

**BRITISH COLUMBIA PIPERS' ASSOCIATION  
MANDATORY SOLO COMPETITOR AND BAND PROMOTIONS FOR THE 2015-2016 SEASON**

At the conclusion of each competition season, the BCPA Grading Committees review the results of band and solo competitions at the BCPA sanctioned competitions from the Annual Gathering through to the Pacific Northwest Highland Games. A factor called "Performance Rating" is also included in grading assessments. For solos and bands, the Performance Rating values are the adjudicator's assessment of the competitor's performance relative to the adjudicator's expectation for the grade. The Grading Committees review all these factors and their recommendations for regrading competitors are presented to the BCPA Board of Directors for final approval.

In 2002, the BCPA began implementation of a "continent grading standard" for solo competitors and a "world grading standard" for bands, as recommended by the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations (ANAPBA). This means that solo competitors and bands graded by the BCPA would be determined to be in the correct grade if assessed by other ANAPBA member associations (for solos) or by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (for bands).

Thus solo competitor promotions are determined based on assessed ability to successfully compete (i.e. have a reasonable chance of attaining some placings) at the next grade level, not only in BCPA sanctioned competitions, but also in sanctioned competitions in other ANAPBA member associations. Band promotions are determined based on the standard of the grades at the World Pipe Band Championships.

Solo competitors and bands within the BCPA jurisdiction (BC, Washington, and Oregon) are not permitted to "self-promote" themselves to the next grade level. However, solo competitors and bands which have not been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA by submitting a completed BCPA Regrading Appeal Form. Similarly, solo competitors and bands which have been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA by submitting a completed BCPA Regrading Appeal Form.

Solo competitors and bands may request a summary of their 2014/15 season Performance Ratings by emailing secretary@bcpipers.org and including competitor name, grade, instrument (i.e. piper, snare drummer, tenor drummer, band). A Performance Rating summary for a solo competitor/band shows the number of performances rated by the adjudicators in the following five categories: Below Grade Level, Below Grade Expectations, Meets Grade Level, Above Grade Expectations, and Above Grade Level. Solo competitors and bands are encouraged to request their Performance Ratings summary so that when coupled with the results at BCPA sanctioned competitions (located on the BCPA website www.bcpipers.org ) a more comprehensive picture is presented of the solo competitor/band performances throughout the season.

**Competitors who do not appear on the mandatory promotions list shown below are encouraged to discuss an appeal with their instructor. If the instructor feels a promotion is warranted based on strong and consistent performance in placings and performance ratings, as well as other information not generally available to the appropriate Grading Committees, then the appropriate Grading Committee encourages the competitor to file an appeal using the BCPA Regrading Appeal Form (located on the BCPA website).**

After careful review, the BCPA Board of Directors has approved the following mandatory solo competitor promotions for the 2015-2016 season. Decisions on any band promotions will be announced in late September.

Grade 5 to Grade 4 Piping	Aiden Fowler, Weston Kennedy, Aedan McCall, Savannah Walker, Malachi Wonder
Grade 4 to Grade 3 Piping	Gerry Anderson, James Cluckey, Kerry Matthews, Andrew Morgan, Dashiel Pederson, Peyton Stewart, Sam Toohey
Adult to Grade 3 Piping	No promotions
Grade 3 to Grade 2 Piping	Alistair Bevan, Raasi Rush, Luke Snow
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Piping	Alexander MacLeod
Grade 4 to Grade 3 Snare Drumming	Alonso Cruz, Cameron Johnston, Christopher Moore, Blake Prescott
Grade 3 to Grade 2 Snare Drumming	Aidan Palmer
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Snare Drumming	Amanda Colwell, Lauren Gaul, Taylor Killoran, Jake Mix, Lauren Toohey
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Tenor Drumming	No promotions