2.1. 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.

6.2.2. Scoring: Scoring of contests takes place as follows:

- 1st place = 5 points
- 2nd place = 4 points
- 3rd place = 3 points
- 4th place = 2 points
- 5th place = 1 point

6.2.3. 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.

- 6.2.4. 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 2. Band Contest Rules

7. Pipe Bands

- 7.1. Good Standing: 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.
- 7.2. Non-Authorized Contests: 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.
- 7.3. Order of Play: Each band taking part in a contest shall send a representative to draw for order of play. The drawing shall take place on the field not less than two hours before the contest. When a band is not represented at the draw, a member of the Executive Committee may carry out the draw for said band. 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 (1) prospective permission has been obtained by the Executive Committee, and (2) 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.

At any games running different-graded contests in separate venues simultaneously, any bands from the same organization will be scheduled at least twenty (20) minutes apart. The WUSPBA representative doing the draw may move bands in either direction in order to accomplish this timing.

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 (1) all competing bands, the contest organizer, and the WUSPBA Representative have agreed to the change, and (2) 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.

- 7.4. Set Definitions: The following definitions will be used for band competitions.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

- 7.4.1. March Strathspey Reel (MSR): An MSR shall consist of exactly one (1) 2/4 March, one (1) Strathspey, and one (1) Reel. Each tune shall have a minimum of four (4) parts. In grades that require the submission of two sets, a random draw will determine which set will be played. The random draw shall be conducted at the line prior to each band's performance.
- 7.4.2. Time Limit Medley (TLM): A TLM shall consist of any tunes in any time signature.
- 7.4.3. Quick March Medley (QMM): A QMM shall consist of any number of quick marches in any time signature.
- 7.4.4. March, Slow March, March (MSM): An MSM shall consist of two (2) to four (4) parts of march in any time signature, one (1) Slow March in any time signature, and another two (2) to four (4) parts of march in any time signature. The marches may be reused between this medley and the QMM. Bands must march into a circle using a traditional three (3) pace roll off.
- 7.4.5. Set Composition: Tunes in any set may not be used in another set during a contest.
- 7.4.6. Musical Instruments: Sets shall be restricted to the Highland Bagpipes, Snare Drum, Tenor Drum, and Bass Drum instrumentation only.
- 7.4.7. Grade Event Requirements: Event requirements are outlined in table 6.

	MSR	TLM	QMM	MSM
Grade 1	Submit two (2)	5 - 7 minutes	N/A	N/A
Grade 2	Submit two (2)	4 - 6 minutes	N/A	N/A
Grade 3	Submit one (1)	3 - 5 minutes	N/A	N/A
Grade 4	N/A	3 - 5 minutes	2:45 – 4:30 minutes	N/A
Grade 5	N/A	N/A	2:45 – 4:30 minutes	Submit one (1)

Table 6. Grade Event Requirements

- 7.5. Drum Salutes: A drum salute contest will conform to the following requirements. Instruments are restricted to Bass, Tenor, and Snare drums. No piping or other accompaniment is allowed. The minimum numbers are one (1) bass and two (2) snare drums. The time limit is between two (2) and seven (7) minutes.
- 7.6. Mini Bands: A mini-band shall consist of four (4) to six (6) pipers, two (2) snare drummers, one (1) bass drummer, and zero (0) to two (2) tenor drummers. The contest sponsor may select the type of music with the concurrence of the Executive Committee.
- 7.7. Open Contests: Any band may enter an Open competition regardless of grading.
- 7.8. 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.
- 7.8.1. 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.
- 7.8.2. The game sponsor must disclose in advance any policies for prize money should a band place in contests in more than one grade.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

- 7.8.3. 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.
- 7.8.4. The band must enter all events in their normal grade, in addition to the event(s) in which the band is challenging up.
- 7.8.5. The band must meet all requirements for numbers of players and music for the grade and event in which the band is challenging up.
- 7.8.6. 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.
- 7.8.7. The band must accept all conditions and limitations resulting from the extraordinary situation, such as limited time between events, lack of time to re-tune, and commitments to the games for participation in mass bands, or other requirements. No protests based upon these conditions will be permitted.
- 7.8.8. 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.
- 7.8.9. 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.
- 7.8.10. 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.
- 7.9. Critique: If the contest sponsor wishes to allow it, bands may play for critique at WUSPBA sanctioned contests if they are 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.
- 7.10. 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 zero (0) and one hundred (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.

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

WUSPBA Contest Rules

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

- 7.10.1. 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 an 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.
- 7.10.2. Piping Trios and 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.
- 7.10.3. 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.
- 7.10.4. 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.
- 7.11. Band Point 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.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

- 7.12. 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.
- 7.13. Band Numbers: Pipe bands taking part in a band contest shall have the minimum number of players. The minimum number of players is shown in table 7. If a bass section contest is held, such section must consist of at least one (1) bass and one (1) tenor.

