



# MIDWEST PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 2022, 1pm



## AGENDA

### Elected Officers, 2022:

President:	Jim Sim	Regional Rep' (East):	Keith Murphy
Vice President:	Scott McCawley	Regional Rep' (Central):	Andrew Lockwood
Secretary/Treasurer:	Steve Stuart	Regional Rep' (Central):	Keith McDonald
Registrar – Bands:	Tad Myers	Regional Rep' (West):	Cliff Davis
Registrar – Solos:	Dan Tesch		

### Appointed Positions, 2022:

Chief Steward:	<i>(varies/game)</i>	Website Administrator:	Stuart Barr
Music Board Chair:	Tom Weithers	Score Keeper:	Julie Parry

1. Call to order Jim Sim
2. Roll call of member bands Steve Stuart
3. Approval of Minutes of the 2021 AGM Steve Stuart
4. Secretary/Treasurer's Report Steve Stuart
5. Registrar's Report – Band Tad Myers
6. Registrar's Report – Solos Dan Tesch
7. Music Board Report Tom Weithers
8. Vice-President's Report Scott McCawley
9. President's Report Jim Sim
10. Business Items
  - a. Advisory Committee Proposals
    - i. Allow Registered Instructors in G2 Bands
    - ii. Raise the Adjudication rate to \$300/day & per diem to \$50 (USD)
  - b. Membership Proposals
    - i. Allowing disabled/mobility-challenged players to set-up in band circle prior to three-pace rolls (*L. Greenlee*)
    - ii. Use of pre-recorded music for solo drummers (*A. Hoinacki*)
11. Election of Officers Jim Sim
12. Presentation of Champions Supreme Awards Jim Sim
13. Announcements All
14. Adjournment



# MIDWEST PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 6, 2021, 1pm



## AGENDA

### Elected Officers, 2021:

President:	Jim Sim	Regional Rep' (East):	Keith Murphy
Vice President:	Scott McCawley	Regional Rep' (Central):	Andrew Lockwood
Secretary/Treasurer:	Steve Stuart	Regional Rep' (Central):	Keith McDonald
Registrar – Bands:	Tad Myers	Regional Rep' (West):	Cliff Davis
Registrar – Solos:	Dan Tesch		

### Appointed Positions, 2021:

Chief Steward:	Sherry Sievewright	Website Administrator:	Steve Stuart
Music Board Chair:	Tom Weithers	Score Keeper:	Julie Parry

1. Call to order  
*Jim Sim started meeting at 1:03 pm* Jim Sim
2. Roll call of member bands  
*16 bands present* Steve Stuart
3. Approval of Minutes of the 2020 AGM Steve Stuart
4. Secretary/Treasurer's Report  
*46 bands total* Steve Stuart
5. Registrar's Report – Band Tad Myers
6. Registrar's Report – Solos Dan Tesch  
  
*Looking to streamline the solo registration process in 2022*
7. Chief Steward's Report Sherry Sievewright
8. Music Board Report Tom Weithers  
  
*Changing Novice to Grade 5; keeping consistent with other associations. This represents a name-change only, no changes in musical competition requirements. Same splits between Junior & Senior (age 18). Upgraded several players & 1 band (Cameron & District) to Grade 3.*
9. Vice-President's Report Scott McCawley  
  
*Scott is the front-man for the Ian Swinton & Terry McHugh. A survey will be coming out shortly, regarding about bringing in a top Pipe Major/Lead Drummer in the Feb-March time-frame. The survey will ask if band members would attend (a.k.a. gauge potential attendance). The event would be free if they're on a roster of an MWPBA pipe-band.*
10. President's Report Jim Sim  
  
*Started out year with instructional interviews funded by the Association. We held our first contest in 20 months in May. The second contest was the Scottish Home solo contest in August, held in conjunction with the Scottish Home picnic. Well attended, and a great day of piping. The third contest was held in Delafield, WI, and was a full pipe-band and solo contest. We had a few e-mails regarding the Slow-Air event. Two parts repeated of a slow march of a slow-air are the requirements. Chicago Highlanders & Chicago Stock Yard Kilty Band either have celebrated or are celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

*Placing in the top 3 at the McHugh Memorial, under the age of 18 are available for the scholarship. We had 5 drummers qualify that will begin their lessons next week (mid-November)*

*3<sup>rd</sup> week of January will have our Highland Games summit. Alma Games will be taking place on Memorial Day weekend in Alma, MI. Chicago & Waukesha games are also scheduled to take place. More details will come after the HG summit. Tulsa ScotFest had their 2<sup>nd</sup> sanctioned contest this year.*

