

RNZPBA – Canterbury Centre

Rules for Solo Side and Solo Bass & Tenor Drumming Competitions

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Rules for Solo Side and Solo Bass & Tenor Drumming Competitions

1. Introduction

1.1 Objectives

1.1.1 The objectives of this document and the Canterbury Centre of the RNZPBA (“the Centre”) with respect to solo Side drumming and solo Bass & Tenor drumming competitions are as follows:

- a) To devise and administer comprehensive rules governing solo Side drumming and Bass & Tenor drumming competitions;
- b) To preserve, promote and encourage proficiency in Scottish Side drumming and Bass & Tenor drumming music; and
- c) To promote and encourage participation of solo Side drummers and Bass & Tenor drummers at Highland Games and Scottish Cultural events for the benefit of Games Sponsors and Games attendees.

2. Competition Rules

2.1 The Contest Organising Committee, Chief Steward, and Chief Scorer

2.1.1 The Contest Organising Committee shall manage and run the competition activities on Contest day. The Contest Organising Committee shall designate a Chief Steward and a Chief Scorer. In the event of a formally submitted protest or grievance, the Contest Organising Committee shall be increased to include a representative of the Centre without obvious conflict of interest regarding the respective parties.

2.2 Steward’s Responsibilities

2.2.1 A Steward shall be assigned to each event. The Steward shall be responsible for ensuring a regular and orderly progression of competitors to the event’s competition area.

2.3 Competitor’s Responsibilities

2.3.1 Competitors shall be responsible for reporting to the Steward prior to the event, for obtaining their position in the order of play for the event, and for being ready to compete when their position in the order of play arrives.

2.3.2 All Side drummers shall provide their own piper(s). All Bass & Tenor drummers shall provide their own piper(s) and side drummer.

2.3.3 Competitors shall signal the adjudicator when they are ready to commence their performance.

2.3.4 Any competitor who interferes with, threatens, or uses abusive language towards the adjudicators, officials, stewards, or members of the Contest Organising Committee shall cause themselves to be liable for suspension from further competitions for as long as the Centre deems is necessary in the circumstances.

2.3.5 The same penalty shall apply to situations involving the abuse of private property at the Contest site.

2.4 Centre Representative

2.4.1 A member of the Centre, or their designate, shall be in attendance as the Centre’s Representative at all sanctioned competitions and shall be available to the Contest Organising Committee for that day.

2.4.2 The Centre Representative shall monitor the competitions for compliance and fairness, provide answers to questions on the competition rules, and assist in the resolution of complaints, disputes and protests relating to the competition rules.

2.5 Splitting an Event

2.5.1 If there are more than twenty (20) competitors in an event, that event may be divided into two or more sections and designated as such, and prizes shall be given to each section of the event as if it was a separate event.

2.5.2 Games Sponsors shall avoid placing a numerical limit on the number of competitors who can enter for an event.

2.6 Order of Play

2.6.1 All orders of play and the start time for each event shall be posted at the Competition Registration Area prior to the commencement of the competitions.

2.6.2 Competitors should be ready to play in the posted order.

2.6.3 If given, posted competitor times are always subject to change at the discretion of the Steward for the event.

2.7 Accompanying Performers

2.7.1 Side drummers shall perform their events accompanied by a minimum of one to a maximum of three pipers.

2.7.2 Bass & Tenor drummers shall perform their events accompanied by one Side drummer and a minimum of one to a maximum of three pipers.

2.8 Communication of the Selected Music

2.8.1 For events where submission of more than one tune/set is required, the adjudicator shall select the tune/set from the competitor's list submitted with their entry form. The selected tune/set shall be posted on the morning of the Games at least 3 hours prior to the start of the event.

2.9 Performing without the Aid of Music

2.9.1 All competitors shall perform their event without the aid of printed music.

2.10 Acceptable Highland Dress

2.10.1 Competitors may be prevented from competing and accepting trophies onstage for not wearing acceptable and properly worn highland dress. Kilt (or trewes), shirt, hose and shoes are the minimum requirement. For beginners, dress pants, shirt and shoes (for boys or girls) & skirt, blouse & shoes (for girls) are acceptable.

2.11 Local Competition Rules

2.11.1 Local competition rules or requirements may take precedence over the above rules and regulations but only upon submission to and approval by the Centre.

3. Membership

3.1 General Requirement

3.1.1 All competitors desiring to compete in sanctioned competitions should be members of a registered Pipe Band within the RNZPBA.

3.1.2 All competitors who are not members of a registered Pipe Band within the RNZPBA as per 3.1.1 may be requested to pay an additional fee of NZ\$2.50 per event, in addition to the published entry fee, to compete in the solo Side drumming or Bass & Tenor drumming events at the particular Games.

4. Grades and Grading

4.1 Grades

4.1.1 Side Drumming grades shall be classified, in ascending order of ability, as D Grade, C Grade, B Grade and A Grade. Side drummers shall compete in one grade only.

