



Adjudicator Code of Conduct

1. Purpose of Competition: I understand and accept that the purpose of British Columbia Pipers' Association (BCPA) sanctioned solo piping, solo drumming and pipe band competitions (“competitions”) is to advance the calibre of piping, drumming and pipe bands by objectively and fairly ranking the presented performances and providing concise, accurate and prioritized assessments of the performances to support the decisions made.
2. Provide High Quality Adjudications: I will provide the highest levels of objectivity and fairness in my rankings of performances presented to me and provide the highest levels of conciseness, accuracy and prioritization in my assessments of these performances to support the decisions I make. I will make these rankings and assessments within the normative ranges indicated by the BCPA.
3. Respect Rules: I understand and accept that competitions require appropriate rules to deliver effective and efficient operations to meet the above purpose for competitions. I will maintain awareness of these established rules and respect and abide by them.
4. Respect Volunteers: I understand and accept that many volunteers (such as my fellow adjudicators, stewards, competition secretaries, competition officials and organizers, etc) offer their talents and time for the advancement of piping, drumming and pipe bands through competitions. I will be respectful of their efforts and not do anything that hinders their work or compromises its integrity.
5. Be an Excellent Role Model: I will demonstrate professionalism in my appearance, work and dealings with all parties involved in competitions. I will be prompt, punctual and efficient and be at the highest level of my faculties while on duty. I will not do anything that damages the reputations of competition organizers, sponsors, the BCPA, volunteers, adjudicators, and competitors, through any means, including social media. I will support the aims of the BCPA by becoming a member of the Association and remaining in good standing.
6. Be a Life Long Learner: As the art of piping, drumming and pipe bands advances, I will maintain and advance my knowledge and skills in the art and in adjudication practices to keep pace with the changing musical environment.
7. Accepting Adjudication Assignments: I accept a duty and responsibility to provide my adjudication talents when I am invited to adjudicate. I will promptly provide an accept or decline response to invitations for adjudication assignments from competition organizers.

Through official adjudicator availabilities mechanisms provided by the BCPA, I will indicate that I will be available to adjudicate at least one Mini-Gathering or Knockout competition per year.

I will keep adjudication commitments I make with competitions organizers. However, if an emergency situation arises that is beyond my control and prevents me from keeping my commitment, I will promptly inform the competition organizers and offer my assistance to obtain a similarly certified adjudicator to fulfill the commitment.

8. No Soliciting Adjudication Assignments: I will not solicit adjudication assignments from competition organizers but will provide my willingness to adjudicate at competitions through official adjudicator availabilities mechanisms provided by the BCPA.
9. Promote Range of Adjudicators Assessments: To ensure that the range of opinion of adjudicators on the BCPA panel is made available to competitors, and for inclusion in the annual regradings process, I will consider this principle when making my decisions to accept or decline invitations for adjudication assignments.

I understand that it is not solely the responsibility of the competition organizers to ensure that I am not repeatedly assigned to adjudicate the same event in the same grade of the same discipline within the competition year, and I will do my best to communicate previous assignments to aid in this process within our jurisdiction.

10. No Adjudication of Immediate Relatives: I will not adjudicate an event in which an immediate relative is competing (i.e. child, spouse/partner, sibling, or parent) unless an emergency situation arises where the scheduled adjudicator is not available, the competition organizers cannot obtain a replacement adjudicator, and it is imperative that the event occur.

I understand that if presented with such a situation, I still have the option to decline such a request. If I accept such a request, I understand that my integrity and ability to render a fair and objective result will not be questioned.

I will use BCPA recommended mechanisms to inform competition organizers, in advance of being invited to adjudicate, of disciplines and grades in which my immediate relatives compete.

11. Limit Adjudication of Students: I understand that for the BCPA to provide the highest quality of adjudication to the competitors' population and for adjudicators to maintain their skills, there may be occasions when I am invited to adjudicate events in which a student(s) of mine is competing (a student is defined as a solo player or band to which I have provided regular instruction within the past year).

I will use BCPA recommended mechanisms to inform competition organizers, in advance of being invited to adjudicate, of disciplines and grades in which my student(s) competes.

12. Act if Inappropriate Actions: If I believe that an adjudicator or volunteer has not met the above purposes of competitions or this code of conduct, I will use established processes in the BCPA by-laws and competition rules to respectfully and accurately document the issue and provide objective reasons to support my contention toward correction of the issue.
13. Act if Inappropriate Rules: If I believe that policies, procedures, and rules of the BCPA or the competition organizers do not meet the purposes of competitions or do not promote the merit-based advancement of piping, drumming or pipe bands, I will use established processes in the BCPA by-laws and competition rules to correct such situations.