

**PPBSO**

**RULE**

**BOOK**

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## **PART A: GENERAL RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario is incorporated under Ontario laws and, in order of precedence, is bound by the Ontario Corporations Act and Regulations, Letters Patent, Supplementary Letters Patent, By-Laws, General Meeting motions carried, Executive Meeting motions carried, written rules, and unwritten directives of Society officials. Although every attempt has been made to ensure compliance and compatibility with these documents, nothing in these rules should be interpreted as authority to deviate from the provisions of the documents which take precedence. Part A of this rule book is offered as a summary for guidance only and is not intended to conflict with the Ontario Corporations Act and Regulations, Letters Patent, Supplementary Letters Patent or By-Laws.

Consistent with the provisions of the Corporations Act, the Executive, or in their absence the Officers, are legally empowered to manage the affairs of the Corporation including the authority to interpret rules. These rules are as complete as past experience has deemed appropriate, but as unanticipated circumstances arise, the Executive and Officers will perform their duties using their best judgment and experience in providing rulings, interpretations, and conducting the affairs of the Society.

### **A-1. Definitions**

"Affiliated Organization" means the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association, or any other organization which is the subject of an affiliation resolution adopted by the Society;

"Champion Supreme Contest" means a contest which has been designated a Champion Supreme Contest in advance by cumulative tally of points to determine an overall champion for both bands and individuals;

"Competition" or "Contest" means any piping, drumming, drum major or band competition held under the auspices of the Society;

"Developmental" means a player so identified on a submitted band roster subject to rule D-1.2 and Appendix 2.

"Eligible Juvenile Age" means any competitor whose 19<sup>th</sup> birthday occurs after the contest being entered.

"Executive" means the Board of Directors of the Society, as created by the Supplementary Letters Patent of the Society, which consists of not more than 25 individuals, being the Officers of the Society and the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President of each Branch of the Society;

"Music Board" means the PPBSO standing committee established under By-Law 96-1

"Officers" means the Officers of the Society: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Society;

"PPBSO" and "Society" mean the Corporation known as The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario;

"Proper Highland Dress" means a minimum of the requirements as set forth in Appendix 1.

"Transfer" means the controlled process of leaving one registered band to join another registered band.

## **A-2. Membership**

A-2.1 **Eligibility.** Membership is open to any individual who subscribes to the objects of the Society as described in its Supplementary Letters Patent; is registered with a Branch; and has paid prescribed dues. *[1994]*

A-2.2 **Branches.** Every member must be registered with a Branch, but a member may not be registered with more than one Branch at a time. *[1994]*

A-2.3 **Applications.** Application for membership in the Society is made to the central registry appointed by the Executive for processing memberships. Applicants must indicate the branch with which they wish to be registered. *[1994]*

A-2.4 **Membership Cards.** Membership cards shall be individually mailed to each member of the Society unless a submitted band roster indicates that the member is registered with a band, in which case, membership cards shall be forwarded to the band representative for distribution. *[1990, 2001 AGMs]*

## **A-3. Membership**

A-3.1 **Amount of Dues.** The amount of annual membership dues and the amount of dues credited to the branches shall be as set by the Executive from time to time. *[1994]*

A-3.2 **When Payable.** Membership dues shall be due and payable by the date of each Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the period following the AGM until the next AGM, or by January 1st of each year for the following year, whichever is the later, subject to sub-section (i) and (ii) hereof:

(i) Membership dues shall be paid a minimum of seventy two (72) hours prior to the member competing in a PPBSO sanctioned solo event.

(ii) Notwithstanding (i) above, for an individual wishing to compete with a band in a PPBSO sanctioned event, membership dues shall be paid a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the event. *[Executive, 1988, 2004 AGM]*

A-3.3 **Discount for Early Payment.** Any member paying dues by January 1st of a year shall be eligible for any discount established by the Executive from time to time. *[1991 AGM; Executive, 2000]*

## **A-4. Society Officers**

A-4.1 **Number of Officers.** There shall be four officers of the Society: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

A-4.2 **Election of Officers.** At an annual general meeting duly called for that purpose, Officers shall be elected for a two-year term by the membership. The terms of President and Treasurer shall expire in an alternate year to the expiry of the terms of Vice-President and Secretary. *[Special Resolution, 1998 AGM]*

A-4.-3 **Eligibility.** No person may be an Officer unless he or she is a member of the Society. *[Supplementary Letters Patent]*

## **A-5. Executive**

A-5.1 **Executive Board of Directors.** The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors called the "Executive", and the Directors may be called "Members of the Executive".

A-5.2 **Size of Executive.** The Executive shall be comprised of not more than twenty-five (25) member individuals.

A-5.3 **Composition of Executive.** The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the Executive, as well as the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President of each Branch.

### **A-5.4 Standing Committees.**

(a) **Games Negotiating Committee.** A committee shall be formed and chaired by the Society President and shall consist of at least three members of the Society and the Vice President of the Society for the purpose of negotiating terms with the Games Committees. The results of negotiations are reported to the Executive for approval.

(b) **Highland Ball Committee.** A committee shall be formed and chaired by the Secretary of the Society or delegate and shall consist of at least seven members, four of whom shall represent the four Champion Supreme bands receiving awards at the ball. *[1997, 2003 AGM]*

(c) **Governance Committee.** A committee shall be formed by the Executive to review matters related to governance, by-laws and rules and make recommendations to the Executive. *[Executive 2006]*

(d) **Marketing and Promotions Committee.** A committee shall be formed by the Executive to promote piping and drumming to the public. *[2006 AGM]*

A-5.5 **Quorum.** A quorum for the transaction of business of the Executive shall be the lesser of ten Directors present in person or two-fifths of the Executive present in person. Participation through telephone or other simultaneous electronic means is also deemed to be present in person. *[Supplementary Letters Patent, 2007 Executive]*

## **A-6. Branches**

A-6.1 **Branches.** The membership of the Society shall be divided into seven Branches, as follows: the Toronto Branch; the South Eastern Branch; the Western Branch; the

Niagara Hamilton Branch; the Ottawa Branch; the Windsor Detroit Branch; and the Northern Ontario Branch.

A-6.2 **Branch Officers.** Each Branch shall elect the following officers:

- (i) the Branch President;
- (ii) the Branch First Vice-President;
- (iii) the Branch Second Vice-President;
- (iv) other Officers as may be prescribed by by-law.

A-6.3 **Branch Officers Members of Executive.** Each Branch President, Branch First Vice-President and Branch Second Vice-President shall also be a member of the Executive of the Society.

A-6.4 **Branch Annual Meetings.** Each Branch shall hold an annual meeting of its members at least every fifteen (15) months, and the Branch Officers shall be elected at the meeting. *[Supplementary Letters Patent]*

A-6.5 **Chair of Branch Meetings.** All branch meetings shall be chaired by the Branch President, unless the President is absent or relinquishes the Chair, in which case the meeting shall be chaired by the Branch Vice-President as the next most senior Officer. *[1994]*

## **A-7. General Meetings**

A-7.1 **General Meetings and Annual General Meetings.** The Executive may call general meetings of the members from time to time. The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of its members at least every fifteen (15) months, and the Officers shall be elected at the meeting. *[1994]*

A-7.2 **Notice of General Meetings.** Each member shall be notified of the date of any general meeting by mail. *[1990 AGM]*

A-7.3 **AGM Motions.**

- (a) **Motions made through branches.** All motions to be considered at a Society AGM must be made and approved at a properly constituted Branch meeting.
- (b) **Motions provided to members.** All motions to be considered at the Society AGM must be provided to the members in writing two weeks prior to the date of the AGM. All Branches must have their motions delivered to the Executive at least one month prior to the AGM. *[1993 AGM]*
- (c) **Motions made at AGM.** All motions must be made at the AGM in person by a duly authorized member of the Branch which has previously approved the motion.

A-7.4 **Votes at Meetings.** Subject to Rule A-7.5, each member individual shall have one vote on each motion before each meeting of members of the Society or a Branch.