4.1.2 Bass & Tenor Drumming grades shall be classified, in ascending order of ability, as Intermediate and Open. Bass & Tenor drummers shall compete in one grade only.

4.1.3 Grades shall be determined by ability and not by age, sex or affiliation, with the exception of confined or special events as defined by a Contest Organising Committee.

4.1.4 Any Novice event is limited to competitors who have not previously won a solo competition in any discipline (whether Side, Bass, or Tenor). It is not a separate grade in itself, and therefore competitors may enter a Novice event as well as with one or more events in their appropriate grade.

4.2 Grading

4.2.1 Competitors shall compete in the grade appropriate for their ability, as determined by the Centre. A list of competitors promoted to each grade shall be published by the Centre in May of each year.

4.2.2 A competitor may play in a grade of higher ability at a competition outside the Centre's sanctioning jurisdiction if the competitor's grade is not offered in the external jurisdiction.

4.2.3 The Centre shall have the authority to regrade a competitor at any time.

4.2.4 In accordance with rule 4.1.4 above, competitors who win a Novice event are automatically ineligible to enter a Novice event for the next competition. However, should a competitor win a Novice event that had fewer than 3 entrants then this rule will not be enforced, and they will be able to enter the Novice event again.

4.2.5 A competitor who chooses to appeal his/her grading shall make the appeal in writing to the Centre.

5. Music Requirements

5.1 Music

5.1.1 Any drummer in a particular grade shall be required to play any of the music listed for the grade as set out in Appendix A "Music Requirements for Piping, Drumming and Pipe Band Competitions".

6. Rules for Adjudicators

6.1 Authority

6.1.1 Within its sanctioning jurisdiction, the Centre shall have the responsibility and authority to determine people qualified to adjudicate solo Side drumming and Bass & Tenor drumming in sanctioned solo Side drumming and Bass & Tenor drumming competitions and to maintain an Approved Adjudicators List of these qualified people.

6.1.2 For each adjudicator on the Approved Adjudicators List, the Centre shall determine the grades the adjudicator is qualified to adjudicate.

6.1.3 The Centre shall provide current copies of the Approved Adjudicators List to Games Sponsors at minimum once per year or when the Approved Adjudicators List is revised.

6.2 Selection of Adjudicators

6.2.1 The adjudicators for sanctioned competitions shall be drawn from:

- a) the Approved Adjudicators List of the Centre; or
- b) the Approved Adjudicators Lists of piping/pipe band associations officially recognized by and affiliated with the Centre.

6.2.2 Adjudicators shall adjudicate only grades for which they have been qualified by their home Centre.

6.2.3 Contests proposing to use an adjudicator who is from a jurisdiction without an adjudicator approval process for the discipline(s) he/she may be retained to adjudicate and who is not on an Approved Adjudicators List identified in Clause 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 shall obtain approval by the Centre prior to engagement.

6.3 Number of Adjudicators

6.3.1 Only one adjudicator is required to adjudicate a solo Side drumming or Bass & Tenor drumming competition.

6.3.2 Special individual competitions, when practical, should be adjudicated by two or more adjudicators, who may sit as a panel.

6.4 Guidance for Adjudication

6.4.1 Side Drumming grades shall be adjudicated under the categories of Execution, Expression, Quality and Variety, Tone and Tuning and Tempo.

6.4.2 Bass & Tenor Drumming grades shall be adjudicated under the categories of Execution, Expression, Tone and Tempo. With respect to Tenor Drumming events, the judge will also adjudicate under the category of Flourishing, although it is not compulsory for competitors to flourish.

6.4.3 On the adjudication sheets, adjudicators shall provide an accurate assessment of the competitor's performance and, where appropriate, constructive criticism. Adjudicators may make a comment regarding scores that, in their opinion, are not musically complementary to the pipe music.

6.4.4 Following commencement, any drummer breaking down during his/her performance shall be disqualified. Other serious flaws, such as unintended stopping then resuming or mistakes in the score, shall be left to the discretion of the adjudicator.

6.4.5 Drummers may continue to play through their performance if the piper(s) should inadvertently stop. However, should the drummer stop to accommodate the piper(s), he/she shall be disqualified.

6.5 Determination of Final Result

6.5.1 Adjudicators shall be allotted up to five minutes at the end of each event to arrive at a decision. The maximum number of prizes awarded shall be based on the number of competitors who begin their performance, as shown in the following table:

less than 3 competitors	one (1) prize
3 competitors	two (2) prizes
4 to 10 competitors	three (3) prizes
11 to 15 competitors	four (4) prizes
16 to 20 competitors	five (5) prizes
21 and over competitors	six (6) prizes

6.5.2 The Adjudicator's decision shall prevail in determining the merits of each performance, and his/her decision shall be final.

