

Existing Text (Contest Rules)

**Part 2. Band Contest Rules**

... (below are existing section numbers and headings only, with notes indicating where the section has been moved in the proposed text; see complete existing text of Rule 7 at <https://wuspba.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Contest-Rules-for-the-2017-Competition-Season.pdf> )

**7. Pipe Bands**

- 7.1. Good Standing: *unchanged*
- 7.2. Order of Play: *9.1.*
- 7.3. Set Definitions: *8.2.*
  - 7.3.1. March Strathspey Reel (MSR): *8.2.1.*
  - 7.3.2. Time Limit Medley (TLM): *8.2.2.*
  - 7.3.3. Mini-March Strathspey Reel (MMSR): *8.2.3.*
  - 7.3.4. Quick March Medley (QMM): *8.2.4.*
  - 7.3.5. March, Slow March, March (MSM): *8.2.5.*
  - 7.3.6. Set Composition: *unnumbered subparagraph of 8.2.*
  - 7.3.7. Musical Instruments: *8.1.*
  - 7.3.8. Grade Event Requirements: *8.3.*
- 7.4. Drum Salutes: *8.7.2.*
- 7.5. Mini Bands: *8.7.1.*
- 7.6. Open Contests: *8.7.3.*
- 7.7. Challenging Up: *8.7.5.*
  - 7.7.1. *8.7.5.1.*
  - 7.7.2. *8.7.5.2.*
  - 7.7.3. *8.7.5.3.*
  - 7.7.4. *8.7.5.4.*
  - 7.7.5. *8.7.5.5.*
  - 7.7.6. *8.7.5.6.*
  - 7.7.7. *8.7.5.7.*
  - 7.7.8. *8.7.5.8.*
- 7.8. Critique: *8.7.4.*
- 7.9. Determination of Band Contest Results: *10.1.*
  - 7.9.1. Mini-Bands: *10.5.1.*
  - 7.9.2. Piping Trios and Quartets: *10.5.3.*
  - 7.9.3. Drum Salute: *10.5.2.*
  - 7.9.4. Aggregate Prizes: *10.4.*
- 7.10. Band Point Sheets: *10.2.*
- 7.11. Summary Sheets: *10.3.*
- 7.12. Band Numbers: *8.4.*
- 7.13. Competition Area Guideline: *9.2.*
- 7.14. Band Performance and Formations: *8.5.*
  - 7.14.1. *8.5.1.*
  - 7.14.2. *8.5.2.*
  - 7.14.3. *8.5.3.*
  - 7.14.4. *8.5.4.*
  - 7.14.5. *8.5.5.*
- 7.15. Dress: *9.3.*
- 7.16. Band Representative Duties: *9.4.*
- 7.17. Judges Duties: *9.5.*

- 7.18. Executive Committee Members' Duties: 9.6.
- 7.19. Band Officials at Contest: 9.7.
- 7.20. Protests: 9.8.
- 7.21. Local Rules: 9.9.
- 7.22. ANAPBA Championship Rules: 8.7.6.
- 7.23. Band Registration: 7.2.
  - 7.23.1. Period of Registration: 7.2.1.
  - 7.23.2. Registered Instructor Policy: 7.2.2.1.
  - 7.23.3. Dual Musicians: 7.2.2.2.
  - 7.23.4. Transfer: 7.2.3.
  - 7.23.5. Penalties: 7.2.4.
  - 7.23.6. Juvenile Bands: 8.6.

### **Part 3. Massed Bands Rules**

#### **8. Massed Bands**

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Proposed Text (Contest Rules) – selected headings reworded and denoted in red; sections moved and renumbered, but all substantive rule text unchanged

### **Part II. Pipe Band Contest Rules**

#### **7. Band Membership and Registration**

- 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. Band Member Registration & Rosters: 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. All requests for a validated roster must be made no less than seven (7) days before they are required.

- 7.2.1. 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.
- 7.2.2. Eligibility: 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.