- A-7.5 **Band Votes at Meetings.** Notwithstanding Rule A-7.4, the Chairman of a meeting of members of the Society or a Branch may rule any motion to be of relevance solely to bands, in which case the Chairman's ruling shall be final, binding and unappealable, each band shall have one vote on such motion, and member individuals, as such, shall have no vote on such motion. Band votes may be cast by the registered pipe major, drum instructor, band manager, or band member holding written authorization signed by the registered pipe major, drum instructor, or band manager authorizing the member to vote on behalf of the band. *[Supplementary Letters Patent, 2002 AGM]*
- A-7.6 **Chair of Meetings.** All General Meetings and Annual General Meetings of the Society shall be chaired by the Society President, unless the President is absent or relinquishes the Chair, in which case the meeting shall be chaired by the Society Vice-President as the next most senior Officer. *[1994]*
- A-7.7 **Tie Votes.** Any tie vote shall be broken by the vote of the Meeting's Chair. *[1994]*

## **A-8. Head Office**

- A-8.1 The Head Office of the Society shall be located in Milton, Ontario. *[Special Resolution, 1998 AGM]*

## **A-9. Music Board**

- A-9.1 **Establishment of Music Board.** In accordance with By-Law 96-1, a Music Board consisting of seven members shall be appointed by the Executive. The number of members of the Music Board may be increased or decreased by a decision of the Executive.
- A-9.2 **Function of Music Board.** The Music Board members shall elect from their members a Chair and a Recording Secretary and hold at least four meetings annually to provide recommendations to the Executive. The Music Board coordinates the initiatives of the Music Board Committees.
- A-9.3 **Representation.** The Music Board, through the attendance of the Chair or designate, shall have non-voting observer representation at Executive meetings. The Executive, through the attendance of the President or designate, shall have non-voting observer representation at meetings of the Music Board and Music Board Committees.
- A-9.4 **Eligibility.** The Executive shall consider suitably qualified candidates for the Music Board and Music Board Committees satisfying at least three of the following criteria :
- (a) Current Adjudicator — holding at least one “A” certificate.
  - (b) Open Competitor — past or present.
  - (c) Pipe Major, Pipe Sergeant, Lead Stroke — past or present
  - (d) Current Teacher.
  - (e) Specialist expertise such as public relations or promotions. *[By-Law 96-1]*

**A-10. Music Board Committees**

- A-10.1 **Establishment of Music Board Committees.** As set out in By-Law 96-1, the Music Board shall recommend annually, or as necessary, candidates to the Music Board Committees for approval by the Executive.
- A-10.2 **Types of Committees.** Committees shall be established in support of the Music Board activities as follows:
- (a) Grading Committee.
  - (b) Adjudicators' Certification Committee.
  - (c) Teaching Committee.
  - (d) Incentives and Recognition Committee.
  - (e) Promotions Committee.
  - (f) Competitions Committee.
- A-10.3 **Eligibility.** The criteria established in A-9.4 shall apply to candidates being considered for appointment to Music Board Committees.

**A-11. Discipline of Members**

- A-11.1 **Discipline Committee.** A Discipline Committee shall be established to be composed of the President, Vice President and Secretary of the Society plus one member of the Music Board and one other Society member to be appointed by the President.
- A-11.2 **Discipline Committee Meetings.** The President shall call a meeting of the Discipline Committee upon the written request of any three members of the Society or any one member of the Executive. The President shall chair all meetings of the Discipline Committee and shall have the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
- A-11.3 **Powers of Discipline Committee.** The Discipline Committee shall be empowered to deal in disciplinary terms with either individual or band members who are alleged to have committed a violation of the Rules of the Society.
- A-11.4 **Penalties.** The Discipline Committee shall be empowered to levy the following sanctions against any members for a breach of the Society's Rules and Regulations:
- (i) reprimand;
  - (ii) fine;
  - (iii) suspension;
  - (iv) expulsion.
- These sanctions may be imposed singularly or cumulatively with the exception of expulsion, which may only be imposed singularly.
- A-11.5 **Notice to Member to be Disciplined.** No such disciplinary action may be taken against any member without prior written notice to the member which shall:

- (i) set out clearly the date, place and time of the meeting of the Discipline Committee;
- (ii) set out the nature of the charges which the member is required to answer;
- (iii) contain a warning that in the event of the failure of the member to attend, the meeting may proceed in his or her absence;
- (iv) be received by the Member at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

A-11.6 **Appeal.**

- (a) **Notice of Appeal.** Any member affected by a decision of the Committee shall have the right to appeal such decision to the general membership. Such appeal shall be launched by a notice in writing received by the President within 7 days of the date of the decision, which shall be accompanied by the sum of \$25.00 to be credited to the general funds of the Society.
- (b) **General Meeting.** The President shall call a meeting of the general membership, who shall be notified in the usual manner. The President shall chair all such meetings and in the event of a tie shall have the deciding vote.

A-11.7 **Suspension of Penalty Pending Appeal.** During the period in which any appeal of a decision of the Discipline Committee is pending, the decision shall be of no force and effect.

A-11.8 **Failure to Follow Procedure.** Any action of the Discipline Committee taken not in accordance with the above shall be a nullity. *[1975 AGM]*

**A-12 Ombudsman**

A-12.1 **Ombudsman.** The Executive may establish the duties of the role of Ombudsman and designate a person to perform these duties. The Ombudsman is a neutral party, neither an advocate for the members of the PPBSO nor for the PPBSO Executive. The Ombudsman's main role should be to help resolve complaints informally. The Ombudsman is an alternative channel of communication meant to complement, not replace, the Executive of the Branches or Parent Body of the PPBSO.

A-12.2 **Scope and Duties.** The Ombudsman shall be responsive to issues as they apply to the rules and regulations of the current issue of the PPBSO rulebook. The Ombudsman shall not be required to address requests nor complaints dealing with issues outside the bounds of the current issue of the PPBSO rulebook. The duties of the Ombudsman include:

- (i) Remaining impartial to all individuals;
- (ii) Listening to members concerns;
- (iii) Keeping information confidential;
- (iii) Providing information and coaching.
- (iv) Identifying resolution options and facilitating options with fairness and within the law.

(v) Addressing the root cause of problems as well as specific issues.

*[2002 AGM]*

A-12.3 **Limitations.** The Ombudsman avoids taking sides, breaching confidentiality unless there is a threat to the safety of a member or legal responsibility to inform, making management decisions for the Executive of the Branch or Parent Body, or setting policy.

*[2001 AGM]*

## PART B: GENERAL RULES GOVERNING COMPETITIONS AND JUDGING

Except as adopted by a Branch of the Society for their own indoor Contests, the rules governing piping, drumming, drum major and pipe band Competitions sanctioned by The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario are as printed in this Part and in the following two Parts.

### **B-1.     Eligibility to Compete**

- B-1.1     **Membership.** A competitor must be a current, paid-up member of the Society or an Affiliated Organization, with the exception of the first competitive season of a competitor entering Grade 5 Drumming, Grade 5 Piping and Practice Chanter.
- B-1.2     **Compliance With Rules.** An individual is eligible to play in a Contest provided he or she meets all entry requirements, tune requirements, dress requirements, conduct requirements, grading requirements, and complies with all Rules of the Society and the Contest.
- B-1.3     **Penalty For Breach.** Breach of any eligibility requirement, Society Rule or Contest rule may cause disqualification of the individual from playing in that Contest.
- B-1.4     **Enforcement.** The Steward for each event shall have full discretion in enforcing the Rules for the Contest, subject to the disciplinary procedures herein.

### **B-2.     Dress**

- B-2.1     **Society Workers.** Everyone working for the Society at a Competition, including the Executive, Stewards, Runners and Judges, must wear Proper Highland Dress. *[1993 AGM]*
- B-2.2     **Competitors.** All competitors must wear Proper Highland Dress.
- B-2.3     **Judges.** All Judges shall wear proper head dress, no head dress, or the uniform head dress specified by the Society. *[1988 AGM]*

### **B-3.     Entries**

- B-3.1     **Master Entry Form.** The Society shall post the official solo and band master entry forms on its website, available for download prior to the 18th of May each year.  

*[1989, 1990, 2007 AGMs]*
- B-3.2     **Receipt.** A competitor's entry shall be received with full payment of entry fee on or before the closing date for entries set by the Society in order to be eligible to play. The closing date for Drum Major contests is the day of the contest. *[2007 AGM]*

B-3.3 **Refund Of Fees.** No refund of entry fees can be made for events entered but not played in, except where an event has been cancelled.

B-3.4 **Cancellation of Events.** Cancellation of events is at the discretion of the Society Officers in consultation with the pertinent Games Committee.

#### **B-4. Competitor's Responsibilities**

B-4.1 **Know Rules.** Each competitor and Society member is responsible for knowing and adhering to the Rules adopted from time to time. *[2002 AGM]*

B-4.2 **Courtesy.** Each competitor and Society member shall treat all Society Officials, Society workers and other competitors with courtesy. Society workers and officials are obligated to treat all society competitors and workers with courtesy. *[2002 AGM]*

B-4.3 **Enforcement.** Subject to the directions of the Chief Steward, failure to obey the Steward may result in disqualification and/or disciplinary action.

#### **B-5. Penalties, Discipline and Protests**

B-5.1 **Disqualification.** Breach of any Rule may render the competitor subject to disqualification for the event in question, at the sole discretion of the Steward for the event, who shall be guided by the directions of the Chief Steward.

B-5.2 **Discipline.** Disciplinary proceedings may be taken for any breach of these Rules which is considered to be willful, flagrant or indicative of disrespect for the integrity and authority of the Society or its members.