	Pipers	Side Drummers	Tenor Drummers	Bass Drummers
Grade 1	6	2	1	1
Grade 2	6	2	1	1
Grade 3	6	2	1	1
Grade 4	6	2	0	1
Grade 5	5	2	0	1
Juvenile	5	2	0	1

Table 7. Band Numbers

- 7.14. 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. There shall be no marking time at the line.
- 7.15. Dress: At all contests bands must wear a uniform of proper Highland or traditional national dress, as designated by the Pipe Major, provided that it is in good taste and does not conflict with any local contest rules. As a minimum for Highland dress, all competitors shall be attired in head dress, shirt, kilt, sporran, hose and shoes.
- 7.16. Band Representative 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. Bands that are not at the line at their designated time are subject to 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 the official instructions is subject to immediate disqualification.
- 7.17. Judges Duties: The judging of a pipe band contest 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.

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

WUSPBA Contest Rules

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

- 7.18. 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 full compliance with all the rules of the Association.
- 7.19. Band Officials at Contest: Only officials and competitors 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.

- 7.20. 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 Contest Committee shall deal with the matter. The Contest Committee's 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.

Any Executive Committee member involved or implicated in a band's protest shall be automatically recused from voting on the protest. In the event of a tie vote, the Music Board Chair will review the protest and provide a vote.

- 7.21. 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.
- 7.22. ANAPBA Championship Rules: In cases where contest sponsors wish to adopt the ANAPBA championship rules for a contest held within WUSPBA jurisdiction and wish the contest to be sanctioned by WUSPBA, the Executive Committee must approve the request. The contest sponsor shall submit a formal request through the Sanctioning Secretary no less than one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the requested contest. The Executive Committee shall return the results of the request to the contest sponsor no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the contest.
- 7.23. Band Registration: Each active band shall submit a roster of the competing band members to the Band Registrar and notify the Band Registrar of any changes made to the roster during the period of registration. This roster must be maintained by the Pipe Major, Band Manager or other designated representative and must show the name, address, phone number, email and role for every competitive player in the band. A band may optionally provide information on non-competitive, administrative and non-musical persons in the band, such as Band Manager, Secretary, etc.

The Band Registrar will maintain a list of current members submitted by each band and provide each band with a validated electronic copy of the list which must be carried by the Pipe Major or a designated representative 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 been a registered member of that band for fifteen (15) days immediately preceding the contest date. No person shall be on the roster of more than one band at any given time, except for the special provisions listed below.

7.23.1. Period of Registration: The registration period for all band members shall terminate at 11:59 pm on December 31 and the new registration period shall commence on January 1. 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 electronically time-stamped not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the contest in which that new member will compete with the band.

7.23.2. Registered Instructor Policy: Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, and Juvenile bands may register, for the competition season, at most one (1) piping instructor and one (1) drumming instructor who are 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. Instructors for Grade 2 bands may not act as the Pipe Major or lead drummer. A higher-grade band may have more than one piper or drummer who serves as instructors of Grade II, III, IV, V, and Juvenile bands.

Instructor(s) must be clearly identified on each band's roster.

Members of Grade 5 Juvenile bands may be registered with and compete with a higher graded band as well as their own Grade 5 Juvenile band.

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

7.23.4. Transfer: A player registered with one band may transfer to another band within the period of registration. All transfers must be declared to the WUSPBA Band Registrar in writing at least fifteen (15) days prior to the first contest in which that player will compete with the gaining band.

Players may only transfer one time within the period of registration, with the following exceptions.

- a. A player may transfer to a band for purposes of competing in a contest outside of WUSPBA (e.g. the World Pipe Band Championship) and then transfer back to their original band for the remainder of the period of registration.
- b. A player may transfer to a band due to relocation for educational purposes (e.g. college) or military service commitments and then transfer back to their original band for the remainder of the period of registration.
- c. A player who has already transferred once during the registration period may request the Executive Committee to grant a special exception and allow a transfer to another band due to some unique circumstances. The request shall be in writing and disclose the nature of his or her special

circumstances. No transfer shall be allowed unless the Executive Committee approves the transfer. 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 WUSPBA Executive Committee within ten (10) days after the request is received. This will allow the person to be added to the roster prior to the required fifteen (15) day period.

All of the listed exceptions are limited to one time within the period of registration.

A band from which the player is transferring may file a grievance with WUSPBA if the transferring member has failed to satisfy all financial or legal 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. The Executive Committee must be presented with supporting documentation in order to hear any such grievance.

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.

7.23.5. 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.

7.23.6. 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.

Part 3. Massed Bands Rules

8. Massed Bands

8.1. Massed Band Tunes: The following list is the required tunes for massed bands. All Grade 1 drum sections will be used for the piano parts.

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

8.2. Appropriate Dress: 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.

8.3. Band Representation: 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.

8.4. Code of Conduct: 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

WUSPBA Contest Rules

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. The fine is to be determined by the Executive Committee and will go to the treasury of the Association.

- 8.5. Association Assistance: 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 sixty (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.
- 8.6. Recommendations for Amazing Grace: These recommendations are non-binding. 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.

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 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.

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

