

## British Columbia Pipers' Association

### Proposed New and Changed Rules for BCPA Members Comment December 11, 2013

The following proposed new and changed rules originated from several BCPA Board of Directors meetings since September 2012 and the annual call in February 2013 for BCPA members to submit proposed new and changed rules.

Please provide comments at <http://tinyurl.com/2013MCPR> by January 15, 2014.  
Board of Directors decisions on the proposals will be announced in late February 2014.

#### PIPE BAND RULES

##### **1. Broaden Juvenile status to include Grade 5 bands and clarify that Juvenile is a status, not a grading**

Clause 4.1.2

###### Existing Wording

Juvenile bands are bands in which all members (excluding playing instructors) are under 18 years of age as of the beginning of the registration period. Juvenile bands with playing instructors shall only be permitted to compete in Grade 3 or 4.

###### Proposed Change

Replace "Juvenile bands are bands" with "A band with Juvenile status is a band". Replace "Juvenile bands with playing instructors shall only be permitted to compete in Grade 3 or 4." with "A band with Juvenile status is permitted to use playing instructors only if the band is graded in Grade 3, 4 or 5."

###### Proposed Wording

A band with Juvenile status is a band in which all members (excluding playing instructors) are under 18 years of age as of the beginning of the registration period. A band with Juvenile status is permitted to use playing instructors only if the band is graded in Grade 3, 4 or 5.

###### Rationale

Clause 4.1.2 was not revised when Grade 5 was made an official band grade in 2011. Also, there is occasional confusion as to whether Juvenile is a status or grade.

##### **2a. Penalty for failing to play on time/late to the line**

Clause 2.11.7

###### Existing Wording

Any band failing to play within five (5) minutes of the drawn time or at the completion of the previous band's performance, whichever is later shall be subject to disqualification. This decision shall be made by the attending Steward in consultation with the Chief Steward.

#### Proposed Change

Replace “shall be subject to disqualification” with “shall forfeit all Grand Aggregate Points that would normally be awarded to the band based on the final overall results of the competition”. Add “and the Chief Steward shall notify the Ensemble judge of this sanction prior to the band commencing their performance. This sanction will not affect the band's final overall placing in the competition.” after “Chief Steward”.

#### Proposed Wording

Any band failing to play within five (5) minutes of the drawn time or at the completion of the previous band's performance, whichever is later, shall forfeit all Grand Aggregate Points that would normally be awarded to the band based on the final overall results of the competition. This decision shall be made by the attending Steward in consultation with the Chief Steward and the Chief Steward shall notify the Ensemble judge of this sanction prior to the band commencing their performance. This sanction will not affect the band's final overall placing in the competition.

#### Rationale

There have been numerous cases where the existing rule has not been met. The proposed rule defines a specific penalty to encourage compliance.

### 2b. Clause 2.11.7

#### Existing Wording

Any band failing to play within five (5) minutes of the drawn time or at the completion of the previous band's performance, whichever is later shall be subject to disqualification. This decision shall be made by the attending Steward in consultation with the Chief Steward.

#### Proposed Change

Add “If disqualified, the band would be playing only for adjudication sheets.”

#### Proposed Wording

Any band failing to play within five (5) minutes of the drawn time or at the completion of the previous band's performance, whichever is later shall be subject to disqualification. This decision shall be made by the attending Steward in consultation with the Chief Steward. If disqualified, the band would be playing only for adjudication sheets.

#### Rationale

To indicate that if disqualified adjudication sheets of the performance would still be provided.

### **3. Reduce penalty for shortage of players**

#### Clause 2.4.1

Existing Wording

Pipe bands or miniature bands entering a contest with fewer members than indicated in Clause 2.2 shall be dropped, from every adjudicator, two ranking placements for each piper or drummer that they are short. e.g. if a band, playing one piper short, obtains the following rankings from the adjudicators 1, 2, 4, and 3, then their adjusted rankings shall be 3, 4, 6, and 5.

Proposed Change

Replace “two ranking placements” with “one ranking placement” and “3, 4, 6, and 5” with “2, 3, 5, and 4”. Add “The maximum penalty applied shall be capped so that an Inverted Points determination of the band’s rankings total is zero.” after the last sentence.

Proposed Wording

Pipe bands or miniature bands entering a contest with fewer members than indicated in Clause 2.2 shall be dropped, from every adjudicator, one ranking placement for each piper or drummer that they are short. e.g. if a band, playing one piper short, obtains the following rankings from the adjudicators 1, 2, 4, and 3, then their adjusted rankings shall be 2, 3, 5, and 4. The maximum penalty applied shall be capped so that an Inverted Points determination of the band’s adjudicators rankings is zero.