B-5.3 **Complaints against judges.** Competitors who wish to lodge a complaint against a judge may do so by stating their case in writing, and submitting it to the President with a deposit of \$25.00. If the complaint is justified, as decided by a meeting of Judges and Officers, the \$25.00 will be returned to the competitor lodging the complaint. *[Executive, 1991]*

#### **B-6. Score Sheets**

B-6.1 **Score Sheets Mandatory.** A score sheet shall be filled out by each Judge for each competitor. *[1996]*

B-6.2 **Competitor's Copy.** Each competitor may receive one copy of his or her score sheet after the results of the Contest have been posted. Each competitor shall claim his or her score sheet within a reasonable time of its availability.

B-6.3 **Society's Record.** The Society receives a record sheet signed by the Judge summarizing the contest results. The Society verifies that each score sheet corresponds to the contest result summary. Random samples of score sheets shall be retained by the Society for review purposes. *[1996]*

B-6.4 **Form.** The form of score sheets shall be as adopted by the Executive from time to time.

B-6.5 **Band Score Sheets.** Each judge shall receive a scoresheet for each band and a list of the tune names, time signatures and number of parts to be played by each band. *[1999 AGM]*

**B-7. Adjudication**

B-7.1 **Panel.** All Adjudicators shall be drawn from the approved panel of PPBSO Judges as set by the Executive from time to time, or from the approved panels of affiliated organizations.

B-7.2 **Criteria.** The decision of an Adjudicator shall be based on his or her honest and best judgment of the relative merit of the performances adjudicated, based on the criteria set by the Executive from time to time as indicated on the score sheet for the event.

B-7.3 **Finality.** The decision of the Adjudicator is final. For band contests, an adjudicator consultative process is followed prior to reaching a final decision.

B-7.4 **Improper Influence.** No member shall attempt, directly or indirectly, to improperly influence the selection of or a decision of a Judge. Breach of this rule may subject the member involved to disciplinary proceedings. *[1996]*

**B-8. Assignment of Judges**

B-8.1 **Availability Sheets.** Judges' availability sheets shall be mailed out to all panel members no later than January 1st of each year, and shall be returned by March 31st of that year. *[1992 AGM]*

B-8.2 **Assignment.** Judges shall be assigned for each Contest by a group consisting of one representative from the Executive, and a piping representative and a drumming representative from the Music Board. *[1996 SGM]*

B-8.3 **Notice of Assignment.** Judges shall be advised of their assignments for the upcoming season no later than May 1st of each year. *[1992 AGM]*

B-8.4 **Limitation.** No Judge shall be assigned to adjudicate a band at more than two Champion Supreme contests in a single season. *[1994 AGM]*

**B-9. Judge's Conduct**

B-9.1 **Judging Family Members.** Judges shall not adjudicate members of their immediate family or spouses of immediate family members in solo or band events. *[1997 AGM]*

B-9.2 **Judging Bands.** Judges shall not judge a band with which they were associated for one year after leaving that band. *[1993 AGM]*

## **B-10. Judges Qualifications**

The Society attempts to provide the highest quality of adjudication for its sanctioned contests. The seminar, examination, and certificate award process established in these rules is the means by which the Society strives to achieve this goal. [1996]

- B-10.1 **Exam Seminar.** Admittance to take the Society Adjudicators' exam requires attendance at a seminar, but for special circumstances an Officer of the Society may grant exception. [Executive, 1991]

## **B-11. Certification of PPBSO Pipe Band Adjudicators**

- B-11.1 **Requirement for Certification.** All PPBSO Piping, Drumming and Ensemble Adjudicators of Pipe Bands must hold a valid certificate. Piping and Drumming Adjudicators will receive either an "A" or "B" classification, in accordance with the specifications and prerequisites contained herein, which includes Practical Qualifications that must first be met in order to apply for the two-part examination consisting of a Written Examination (Part I) and an Aural Examination (Part II). [2003, 1996]

- B-11.2 **Elements of Certification.** Those who meet the Practical Qualifications and then pass both the Written and the Aural Examinations will be awarded a Society classification.

- B-11.3 **Powers of Adjudicators' Certification Committee.** All classifications are subject to the approval of the Adjudicators' Certification Committee of the Music Board before being recommended for award. The Board reserves the right to request a practical demonstration of a candidate's pipe band knowledge and abilities.

### **B-11.4 Practical Qualifications of Candidates.**

- (a) Piping candidates seeking an Ensemble classification must meet the following criteria:
- (i) A minimum of 10 years playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe;
  - (ii) Must have competed in a Grade 1 pipe band for five years within the last 15 years;
  - (iii) Must be capable of an ensemble assessment of a pipe band performance;
  - (iv) Must hold an "A" classification and have judging experience prior to taking the Ensemble classification exam. [2003]
- (b) Drumming candidates seeking an Ensemble classification must meet the same criteria as in (a), except that the playing experience in (i) is on the snare drum rather than the Great Highland Bagpipe. [2003, 1996]
- (c) Piping candidates seeking an "A" classification must meet the following criteria:

- (i) A minimum of 10 years playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe;
- (ii) Must have competed in a Grade 1 pipe band or been Pipe Major of a Grade 2 pipe band for five years within the last 15 years. *[2003]*
- (d) Drumming candidates seeking an "A" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 10 years playing experience on the snare drum;
  - (ii) Must have competed in a Grade 1 pipe band or been lead stroke of a Grade 2 pipe band for five years within the last 15 years. *[2003, 1996]*
- (e) Piping candidates seeking a "B" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 10 years playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe;
  - (ii) Must have competed in a Grade 1 or a Grade 2 pipe band for five years within the last 15 years. *[2003]*
- (f) Drumming candidates seeking a "B" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 10 years playing experience on the snare drum;
  - (ii) Must have competed in a Grade 1 pipe band or been lead stroke of a Grade 2 pipe band for five years within the last 15 years. *[2003, 1996]*

B-11.5 **Exemption from Practical Qualifications.** The Practical Qualifications do not apply to individuals granted equivalent status by the Music Board and PPBSO Executive. *[1996]*

B-11.6 **Effect of Classification.**

- (a) Piping Judges with an Ensemble classification shall be permitted to judge piping and ensemble for all grades.
- (b) Piping Judges with a "A" classification shall be permitted to judge piping for all grades, but shall not be permitted to judge ensemble.
- (c) Piping Judges with a "B" classification shall be permitted to judge piping for grades up to and including Grade 2, but shall not be permitted to judge Grade 1 piping or ensemble for any grade.
- (d) Drumming Judges with an Ensemble classification shall be permitted to judge drumming and ensemble for all grades.
- (e) Drumming Judges with a "A" classification shall be permitted to judge drumming for all grades, but shall not be permitted to judge ensemble. *[Executive, 2003, 1989]*

**B-12. Certification of PPBSO Piping Adjudicators for Solo Light Music**

B-12.1 **Requirement for Certification.** All PPBSO Piping Adjudicators of Solo Light Music must be certificated and awarded a "Level I" or "Level II" classification, in accordance with the specifications and prerequisites contained herein, which includes Practical Qualifications that must first be met in order to apply to sit the Examination.

B-12.2 **Elements of Certification.** Those who meet the Practical Qualifications and then pass the Examination will be awarded a Society classification.

B-12.3 **Powers of Adjudicators' Examination Board.** All classifications are subject to the approval of the Society's Adjudicators' Examination Board before being awarded. The Board reserves the right to request a practical demonstration of a candidate's solo light music knowledge and abilities.

B-12.4 **Practical Qualifications of Candidates.**

- (a) Candidates seeking a "Level I" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 15 years solo light music playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe at the Highland Games;
  - (ii) Must have demonstrated a reasonable degree of success, as interpreted by the Music Board, in Professional Light Music competition;
  - (iii) Previous solo light music adjudication experience, subject to B-12.7(c) below.
- (b) Candidates seeking a "Level II" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 10 years solo light music playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe at the Highland Games;
  - (ii) Must have demonstrated a reasonable degree of success, as interpreted by the Music Board, in at least Grade 1 Amateur Light Music competition.

B-12.5 **Exemption from Practical Qualifications.** In exceptional circumstances, the Music Board may recommend the waiving of some of the Practical Qualifications.

B-12.6 **Resitting Examinations.** An unsuccessful candidate may resit the Examination twice. The first resit may take place no sooner than one year after the original sitting. The second resit may take place no sooner than two years after the first resit.

