



**BAND  
ASSOCIATION  
OF NSW INC**

**BY-LAWS**

*As amended 8th, October 2017*

**1.** *(Amended 9/10/11)* All interpretations are as stated in the Constitution of the Band Association of New South Wales Incorporated.

**1a Brass Bands**

Instrumentation of brass bands shall comprise -standard brass band instruments. However, where the brass band score indicates EEb or BBb bass tubas, a bass tuba of ANY pitch may be used.

**1b Concert Bands**

Instrumentation of brass, woodwind, reed & percussion and any other scored instrument. An electric bass may be substituted for a tuba or string bass part.

**2. Band Registrations**

**2a** For annual registration renewals the Association Secretary will forward to the Secretary of each member band a list of all currently registered members prior to December 31 each year. Each member band Secretary shall return the list to the Association Secretary with confirmation of member's registration for the following year, together with the appropriate fee. The band Secretary should notify the Association Secretary of any changes to membership during the year. At any other time a member Band Secretary may make application for membership for any new band member by notifying the Association Secretary using the prescribed form together with the appropriate fee. Once any such application is confirmed, the date of registration shall be accepted as the date on which the application was received. The Association may refuse to accept any application for membership.

**2b** *(Amended 8/10/17)*

A member may be registered with one Brass Band, one Concert Band, one School Band and one NSW Department of Education Student Representative Band, or equivalent, *as described in By-Law 18c.*

**2c** *(Amended 8/10/2017)* A member may register as a Musical Director with multiple bands across all categories. Registration as a Musical Director does not allow the person to play an instrument of any kind with any band under this registration class at any contest.

If a Musical Director wishes to play an instrument with a band at any State Band Championships or enter solo and party events at the Solo and Party Championships or play at any other championships held under these By-laws they must also register as a player with a band in terms of By-law 2B.

**2d** A person joining a band as a new member (or by transfer) must remain with that band for at least 6 months. He/she shall not be permitted to register with the band he/she was immediately previously registered with until the expiration of a period of 18 months from that date of his last registration or at the discretion of the Committee. Transfers shall not be allowed to any competing bands within 6 weeks prior to a contest within this State.

**2e** *(Amended 7/3/10)*

No member shall be permitted to transfer to another Associated Band while there is equipment or unpaid moneys outstanding with their previous Band.

Any member found in breach of this rule will be deemed ineligible to compete in any competition requiring registration with the Band Association of NSW until all outstanding equipment is returned and money repaid.

The Registrar shall notify a player's previous Band whenever a transfer occurs.

**3. Engagements** Deleted.

## **4. Awards**

**4a** Life Membership of the Band Association of New South Wales is the ultimate award that may be bestowed upon an individual member. This honour may be granted to any member of the band movement of New South Wales who, in the opinion of the Committee, has given outstanding service to the Band Association of New South Wales. Life Members, after retirement as a member, may attend any meetings, general or committee, and if invited join in any discussion but shall not be entitled to a vote. They shall have the right of attendance for two persons at the invitation of the Committee to any contest or function that the Association may promote. The award of Life Membership is to be presented by the President of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. at a premier Association function. Life Members will be recorded in the Register of Life Members. A suitable badge with name and year of induction inscribed thereon will be issued together with a certificate.

Nomination for Life Membership shall be submitted to the Association Secretary together with supporting evidence to assist in the decision of bestowing this honour on a member.

**4b** (Amended 8/10/2017) An Award of Merit may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee on its own initiative, or by application from a member band or Branch, for particular service rendered to the movement. The number of awards to any one band or branch in any one year is to be unrestricted. The Award of Merit is to be presented by an office bearer of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. at a Band Association function.

**4c** (Amended 8/10/2017) A Long Service Award may be awarded by the Committee or on application from registered bands or branches. A badge will be awarded after ten (10) years unbroken service with one registered band or fifteen (15) years as a person registered with the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. Following that, Long Service Awards are available for 20, 30, 40 & 50 years. The fee for these awards, payable by the nominating band or branch, shall be as determined and published by the Management Committee annually or as required. The presentation of the award to be at the discretion of the nominating band or branch, preferably at an annual function or auspicious occasion or meeting of that band or branch, in order to maintain its distinction.