Rationale

The existing penalty was determined to be too harsh when a situation was encountered in an Inverted Points determination where a band’s adjudicators rankings went below zero when the penalty points were applied.

**4. New Massed Bands Tune**

Clause 7.3.1

Existing Wording

The tunes for massed bands shall be selected from the following list.

Tune	Music Source
Scotland The Brave	Queen’s Own Collection Volume 1
Highland Laddie (2 parts)	Scots Guards, Volume 1
The Green Hills of Tyrol	Scots Guards, Volume 1
When The Battle Is Over	Scots Guards, Volume 1
Bonnie Dundee	Scots Guards, Volume 1
Amazing Grace	Scots Guards, Volume 2

Proposed Change

Add “The Rowan Tree - Scots Guards, Volume 2”

Proposed Wording

The tunes for massed bands shall be selected from the following list.

Tune	Music Source
Scotland The Brave	Queen’s Own Collection Volume 1
The Rowan Tree	Scots Guards, Volume 2
Highland Laddie (2 parts)	Scots Guards, Volume 1

The Green Hills of Tyrol	Scots Guards, Volume 1
When The Battle Is Over	Scots Guards, Volume 1
Bonnie Dundee	Scots Guards, Volume 1
Amazing Grace	Scots Guards, Volume 2

Rationale

To broaden the massed bands repertoire with a commonly played tune.

**5. Requirements for minimum number of players in a band contest**

Clause 2.2.1

Existing Wording

All pipe bands entering competitions shall consist of a minimum of six (6) pipers, two (2) side drummers, one (1) tenor drummer, and a bass drummer.

Proposed Change

Replace “All pipe bands entering competitions shall consist of a minimum of six (6) pipers, two (2) side drummers, one (1) tenor drummer, and a bass drummer.” with “Pipe Bands entering competitions shall consist of the following minimum numbers of players:”

Grades	Pipers	Side Drummers	Tenor Drummers	Bass Drummers
1 and 2	8	3	1	1
3 and 4	6	2	1	1
5	5	2	1	1

Proposed Wording

Pipe Bands entering competitions shall consist of the following minimum numbers of players:

Grades	Pipers	Side Drummers	Tenor Drummers	Bass Drummers
1 and 2	8	3	1	1
3 and 4	6	2	1	1
5	5	2	1	1

Rationale

To conform with the recommendation from the February 2011 ANAPBA Summit.

**6. Competition area dimensions**

Clause 2.7.1

Existing Wording

The Competition Committee shall select and mark off a Competition Area according to the following specifications.

(a) The Pipe Band Competition Circle shall be a diameter of 24 feet. The Adjudicators Circle shall be a diameter of 42 feet. The Pipe Band Competition Circle and the Adjudicators Circle shall share the same centre point. The Starting Line for the Pipe Band shall be 45 feet from the centre of the Pipe Band Competition Circle.

(b) Pipe Bands shall form a circle on or within the Pipe Band Competition Circle. The Adjudicators shall adjudicate the pipe band from outside the Adjudicators Circle. Crowds shall not be permitted any closer than 33 feet from the centre of the Pipe Band Circle.

Proposed Change

Replace “24” with “26” and “42” with “46”.

Proposed Wording

The Competition Committee shall select and mark off a Competition Area according to the following specifications.

(a) The Pipe Band Competition Circle shall be a diameter of 26 feet. The Adjudicators Circle shall be a diameter of 46 feet. The Pipe Band Competition Circle and the Adjudicators Circle shall share the same centre point. The Starting Line for the Pipe Band shall be 46 feet from the centre of the Pipe Band Competition Circle.

(b) Pipe Bands shall form a circle on or within the Pipe Band Competition Circle. The Adjudicators shall adjudicate the pipe band from outside the Adjudicators Circle. Crowds shall not be permitted any closer than 33 feet from the centre of the Pipe Band Circle.

Rationale

To conform with the RSPBA dimensions

## **7. Change Quick Marches Medley to Quick Marches Set**

BCPA Common Music Requirements

Existing Wording

Event 812 Quick Marches Medley

Event 822 Quick Marches Medley

Proposed Change

Replace “Quick Marches Medley” with “Quick Marches Set”

Proposed Wording

Event 812 Quick Marches Set

Event 822 Quick Marches Set

Rationale

To conform with the recommendation from the February 2011 ANAPBA Summit.