B-12.7 **Effect of Classification.**

- (a) Judges with a "Level I" classification shall be permitted to judge Professional and all amateur grades of solo light music, subject to the restrictions for new Level I Adjudicators as set out in (c) below.
- (b) Judges with a "Level II" classification shall be permitted to judge all solo light music for all amateur grades up to and including Grade 1, but shall not be permitted to judge Professional solo light music. *[2005 AGM]*
- (c) Candidates for Level I certification who have not previously adjudicated solo light music but who meet all other Practical Qualifications and then pass the

Examination must judge amateur solo light music events at a minimum of two Highland Games in each of at least two seasons before being permitted to judge Professional solo light music events. [*Executive, 1990*]

**B-13. Certification of PPBSO Piping Adjudicators for Solo Piobaireachd**

B-13.1 **Requirement for Certification.** All PPBSO Piping Adjudicators of Solo Piobaireachd must be certificated and awarded a "Level I" or "Level II" classification, in accordance with the specifications and prerequisites contained herein, which includes Practical Qualifications that must first be met in order to apply to sit the Examination.

B-13.2 **Elements of Certification.** Those who meet the Practical Qualifications and then pass the Examination will be awarded a Society classification.

B-13.3 **Powers of Adjudicators' Certification Committee.** All classifications are subject to the approval of the Adjudicators' Certification Committee before being recommended. The Board reserves the right to request a practical demonstration of a candidate's solo piobaireachd knowledge and abilities.

B-13.4 **Practical Qualifications of Candidates.**

- (a) Candidates seeking a "Level I" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 15 years solo piobaireachd playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe at the Highland Games;
  - (ii) Must have demonstrated a reasonable degree of success, as interpreted by the Music Board, in Professional Piobaireachd competition;
  - (iii) Previous solo piobaireachd adjudication experience, subject to B-13.7(c) below.
- (b) Candidates seeking a "Level II" classification must meet the following criteria:
  - (i) A minimum of 10 years solo piobaireachd playing experience on the Great Highland Bagpipe at the Highland Games;
  - (ii) Must have demonstrated a reasonable degree of success, as interpreted by the Music Board, in at least Grade 1 Amateur Piobaireachd competition.

B-13.5 **Exemption from Practical Qualifications.** In exceptional circumstances, the Music Board may recommend the waiving of some of the Practical Qualifications.

B-13.6 **Resitting Examinations.** An unsuccessful candidate may resit the Examination twice. The first resit may take place no sooner than one year after the original sitting. The second resit may take place no sooner than two years after the first resit.

B-13.7 **Effect of Classification.**

- (a) Judges with a "Level I" classification shall be permitted to judge Professional and all amateur grades of solo piobaireachd, subject to the restrictions for new Level I Adjudicators as set out in (c) below.

- (b) Judges with a "Level II" classification shall be permitted to judge solo piobaireachd for all amateur grades up to and including Grade 2, but shall not be permitted to judge Grade 1 or Professional solo piobaireachd.
- (c) Candidates for Level I certification who have not previously adjudicated solo piobaireachd but who meet all other Practical Qualifications and then pass the Examination must judge amateur solo piobaireachd events at a minimum of two Highland Games in each of at least two seasons before being permitted to judge Professional solo piobaireachd events. [*Executive, 1990*]

## **PART C: RULES GOVERNING SOLO COMPETITIONS**

Except as adopted by a Branch of the Society for their own indoor Contests, the rules governing solo (individual) Competitions sanctioned by The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario are as printed in this Part and the preceding Part.

### **C-1. Admission Refunds**

C-1.1 **Entitlement.** Unless prohibited by the Highland Games Committee, an individual competitor who plays in a solo Competition and does not participate as a member of a band on that day shall be entitled to a refund of any admission fee paid to gain admission to the grounds, upon presenting a voucher issued by the Society to the appropriate official of the Highland Games Committee.

### **C-2. Order and Time of Play**

C-2.1 **Order of Play Available.** The Games Secretary shall make available the order of play for each solo competitor not less than 8 days in advance of the event and provide this information by telephone as requested. The PPBSO reserves the right to cancel an event or change the number of prizes awarded if fewer than four competitors have enrolled in the event at the closing date. *[1990 AGM, 2006 Executive]*

C-2.2 **Playing Time.** A competitor shall play at his or her assigned or adjusted time or position, or when required to play by the Steward for the event.

C-2.3 **Order Enforced.** The order of play shall be enforced excepting incidents of overlapping events in that grade. *[1988 AGM]*

### **C-3. Conduct and Tuning**

C-3.1 **Report To Steward.** Competitors shall report to the Steward for each event no later than the commencement of the event. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

C-3.2 **Tuning Time.** Piping competitors shall adhere to the following tuning times: for piobaireachd, a limit of 5 minutes; for all other events, a limit of 3 minutes. Individuals exceeding the allowable tuning times may be disqualified. *[1994]*

C-3.3 **Tuning.** All competitors performing final tuning must do so without assistance, except for Grade 4 and Grade 5, and Novice Amateur Competitions. *[1994, 1996, 2004]*

### **C-4. Grade Structure**

C-4.1 **Piping.** Piping Competitions shall be divided into the following classes:

- (i) Professional;
  - (ii) Senior Professional (ages 45 & over);
  - (iii) Amateur Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5;
  - (iv) Amateur Piobaireachd - Senior, Intermediate, Junior, and Novice; and
  - (v) Novice Practice Chanter.
- [1995, 2002, 2004 AGM]*

C-4.2 **Drumming.** Drumming Competitions shall be divided into the following classes:

- (i) Professional; and
- (ii) Amateur Grades 1, 2, 3 4 and 5, and
- (iii) Novice, amateur, and professional bass and tenor. *[1999 AGM]*

C-4.3 **Drum Majors.** Drum Major competitions shall be classed as Professional and Novice competitions.

## **C-5. Grading and Upgrading**

C-5.1 **Specified Grades.** The Executive, on the advice of the Music Board, will specify the grade of competition for an individual competitor, at its sole discretion. Notification of grading changes shall be made to competitors by the first day of November. *[1999 AGM]*

C-5.2 **Competitors from Other Jurisdictions.** Competitors from other jurisdictions shall play in the same grades in which they play in their own jurisdiction, subject to any grade specified for an individual competitor by the PPBSO. *[1994]*

C-5.3 **Notice.** Any individual affected by a specified grade shall be promptly notified in writing or by publication in the Society's magazine within a reasonable time after the requirement is adopted by the Executive.

C-5.4 **Playing in Lower Grade.** No individual may compete in a grade lower than the grade specified for him or her by the Executive. For purposes of these grading rules, Grade 5 is the lowest piping grade, grade 5 is the lowest drumming grade, and Open Professional is the highest grade.

C-5.5 **Playing in Higher Grade.** A competitor who chooses to compete outside the jurisdiction of the PPBSO in a grade higher than his or her specified grade may not subsequently return to a lower grade. *[2004]*

C-5.6 **Playing in Different Grades.** A piping competitor shall compete at the same grade level in all events, except piobaireachd, which may be played at a different level subject to the grade specified by the Executive for that competitor.

C-5.7 **Regrading.** A competitor dissatisfied with his or her assigned grade may petition the Executive through the Society Secretary for a reconsideration of the grading a maximum of one time per year or once per change in grade, whichever is more

frequent. Any variation of a competitor's specified grade is within the sole discretion of the Executive.

## **C-6. Professional Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-6.1 **Light Music.** For Professional march, strathspey and reel, and hornpipe and jig Competitions, competitors shall submit four tunes of each type and shall play one tune of each type as chosen by the Judge in any combination from the tunes submitted. For Professional jig Competitions, competitors shall play the tune chosen by the Judge twice through. *[1996, 2002, 2008 AGM]*
- C-6.2 **Time Signatures.** All marches shall be in 2/4 time signature.
- C-6.3 **Length.** All tunes submitted shall be a minimum of 4 parts. All jig selections are required to be played twice over unless waived by the Society, except at hornpipe and jig contests where jigs shall be played only once. *[1994]*
- C-6.4 **Piobaireachd.** Professional competitors shall submit four piobaireachds and shall play one, as chosen by the Judge from the tunes submitted. Playing of unfamiliar settings may require a written copy of the music to be submitted to the Judge prior to beginning the tune.
- C-6.5 **Senior Professional (45 and over).** Competitors shall submit and play one march, strathspey and reel set. *[1994]*

## **C-7. Grade 1 Amateur Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-7.1 **Tunes.** Grade 1 Amateur competitors shall submit two tunes of each type and shall play one tune of each type, as chosen by the Judge in any combination from the tunes submitted.
- C-7.2 **Time Signatures.** All marches submitted shall be in 2/4 time signature, or in the event of a 6/8 march contest, marches shall be submitted in 6/8 time signature.
- C-7.3 **Length.** All tunes submitted shall be a minimum of 4 parts.
- C-7.4 **Piobaireachd.** Grade 1 Amateur competitors shall be subject to the Amateur Piobaireachd requirements of C-10. *[1995 AGM]*

## **C-8. Grade 2 Amateur Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-8.1 **General.** Grade 2 Amateur competitors shall submit two (2) four parted 2/4 marches, one (1) four parted strathspey, one (1) four parted reel, and one (1) four parted jig or two (2) four parted 6/8 marches. *[1999, 2002, 2009 AGM]*
- C-8.2 **Piobaireachd.** Grade 2 Amateur competitors shall be subject to the Amateur Piobaireachd contest requirements of C-10. *[1995]*

**C-9. Grade 3 Amateur Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-9.1 **March.** Grade 3 Amateur competitors shall submit and play one (1) four-parted 2/4 march. *[1992, 2002 AGM]*
- C-9.2 **Strathspey and Reel.** Grade 3 Amateur competitors shall submit and play one (1) four-parted strathspey and one (1) four-parted reel. *[2000, 2002 AGM]*
- C-9.3 **Piobaireachd.** Grade 3 Amateur competitors shall be subject to the Amateur Piobaireachd contest requirements of C-10. *[1995 AGM]*
- C-9.4 **Special.** At designated contests, Grade 3 Amateur competitors shall submit and play one four-parted strathspey and one four-parted reel or one four-parted 6/8 march.

