

## **Mid-section (local option) competition-William Gunn**

### **Current Wording:**

**No current wording exists**

### **Proposed addition to the WUSPBA Contest Rules:**

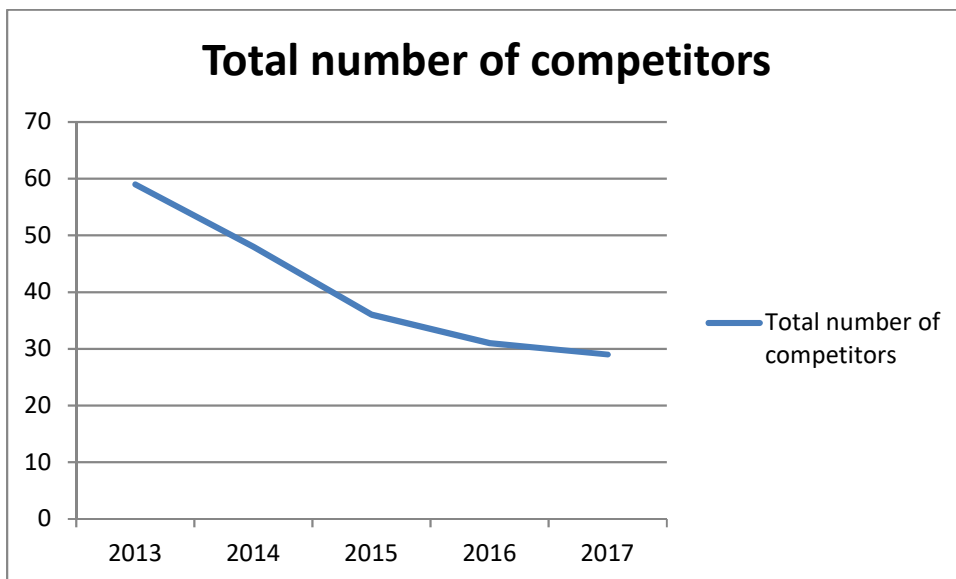
**8.7.3. Midsection Competition:** Each mid-section competition entry must have a minimum of two (2) tenor drummers and one (1) bass drummer. Mid-sections will compete in the same grade as their band. I.e. mid-sections from a grade four band will compete against mid-sections from other grade four bands. No play up option is available. For each mid-section competition the contest organizer will choose one of the standard band events. E.g. A contest holding a grade four mid-section competition may select either the Time Limit Medley or Mini-MSR. The selected event must be published on the contest entry form. Each mid-section will be accompanied by a minimum of one (1), and a maximum of two (2) pipers, and one (1) snare drummer provided by the mid-section. In the absence of live accompaniment a recording may be substituted. The mid-section is responsible to provide the recording. The playback device will also be provided by the mid-section and must be loud enough for the adjudicator to hear the recording during the competition. The mid-section must arrange for the operation of the playback device. The contest organizer will draw for the order of play after the registration period closes. Mid-section competitions will be adjudicated by one (1) accredited pipe band drumming adjudicator. The adjudicator will provide a written critique of the performance. Adjudicator comments will only focus on the performance of the mid-section (tenor and bass) and how well they perform the music, how well they perform the visual elements, how well they perform with each other, and how well they perform with their accompaniment. Judging of a mid-section competition 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. At the end of the competition the adjudicator will award each mid-section a rank. It is recommended that contest organizers offering mid-section competitions award medals (gold, silver, and bronze) to the top three mid-sections. Each member of the mid-section should receive a medal. Pipers and snare drummers would not be counted to determine the total number of medals needed as they are providing the accompaniment and are not being adjudicated.

### **Rational/Purpose for the proposed event:**

As band mid-sections have become more integrated fewer mid-section members (especially tenor drummers) are competing in solo events. Over the last five years the number of tenor and bass solo competition slots has steadily decreased, also the average number of competitors in a given contest has decreased over the last five years (please see graphs below). Midsection members are focused on the band music which, due to the highly integrated scores, is not easily used for solo competition. Mid-sections often receive very few comments from the drumming or ensemble adjudicators during band competitions. The proposed contest strives to improve mid-section performances by giving them specific comments about their performance, thus helping overall band performances. This proposed contest also better utilizes drumming judges while providing valuable experience and development to midsections.

### **Other associations:**

No other association has anything like this. A few associations announce the best drum corps for each band event; others also announce the best bass section. However, no other association has a competition that will provide as detailed feedback as this midsection competition will.



## Average Number of Competitors in each Contest

