



Guidance for Pipe Band Contest Promoters

Pipe Bands Queensland (PBQ) is keen to enter into partnerships with event promoters to enable them to incorporate a Pipe Band competition into their event.

Our Full Band contest season stretches from late March to the end of August (although August is often problematic due to the absence of key people at the contest season in Scotland). Outside of these times we will endorse Mini Band and Solo contests, but not Full Band contests. You need to keep this in mind when choosing your date. We will need to approve the date and may make suggestions to you to take account of proximity to other contests, public holidays, etc. The contest will take at least 5 hours to run.

PBQ will control all elements of the actual competition including:

- Movement of Bands across all parts of the contest area
- Starting and finishing times of all Band performances
- Conduct of a “massed band” event at the end of the contest

PBQ reserves the right to alter timings and sequences from the planned schedule to cater for emerging situations, including weather.

We ask the promoter to provide:

- A suitable area free from cross traffic and other disturbances. Generally an area of at least 40m by 40m will be required for the actual contest, as well as separate tuning and fine tuning areas some distance away. We will mark the ground and also drive in a number of posts to mark the contest area. We will need to visit the site with you and assess its suitability.
- Tents to shelter PBQ officials from sun and rain, chairs and tables for the officials.
- Morning and/or afternoon tea for officials plus lunch if it is a full day contest.
- Water available at all times for officials.
- Public address system for announcement of results, etc
- 240v Power for computer to record results
- Prizes which can include money and/or certificates and/or trophies. Sample schedules of prizemoney will be provided when you apply for a contest.

If requested, PBQ may be able to arrange some of the above for you but we cannot guarantee this. If you would like us to provide any of these, we need to know at least a month prior to the contest so that we can give you a quote for the cost.

The minimum number of officials required are as follows and they will be appointed and provided by PBQ:

- Two piping judges
- Two drumming judges
- One Dress/Drill judge
- One Contest Supervisor
- One Recorder
- One Chief Marshall

Note: If a promoting organisation has a suitably experienced person within their own ranks who can fill the role of Recorder or Chief Marshall, they should, when applying for the contest, state the name(s) of those person(s) and PBQ may approve or not approve them filling those roles for the contest.

A full day fee for each of these is \$160, plus those coming from some distance away can claim

petrol costs. If the contest is a half day one (finishes before noon or starts after noon), the fee for each official is \$80. In larger contests, or if the contest is staged as a state championship the number of judges will increase. If judges are brought in from interstate or overseas at your request you will need to meet the cost of their travel and accommodation. In some cases where sufficient Queensland judges are not available, PBQ may be able to assist with these costs.

You will need make provision to pay the officials yourself, either by cheque on the day or by bank transfer immediately afterwards. We will provide you with their personal details to facilitate this.

There are four Band Grades and normally the contest will include all four and preferable also a Juvenile contest, but for smaller contests Grades 1 and 2 can be combined into an "Open" event. An option is to conduct the contest as a Mini Band Contest. We would need to discuss this with you.

PNQ will provide a subsidy of three judge days (or three half days for a half day contest) which will be paid after the contest.

You will need to provide two or three marshals/runners and a timekeeper. We can instruct them what to do on the day.

PBQ can do the following for you

- prepare and send out the entry forms
- receive entry forms and fees (to be paid over to you in bulk before the contest)
- do the contest draw and draft the schedule for the day (subject to your approval)
- advise the bands of the draw etc
- prepare a simple monochrome program to be handed out on the day on white 80gsm paper containing your logo and the details of the contest

You can do some or all those things yourself if you like but we will have to check entry forms before they go out, approve the draw and schedule, program, etc. Either way we need to co-ordinate with you, especially in the last few weeks before the contest. If we incur postage, copying etc expenses, we will charge you for those. We will prepare you an estimate of these costs beforehand.

If possible, we would like you to consider including solo competitions in the event. Usually this is done by having the solos in the morning with the Bands starting about lunchtime. If you decide to do this, we will need to have further discussions with you about the details.

Application for a contest. Please apply in writing to either PO Box 1328 COORPAROO DC QLD 4151 or to secretary@pipebandsqld.org. You can call us beforehand to discuss your intentions on 07 3103 2574.

Current at 5 December 2013