## SOLO PIPING (SP) and SOLO SIDE AND TENOR DRUMMING (SSDTD) RULES

### 8. Changes to the Number of Placings and Prizes Awarded

*NOTE: The BCPA Board of Directors has previously established an activity to re-examine the complete placings and prizes system and will present to the membership before the end of the fiscal year (September 30). Any comments provided will be considered as part of that review.*

### 9. Penalty for tuning over the time limit

Clause 2.9.1 (SP)

#### Existing Wording

Tuning on the platform shall be limited to three minutes, except for piobaireachd which shall be five minutes. Any piper tuning longer may be disqualified at the Steward's discretion.

#### Proposed Change

Add "For events in which a timer visible to the competitor is used, a competitor tuning longer than the maximum tuning time shall lose one placing from each adjudicator for every completed ten second period the competitor continues tuning. The placings deductions shall be performed by the Competition Secretary." after the last sentence.

#### Proposed Wording

Tuning on the platform shall be limited to three minutes, except for piobaireachd which shall be five minutes. Any piper tuning longer may be disqualified at the Steward's discretion. For events in which a timer visible to the competitor is used, a competitor tuning longer than the maximum tuning time shall lose one placing from each adjudicator for every completed ten second period the competitor continues tuning. The placings deductions shall be performed by the Competition Secretary.

#### Rationale

There have been numerous cases where the existing rule has not been met. The proposed rule defines a specific penalty to encourage compliance.

## EDITORIAL/WORDING CHANGES

*NOTE: The BCPA Board of Directors is proposing the following changes to the rules which do not change their meaning or do not significantly change their meanings, but clarify their intent*

## PIPE BAND RULES

10. Clause 2.10.4

#### Existing Wording

If a Games offers a set event and a medley event where more than one set and more than one medley are required to be submitted, the Games may indicate that the medley event will require the submission of only one medley.

Proposed Change

From “may” to “shall”

Proposed Wording

If a Games offers a set event and a medley event where more than one set and more than one medley are required to be submitted, the Games shall indicate that the medley event will require the submission of only one medley.

*NOTE: The above proposed rule was approved by the Board of Directors in 2011 but mistakenly missed in revisions to the rules that year.*

11. Clause 5.1.1

Existing Wording

Within its sanctioning jurisdiction, the Association shall have the responsibility and authority to determine people qualified to adjudicate and adjudicate piping, drumming, and ensemble in sanctioned pipe band competitions and to maintain an Approved Adjudicators List of these qualified people.

Proposed Change

Delete “and adjudicate”

Proposed Wording

Within its sanctioning jurisdiction, the Association shall have the responsibility and authority to determine people qualified to adjudicate piping, drumming, and ensemble in sanctioned pipe band competitions and to maintain an Approved Adjudicators List of these qualified people.

12. Clause 5.5.1

Existing Wording

Each adjudicator shall be provided with adjudication sheets approved by the Association. The adjudication sheets shall be passed to the Chief Steward or designate at the end of each event.

Proposed Change

Replace “Chief Steward” with “Competition Secretary”.

Proposed Wording

Each adjudicator shall be provided with adjudication sheets approved by the Association. The adjudication sheets shall be passed to the Competition Secretary or designate at the end of each event.

13. Clause 5.6.2

Existing Wording

The Chief Scorer shall compile a summary of event results, and distribute a copy to each competing band at the same time as they distribute the original adjudicator’s sheets. A copy of each Pipe Band Tally Sheets shall be provided to the Association.

Proposed Change

Replace “Chief Scorer” with “Competition Secretary”.

Proposed Wording

The Competition Secretary shall compile a summary of event results, and distribute a copy to each competing band at the same time as they distribute the original adjudicator’s sheets. A copy of each Pipe Band Tally Sheets shall be provided to the Association.

14. Clause 7.4.1

Existing Wording

Band members participating in a massed band's performance shall be attired in acceptable highland dress for as defined in Clause 2.16.

Proposed Change

Replace “2.16” with “2.6”

Proposed Wording

Band members participating in a massed band's performance shall be attired in acceptable highland dress for as defined in Clause 2.6.

SOLO PIPING, SIDE AND TENOR DRUMMING RULES

15. Clause 6.3.2 (SP), Clause 6.3.2 (SSDTD)

Existing Wording

Special individual competitions, when practical, should be adjudicated by three adjudicators, who may sit as a panel.

Proposed Change

Add "up to" between “by” and “three”

Proposed Wording

Special individual competitions, when practical, should be adjudicated by up to three adjudicators, who may sit as a panel.

16. Clause 7.2.3 (SP), Clause 7.2.3 (SSDTD)

Existing Wording

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



Proposed Change

Replace the last sentence with “Pending the result of the appeal, the findings of the Association shall be final.”

Proposed Wording

Should the protesting party or any parties affected by the findings of the Competition Committee disagree with the findings of the Competition Committee, they shall have the right to appeal to the Association. Pending the result of the appeal, the findings of the Association shall be final.