



Western United States Pipe Band Association

Diana Lees, Executive Secretary

2020 AGM Saturday October 24, 2020

9:00am

Welcome by Jeff Mann

- Call to order by Jeff Mann and Quorum count- We have Quorum

Hosting

- Stuart Baker is hosting the meeting and guiding the proceedings.
- Cori Knight- Explains the zoom functions. How to message in chat, how to do the public vote. Private votes will be done in Survey Monkey.
- 130 participants registered for the AGM this year, 83 are in attendance this morning.

Agenda and Voting on officers

- Approval of the minutes- Moved and Accepted
- Election of Officers
 - o Vice Pes
 - Nominated: Larry Erdmann and John Partanen (Nominees spoke on their own behalf)
 - Voting takes place on Survey Monkey
 - Larry Erdmann was elected
 - o Sanctioning Secretary
 - Nominated: Todd Brown and Tyler Johnson (Nominees spoke on their own behalf)
 - Voting Takes place on Survey Monkey
 - Tyler Johnson was elected
 - o Solo Registrar
 - Nominated: Cathy Erdmann
 - Elected by Acclamation

Officer Reports

President- Jeff Mann

- Recognition to the Game Organizers and all that they do for us. Working on communication between EC and its members. Goals include working on the various committees to work with the members, making things easier with R2 and the website.

Vice President- Larry Erdmann



- Recognition for attending and making an effort to learn an online platform. In charge of the AGM committee and all the work that they did. Expressed thanks to the other committee members that organized the tech work for the AGM.
- OSPGO- Helps games organizers, EDC- Education Council, YEC- Specifically for youth members, PDQB- Board Qualifications, Seanchaidh- histories, and stories. Press and Social Media- Getting information out to the members quickly and efficiently, AGM Workshops are tomorrow.

Exec Secretary- Diana Lees

- Helped Christina Marshal as assistant for 4 months and then came on as Executive Secretary full time by appointment two weeks ago.

Treasurer- Nate Lorenz

- Finances are hard to project because of COVID and our AGM is online. Big differences are no Band registrations next year, we won't have as much of an income. Not sure how many sanctioning fees we will receive next year because of COVID. Our Expenditures for next year include less printing and mailing, and more program operational expenses.
 - 2020 Budget has been accepted by majority vote
- Internal Audit- by Stephanie Sigman
 - Full document will be posted to the wuspba website.
 - There is now a new way to do checks that requires two approvals.

Past President- Kevin Conquest

- Looking forward to what we can do despite COVID for 2021

Sanctioning Secretary- Todd Brown

- We had many games that were sanctioned and then cancelled. Next year we will look at sanctioning online games.

Band Registrar- Charlie Butterworth

- 60 band registered for 2020 (10 are Juvenile bands)
- New format for presenting band results on the wuspba website.

Solo Registrar- Lezlie Mann

- 457 soloist registered this year
- 4 solo games this year plus the online solo competitions. (not all were sanctioned)

Branch Reports

- Desert Branch Report- Stuart Baker
 - Phoenix Scottish Games on at the beginning of the year.
 - The online games finishes up tomorrow.
- Northern Branch- Craig Farley
 - Had a couple in person Games this year.
 - Had a few online games hosted by people in their branch
 - Two positions open in Northern Branch, President and Treasurer. Meeting is Nov 4th 7pm
- Southern Branch- Ed Best
 - One games- Queen Mary
 - Branch AGM is November 7th at 10:00 am. President and Treasurer are up for reelection this year.



- Great Basin Branch- Bob Spetz
 - AGM was in September.
 - Looking forward to the Scots on the Rocks Contest in November.
 - Youth Recruiting initiative for 2021
 - Podcast Interviews
- Intermountain Branch- Jamie Cuthill
 - Unfortunately everything for this year was cancelled this year.
 - Planning for some online options for 2021, workshops.

Games Organizers Reports

- Desert Branch will host a games as a branch host.
- Utah Highland Games- June- Looking at Online competition this year.
- Moab Celtic Festival- November
- Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival- Did a virtual version this year. Looking to do the same for 2021
- Pleasanton- Looking for next year to do a two days games or moving the location.
- Dixon Games, fall 2021. Going to a two day games possibly.