**4d** A Certificate of Exemplary Service may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. for exemplary service to the Band Association and the band movement of New South Wales. This award may only be presented by a Committee Member of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. at an Association function.

## **5. Misconduct**

**5a** (Amended 9/10/11) Any misconduct or improper action of a member of an associated band, if reported to the Association, may be investigated by the Committee and if proved, the band in question may be required to deal with the offender as the Committee may direct or in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc.

**5b** (Amended 2/3/2008, 9/10/11)

Any Band or Individual found to have disregarded or violated the Constitution of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc, By Laws, Contest Rules or Published Minutes of the Association shall be liable to a fine, Expulsion or Suspension and Disqualification from the contest where the violation occurred along with the removal of any Championship awards received as a result of this action as may be determined by the Management Committee.

**5c** Deleted

**5d** (Amended 9/10/11) Any members who shall at any meeting of the Association use profane or objectionable language, or refuse to obey the commands of the Chair when called to order, or use disrespectful expression towards any member of the Association, may be suspended by the Chair and, if such conduct be persisted in, the Band he represents may be required to appoint another delegate in their stead. Members of the Association, may be expelled from that meeting by the Chair. If such conduct persists at any time thereafter, the member/s will be suspended and dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc.

## **6. Procedure for Meetings**

**6a** Deleted

**6b** (Amended 9/10/11) In the conduct of meetings the Chairman will be guided by *Joske's Law and Procedure At Meetings In Australia 7th Edition*, in matters not clarified by the Constitution of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc.

## **CONTEST BY-LAWS**

### **7. Drill Advisory Sub-Committee**

A Drill Advisory Sub-Committee shall be constituted of three (3) registered members of the Band Association of NSW Inc. who shall be elected by the Members at the annual general meeting.

Any vacancy on the Drill Advisory Sub-Committee shall be filled, if practicable, at the first general meeting of the Association held subsequent to the announcement of the vacancy.

The function of the Sub-Committee shall be to advise the general committee in connection with any matter which may be sent on to the Sub-Committee for inquiry.

A member of the Drill Advisory Sub-Committee, who is not a member of the Association, shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Committee, but shall not speak there at, except on matters affecting the Drill Advisory Sub-Committee, except with permission of the Chair.

## **8. Music Selection Panel**

A Music Selection Sub-Committee shall be convened and meet as necessary to select suitable music for any contest organised by the Association. A report will be prepared, with recommendations, by the Chair of the sub-committee to the Committee for approval and implementation. Membership of the sub-committee may be drawn from anybody who is not a member of the Association, but who is well experienced in the selection of music for contest.

## **9. Musical Directors (Amended 3rd June 2007)**

**9a** A Musical Director shall not conduct a band in a contest unless registered with that band for a period of at least 6 weeks prior to the contest except by permission of the Committee.

**9b** Musical Director shall mean and include Conductor, Band Master, and Coach.

## **10. Drum Majors**

A Drum Major shall not lead a band in a contest unless registered with that band for a period of not less than 6 weeks prior to the date of the contest except by permission of the Committee.

## **11. Registrations for Contests**

**11a** Each member of a band must be registered with their band for at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the contest in which the band participates.

**11a** Deleted.

## **12. Classification of Bands**

The Committee may classify or reclassify any registered band at any time. Bands shall be classified in the following categories:

- Senior Brass
- Junior Brass
- Senior Concert
- Junior Concert

A band may only compete in its registered category i.e. Brass or Concert (except school bands).

