



WUSPBA Adjudicator Continuing Accreditation Program

OVERVIEW

The WUSPBA Adjudicator Professional Development Program (often referred to as “Certification”) was begun in 2005 as a means to ensure that every WUSPBA piping, drumming and pipe band adjudicator had attained minimum levels of experience, knowledge and skills in order to be listed on the WUSPBA Panel as an approved judge. Since that time, the continuing increases in competition activity, numbers of contestants and standard of play have added even more to the expectations and responsibilities of judges. This has led the major governing Associations to institute ongoing accreditation requirements for approved judges.

The following is the WUSPBA proposal to implement an Adjudicator Continuing Accreditation Program (CAP) for its judging panel. The program is slated to begin in Calendar Year 2021.

REQUIREMENTS

All adjudicators on the WUSPBA Adjudicators Panel must annually maintain active membership in WUSPBA and need to demonstrate a minimum level of adjudication activity and professional development every three years in order to remain on the panel.

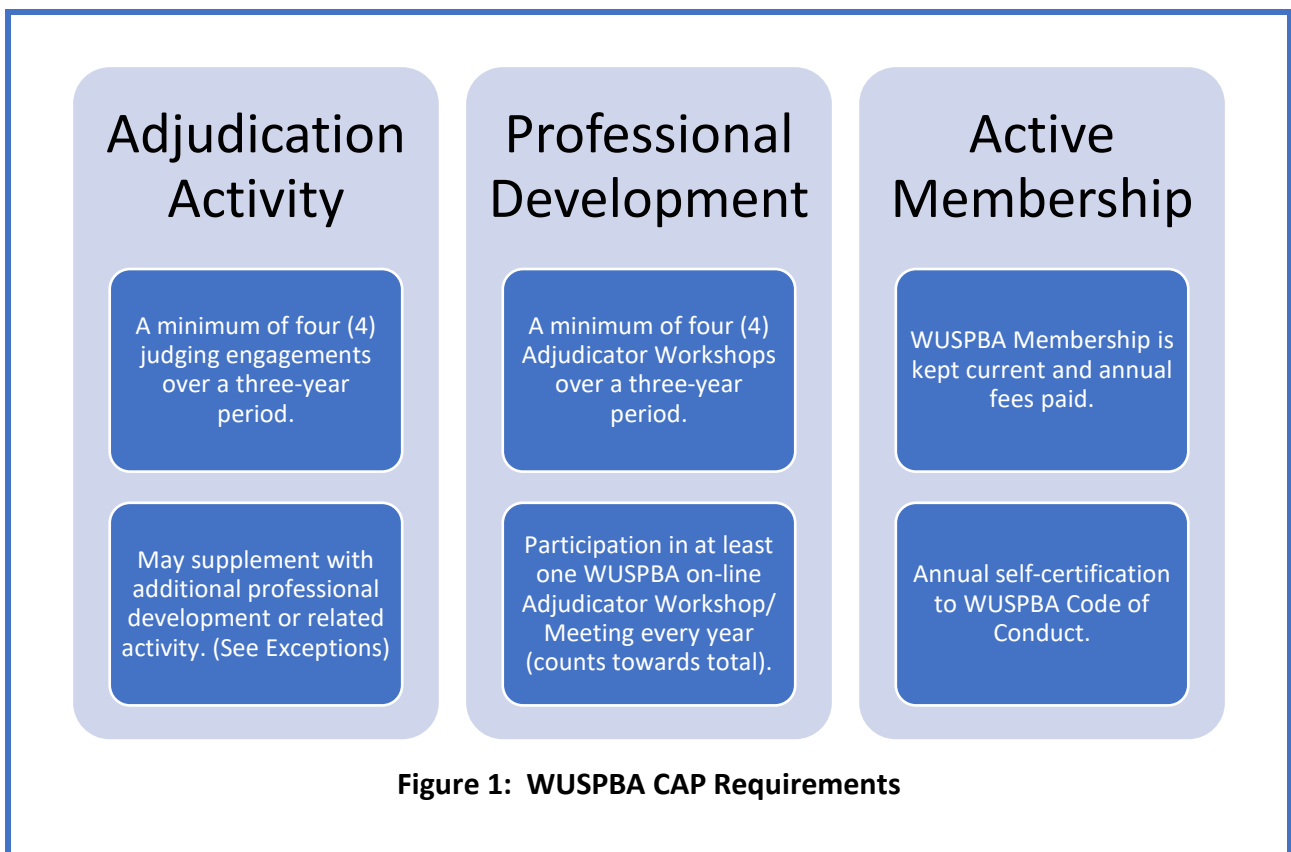


Figure 1: WUSPBA CAP Requirements

DEFINITIONS

Judging Engagement is a discrete instance of being retained as a judge at a sanctioned contest. (Judging consists of listening to a performance, evaluating, providing comments and determining placings.) It typically consists of a half-day to a full day of solos, or a half-day of bands, or both. A two-day Games, as long as the judge is retained and is actively judging both days, counts as two judging engagements. Judges are expected to seek assignments in their accredited areas when they are retained to judge (e.g., offer to judge Band Ensemble as well as their Specialty if they are accredited in both; likewise Light Music and Piobaireachd if accredited in both). **Note:** on-line contest adjudication meets the requirement for a judging engagement, as long as the engagement includes multiple events with multiple entries and is conducted in accordance with generally accepted contest practices.

Professional Development consists of the following:

- WUSPBA MB workshops (on-line and/or in-person, e.g. AGM workshops, mid-year updates). These will be held at least twice a year and are typically 45 to 90 minutes long.
- Additional WUSPBA workshops (e.g., Branch-sponsored sessions)
- Workshops/seminars outside WUSPBA held by other Associations (e.g., EUSPBA, BCPA, RSPBA)
- Approved workshops/seminars given by private vendors (e.g. Pipers Dojo)
- Providing instruction or facilitation at group workshops on adjudication topics

Topics are not limited solely to judging, but must include elements that are relevant to improving the skills and expertise needed for effective adjudication. If there is any doubt as to whether the content of a session is relevant, please contact the Music Board for approval.