Music Board Report

- Serve as musical and technical advisors to the EC.
- WUSPBA Education Council was established in 2020
- 2020 help and staff the two online Consulting Sessions.
- Adjusted the regrading process- No bands for 2020, the process for soloists were only by request. (regrade decisions will be notified to the applicants this week)
- Developed a new Continuing Accreditation Program. Helping to ensure that our adjudicators participate in ongoing training and information to help keep them up to date.
- Clarified how to move judges form B-panel to A-panel.
- Hosted the Online Championships 2020
- Continue to support consulting sessions and online contests. Ongoing Adjudicator workshops online. Continue to evaluate recommended basic grade 4 piobaireachd tune ideas.
- Results for the 2020 WUSPBA Online Solo Competition will be posted on the WUSPBA website.

Committee Reports

- Seanchaidh- Lise Nelson- “Keeper of the lore or stories”
 - Develop process and procedures to gather stories.
 - Video will be added to website.
- Youth Education Council (YEC)-Connor Studulski-
 - Thankful for the funding received thus far.
 - Have accomplished online workshops, looking at online competitions. Created a new advertising/social media director position for promotions.
- PDQB-
 - Justin Howland is the new PDQB Piping Executive Director. Looking at getting assessors in all of the branches. Looking at working with YEC to get youth members involved in the program.



- EDC-
 - Working on Instruction videos for the WUSPBA You Tube Channel. Provided online consulting sessions for soloists. Collaborated with the online contest leading up to the AGM.
- OSPGO-
 - John Bigger Presentation, Organization will work with EC members that Games organizers frequently need such as Sanctioning secretary, band and solo registrars. Active role in reaching out to games organizers and making sure they have the materials they need and know processes that will be helpful to them.
- Press and Social Media-
 - They are the communication and advertising crew. They will send out information the wuspba members and use social media to advertise any workshops, games and other events for the members.

New Business

- Amendments and by-law submission were not posted on the website in accordance to the bylaw requirements.
 - Members vote to waive the requirement and go through them today.
- Bylaws Proposal – Officers and Directors
Submitted by Jeff Mann
 - Passed
 - Article 4. Officers of the Association
 - 6. Officer Titles
 - 6.1. Positions: The officers of the Association will be President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, Sanctioning Secretary, Band Registrar, Solo Registrar, and Treasurer.

 - Proposed Wording
 - Article 4
 - 6. Officer Titles
 - 6.1 Positions: The officers of the Association will be President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, Sanctioning Secretary, Band Registrar, Solo Registrar, and Treasurer.
 - 6.2 Directors: For the purposes of these bylaws, Officers who are elected are also to serve as the Directors of the Association.. . .
- Bylaws Proposal – Quorum at Special Meetings
Submitted by Jeff Mann
 - Passed
 - Article 5. General Membership Meetings – Legal Council
 - 16. Special Meetings
 - Current wording
 - 16.2. Written Petition: Active and Juvenile bands may call for a special meeting by means of a written petition. The representatives of at least two-thirds of all active and Juvenile bands must sign the petition.



Proposed wording

16.2. Written Petition: Active and Juvenile bands may call for a special meeting by means of a written petition. The representatives of at least one-third of all active and Juvenile bands must sign the petition

- Contest Rules Proposal – Adjudicators Fees
Submitted by Jeff Mann

- Passed

- Part 1. Solo Contest Rules

- 1. General Rules

- Proposed wording, no current wording exists

- 1.5 Games Sponsors: Sanctioned Games sponsors must pay contracted adjudicators all fees and expenses entitled as per their contract. If all fees and expenses incurred by the adjudicator outlined in the contract are not paid, the Games Sponsor will be reviewed by the WUSPBA Executive Committee and could possibly be subject to prospective non-sanctioning until determined by the WUSPBA Executive Committee.**

- The rest of the section renumbered.**

- Contest Rules Proposal – Virtual Contest
Submitted by Craig Farley

- Passed

Submitted by Craig Farley

Background:

With the current Covid 19 health crisis, solo and band contests have been cancelled for the majority of the 2020 competition season. A new form of solo competing has been developed, and several online solo piping and drumming contests have been created and have been very successful and well attended. WUSPBA Bylaws and Contest Rules are silent for the awarding of aggregate points for online contests. The following amendments propose to allow the awarding of aggregate points for sanctioned online contests within WUSPBA.

Add 62.1.5 to Article 16 as follows:

Solo contests may be online or in person. Online contests will be sanctioned the same as an in person contest would normally be sanctioned. All WUSPBA Solo contest rules will apply to online contests as apply to in person contests.