## **13. Gradings**

*For junior and senior, brass as well as concert bands.*

**13a** At all State Championship Contests, events shall be scheduled for the following grades;

- For open grade (both brass and concert bands) A, B, C and D
- For junior grades (both brass and concert bands) A, B and C

**13b** Band gradings shall be reviewed by a meeting of the Band Grading Sub-Committee at the first opportunity following the state contest. A report will be prepared, with recommendations, by the chair of the sub-committee to the committee for approval and implementation. Bands regraded shall be immediately notified in writing by the Secretary, to take effect immediately. Bands wishing to appeal against such gradings shall do so in writing within 30 days to the Secretary. Bands may be regraded at any other time by the committee, as required.

## **14. Contest Supervisors**

**14a (Amended 9/10/11)** One or more supervisors from the Association shall be present at every contest within the State to assist in its control and to ensure that it is carried out in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Band Association of New South Wales Inc.. Such supervisors shall be members of any committee which may decide on any dispute(s) or protests in connection with the Contest concerned.

### **14b Duties of Contest Supervisors**

Supervisor(s) appointed to represent the Band Association of N.S.W. Inc. at a contest shall perform the following duties:

- Supervisor(s) shall be punctual in attendance at each and every session of the contest.
- Supervisor(s) shall attend the drawing for the order of playing.
- Supervisor(s) shall check each member in a band with the official register on all occasions during the Contest.
- Supervisor(s) shall see that each band takes its place in accordance with the drawing for order of playing.
- Supervisor(s) shall be the sole persons to have communication with the adjudicator of music while engaged as such.
- Supervisor(s) shall examine all music intended for the Adjudicator's use, see that no names or marks by which a band or player may be identified appear thereon, and that all bars of music are numbered.

- Supervisor(s) shall be present at the opening of the envelopes containing the Adjudicator's marks and shall check the number and names on the envelopes with the number drawn by each band. They shall also see that the points awarded by the adjudicators are properly credited to each Band.
- Supervisor(s) shall direct the attention of the Adjudicators to the maximum points to be allotted in all sections of the contest.
- Supervisor(s) shall submit a report in writing to the first meeting of the Association following the contest and make any suggestions they may consider beneficial to the interests of the Association or to the promoters of the contest. A copy of this report shall be forwarded to the promoters.
- Any matter relative to any band taking part in any contest shall be referred to the Association or its contest supervisor(s) at such contest before any action shall be taken.
- Supervisor(s) shall inspect and approve all arrangements for the conduct of the competitions.
- For solo & party contests the hall announcer may act as supervisor for that particular hall with an overall supervisor for the whole contest.

## **15. Adjudicators**

**15a** The music adjudicators shall be screened to the satisfaction of the contest supervisor, so as not to be able to see any part of the contest which is taking place. Bands competing shall be identified by number only and all music intended for adjudicators use shall not bear any mark, sign or imprint which might indicate any band or person. No written matter, programs or literature relating to the contest may be in the adjudicator's area.

**15b** The adjudicator's enclosure shall be placed not less than ten (10) metres from the contest platform.

**15c** No signal, by any means whatever, shall be given immediately before, during or after any selection and no one, other than the contest supervisor, writer or adjudicator's assistant appointed or approved by the supervisor, shall be permitted to communicate with the adjudicator whilst the section of the contest in which the adjudicator is concerned is proceeding or until such time that the results of the section of the contest in which the adjudicator is concerned have been handed to the contest supervisor.

**15d** The music adjudicator shall enter the number of points in figures and words on the official adjudication form at the conclusion of each section and place such forms into the care of the contest supervisor at the earliest opportunity.

**15e** In order that the relative merits of bands may be determined, adjudicator(s) must in all contests, including those at which bands of more than one grade are competing, judge all bands from the same criteria, and in "own choice selection" and "test selection" the maximum number of points shall be 100. The maximum number of points for the hymn contest shall be 50.

In a contest the adjudicator shall be required to allot points & place in order of merit the first three place getters so as to avoid a tie. Where a panel of more than one (1) adjudicator is used, each adjudicator shall make his own comments and award his own points which shall be announced collectively.

## **16. Contest General**

**16a** All State and Branch contests, both solos and band, shall be conducted under the Band Association of New South Wales Inc. Bylaws.

