

Drummer Accompaniment Revision-William Gunn

Current Contest Rule Wording:

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.

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."

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.

Proposed rule change:

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. **The recording must be loud enough that it is audible to the drumming adjudicator during the performance.** 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. **In the case of failure of the equipment that plays the recording during the performance, the competitor will be required to play as if the equipment providing the accompaniment were operating. Failure to do so will be considered a breakdown. Any snare drummer that does not provide either live or a suitable recorded accompaniment may still play for critique only; they will not be eligible for placement in the contest.**

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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. **The recording must be loud enough that it is audible to the drumming adjudicator during the performance.** It is the responsibility of the competitor to provide the music and tape recorder and its operation. **In the case of failure of the equipment that plays the recording during the performance, the competitor will be required to play as if the equipment providing the accompaniment were operating. Failure to do so will be considered a breakdown. Any bass drummer that does not provide either live or a suitable recorded accompaniment may still play for critique only; they will not be eligible for placement in the contest.**

Rational:

As the recording is taking the place of a live piper, competitors using a recording must be treated the same as a competitor using live accompaniment. Part of what the drumming adjudicator listens to is how well the drummer is playing with their accompaniment; the ensemble of the performance. If the adjudicator cannot hear the recording the adjudicator cannot fairly adjudicate the competition.

Drumming competitors that use live accompaniment cannot start again if their piper makes a mistake, so too the competitor using recorded accompaniment cannot start again due to technical difficulties/failure. For both competitors to be adjudicated fairly in the same contest both would be required to continue after the failure of their accompaniment.

Other Associations:

PPBSO-The PPBSO provides the recording for lower grade snare, bass, and tenor. Their rules state: In the case of failure of the equipment that plays the piper recording before or during the performance, the

competitor will be required to play as if the equipment providing the accompaniment were operating. Failure to do so will be considered a did not play or a breakdown (as appropriate).

Atlantic Canada-Allows drummers to use canned music. Amateur competitors may compete without an accompaniment for critique, but they will not be scored or considered eligible for a rank in the contest.

EUSPBA-allows for recorded pipe accompaniment

All other associations in the US and Canada do not allow recorded music to be used as an accompaniment.