WUSPBA Contest Rules

Add a paragraph to 1.5 Games sponsors:

Online solo contests may be held in lieu of an in person solo contest as an option to the Games Sponsor. Detailed instructions for the organization of an online contest are in the “WUSPBA Contest Handbook”. All WUSPBA solo contest rules apply for sanctioned online contests.

Contest Handbook:

Add to Sanctioning:

Add line at end of introduction paragraph:

Mark “Online” or “In Person” on sanctioning form.

Add Virtual Contest Organization to Appendix #28



WUSPBA SOLO PIPING AND DRUMMING VIRTUAL CONTEST HANDBOOK

Appendix #28

CONTEST ORGANIZATION:

The Contest Organizer and Contestants will follow all WUSPBA Solo contest rules and sanctioning requirements as outlined for on-site events, as well as those outlined in this document.

VIRTUAL CONTESTS.

There are two types of Sanctioned virtual contests authorized for solo competition. Those are Stewarded Live Video Recording Contest and Pre-Recorded Video Contest.

1) Stewarded Live Video Recording Contest: The Stewarded Live Video Recording contest is run to emulate a typical in person contest. It is typically run on one day. Scheduling multiple days for such a contest is allowed in order to facilitate a large number of entries or lengthy music events such as piobaireachd. The “flow” of the contest is as follows:
The Contest Organizer or Chief Contest Steward will take entries via email, organize and publish a schedule of the entrants into their appropriate Competitor Solo Event roster and/or leets, much like an in person Solo contest. The Chief Steward will then coordinate with other Stewards to assign responsibility for administering the Competitor Solo Event lists/leets on The Day. The Contest Organizer can also act as a Steward for Solo Events. It is recommended that the Contest Organizer have one Steward per Solo Grade for the contest, but it is not required. There is no requirement that a Steward only administer a particular Solo Grade for the contest. It is also recommended that the Contest Organizer and Stewards all be connected during the contest on an SMS chat program, such as Messenger, so that problems during the contest can be resolved quickly to make for a smoothly run contest.

STEWARDS. Stewards will be responsible for administering the Solo Contestants and Events they are assigned. The process will be as follows:
The Steward will use Social Media(video) such as Skype, Facetime, etc. to contact the Solo Competitor on The Day and time according to the published schedule. The Steward will ask the competitor to start recording and will introduce themselves, the contest they represent and the solo competitor so that every recording will start with this introduction. He will ask the tune(s) being played or, will inform the contestant of the tunes selected, as appropriate for the competition Grade. Below is a sample format of a Stewards introduction.

STEWARD: Are you ready to record?

COMPETITOR: Yes

STEWARD: Please start your recording device. Are we recording?

COMPETITOR: Yes.

STEWARD: I am (Stewards Name) representing the Local Solo Contest. This is (Contestant’s name), WUSPBA Number 1234. The event is Grade 4 2/4 March. Which tune will you play for us today?

CONTESTANT: I will play (Tune Names)

STEWARD: Take your time and have fun.

Once the contestant is finished, he will upload his performance video to YouTube or other social media platform and send the video link to the email address designated by the contest organizer. The contest organizer may



specify the social media platform to be used for video submission. The next step is to compile the video links into a document and send them to the judges. This can be a simple email that lists the competitors name and then the link, which can be copy/pasted into a web browser. Some email programs automatically create a hyperlink for web addresses that can be clicked on and the video accessed. An Excel spreadsheet roster or Word Document using tables may be used and this allows you to embed a hyperlink in the contestants name, so all the judge has to do is click on the name and it opens to video automatically. A sample judges roster is below.

CONTESTANTS.

Before the appointed time, the contestant will have prepared a separate recording device to record their competition video performance. The device must be capable of file transfer via the internet. A Smart Phone is a typical device that has on board software capable of meeting the criteria, but other devices may be used.

The Skype device, recording device, recording the performance, uploading the recording to YouTube, and sending the YouTube link of the performance to the Chief Steward is entirely the responsibility of the contestant. Contestants should do a dry run through with the equipment. The use of another person to operate the recording equipment during the performance is authorized and encouraged.

Contestants will be ready to play in the time slot provided by the competition. It is highly recommended that the contestant's instrument be warmed up and ready to go. A warmup and tuning period as designated in the WUSPBA Contest Rules is authorized. The performance must be one continuous recording. The competitor has a single chance to record their tune, just like at a live competition. When completed, the contestant will upload their recording to YouTube and send the link to the Chief Steward, who will compile them and sent it to the judge.