**16b** The N.S.W. State Championship shall be held once in each calendar year and in general shall comprise one (1) test selection and one (1) own choice selection for each grade of brass and concert band including junior grades. Additional items may be included as determined by the Committee.

**16c** Suitable indoor facilities must be provided to meet the approval of the Committee.

**16d** Contests may be held in different centres of the State at places and dates to be sanctioned by the Committee. At least three months notice must be given with syllabus prior to the date of the contest. At such contests the only bands which may compete are:

- Bands within the State which have been affiliated with the Band Association of N.S.W. for six weeks prior to the date of the contest.
- Bands from other States, provided however that, where another kindred Association is in existence, no band from that State may compete unless affiliated with such Association for the period of registration required by that State.

**16e** At all Band Championships held within this State, music scores must accompany all entries which are to be lodged with the relevant Contest Secretary. Final registration coupons for all contests must be in the hands of the Association Secretary six (6) weeks before any contest.

**16f** All perpetual trophies held by bands pertaining to any particular contest must be returned to the Association Secretary six (6) weeks prior to the contest.

**16g** (Amended 8/10/2017) Any band, having entered any contest, intending to withdraw from that contest must provide a notice and explanation of this withdrawal to the Management Committee or Contest Organising Committee at least two weeks prior to the start of the contest to allow the Organising Committee time to make appropriate alterations to the event. Upon withdrawal, any entry fee is automatically forfeited.

**16h** The conditions of all contests must be approved by the Committee. In all contests conducted in N.S.W. the adjudicators shall be approved and appointed by the Committee upon recommendation by the Contest Sub-Committee.

**16i** One or more Supervisors from the Association shall be present at every Contest within the State. The promoters of such contests shall pay the expenses of the contest supervisor(s) -who shall be allowed first class travelling expenses and hotel/motel accommodation.

**16j** Adjudicator's fees and expenses are to be arranged and paid by the promoters of contests.

**16k** The organising body conducting a State Championship shall forward to all bands the contest schedule showing details of all events, concise contesting rules and music titles, not less than three (3) months before such contest.

## **17. Management of Contests**

**17a** No competing band or band member shall be allowed to practice or play in any building or grounds within hearing range of the contest venue.

**17b** Bands shall hold themselves in readiness for competition at the time and place appointed and shall adhere to the official programme timetable.

**17c** Bands shall appear in full uniform or, if not possessed of uniform, wearing distinguishing badges. Such uniform or badges shall be worn whilst playing in all items, except that hats or caps may be removed providing that the whole band does so. No musical director shall be permitted to conduct a band at a contest unless they wear a band uniform or dress of a similar standard.

**17d** Immediately prior to the commencement of the contest the Secretary or Musical Director of each competing band shall sign a declaration certifying that each player is a registered member of their band and that any permit players have been authorised by the Band Association. The Band Association reserves the right to conduct a signature check of participating players at any time.

**17e** Any infringement of bylaws 17 a.b.c or d, will incur a penalty as determined by the Contest Sub-committee.

## **18. Contest Rules, Definitions**

### **18a Junior Grades** (Amended 9/10/11)

For the purpose of these By-laws, a junior is a person who, at the date of the competition, is not yet nineteen (19) years of age.

### **18b School Bands** (Amended 7/3/10)

School Bands shall be wholly constituted of students of one particular school and be known as the \_\_\_\_\_ School Band. On registering with the Association, School Bands must satisfy BY-Laws 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d. In addition, a certification from the Principal stating that each Band Member is a current student of that School must be provided.

Where a definite affiliation between two schools can be proven to the satisfaction of the Management Committee, these schools may be accepted as a single entity for the purpose of Banding.

### **18c Student Representative Bands** (Amended 7/3/10)

A NSW Department of Education Student Representative Band, or equivalent, shall be wholly constituted of Students of the NSW Department of Education, or equivalent. On registering with the Association, Student Representative Bands must satisfy By-Laws 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d. In addition, a certification from the appropriate Department Head, or equivalent, that each Band Member is a current student of the NSW Department of Education, or equivalent, must be provided.