**7.2.2.1. 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.

**7.2.2.2. 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.

**7.2.2.3. 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.

**7.2.3. 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.

**7.2.3.1.** 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.

**7.2.3.2.** 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.

**7.2.3.3.** 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.

- 7.2.4. 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 or other official of a band who knowingly lodges a false registration with the Association.

## 8. Technical Requirements of the Competition Performance

- 8.1. Musical Instruments: Sets shall be restricted to the Highland Bagpipes, Snare Drum, Tenor Drum, and Bass Drum instrumentation only.
- 8.2. Set Definitions: The following definitions will be used for band competitions.
  - 8.2.1. 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.
  - 8.2.2. Time Limit Medley (TLM): A TLM shall consist of any tunes in any time signature.
  - 8.2.3. Mini-March Strathspey Reel (MMSR): A Mini-MSR shall consist of four (4) parts of 2/4 March, two (2) parts of Strathspey, and two (2) parts of reel. For the march, bands may use either two (2) two-parted tunes or one (1) four-parted tune. Should a band choose to use two parts of a longer tune (e.g., a four- or six-parted tune) for their two-parted tunes in the March, Strathspey or Reel, they must use only parts 1 & 2 of the longer tune.
  - 8.2.4. Quick March Medley (QMM): A QMM shall consist of any number of quick marches in any time signature.
  - 8.2.5. 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.

Tunes in any set may not be used in another set during a contest.

- 8.3. Grade Event Requirements: Event requirements are outlined in table 6.

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

**Table 6. Grade Event Requirements**

8.4. **Minimum 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**

8.5. **Band Performance and Formations:**

- 8.5.1. Subject to the local competition rules, as provided for in clause 8.5.5, bands shall march to the starting line, halt and await instructions from the Steward and/or Ensemble Judge. Once a band has stopped marching at the starting line, no players shall be dropped from the performing band.
- 8.5.2. In all Contests, except as noted in 8.5.5, the performance and the judging shall commence at the line upon the first beat of the band's introduction, and shall continue until the last beat of the final tune. Bands shall begin marching away from the line immediately upon the first beat of the introduction.
- 8.5.3. In the case of the March, Strathspey, and Reel (MSR), Mini-MSR, Quick March Medley (QMM) and March-Slow March-March (MSM), bands shall execute the two traditional three-paced rolls to begin their introductions, and shall march into a circle formation.
- 8.5.4. In the case of the Time Limit Medley (TLM), bands may execute the two traditional three-paced rolls or another introduction of their choosing, as long as it is clearly defined with a first beat, and shall march into a circle formation.
- 8.5.5. For the TLM, a Games Sponsor may choose to have bands form up and compete in concert formation if this requirement is advertised in the entry form for the event. Concert formation is defined as any configuration except for a circle and is to be specified by the Games Sponsor. No marching is required as part of the performance, but as with all other contests the judging and performance commence upon the first beat of the band's introduction and continue until the last beat of the final tune.

- 8.6. 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.
- 8.7. Local Option and Other Variations:
- 8.7.1. 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.
  - 8.7.2. 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.
  - 8.7.3. Open Contests: Any band may enter an Open competition regardless of grading.
  - 8.7.4. 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.
  - 8.7.5. 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.
    - 8.7.5.1. 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.
    - 8.7.5.2. The game sponsor must disclose in advance any policies for prize money should a band place in contests in more than one grade.
    - 8.7.5.3. 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.
    - 8.7.5.4. The band must enter all events in their normal grade, in addition to the event(s) in which the band is challenging up.
    - 8.7.5.5. The band must meet all requirements for numbers of players and music for the grade and event in which the band is challenging up.
    - 8.7.5.6. 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.
    - 8.7.5.7. 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.