**C-10. Amateur Piobaireachd Contest Requirements**

- C-10.1 **Senior Amateur Piobaireachd (Grade 1 Light Music equivalent).** Competitors shall submit three (3) piobaireachds and shall play one (1), as chosen by the Judge from the tunes submitted. *[2000, 2002 AGM]*
- C-10.2 **Intermediate Amateur Piobaireachd (Grade 2 Light Music equivalent).** Competitors shall submit two (2) piobaireachds and shall play one (1), as chosen by the Judge from the tunes submitted. *[2001, 2002 AGM]*
- C-10.3 **Junior Amateur Piobaireachd (Grade 3 Light Music equivalent).** Competitors shall submit and play one (1) piobaireachd. *[1995, 2002 AGM]*
- C-10.4 **Novice Amateur Piobaireachd (Grade 4/5 Light Music equivalent).** Competitors shall submit one (1) piobaireachd and play only the ground and the next two passages. *[1999, 2002 AGM]*

**C-11 Grade 4 Amateur Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-11.1 **General.** Grade 4 Amateur competitors shall submit and play one (1) 2/4 march of a minimum of four parts. *[1992, 2002 AGM]*
- C-11.2 **Piobaireachd.** Grade 4 Amateur competitors shall be subject to the Amateur Piobaireachd contest requirements of C-10. *[1995 AGM]*

**C-12. Grade 5 Amateur Piping Contest Requirements**

- C-12.1 **General.** Grade 5 Amateur competitors shall submit and play one (1) two-parted march of any time signature, once over. *[1994, 2002 AGM]*

**C-13. Novice Practice Chanter Contest Requirements**

- C-13.1 **General.** Novice Practice Chanter competitors shall submit and play one two-parted march of any time signature, once over.

C-13.2 **Eligibility.** Novice Practice Chanter competitors must never have competed in a piping contest. [1994]

**C-14. Tune Selection by Piping Competitors**

C-14.1 **General.** Tune selection is left up to the individual competitor and his or her instructor, but competitors are advised that basics and fundamentals are to have preference over difficulty of tunes, and Judges are to strongly discourage the use of tunes beyond the capability of the players in all amateur grades. [Advisory Council, 1990]

**C-15. Drumming Contest Requirements**

C-15.1 **Accompaniment.** The Society will provide band accompaniment for all Professional, Amateur, and Novice Bass Drum Flourishing contests, Professional, Amateur, and Novice Tenor Drum Flourishing contests and Drum Major Competitions except as in C-15.3 (d) below. Each Snare Drum competitor shall provide at least one piper for accompaniment. No more than two pipers are permitted. Each Rhythm Tenor contest competitor shall provide one piper, and the option of one snare drummer, for accompaniment. Grade 3, 4 and 5 Amateur competitors may compete without a piper for a critique from the drumming judge but they will not be scored or considered eligible for a rank in the contest. [2000, 2002, 2005 AGM, 2006 Executive]

C-15.2 **Snare Drummers.**

- (a) A Professional competitor shall submit two sets, each composed of a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel, with a minimum of four parts each, and two hornpipes and two jigs, with a minimum of four parts each. [1988 AGM]
- (b) A Grade 1 Amateur competitor shall submit two sets, each composed of a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel, with a minimum of four parts each, and one hornpipe and one jig of a minimum of four parts each. [1989 AGM]
- (c) A Grade 2 Amateur competitor shall submit one set composed of a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel, with a minimum of four parts each, and one hornpipe and one jig of a minimum of four parts each. [1989 AGM]
- (d) A Grade 3 Amateur competitor shall submit and play through without stopping one set composed of one four-parted 2/4 march, one four-parted strathspey, and one four-parted reel. [1996, 2001, 2003 AGMs]
- (e) A Grade 4 Amateur competitor shall submit one four-parted 2/4 march to be played over once. [2001 AGM]
- (f) A Grade 5 Amateur competitor shall submit one two-parted 2/4 march. [1997, 2003 AGMs]

**C-15.3 Bass Drummers.**

- (a) Professional, Amateur, and Novice Bass Drum Flourishing Contest competitors are required to perform simultaneously with all other competitors in the Contest unless the Contest is so large as to require division into heats.
- (b) Professional, and Amateur Bass Drum Flourishing Contest competitors perform while the duty band plays a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel.
- (c) Novice Bass Drum Flourishing Contest competitors perform while the duty band plays a four parted march. *[1999 AGM]*
- (d) Professional, Amateur and Novice Solo Bass Drumming contest competitors in the morning contest play one four-parted 2/4 march, one four-parted strathspey, and one four-parted reel. Each competitor must provide a piper and snare drummer for accompaniment. *[2005 AGM]*

**C-15.4 Tenor Drummers.**

- (a) Professional, Amateur, and Novice Tenor Drum Flourishing Contest competitors are required to perform simultaneously with all other competitors in the Contest unless the Contest is so large as to require division into heats.
- (b) Professional and Amateur Tenor Drum Flourishing Contest competitors perform while the duty band plays a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel.
- (c) Novice Tenor Drum Flourishing Contest competitors perform while the duty band plays a four parted march. *[1999 AGM]*
- (d) Professional, Amateur, and Novice Tenor Contest competitors are accompanied by one piper and, as an option, one snare drummer. *[2002 AGM]*
- (e) Professional Tenor Contest competitors shall play a march, strathspey and reel, and as a separate contest, a hornpipe and jig. All tunes shall be a minimum of four parts. *[2000, 2004, 2007 AGM]*
- (f) Amateur Tenor Contest competitors perform a march, strathspey, and reel set. All tunes are to be a minimum of four parts each. *[2000, 2004 AGM]*
- (g) Novice Tenor Contest competitors perform a four parted 2/4 march. *[2000]*

**C-15.5 Drum Majors.**

- (a) Professional and Novice Drum Major competitors are required to perform simultaneously with all other competitors in the Contest unless the Contest is so large as to require division into heats.
- (b) Drum Major competitors are judged on dress and deportment while at the halt, and on marching and deportment during the performance of a slow march and a 6/8 march by the duty band.

**C-16. Contest Results and Prize Presentation**

- C-16.1 **Posting.** Results of Competitions shall be conspicuously posted as soon as possible after computation.
- C-16.2 **Prize Presentation.** Prizes may be formally presented at the closing ceremonies of the Highland Games, or informally presented.
- C-16.3 **Proper Dress.** A prizewinner receiving a prize in a formal presentation shall wear Proper Highland Dress, as defined. Breach of this rule may lead to disciplinary proceedings against the member involved.
- C-16.4 **Amateur Piper of the Day.** The Amateur Piper of the Day shall be the piper competing in Grade 1 March, Grade 1 Strathspey and Reel, Grade 1 Jig and Senior Amateur Piobaireachd who is awarded the highest total number of Champion Supreme Points. A tie in points shall be broken first by the Senior Amateur Piobaireachd result. If none of the players tied have placed in the Piobaireachd contest, the tie shall be broken by the March result. *[2002 AGM]*
- C-16.5 **Professional Piper of the Day.** The Professional Piper of the Day shall be the piper competing in Professional March, Professional Strathspey and Reel, Professional Hornpipe / Jig and Professional Piobaireachd who is awarded the highest total number of Champion Supreme Points. A tie in points shall be broken first by the Professional Piobaireachd result. If none of the players tied have placed in the Piobaireachd contest, the tie shall be broken by the March result. *[2002 AGM]*
- C-16.6 **Amateur Drummer of the Day.** The Amateur Drummer of the Day shall be the drummer competing in the Grade 1 March, Strathspey and Reel, and Hornpipe / Jig who is awarded the highest total number of Champion Supreme Points. A tie in points shall be broken by the March, Strathspey and Reel result. *[2002 AGM]*
- C-16.7 **Professional Drummer of the Day.** The Professional Drummer of the Day shall be the drummer competing in the Professional March, Strathspey and Reel, and Hornpipe / Jig who is awarded the highest total number of Champion Supreme Points. A tie in points will be broken by the March, Strathspey and Reel result. *[2002 AGM]*