### **18d** (Amended 7/3/10)

New student Band Members, registering with School or Student Representative Bands during the year, shall be eligible for immediate competition with those Bands.

## **19. Number of Players for Contests**

**19a** The number of players in a brass band (senior grades) in State or Branch contests shall not exceed thirty four (34) or be less than sixteen (16) brass instrumentalists plus percussion as per the score.

**19b** The number of players in a concert band, (Junior and Senior) in any contest shall not exceed seventy (70) or be less than twenty (20) concert instrumentalists plus percussion as per the score except that at Branch contests a lower number may be accepted by the organiser.

**19c** The number of players in a junior brass band in any contest shall not exceed forty (40) or be less than sixteen (16) brass instrumentalists plus percussion as per the score.

## **20. General Contest Rules**

**20a** For the purposes of contesting in an open grade, a junior band, formed within and from members of the one senior registered band, shall be permitted their own open grading. The normal permit players will be allowed from within the ranks of the parent senior band or from other bands as permitted under the permits rule.

**20b** Where a Band has sufficient junior playing members, these members shall be allowed to compete as a junior band in a junior contest. The age of such playing members shall appear on the registration sheet of the senior band.

**20c** Bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during a contest provided that such alterations are made from registered members of the band.

**20d** Any band with sufficient members to contest 2 or more bands in a senior grade must register each band as a separate unit. However the junior component from the band may be drawn from the overall registration of both senior bands.

## **21. Music**

**21a** A senior band winning an item in a State or National contest shall not, after a period of three (3) months from the date of such contest, play the same music at any succeeding contest as an own choice selection until after the expiration of two (2) years from the date of such contest.

**21b** A junior band winning an item in a State or National contest shall not, after a period of six (6) months from the date of such contest, play the same music at any succeeding contest as an own choice selection until after the expiration of two (2) years from the date of such contest.

**21c** No band playing in more than one grade at any contest shall be permitted to play any item more than once at such contest, except where a junior band may be permitted to play their own choice selection in a senior grade.

## **22. Permits**

**22a** In the case of State Championships and Branch contests the following rules shall apply; Final registration coupons shall be in the hands of the Secretary of the Band Association 6 weeks before the contest date. Permit players shall be allowed as follows: A & B grade Brass bands-2 wind permit players plus percussion as per score. C & D grade Brass bands -3 wind permit players plus percussion as per score. Concert Bands, A.B.C. and D grades shall be allowed 4 wind permit players plus percussion as per score.

*2nd paragraph amended 2nd March 2008*

Applications for permit players shall be made in writing to the Association Secretary and are to be received no later than 14 days prior to the commencement date of the State contest.

**22b** All permit players shall play in the uniform of the Band with which they are registered or the band with which they are a permit player.

**22c** A permit player must be a bona fide registered playing member of a band that is affiliated to their State or National Governing body or a registered unattached player and shall be allowed to play an alternative instrument to the one normally played with their own band.

*Amended 1st June 2008*

**22d** In the case of death or extreme emergency at any time after the granting of allowable permits and prior to or during the currency of any contest, special permission may be granted by the Contest Supervisor(s) to replace such players. Any Application must be made in writing and be accompanied by a duly signed statutory Declaration by the conductor and one other responsible office bearer of the band. The statutory declaration must clearly state the reasons for the application and that the application is made due to a sudden unexpected and unforeseen medical or the like emergency which has arisen after the closing date for allowable permits. The replacement player must come from a band competing at the same championships.

**22e** Deleted.

## **23. Results**

**23a** Championship certificates shall be awarded to each of the band grade winners.

**23b** In the event of 2 or more bands obtaining the same number of aggregate championship points, the championship and trophies shall be awarded to the band gaining the highest number of points in the test selection or the first selection if two (2) own choice selections are played.

**23c** In the event of 2 or more bands in the diagram/street march obtaining the same number of points for 1st prize, the trophy or trophies shall be awarded to the Band gaining the highest number of points in drill and inspection.

