

Proposed Contest Rule Change #3

7.1.3.a. As is

ADD:

7.1.3.b. Grade 5 Bands: Grade 5 pipe band contests are restricted to entry level pipe bands.

An Entry level Grade V pipe band shall have a pipe section comprised of 80 percent or more pipers who have not competed in a Grade 4, 3, 2, or 1 pipe band. The drum section of a Grade 5 pipe band shall be comprised of 70 percent or more drummers who have not competed in a Grade 4, 3, 2, or 1 pipe band.

7.1.3.c. Juvenile bands: Juvenile pipe bands are pipe bands mainly comprised of pipers and drummers 18 years of age or less. The pipe section of a juvenile pipe band may have one adult piper as a instructor. The drum section of a juvenile pipe band may have one adult drummer as an instructor. The adult members of a juvenile pipe band may not act as the Pipe Major or the Drum Sergeant in WUSPBA sanctioned juvenile pipe band contests.

Justification: Many Grade 5 pipe bands in recent years are not really entry level pipe bands. They are in fact Grade 4 pipe bands playing down in grade 5. This creates a situation that greatly discourages actual Grade 5 pipe bands from competing. This rule change would end that discouragement, but it should also be kept in mind that the bands that are not actual entry level pipe bands are competing in Grade 5 as they have members unable to perform the Mini MSR set required in Grade IV. The solutions to the problems this rule change proposes would be to eliminate the Mini MSR set for Grade 4 so that the Grade 4 pipe bands playing down in Grade 5 could perform at their actual skill levels, and then the Grade V bands could compete against other Grade 5 bands, and those that are successful may be encouraged to challenge up to Grade 4, or the next year perhaps become Grade 4 bands. Another Contest Rule Change to eliminate the Mini MSR for Grade 4 pipe bands is submitted along with this proposed rule change.

There is no current definition for a juvenile pipe band in the WUSPBA Contest Rules. This rule change adds a definition for a juvenile pipe band similar to past definitions that the association has had. There are several juvenile pipe bands within the area and this rule change may encourage them to enter and compete at WUSPBA sanctioned events.

Respectfully Submitted on July 2, 2018