6.5.3 No ties are permitted for placings.

6.6 Determination of Aggregate Winner

6.6.1 At a sanctioned competition, the aggregate award for a grade should be determined over a minimum of two events.

6.6.2 The points to be assigned for the calculation of aggregates, including the Grand Aggregate, shall be based on placings. The number of placings to be assigned shall be one less than the number of competitors who played in an event, to a maximum of six placings. If only one competitor plays, one placing shall be assigned. The number of points to be assigned for each placing is as follows:

NUMBER OF COMPETITORS WHO PLAYED IN AN EVENT	NUMBER OF PLACINGS THAT EARN POINTS	PLACING	POINTS ASSIGNED
1	1	1 st	8
2	1	2 nd	5
3	2	3 rd	3
4	3	4 th	2
5	4	5 th	1
6	5	6 th	0.5
Greater than 6	6		

6.6.3 Ties shall be broken according to the following order.

- a) Aggregate points awarded over all events;
- b) Winner of the March, Strathspey & Reel event;
- c) Winner of the 2/4 March event;
- d) Winner of the 6/8 March event.

6.7 Determination of Grand Aggregate Winner

6.7.1 At the end of the competition season, the Centre may award a Grand Aggregate Award in each grade to the Centre member with the highest accumulated points at Centre sanctioned competitions in music events listed in Section 5.1 and adjudicated by adjudicators selected according to Section 6.2.

6.7.2 The points to be awarded for the calculation of Grand Aggregate Awards shall be according to Section 6.6.2.

6.7.3 Ties in the Grand Aggregate points total shall not be broken. If a travel prize is awarded to the Grand Aggregate winner of a grade, a tie for the travel prize shall be broken according to the following order.

- a) Highest Grand Aggregate points in March, Strathspey & Reel events;
- b) Highest Grand Aggregate points in Hornpipe & Jig events;
- c) Highest Grand Aggregate points in 2/4 March events;
- d) Highest Grand Aggregate points in 6/8 March events.

7. Interpretation of Rules and Protests

7.1 Interpretation of Rules

7.1.1 In the event of any misunderstanding or ambiguity in these rules, the Centre reserves the right to supply its own interpretation which shall be final and binding.

7.1.2 The Centre shall ensure that written records are maintained on every decision resulting from a protest or interpretation of the rules to create a list of precedents that can be available to assist in the future interpretation of the rules.

7.1.3 No member of the Centre or their designate shall be allowed to rule on a protest in which his/her student or immediate family is involved.

7.2 Protests and Grievances

7.2.1 Any protests shall be made in writing accompanied by a \$20.00 deposit and lodged with the Contest Organising Committee, with a copy to the Secretary of the Centre.

7.2.2 Where relevant, the complainant shall submit the original adjudication and adjudicator's result sheets, which will be verified by the adjudicators involved and the Chief Scorer as authentic.

7.2.3 Should the protesting party or any parties affected by the findings of the Contest Organising Committee disagree with the findings of the Contest Organising Committee, they shall have the right to appeal to the Centre. Pending the result of the appeal, the findings of the Contest Organising Committee shall be accepted by all the parties concerned.

7.2.4 The Contest Organising Committee on the day of the competition and before the distribution of prizes, being satisfied that a competitor has wilfully violated or is wilfully violating any of the rules, shall have the power to de-bar such competitor from the prize list, suspend the decision of the adjudicators for that competitor, and award the prizes to the respective competitors next in order of merit.

7.2.5 The Centre shall have the right to act similarly after the competition, if satisfied that a wilful violation of the rules took place.

7.2.6 In the event of a prize being awarded to the wrong competitor because of an error, it shall be the responsibility of the Contest Organising Committee to re-award such prizes to the deserving competitor as soon after such discovery is made.

Appendix 1: Music Requirements

RNZPBA - Canterbury Centre Music Requirements for Solo Drumming Competitions

Music events, with the Common Event Numbers, are listed in order of preference

SOLO SIDE DRUMMING		
GRADE	CLASS #	REQUIREMENTS
Novice	101	Any March (2 parts minimum)
D Grade	201	Simple Time March (four parts only)
	202	Compound Time March (four parts only)
	203	Strathspey & Reel (minimum 2 parts each)
C Grade	301	Simple Time March (minimum four parts)
	302	Compound Time March (minimum four parts)
	303	March, Strathspey & Reel (March: min 4 parts, Strath: min 2parts, Reel: min 2parts)
B Grade	401	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	402	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)
A Grade	501	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	502	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)

SOLO TENOR DRUMMING		
GRADE	CLASS #	REQUIREMENTS
Novice	111	Simple Time March (minimum two parts)
	112	Compound Time March (minimum two parts)
Intermediate	311	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	312	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)
Open	511	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	512	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)

SOLO BASS DRUMMING		
GRADE	CLASS #	REQUIREMENTS
Novice	121	Simple Time March (minimum two parts)
	122	Compound Time March (minimum two parts)
Intermediate	321	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	322	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)
Open	521	March, Strathspey & Reel (each tune minimum four parts)
	522	Hornpipe & Jig (each tune minimum four parts)