## **24. Solo and Party Competitions**

**24a** The N.S.W. Solo and Party contest shall be held once in each calendar year. Music shall be test or own choice as determined by the Committee on the recommendation of the Music Selection Sub-committee.

**24b** At all State Championship contests, solo & ensemble competitions will be scheduled for all instruments for open, junior and juvenile age groups.

**24c** A soloist winning a State or National contest shall not, after a period of twenty eight (28) days, play the same music at any contest as own choice until after the expiration of two (2) years after the commencing date of the said contest.

**24d** Each entrant shall state on their entry form the name of the band of which they are a registered playing member or the State or National Governing body with which they are registered if they are registered as unattached, and no person shall be eligible to play in solo/party competition unless they have been registered for a period of six (6) weeks prior to the date of the competition.

**24e** (*Amended 16/6/13*) Competitors in Party Competition shall consist only of registered members of the same Band. If a Band has multiple entries in a Party event, it may not include any member in more than one party. No permit players shall be allowed in party events.

Where a Band satisfies the requirements of By-law 20d, participants in duet, trio, quartet and ensemble competitions may be drawn from the overall registration of those Bands.

**24f** A player holding dual registration and playing two (2) different brass instruments (eg. cornet, trumpet) may compete in each instrument Solo Event, providing they wear the correct uniform of their registered band. If they be successful in each event, they shall only compete once (the instrument of their choice) in the Champion of Champions.

A player holding dual registration and playing woodwind and brass instruments (eg. flute, cornet) may compete in each instrument solo event, providing they wear the correct uniform of their registered band. If they be successful in each event they shall compete in each of the woodwind and brass Champion of Champions.

A player may only compete once in each party event (eg. duet -trio -quartet -ensemble) and wearing the uniform of the band he/she represents.

(*Amendment 10/10/10*) A school student holding dual registration in a School Band and a Student Representative Band may compete in a solo event under one registration only (their choice) provided that they wear the correct uniform of the nominated band.

**24g** (*Deleted 8/10/2017*).

**24h** Competitors in solo, duet and trio competitions shall not be allowed the services of a conductor during the performance but competitors in quartets and ensembles shall be allowed the service of their own band conductor or a registered member of their own band.

**24i** The winner of a solo contest will be awarded a championship certificate and will compete in the Champion of Champions event.

**24j** Percussion players may compete in any one or all of percussion events. A champion percussionist shall be determined by allotting:5 points for 1st place in each event.3 points for 2nd place in each event.2 points for 3rd place in each event.1 point for completing each event. The contestant that accumulates the highest number of points shall be the champion percussionist (open and junior sections only).

**24k** A junior is a person who, at the date of the competition, is not yet 19 years of age. A juvenile is a person who at the date of the competition, is not yet 15 years of age.

**24l** At all solo & party competitions the maximum number of points will be 100.

**24m** In a competition the adjudicator shall be required to allot points & place in order of merit the first three place getters so as to avoid a tie.

**24n Championship Certificates** shall be awarded to first, second and third place getters in each section on the contest schedule.

**24o** In any solo competition, competitors may (at their cost) use an accompanist other than the official accompanist, provided that by doing so, the order of playing is not altered after the commencement of that competition. The official accompanist shall be used in the case where a competitor's chosen accompanist is not available at that competitor's starting time.

**24p** (*Amended 3rd June 2007*) No soloist will be permitted to play the same piece of music more than once at a State Solo Contest except in the Champion of Champions."

**24q** (*Amended 16/6/13*) At NSW State Solo Championships, regardless of the soloists band type,  
- any event for trumpet shall include Bb and C trumpets.  
- tuba/bass events will be High Tuba which will include Eb and F tubas/basses, and Low Tuba which will include Bb and C tubas/basses. A tuba of any pitch may be used in duets and other party events.

