

Overall Grade Winners at Contests – Submitted by Office of Strategic Planning for Games Organizers, Recommended by EC

Existing Text (Contest Rules):

Part I. Solo Contest Rules

...

1. General Rules

...

- 1.7. Solo Leets: Where a solo contest will consist of more than approximately twenty (20) entries, the contest should be divided into two or more smaller sections. The contest sponsor determines the players in each section randomly, except in grade four or lower events, where the contest sponsor may elect to determine the sections by age. If determining the sections by age, the contest will be divided into juvenile (under 18) and adult. Any grade four or lower section still exceeding twenty entries will be divided randomly. No playoff is required for split events. Prizes and WUSPBA aggregate points will be awarded for each leet. Each leet within a particular grade should contain the same players for all events. However, if there is an overall trophy for the grade or age division, one of the following methods should be used to determine the aggregate winner.

Method #1: Assignment of aggregate points:

The aggregate winner for a grade, or age division, should be determined over all events (minimum of two events). The following table details the points to be awarded for each placing. The aggregate winner for a grade, or age division, is the soloist with the highest point total.

Event Placing	Aggregate Points
1 st	88
2 nd	56
3 rd	38
4 th	25
5 th	16
6 th	10

In the event two or more competitors have the same aggregate point total the soloist's placings in individual events shall be used to break the tie. The following table details the order events should be used to break a tie.

	Piobaireachd	MSR	Hornpipe/Jig	2/4 March	6/8 March	Slow March	Strathspey/Reel	Jig	Hornpipe
--	--------------	-----	--------------	-----------	-----------	------------	-----------------	-----	----------

Open Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	
Grade 1 Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	
Grade 2 Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	
Grade 3 Piping	1 st			3 rd	4 th		2 nd	5 th	6 th
Grade 4 Piping	1 st			2 nd	3 rd	4 th			
Open Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 1 Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 2 Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 3 Snare				2 nd	3 rd		1 st		
Grade 4 Snare				1 st	2 nd				
Open Tenor		1 st	2 nd						
Novice Tenor				1 st	2 nd				
Open Bass		1 st	2 nd						

If a tie cannot be broken the contest organizer has the option of: 1. awarding the aggregate to more than one soloist, or 2. holding a playoff between the soloists that qualify for the aggregate.

Method #2: Playoff

The playoff method should be used for grades that only offer one (1) event, and are split into leets. The top two (2) or three (3) players from each leet will play against each other for the overall grade trophy. Where possible, the playoff adjudicator should not have judged any of the original grade sections. All playoff competitors must be notified of the playoff time and location no later than thirty (30) minutes before the start of the contest playoff.

Proposed Text (Contest Rules):

Part I. Solo Contest Rules

...

1. General Rules

...

- 1.7. Solo Leets: Where a solo contest will consist of more than approximately twenty (20) entries, the contest should be divided into two or more smaller sections. The contest sponsor determines the players in each section randomly, except in grade four or lower events, where the contest sponsor may elect to determine the sections by age. If determining the sections by age, the contest will be divided into juvenile (under 18) and adult. Any grade four or lower section still exceeding twenty entries will be divided randomly. No playoff is required for split events. Prizes and WUSPBA aggregate points will be awarded for each leet. Each leet within a particular grade should contain the same players for all events. However, if there is an overall trophy for the grade or age division, one of the following methods should be used to determine the aggregate winner.

If there is an overall trophy or award for a solo grade, or age division, the contest sponsor should use an objective, merit-based method to determine the overall aggregate winner for the grade/division. Suggested methods for making this determination are contained in the Contest Manual. Overall aggregate winners and trophies are not tracked by WUSPBA.

Method #1: Assignment of aggregate points:

The aggregate winner for a grade, or age division, should be determined over all events (minimum of two events). The following table details the points to be awarded for each placing. The aggregate winner for a grade, or age division, is the soloist with the highest point total.

Event Placing	Aggregate Points
1 st	88
2 nd	56
3 rd	38
4 th	25
5 th	16
6 th	10

In the event two or more competitors have the same aggregate point total the soloist's placings in individual events shall be used to break the tie. The following table details the order events should be used to break a tie.

	Piobaireachd	MSR	Hornpipe/Jig	2/4 March	6/8 March	Slow March	Strathspey/Reel	Jig	Hornpipe
Open Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	
Grade 1 Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	
Grade 2 Piping	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	7 th	4 th		5 th	6 th	

Grade 3 Piping	1 st			3 rd	4 th		2 nd	5 th	6 th
Grade 4 Piping	1 st			2 nd	3 rd	4 th			
Open Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 1 Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 2 Snare		1 st	2 nd						
Grade 3 Snare				2 nd	3 rd		1 st		
Grade 4 Snare				1 st	2 nd				
Open Tenor		1 st	2 nd						
Novice Tenor				1 st	2 nd				
Open Bass		1 st	2 nd						

If a tie cannot be broken the contest organizer has the option of: 1. awarding the aggregate to more than one soloist, or 2. holding a playoff between the soloists that qualify for the aggregate.

Method #2: Playoff

The playoff method should be used for grades that only offer one (1) event, and are split into leets. The top two (2) or three (3) players from each leet will play against each other for the overall grade trophy. Where possible, the playoff adjudicator should not have judged any of the original grade sections. All playoff competitors must be notified of the playoff time and location no later than thirty (30) minutes before the start of the contest playoff.

Rationale

This proposal removes text describing suggested methods for determining overall grade winners at a contest from the rules. These methods are not rules, as they are optional and contest organizers can still use other methods to make this determination. The text regarding the suggested methods simply serves to provide guidance to contest organizers who may want/need it, and therefore more properly belongs in the Contest Manual (and in fact is already in the Contest Manual as well). It should also be noted that some of the material in Method #1 is out of date, especially since the introduction of Grade 5 and corresponding revision to the events for Grade 4 piping, which were enacted last year.

Removing this duplicative, non-mandatory language from the Contest Rules will cut some unnecessary bulk out of the rule book and simplify the process of updating this guidance when necessary.