EXCEPTIONS/DETAILS

1. Recognizing that being retained as a judge is not entirely within the control of the judge, or that personal circumstances may restrict the ability of the judge to fulfill the Adjudication Activity requirement, alternative means of supplementing the requirement may consist of:
 - Participating in professional development activities that include judging “mock” contests (listening to performances and discussing observations);
 - Judging at unsanctioned contests, including on-line events;
 - Participating in “Peer review” alongside the judging panel at sanctioned contests;
 - Providing instruction to multiple students, who compete and have demonstrated reasonable success; or
 - Other activities that meet the approval of the Music Board.

All of these alternative means must be reviewed and endorsed by the Music Board prior to submitting the Continuing Accreditation Program application, and each bulleted point counts towards only one judging engagement.

2. An Adjudicator who has been awarded WUSPBA Life Member status and wishes to be designated a Judge Emeritus (Over age 70 and judging Solos only) is not subject to these requirements; however, they are encouraged to continue to actively participate and mentor others.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. To initiate re-accreditation, the adjudicator will submit (on forms to be provided) the information detailing how the Adjudication Activity and Professional Development requirements have been met, as well as an attestation that they have and will continue to conform to the Code of Conduct. Submission will be on or before September 30 of the year it is due.
2. The Music Board will review the submitted material and may contact the applicant and/or any listed references for additional details.
3. Upon deeming the application complete, the Music Board will recommend ongoing accreditation of the applicant to the Executive Committee, which will act on the recommendation no later than the AGM that year.

START-UP

To spread out the annual workload on continuing accreditation, the current Adjudication Panel will be divided into three approximately equal groups. Also, recognizing that this is a new requirement, the first two groups will have a choice as to how they will initially demonstrate conformance.

1. The first group will submit their material in September 2021, showing that they have met all the requirements over the past three years or, alternatively, 1/3 of the requirements over the past year.
2. The second group will submit in September 2022, showing that they have met all the requirements over the past three years, or 2/3 of the requirements over the past 2 years.
3. The third group will submit in September 2023, showing that they have met all the requirements over the past three years.
4. Anyone added to the panel after January 2021 will submit in the September of the third full year after having been added.