2) Pre-Recorded Video Contests: The main difference in this type of contest is that contestants pre-record their video entry within a set number of days to be designated by the Contest Organizer. At the end of the set period, the contest organizer compiles and sends the video links to the judges for adjudication.

JUDGING AND RESULTS.

It is the responsibility of the contest organizer to arrange the timetable for the judging to be completed and contest results published. The judge will use the WUSPBA Solo Scoring Sheet for adjudication, either in hard copy and scanned, or e-copy with e-signature. It is recommended that the judging be completed and results announced as soon as possible. Contest Results will be compiled by the contest organizer or WUSPBA Representative using the WUSPBA Solo Summary Competition Record form and sent to the appropriate WUSPBA Representative so that points can be recorded. The WUSPBA forms may be found on the WUSPBA website at <https://erdmanncathy.wixsite.com/wuspbarep/forms>

DISQUALIFICATION.

Any evidence that the recording has been tampered with, inappropriately edited, or that it is not one continuous video file from the introduction by the Steward to the end of the performance will result in disqualification.

POINT OF CONTACT: For questions about and help in running virtual contests,



you may contact Ted Hales at email sgtted@suddenlink.net or Zack Arbios at email Arbiosze@gmail.com.

ANNEX A. VIRTUAL CONTEST FORM SAMPLES
 Here are a few sample forms that may be useful to you in organizing and running your event. The forms are in Excel, which makes them sortable by name, grade, steward etc.

ENTRIES. Sample template for virtual contest entries:
 NAME: _____ GRADE: ___ WUSPBA #: _____
 EVENT(S): _____ (OPEN, GRADES 1 AND 2 SUBMIT YOUR TUNES)
 CELL PHONE: _____ SKYPE: _____
MASTER ROSTER. This includes Competitor Date/Time of play, Name, Grade, WUSPBA #, Steward Assigned.

PLAY TIME	NAME	WUSPBA#	GRADE	STEWARD
8:00PST-12:00 AST	Dane Grant	1234	1	Zack
8:00PST - 5:00PM CEST	Karina Huber	736	3	Ted
8:00PST - 12:00 AST	Gillian Blaney	3874	1	Donna
8:15PST - 10:15AM CST	Michael O’Sullivan	1284	4	Becky
8:30PST -10:30AM CST	Hart Greenwood	5	3	Victoria
8:30PST - 10:30AM CST	Colin Gavin	2	4	Donna

The Master Roster can be sorted by Grade and then each Grade can be copied and pasted to make the judges rosters.
JUDGES ROSTER. This is a very simple form and its primary function is to provide a hyperlink to the video performance of the contestants for the judges. This form can be done in MS Word, using Tables and an Excel Spreadsheet.

GRADE 1 6/8 March
NAME
Neil White
Gillain Blaney
Kyle Banta
Jessica Bain
Brady Webb
Adam Blaine



Sandy Adams
Tyler Aucoin
Rhys O'Higgins
Karen MacLean
Charlie Martin

- Policy – WUSPBA Member Protection Policy
 Authored by Lachlan Abner and Submitted by Jeff Mann

- Passed

PREFACE

This Member Protection Policy aims to ensure WUSPBA core values, good reputation, positive behaviors and attitudes are maintained. It reiterates WUSPBA’s commitment to ensuring that every person involved in the association is treated with respect and dignity and is safe and protected from abuse. Through this Policy, WUSPBA aims to ensure that everyone involved in the association is aware of their ethical rights and responsibilities.

This Policy also provides the procedures that support WUSPBA’s commitment to eliminating discrimination, harassment, abuse and other forms of inappropriate behavior from individuals within the association.

WUSPBA is committed to providing a safe environment, which is free from harassment and abuse for everyone, and promotes respectful and positive behavior and values. This Policy, along with WUSPBA’s Code of Conduct, form the standards of appropriate and ethical conduct which everyone involved in the association must abide by.

This Member Protection Policy is an essential part of WUSPBA’s proactive and preventative approach to tackling inappropriate behavior.

MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

1. Introduction

WUSPBA is committed to educating its members and bands regarding this policy. Through this Policy, WUSPBA aims to ensure that every member involved in WUSPBA is aware of their ethical rights and responsibilities.

