

**WUSPBA AGM 2019
Contest Rule Proposal #1**

Juvenile Bands – Submitted by Pasadena Scots

Current rule:

7.2.2.3. Grade 5 Juvenile Bands: 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 who are 18 years of age and younger.

Proposed change is to eliminate "Grade 5", as follows:

7.2.2.3. ~~Grade 5 Juvenile Bands~~: Members of ~~Grade 5~~ Juvenile bands **who are 18 years of age and younger** may be registered with and compete with a higher graded band as well as their own ~~Grade 5~~ Juvenile band ~~who are 18 years of age and younger~~.

Rationale and comparison to other associations

Our rationale is that the rule is in place to encourage and allow talented young players to play with higher grade bands to inspire and improve their playing and to promote future pipe band membership and leadership, while still playing with their school based juvenile band. The current version states grade 5, perhaps because most juvenile bands have competed at the grade 5 level. This is no longer the case - the Glendora High School band is currently competing very successfully at the grade 4 level. We want all juvenile players to have the opportunity to compete with higher grade bands that promote and encourage their full potential as players.

This rule should allow for all juvenile school band members to play with another band over the summer, and still be able to return to play with their school band when school resumes. EUSPBA allows for this (with no mention of juvenile or grade status) by allowing school (high school and college) band members to switch rosters twice per year - to a band for the summer, then back to their school band for the fall. Since WUSPBA rules only allow for one roster change per year, only grade 5 juvenile players have this opportunity. Changing the rule, as proposed, would correct this inequity.

Respectfully submitted,

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