

# PROPOSAL TO CHANGE MASSED BANDS TUNE LIST AND LEAD DRUMMER DESIGNATION

Submitted by WUSPBA Drum Major Committee

## Existing Text

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

## Proposed Text – 1) Changes the tune list; 2) Adds 8.1.a to the rule.

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~~  
**Green Hills of Tyrol**  
**When the Battle's O'er**  
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  
**Brown Haired Maiden**  
**Glendaurel Highlanders**  
**High Road to Gairloch**  
**Minstrel Boy**  
**Rowan Tree**  
**Wings**

**8.1.a. One or more drum sections will be designated to play the lead (single-forte) by the Drum Major in charge of the performance. The standard practice shall be to designate the drum sections from the highest-graded bands in a given formation.**

### Rationale

1. Massed Bands Tunes:
  - a. The current tune list was adopted at the 1996 WUSPBA AGM using common tunes at that time.
  - b. The majority of WUSPBA bands today are consistently unprepared to play Barren Rocks and J.K. Cairns. These tunes shall be dropped from the list.
  - c. "Scotland The Brave" as a tune name stands on its own. The obscure reference of "Piper's Delight" is unnecessary and shall be deleted.
  - d. Larger WUSPBA contest venues feature multiple waves of massed bands and we need more tunes to play. The proposed tunes align us with fellow ANAPBA affiliates such as EUSPBA and PPBSO.
  
2. Lead Drummer Selection:
  - a. As currently written, this rule provides no guidance for what is actually the normal turnout in our association. Very few highland games in WUSPBA attract Grade 1 bands.
  - b. We often find more than one lead drummer assuming the role at massed bands, despite having a lead drummer or corps already designated. This causes musical conflict and confusion when they play different parts.
  - c. The new language proposed sets a clear expectation moving forward and improves musicality in our massed bands performances.
  - d. The addition as a new line item separates it from the tune list, adding visibility to this much-needed guidance.

Respectfully,  
Kevin Conquest, WUSPBA #0031  
Chairman, Drum Major Committee  
President, Southern Branch