**C-17. Champion Supreme Point Structure**

- C-17.1 **Eligibility - Membership.** Only PPBSO members who are members prior to the Competition will be awarded points for placing in events.
- C-17.2 **Eligibility - Minimum Number of Games.** To be eligible for the Champion Supreme award, a solo competitor must attend a minimum of 50% of PPBSO sanctioned Highland Games at which events for the applicable grade are offered.
- C-17.3 **Points.**

- (a) In a PPBSO-sanctioned Contest other than the North American Championships that has from one to ten competitors compete on the day, points shall be awarded as follows: 1st = 5 points; 2nd = 4 points; 3rd = 3 points; 4th = 2 points; 5th = 1 point.
- (b) In a PPBSO-sanctioned Contest other than the North American Championships, that has eleven or more competitors compete (including split contests), points shall be awarded as follows: 1st = 7.5 points; 2nd = 6 points; 3rd = 4.5 points; 4<sup>th</sup> = 3 points; 5<sup>th</sup> = 1.5 points.
- (c) For the North American Championships, the points shall be awarded as follows for all events: 1st = 10 points; 2nd = 8 points; 3rd = 6 points, 4<sup>th</sup>=4 points; 5<sup>th</sup> = 2 points.
- (d) In contests that have been split due to numbers playing, each portion of the grade receives equal treatment in being awarded points. In contests that have a qualifier and final competition, points will be awarded for only the final competition.

C-17.4 **Total points.** Points will be totaled from an individual's results in each category, which may be earned at different games. Solo piping light music will continue to consist of March, Strathspey & Reel, and Jig or Hornpipe and Jig, where applicable. Solo drumming music will consist of a March, or a March, Strathspey and Reel set, or Hornpipe and Jig, where applicable. Points will also be accumulated in Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Novice Piobaireachd events.

*[2002 AGM]*

C-17.5 **Award.** The Champion Supreme Award shall be given to the competitor in each grade and Piobaireachd category with the highest average. The average is determined by dividing the competitor's points for the season divided by the total number of games attended.. In the event of a tie, the Award shall be given to the competitor with the greater number of first places. In the event that a tie remains, multiple awards will be presented. *[Exec., 1994, 2002, 2009 AGM ]*

## PART D: RULES GOVERNING PIPE BAND COMPETITIONS

Except as adopted by a Branch of the Society for their own indoor Contests, the rules governing pipe band Competitions sanctioned by The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario are as printed in this Part and in Part B.

### **D-1. Membership and Band Rosters**

D-1.1 **Membership.** All bands must list all player names on a band roster and submit the roster to the PPBSO administrator. Only players on the submitted roster may compete with the band. All band members must be current members of The Pipers' and Pipe Band Society of Ontario or an officially recognized Affiliated Organization. An exemption of up to two Competitions (one time only) may be allowed for a band that has never been registered with the Society for competition, and in this case a band roster must accompany the entry form.

D-1.2 **Receipt of Memberships and Rosters.** Band rosters must be received by February 1st in any year. Any member who fails to renew his or her membership by May 1st in any year will be ineligible to compete with the band until after the first Champion Supreme games of that year. Juvenile band rosters must provide date of birth for juvenile age players. Proof of age may be requested. A player on a lower-grade band roster that is also designated “developmental” on a higher-grade band roster may be allowed to compete up to three designated contests with the higher-grade band, only as set out in Appendix 2. *[1991, 2007, 2009 Executive; 2000, 2008 AGM]*

D-1.3 **Grade Structure.** Pipe Bands shall be divided into the following grades:

- (a) Grade 1;
- (b) Grade2;
- (c) Grade 3;
- (d) Grade 4;
- (e) Grade 5;and *[2001 AGM]*
- (f) Juvenile *[2006 AGM]*

D-1.4 **Pipe Band Grading.**

- (a) Based on the pipe band rosters received in accordance with D-1.2, the Executive, as advised by the Music Board, shall notify any improperly graded pipe band of its proper grade by April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.
- (b) The notified pipe band shall be allowed four weeks to submit opposing arguments in writing to the Executive.
- (c) A final decision shall be made by the Executive and provided in writing to the affected pipe band by June 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. *[2000 AGM]*

D-1.5 **Grading Pipe Bands from Other Jurisdictions.**

(a) Pipe bands from other jurisdictions shall play in the same grades in which they play in their own jurisdictions. *[2000 AGM]*

**D-2. Transfers of Players Between Bands**

D-2.1 **Transfer Form.** Players transferring from one band to another must use the Society transfer form and obtain the signatures of both Pipe Majors unless specifically exempted by the Executive. Developmental players listed on two band rosters, subject to D-1.2 and Appendix 2, are not considered to be transferring bands.

D-2.2 **Transfers Prohibited.** A player may not transfer into a band where he or she has already competed with another band at a PPBSO-sanctioned contest during that competition season. However, a new member having no previous association with a band during that season can join in mid-season.

D-2.3 **Juvenile Bands.** Registered players may also join a juvenile band without having to transfer from the non-juvenile band, but then D-2.1 and D-2.2 apply to both bands.  
*[Executive 2007]*

D-2.4 **Amending Band Rosters.** Amended band rosters must be signed and dated by the Pipe Major or Band Manager and submitted to the PPBSO administrator. When a player has transferred from another band, D-2.1 applies and the transfer form must accompany the amended band roster. Players of eligible juvenile age on the roster of a Juvenile band may be on the roster of one non Juvenile band.  
*[Executive 2007, 2009]*

D-2.5 **Refusal to Release.** If a band refuses to release a member, the member may take his or her complaint to the Executive. The Executive may allow the member to transfer when satisfied that equipment disputes have been resolved. Disputes related to owed sums of money are not within the authority of the Executive to resolve.  
*[Executive, 1991, 1996]*

**D-3. Band Passes and Entries**

D-3.1 **Delivered in Advance.** In agreement with the Games Committee, band passes for each games entered shall be sent or delivered to the bands at least two weeks in advance of the event. *[1991 AGM]*

D-3.2 **Penalty for Withdrawal without Notice.** Bands that have entered to play at a contest and wish to withdraw must notify the Society at least 48 hours prior to the contest. Failure to do so, subject to discretion by the Executive, will result in a fine levied by the Society of \$200.00 and the band will not be permitted to compete again until the fine is paid in full. *[2001 AGM]*

**D-4. Competition Draws and Playing Times**

D-4.1 **Registration Before Draw.**

- (a) Each band must register with the PPBSO Office on the day of the Competition prior to or at the time of the 11:00 a.m. meeting. Failure to do so prohibits the band from playing. In special circumstances, the Chief Steward may, at his or her discretion, allow such a band to play first in the Competition, provided that the order of play or the playing times of the other bands are not changed from those drawn.
- (b) Bands requesting to play first in any contest must request to do so prior to the 11:00 a.m. meeting and will be considered subject to the discretion of the Executive, otherwise rule D-4.1 (a) applies. *[2001 AGM]*

D-4.2 **Draw for Position and Playing Time.** Draw for position and approximate playing time will normally take place at the PPBSO Office approximately one week before the games and will be announced at 11:00 a.m. on the day of the games. The draw for position and approximate playing time for Champion Supreme Games shall be made at least two weeks prior to the Contest and be announced at 11:00 a.m.. For Contests where bands play twice, the draw for each Contest shall be the same, and shall be drawn at least two weeks in advance of the Contest, and be posted on the PPBSO website. *[1988, 1994, 2001, 2004 AGMs]*

D-4.3 **Competition Start Time.** Competitions usually start around 1:30 p.m., immediately after the first massed bands. Champion Supreme Competitions usually start one half hour after the first massed bands.

D-4.4 **Competition Order.** At all games, unless otherwise requested by the games committee, the order of competitions in each competition circle will be from the lowest grade band to the highest grade band in that circle. *[2001 AGM]*

**D-5. Massed Bands**

D-5.1 **Requirement to Play in Massed Bands.** As a condition for receiving expense money, all bands must take part in both massed band performances at approximately 1:00 p.m. and at the conclusion of the Competitions, unless exempted as specified below.

D-5.2 **Exemption.** The first two bands to play in each competition circle will normally be excused by the Society from the first massed bands. At designated Champion Supreme Contests, the first three bands will normally be excused by the Society from the first massed bands. *[1994, 1996]*

D-5.3 **Minimum Number of Players.** For first massed bands only, each band is required to field at least the minimum numbers of players required to compete within their particular grade. *[1993 AGM]*

D-5.4 **Massed Band Drum Majors.** Drum majors responsible for massed bands at PPBSO sanctioned Games must be pre-qualified by the PPBSO. *[2004]*

**D-6. Minimum Numbers of Players**

D-6.1 **Minimums.** At pipe band Competitions, each band must meet the minimum player requirements as listed below.