**25.** *Deleted 19<sup>th</sup> June 2011*

**26. Protests** (*Amended 2nd March 2008 by being renumbered as By-Law 26 from By-Law 25*)

**26a** The protest committee shall consist of the contest supervisor(s) and members of the Committee present at the contest,

**26b** If, in the opinion of the contest supervisor(s), a band or any of its members is not eligible to compete, the contest supervisor(s) shall direct that the adjudicators' decision on such bands performance be reserved in a sealed condition. Should a protest be subsequently upheld, the award is not to be disclosed.

**26c** (*Amended 9/10/11*) To avoid confusion and secure unanimity of action, all Musical Directors/Drum Majors shall take their instructions as to the disposition of bands etc from the contest supervisor (or their representative) but each band shall be under the direct control of its own officers, who shall be held responsible for the order and subordination of their respective bands. Any breach of the contest rules or insubordination may subject bands to disqualification or fine. Any appeal shall be dealt with by the Association in accordance with the

provisions of clause (K) of this By-law. In case of misconduct on the part of any member of the band at any time from the commencement to the close of the contest, the Association may withhold the prize won by such band, in order that it may inflict punishment by fine or otherwise, subject only to a similar right of appeal as herein before provided.

**26d** (*Amended 9/10/11*) When considering protests, the protest committee shall deal with the facts only and must accept as correct the interpretation of the contest rules as laid down by the contest supervisors.

**26e** When a protest is under consideration, any member of the protest committee connected directly or indirectly with a band whose position in the prize list may be affected by the decision of such protest shall temporarily cease to be a member of the protest committee and shall not be eligible to take part in the proceedings relative to such protest nor to attend any meetings as a member of the committee while such protest is being considered.

**26f** Any protest against a band/party or soloist must be lodged with the protest committee not later than 15 minutes after the decision of the adjudicator has been announced. Should a trophy/prize be awarded before the expiration of the 15 minutes allowed after the award has been announced and the protest subsequently upheld, the recipient of such prize or trophy must return to the contest supervisor any such trophy/prize which has been awarded.

**26g** Protest fee payable by a party lodging a protest shall be:-\$25.00 for a protest against a band, party or soloist. Should the protest committee declare any protest unwarranted, it may order the whole or any portion of such fee to be forfeited and fee so forfeited shall become the property of the Association. No fee shall be lodged by the Secretary of the Association or contest supervisor.

**26h** When a band/party/soloist has been disqualified, the prizes gained by each band/party/soloist shall be awarded to the next in order of merit and the protest committee shall extend the time for receiving protests against a band/party/soloist, which by virtue of such disqualification comes into the prize list for the first time, for a term reasonably sufficient to enable a protest to be lodged by any band or person entitled to do so.

**26i** In the event of a fine being imposed by the protest committee for any breach of contest rules or conditions, the amount of such fine, when paid, shall become the property of the association.

**26j** When the protest committee is considering a protest those entitled to be present and take part in the proceedings shall be:-  
(i) The party who lodged the protest and (ii) two representatives of a band against whom a protest has been lodged or one representative of a party/soloist against whom a protest has been lodged. Any of such parties shall be entitled to produce oral or documentary evidence in support of their case and to examine and cross-examine witnesses.

**26k** (*Amended 9/10/11*) The protest committee shall decide any protest and, should such protest be upheld, may disqualify or fine the band/party/soloist against whom the protest was lodged. Any person aggrieved may appeal to the committee of the band association against such decision, but otherwise the decision shall be final and conclusive.

All appeals shall be dealt with as early as practicable and the association shall be entitled to call for the production of all evidence or papers considered by the protest committee or to examine or re-examine witnesses. The decision of the association upon such appeal shall be final and conclusive and shall not be subject to appeal or reconsideration. All bands/parties/soloists that have entered for a contest shall be deemed to have had notice of this and other contest rules and conditions and be bound by all contest rules and conditions.

**26l** Upon deciding to appeal against a decision of the protest committee upon a protest or other matter, prizes shall be withheld pending the decision of the association.

**26m** Contest supervisors shall retain their positions until all business relative to the contest has been finalised.

**26n** (*Amended 9/10/11*) If at any time after the contest a band or soloist is found to have contravened the contest rules they will be dealt with by the committee.