**8.7.5.8.** 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.

**8.7.6.** **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.

## **9. Contest Administration**

**9.1. 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.

**9.1.1. Pre-draw:** 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.

**9.1.2. Spacing Multi-Grade Band Organizations:** 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.

**9.1.3. Spacing Between Performance and Competition:** 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.

**9.1.4. Changes to the Posted Order of Play:** Once the official draw has been posted, whether established by draw or pre-draw, the order of play may not be changed unless all of the following pre-requisites are met: (1) the contest organizer, the WUSPBA Representative, and all bands whose order will be altered as a result of the change have agreed to the change, and (2) all parties-including all competing bands in the affected contest, whether their order has changed or not- are notified of the

change in order of play no less than one hour prior to the time of the affected contest. In the case of a pre-draw that is changed prior to the day of the contest, the contest organizer must provide each competing band in the affected contest with a hard copy of the updated order of play on the day of the contest, no less than one hour prior to the time of the affected contest.

- 9.2. Competition Area Guideline: Whenever possible: 1) A competition area shall be marked off to the following specifications: Band Circle-26 feet diameter; Adjudicators Circle-46 feet diameter; Spectators Barrier-60 feet diameter. The starting line will be marked forty five (45) feet from the center of the concentric circles.

2) A final tuning area shall be clearly designated and located approximately one hundred fifty (150) feet away from the starting line. The final tuning area will be at least twenty-five (25) feet in diameter.

- 9.3. 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.
- 9.4. 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.
- 9.5. 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.

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

- 9.6. 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.



9.7. 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.

9.8. 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 Char will review the protest and provide a vote.

9.9. 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.

## 10. Contest Results

10.1. Determination of Band Contest Results: Judging will be performed by a panel of one (1) or two (2) piping judges, one (1) ensemble judge, and one (1) drumming judge. Each judge will award a rank to all bands entered into a single event; based upon their evaluation of the bands performance. No ties are allowed.

The contest organizer shall form a Tally Committee whose responsibilities will be the verification of judge's rankings 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 record the rank for each band, from each judge. If the contest uses a single piping judge, the rank will be recorded for both the piping 1 and piping 2 judges. The rank of the two (2) piping judges, the ensemble judge and the drumming judge will be added together. The overall band placement will be determined by the lowest sum to the highest sum of these rankings. If two bands tie after this sum is determined, the result of the tie will be broken by giving preference to the rank given by the ensemble judge.

Band Name	Piping 1 Rank	Piping 2 Rank	Ensemble Rank	Drumming Rank	Sum of Rank	Overall Placement
Band A	4	3	4	4	15	4
Band B	3	4	3	1	11	3
Band C	1	2	2	2	7	2
Band D	2	1	1	3	7	1

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

In Example 1, two (2) piping judges were used. “Band C” and “Band D” are tied with a sum of 7. Using the rank given by the ensemble judge, “Band D” won this contest. “Band C” was the second place band; “Band B” was the third place band; “Band A” was the fourth place band.

<b>Band Name</b>	<b>Piping 1 Rank</b>	<b>Piping 2 Rank</b>	<b>Ensemble Rank</b>	<b>Drumming Rank</b>	<b>Sum of Rank</b>	<b>Overall Placement</b>
Band A	4	4	4	4	16	4
Band B	3	3	3	1	10	3
Band C	1	1	2	2	6	1
Band D	2	2	1	3	8	2

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

In Example 2, a single piping judge was used, so the rank for the two (2) piping judges is identical. “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.

- 10.2. 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.
- 10.3. 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.
- 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 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.
- 10.5. Determination of Results for Local Option Variations:
  - 10.5.1. 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 miniband with a higher piping score.
  - 10.5.2. 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.
  - 10.5.3. 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.

## **Part III. Massed Bands Rules**

### **11. Massed Bands**

... (all subsections renumbered accordingly)

### Rationale

*This is not a substantive rule change.*

It's super hard to find specific rules in the current band rules section—everything is just thrown into Rule 7. Hopefully this will make it a little easier, by grouping related rules under four major headings and adding subheadings where appropriate.