D-6.2 **Grade 1. .**

Minimums for grade 1 are 8 pipers, 3 drummers, 1 bass and two tenors.  
*[2007 AGM]*

D-6.3 **Grade 2.**

(i) Minimums for Grade 2 are 6 pipers, 2 side drummers, and 1 bass .

(ii) Grade 2 pipe bands may add a higher grade piper as their Pipe Major only, in addition to the minimum 6 other pipers, provided that he or she is registered as their piping instructor.

(iii) Grade 2 pipe bands may add a higher grade drummer as their lead drummer only, in addition to the minimum 2 other side drummers, providing that he or she is registered as their drumming instructor.

(iv) Grade 2 pipe bands may add a higher-grade drummer as their lead tenor drummer only, providing that he or she is registered as their tenor-drumming instructor. The band must also field two other tenor drummers. *[1995, 2001, 2007, 2008 AGM]*

D-6.4 **Grade 3.**

(i) Minimums for Grade 3 are 5 pipers, 2 side drummers, 1 bass.

(ii) Grade 3 pipe bands may add a higher grade piper as their Pipe Major only, in addition to the minimum 5 other pipers, provided that he or she is registered as their piping instructor.

(iii) Grade 3 pipe bands may add a higher grade drummer as their lead drummer only, in addition to the minimum 2 other side drummers, providing that he or she is registered as their drumming instructor.

(iv) Grade 3 pipe bands may add a higher-grade tenor drummer as their lead tenor drummer only, providing that the player is registered as their tenor-drumming instructor. The band must also field one other tenor drummer. *[1992, 2008 AGM]*

D-6.5 **Grade 4.**

(i) Minimums for Grade 4 are 5 pipes, 2 side drummers, 1 bass. Grade 4 pipe bands may add a higher grade piper as their Pipe Major, or Pipe Sergeant only, in addition to the minimum 5 other pipers, provided that he or she is registered as their piping instructor.

(ii) Grade 4 pipe bands may add a higher grade drummer as their lead drummer only, in addition to the minimum 2 other side drummers, providing that he or she is registered as their drumming instructor.

(iv) Grade 4 pipe bands may add a higher grade tenor drummer as their lead tenor

drummer only, providing that the player is registered as their tenor-drumming instructor, The band must also field at least one other tenor drummer.

*[1992, 2006, 2008 AGM]*

**D-6.6 Grade 5.**

(i) Minimums for Grade 5 are 5 pipes, 2 side drummers, 1 bass.

(ii) Grade 5 pipe bands may add a higher grade piper as their Pipe Major, or Pipe Sergeant only, in addition to the minimum 5 other pipers, provided that he or she is registered as their piping instructor.

(iii) Grade 5 pipe bands may add a higher grade drummer as their lead drummer only, in addition to the minimum 2 other side drummers, providing that he or she is registered as their drumming instructor.

(iv) Grade 5 pipe bands may add a higher grade tenor drummer as their lead tenor drummer only, providing that the player is registered as their tenor drumming instructor. The band must also field at least one other tenor drummer.

*[2002 Executive, 2006, 2008 AGM]*

**D-6.7 Juvenile.**

(i) Minimums for Juvenile grade are 5 pipers, 2 side drummers, 1 bass, all of eligible juvenile age.

(ii) Juvenile bands may add a non-juvenile piper as Pipe Major in addition to the minimum 5 juvenile age pipers.

(iii) Juvenile bands may add a non-juvenile drummer as their lead drummer in addition to the minimum 2 juvenile age side drummers.

*[ 2006 AGM]*

**D-7. Substitute Bass Drummer**

**D-7.1 Procedure for Selection** In the event of a bass drummer being unable to compete with their band a temporary replacement can be found using the following guidelines in order:

(a) A player from within that band, and on the roster, can play the bass drum, provided the minimum numbers in rule D-6 are satisfied. .

(b) A bass drummer from the same organization, but in a lower grade, may replace the registered bass drummer.

(c) The names of all bass drummers in the same grade shall be submitted to a ballot, if they are so willing, and the bass drummer whose name is drawn must play in the place of the one being unable to compete.

*[2007 AGM]*

**D-8. Runners**

D-8.1 **Runners Required.** Each band must provide someone to co-ordinate their prompt arrival on the contest field.

**D-9. Final Tuning**

D-9.1 **Final Tuning Area.** The PPBSO shall establish a final tuning area which is clearly marked and supervised by a steward.

D-9.2 **Mandatory Use.** All bands are required to move through the final tuning area before moving to the competition area.

D-9.3 **Penalty For Breach.** Any band which competes without first moving all competitive players through the final tuning area shall be subject to the penalty of playing first at the next Contest in which it competes. *[1996, 2002 AGM]*

**D-10. Contest Performance**

D-10.1 The first band to compete will be advised as to the time it must be at the starting line in the Contest Arena; thereafter, it is the duty of each succeeding Band to move forward as directed by the Stewards, in accordance with the playing time provided.

D-10.2 Stewards may be provided as an aid to Bands, but they carry no responsibility for the non-attendance of any band in the contest arena.

D-10.3 The final responsibility rests with each Band to be at the starting line as and when required and any Band failing to do so and not complying with official instructions, is subject to immediate disqualification.

D-10.4 Bands will arrive at the starting line properly dressed, including headdress and come to a halt.

D-10.5 After halting at the start line, no Bandsperson will be allowed to withdraw.

*[2004 AGM]*

D-10.6 On a signal from the Ensemble Adjudicator, the Band will commence its performance on the command of the Pipe Major. *[2002 AGM]*

D-10.7 It will be the duty of the Adjudicator giving the signal to the Band, to ensure that the other Adjudicators are ready.

D-10.8 The playing field is marked with 3 concentric circles. The inner circle sets out the band position. The second circle defines the distance the judges stay back from the bands. The third circle defines the closest approach by spectators. Where physically possible, the band competition inner circle radius is to be 16 feet, and the next circle is to have a 6 foot larger radius, and the outside circle radius is have an 8 foot larger radius. *[2001, 2008 AGM]*

**D-11. Lateness**

- D-11.1 **Requirement to Arrive On Time.** Bands must arrive at the starting line for their Competition ready to play by their scheduled time, or their adjusted time as advised by Society Officials. *[1994]*
- D-11.2 **Up to Three Minutes.** A band that is up to three minutes late shall be penalized by having to play first at the next Contest in which it competes.
- D-11.3 **More Than Three Minutes.** A band more than three minutes late may be disqualified.
- D-11.4 **Time of Disqualification.** Any disqualification for lateness must be imposed before a band begins their performance. *[2001 AGM]*

**D-12. Tune Requirements**

- D-12.1 **Grade 1.** Grade 1 bands shall submit 2 sets, and 2 medleys of 5 to 8 minutes duration. *[2008 AGM]*
- D-12.2 **Grade 2.** Grade 2 bands shall submit 2 sets, and 1 medley of 4 to 7 minutes duration.
- D-12.3 **Grade 3.** Grade 3 bands shall submit 1 set, and 1 medley of 3 to 6 minutes duration. *[2009 AGM]*
- D-12.4 **Grade 4.** Grade 4 bands shall submit 1 medley of tunes of 3 to 5 minutes duration, and 1 march medley of tunes, played in quick time, of 2 minutes 45 seconds to 4 minutes 30 seconds duration. *[2000 AGM]*
- D-12.5 **Grade 5.** Grade 5 bands shall submit 1 march medley of tunes, played in quick time, of 2 minutes 45 seconds to 4 minutes 30 seconds duration. *[2002 Executive]*
- D-12.6 **Open Slow March and 6/8.** At designated games, an open slow march and 6/8 march contest may be offered. The minimum requirements are 2 parts slow march and 4 parts 6/8 march.
- D-12.7 **Juvenile.** At designated games, a Juvenile contest may be offered. Juvenile bands shall submit 1 march medley of tunes, played in quick time, of 3 minutes 45 seconds to 4 minutes 30 seconds duration. *[2005 AGM, 2006 AGM]*
- D-12.8 **Definition of Sets.** Each set shall consist of a 2/4 march, a strathspey and a reel. Each tune submitted in a set must be a minimum of four parts.
- D-12.9 **Definition of Medleys.**
- (d) A medley for Grade 3, 2 and 1 bands shall be defined as a minimum of four tune categories in the tunes comprising the selection of tunes. *[1992 AGM]*
  - (e) A march medley of tunes for Grade 4, 5 and Juvenile bands shall be defined as any number of tunes that by tradition are considered marches, (such as written in time signatures 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 9/8 and 12/8) played in quick time, and subject to the time duration defined in D-12.4. *[Executive, 2000]*