2. Purpose of this policy

The Member Protection Policy’s purpose is to preserve and promote WUSPBA’s core values and standards of acceptable behavior. It communicates WUSPBA’s commitment to ensuring that every member involved in WUSPBA is treated with respect and is able to participate in WUSPBA pipe bands, solos, sanctioned activities, and educational offerings, etc., in a safe and comfortable environment.

3. Who this Policy Applies To

This policy applies to the following people:

- Members of WUSPBA, including its Branches, Executives and Councils;
- Persons appointed or elected to committees and sub-committees;
- Members, including life members, of WUSPBA;
- Other personnel participating in events and activities held or sanctioned by WUSPBA.

4. Responsibilities of WUSPBA regarding the WUSPBA Member Protection Policy



- Adopt, implement, and comply with this policy;
- Make such amendments to its Constitution, Rules, or Policies necessary for the enforcement of this policy;
- Publish, distribute, and promote this policy and the consequences of breaches;
- Promptly deal with any breaches or complaints made under this policy in a fair, timely manner;
- Apply this policy consistently;
- Recognize and enforce any penalty imposed under this policy;
- Ensure that a copy of this policy is available or accessible to the persons and associations to whom this policy applies;
- Use appropriately trained personnel to receive and manage complaints and allegations; and
- Monitor and review this policy at least annually.

5. *Individual Responsibilities*

Individuals bound by this policy are responsible for:

- Making themselves aware of the policy and complying with its standards of behavior;
- Ensuring the safety and welfare of all WUSPBA members;
- Recognizing each individual's responsibility for their behavior;
- Reporting a concern or registering a complaint about possible abuse, discrimination, harassment, or other inappropriate behavior; and
- Complying with any decisions and/or disciplinary measures imposed under this policy.

6. *Position Statements*

1. *Member Protection*

- WUSPBA is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all members including children and young people within the association and will act to maintain a safe environment. It also supports the rights and wellbeing of its staff and volunteers.

1. *Report and Respond Appropriately To Suspected Abuse*

- WUSPBA leadership will ensure all members are aware of their responsibilities under this policy.

2. *Anti-Discrimination and Harassment*

- WUSPBA opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination, and bullying. Harassment involves conduct that adversely affects the environment and that the perpetrator knew, or reasonably should have known, would be unwelcome.

3. *Intimate Relationships*

- Intimate sexual relationships between tutors/band leaders and players—while not necessarily unlawful harassment—can have harmful effects on the player, on other players and tutors, and on the band's public image. Such relationships can be exploitative because there is often a disparity between tutors and players in terms of authority, maturity, status, or dependence.
- Because there is always a risk that the relative power of the tutor is a factor in the development of such relationships, tutors working at all levels should avoid such relationships.

7. *Grievances*

A grievance is a dispute under this Policy between:

- a member and another member;



- a member and the Executive Committee;
- a member and WUSPBA.

Categories for Grievances

- Infringement with Protest: In the event of a protest lodged by one band against another band for infringement of the rules at any contest and the Association representatives are unable to render a decision, the Executive Committee shall make a full inquiry into the protest. Should the Executive Committee be satisfied that an infringement has taken place, it may suspend the decision of the judges and award any prize to the band next in order of merit.
- Infringement without Protest: The Executive Committee shall have the power to act without a protest being lodged if it is satisfied that an infringement of the rules has occurred.

8. Disciplinary Action

- The Executive Committee may consider and deal with any reported breach of this Policy after the reported member has been informed that the Committee intends to proceed in the matter.
- The reported member shall be entitled to address the Committee in relation to the report.
- The Committee may take any disciplinary action it thinks fit in response to the report, including suspending the reported member or terminating their membership in the association.
- A member who is suspended or whose membership is terminated pursuant to this Clause may by written notice to the Secretary within seven days after he is notified thereof appeal to an Extraordinary General Meeting. Such meeting will be called without delay for the sole purpose of hearing the appeal and which may by resolution carried by three-fifths of the members present and entitled to vote allow the appeal.
- The Executive Committee shall proceed in accordance with its Dispute Resolution procedure as outlined in Article 18 of the WUSPBA Bylaws, which can be found at: <https://wuspba.org/rulesbylaws/>

Lachlan Abner
12/31/18 Original Date
10/23/2020 Revised

Circle of Honor

- Recipients- Erin Gunn, Bob Mason, Ken Sutherland

Meeting Adjourned