- D-12.10 **Tune List.** A list of all tunes comprising all sets and medleys must be submitted to the PPBSO Office prior to the draw. This list should include the name of each tune, its time signature and type, its composer and its publisher. Any change in the submitted tunes must be re-submitted to the PPBSO Office prior to the draw for playing position and time (11:00 a.m.) on the day of the contest.
- D-12.11 **Medley Time Limits.** Bands playing medleys of time duration other than listed may be disqualified. *[1994]*
- D-12.12 **Choice of Set or Medley Played.** Where a band is required to submit more than one set or medley, the choice of the set or medley to be played will be determined by draw at the starting line on the contest field.
- D-12.13 **No Duplication of Tunes.** Where a band is required to submit more than one set or medley, there shall be no duplication of tunes between or within the sets or medleys. *[1992 AGM]*

**D-13. Medley Contest Requirements**

- D-13.1 **Starting Position.** Except as pre-approved by the PPBSO, for medley Contests, excluding the march medley Contest for Grade 4, 5 and Juvenile bands, bands are not required to begin their performance at the starting line and may assume their final position before starting the Contest. *[2000, 2004 AGM]*
- D-13.2 **Music Director.** Each band may designate one member to act as Music Director during medley Contests. The designated Music Director shall perform no other function during the Contest.

**D-14. Leaving the Field after Competition**

- D-14.1 **Required to Leave Field.** Bands must leave the Contest field immediately upon completing their Contest selection and are prohibited from further playing on the Contest field until all Contests are completed, unless requested otherwise by the Chief Steward.

**D-15. Duty Band**

- D-15.1 **Draw.** The duty band for bass, tenor and drum major Contests will be drawn from all participating Grade 1 and 2 bands in rotation. *[1994]*

**D-16. Method of Determining Winning Positions in Contests**

- D-16.1 **Ranking Method.** Winning positions at all competitions shall be determined by a ranking method as follows:
- (i) Each Judge's preference will be ranked in order (1, 2, 3, 4 etc.);

(ii) The lowest total of all the ranking positions from piping, drumming and ensemble wins first place, second lowest wins second place, third lowest wins third place, and so on. *[2001, 2008 AGM]*

D-16.2 **More than One Performance.** When a competition is based on more than one performance, the point system will be used as in D-16.1 above, and winning positions will be based on the lowest total of ranking points from all performances. Ties are broken by lowest aggregate ensemble total. If a tie remains, it is broken by set ensemble. *[2001 AGM, Executive 2002]*

D-16.3 **Ties.** All band ties are broken by ensemble. If a tie remains, it is broken by piping. *[1994, 2001 AGMs]*

D-16.4 **Errors.** Where an error is made in the calculation of prizes, the Society shall ensure that all legitimately won prize monies are paid within 14 days of the event and seek to recover prizes and monies awarded in error. *[1990 AGM, 1996]*

### **D-17. Best Pipe Section**

D-17.1 **Award.** The best Pipe Section in each grade or category shall be determined by the combined scoring of the Piping Judges and be announced. *[2004 AGM]*

### **D-18. Best Drum Corps**

D-18.1 **Award.** The best Drum Corps in each grade or category shall be determined by the Drumming Judge and be announced. *[1996, 2001 AGMs]*

### **D-19. Best Bass Section**

D-19.1 **Award.** The best Bass Section in each grade shall be determined by collaboration between the Ensemble and Drumming Judges and be announced at each games. *[1994, 2004 AGM]*

### **D-20. March and Deportment**

D-20.1 **Judged.** Each competing band will be judged on dress, marching and general behaviour during the time that they are on the Contest field. When prizes have been provided by the Highland Games Committee, an announcement and an award shall be made. *[1996]*

### **D-21. Prizes and Travelling Expenses**

D-21.1 **Information.** The amount of prize money and travel money negotiated by the PPBSO may vary from games to games. Information and travel directions are available upon request from the PPBSO Games Secretary. *[1996]*

**D-22. Band Champion Supreme Awards**

- D-22.1 **Contest Titles.** The PPBSO will assign Championship titles including the North American, All Ontario, Canadian, and two other titles to five Champion Supreme Contests. *[1996 AGM]*
- D-22.2 **Award.** The Band Champion Supreme Award is given to the band in each grade or category with the highest average of Champion Supreme points as calculated in accordance with the Rules below. *[1996 AGM, 2009 Executive]*
- D-22.3 **Points.**
- (a) In a PPBSO-sanctioned Contest other than the North American Championships that has from one to five bands compete, points shall be awarded as follows:  
1st = 5 points; 2nd = 4 points; 3rd = 3 points; 4<sup>th</sup> = 2 points; 5<sup>th</sup> = 1 point.
  - (b) In a PPBSO-sanctioned Contest other than the North American Championships, that has six or more bands compete, a multiplier of 1.5 will apply to the structure defined in (a) above, and points shall be awarded as follows:  
1st = 7.5 points; 2nd = 6 points; 3rd = 4.5 points; 4<sup>th</sup> = 3 points; 5<sup>th</sup> = 1.5 points.
  - (c) For the North American Championships, a multiplier of 2 will apply to the structure defined in (a) above, and points shall be awarded as follows:  
1st = 10 points; 2nd = 8 points; 3rd = 6 points, 4<sup>th</sup>=4 points; 5<sup>th</sup> = 2 points.
  - (d) In contests that involve heats and a play-off, only the play-off event will be awarded points.
  - (e) Each band's points for the season will be added and divided by the number of games competed at to calculate an average over the season. The band with the highest average will be awarded the Champion Supreme designation for the grade. *[2003 AGM, 2009 Executive]*
- D-22.4 **Ties.** In the event of a tie for the highest total of Champion Supreme points, the band which has placed ahead of the other bands involved in the tie more often at Contests shall win the Award. If a tie remains, the band placing higher at the North American Championships shall win the Award.
- D-22.5 **Standings.** Band Champion Supreme standings shall be posted at each Highland Games. *[1995 AGM]*
- D-22.6 **Eligibility** – Only PPBSO registered bands, whose rosters are comprised of PPBSO members, will be awarded points for placing in events. To be eligible, a registered band must enter and compete at a minimum of 50% of PPBSO sanctioned Highland Games at which events for the applicable grade are offered. *[2003 AGM, 2009 Executive]*

## **Appendix 1 - Proper Highland Dress**

The following prescribes the dress code for competitors in events sanctioned by the PPBSO. Although all possible apparel cannot be covered in the description below, it is expected that the spirit of the definition will be followed at all times. Deviations will be considered, but must be approved a minimum of three weeks in advance of the applicable Highland Games by the PPBSO executive. Any such requests for deviation may be submitted with the band master entry form or directly to the PPBSO executive in writing. Minor deviations for individual pipers/drummers, due to obvious or documented medical conditions, do not require prior approval. Inverness capes are considered acceptable dress based on the prevailing weather conditions at the time of the event.

As a minimum, all competitors shall be attired in head dress, shirt, kilt, hose and shoes. Acceptable items of apparel include the following:

Head Dress: Feather bonnet, Glengarry, or balmoral

Shirt: Collared shirt. More formal dress may include a military-style doublet (for which a shirt will not apply, Prince Charlie-style jacket, police/military-style jacket or vest. Tie is optional, but encouraged.

Kilt: Kilt (with sporran) or highland trews.

Hose: Knee-length hose (not applicable to trews)

Shoes: Oxford-style dress shoes or ghillie brogues.

## Appendix 2 - Developmental or “Call-Up” Players

As permitted by rule D-1.2, a player on a lower-grade band roster that is also designated “developmental” on a higher-grade band roster may be allowed to compete up to three designated contests with the higher-grade band, only as set out below:

1. Notification that a developmental player is to compete at a particular contest or contests (also referred to as “call-up”) must be in writing in the form of a letter, fax or e-mail.
2. The Notification must be signed by the Pipe Major, or the Drum Sergeant, or the Band Manager.
3. The Notification must be filed with the PPBSO administrator no less than 72 hours prior to the contest.
4. Once the Notification (“call-up”) is filed, the player is deemed to have played, regardless of whether the player actually plays or not.
5. The lower-grade and higher-grade bands must be in the same organization, or must jointly acknowledge that a formal player development arrangement exists between the two bands.
6. A developmental player for which a notification is received (“call-up” player) cannot compete in the lower-grade band and the higher-grade band on the same day.
7. From lowest to highest, band grading is grade 5, grade 4, grade 3, grade 2 and grade 1.
8. The higher-grade band must satisfy minimum numbers without counting the developmental (“call-up”) player.
9. Rule D-1.2 only applies to developmental players that are PPBSO members playing in PPBSO registered bands.