*Chicago Highland Games – plan to have 8 judges (4 piping, 2 drumming, 2 ensemble) adjudicate the Grade 2 & 3 contest, pending final approval.*

*Mention of survey for bringing in PM & lead-tip of a top pipe band in 2022*

*Jim, J.Reid Maxwell & Doug Stronach are trying to press forward with improved massed-band drum scores for North America. The intent is for them to be introductory drum-scores for bands*

*Our intent is to run 2022 as a normal year – bands & soloists would have to re-register Regional contests to take place in the locations that they have previously taken place. Finals will be held in Park Ridge, near Chicago, along with the Ian Swinton Professional contest & the Jim Enright Sr. Drumming contest.*

*Competition dates for Milwaukee would be June 4, Chicago June 17/18, and Waukesha on Sept. 3.*

*John Haack appreciated our association's flexibility*

*Brian Donaldson thinks every band should send at least two representatives to the Top PM/Lead-Tip event.*

#### 11. Business Items

##### a. Advisory Committee Proposals

*i. none*

##### b. Discussion items

*i. Any other business*

#### 12. Election of Officers

Jim Sim

*All current officers are voted into the same positions for 2022.*

#### 13. Presentation of Champions Supreme Awards

*Presentation of winners per information on the website.*

#### 14. Announcements

*Steve Stuart recommended that members send in newer photos to post on our website at [mwpba.org](http://mwpba.org)*

#### 15. Adjournment

**MWPBA MUSIC BOARD REPORT**  
**2022 Annual General Meeting**

**Adjudicator News**

Brian Donaldson recently became Pipe-Major Director at the Virginia Military Institute. Brian Donaldson served as a valued member of the MWPBA Music Board for almost 10 years. Because Brian now resides outside the jurisdiction of the MWPBA, Brian is no longer eligible to serve on the Music Board. The Board would like to thank Brian for his commitment and all his fine work on the Board over the years.

Tom Ogilvy has been appointed to replace Brian Donaldson on the Music Board.

Scott McCawley has met the experience requirements and is now qualified as a Full Piping Adjudicator.

**Proposed Rule Changes**

1. The Music Board recommends the following changes to the music requirements for solo piping events

- Grade 4 Senior and Junior: Add a new Strathspey/Reel event with the tune requirement “Submit and play 2 parts of a strathspey and 2 parts of a reel.”
- Grade 4 Senior and Junior: Eliminate the 6/8 March event
- Grade 3: Eliminate the Jig event
- Grade 2: Change the Hornpipe/Jig event to a Jig only event (requirement to remain “submit 1 jig”)
- Open: Require players to submit 4 tunes in the Hornpipe/Jig and 6/8 March events (increased from 3)

The Grade 4 changes are based on discussions with other pipe band associations concerning a decline in standards in Grade 3 piping. The increase in musical requirements between Grade 4 and Grade 3 is currently greater than the increase between any other grades. By allowing Grade 4 players to compete with a strathspey and reel, the Board feels that it will lessen the difficulty for the players in moving to Grade 3 and enable the Music Board to make more informed and more accurate grading decisions. The changes to the other events will bring the MWPBA in line with current practice in other associations.

2. The Music Board recommends changing the tune requirements for the Grade 1 band MSR event to be consistent with new RSPBA requirements. The new requirements would be to submit:

1 MSR Set (Maximum 4 Parted Tunes) and 1 MSR Set (Minimum 4 Parted Tunes)

At contests that offer a Grade 1 MSR event, a draw will be held at the morning band meeting to determine which type of MSR set will be played in the contest by all the competing bands.

3. The current rule governing ties in a contest comprised of multiple events could still result in a tie if the contest has more than one Ensemble judge. To ensure that any tie will be conclusively resolved, the Music Board proposes that rule V.C is amended as follows:

- For band events where there is an aggregate award, ties will be broken (in descending order) by:
  1. lowest total ensemble points
  2. lowest total ensemble points in the MSR event
  3. lowest total piping points
  4. lowest total piping points in the MSR event
  5. lowest total drumming points
  6. lowest total drumming points in the MSR event
  7. a special meeting of the ensemble judges of the contest

4. The Music Board proposes to clarify the language concerning the grading of new solo competitors. This is not intended as a change in the Rule. The MWPBA has always allowed new competitors to register in either Grade 4 or Grade 5 without Music Board approval. But last year the wording of the rule caused 3-4 new competitors to file a grading application to register in Grade 4. The Board proposes to amend Rule III.B to read “Members who have never competed in a solo event or have competed for one or more years in Grade 5 may register for Grade 4 Junior or Senior without Music Board approval.” Note, players may only play in the Practice Chanter, Grade 5 Solo Snare, and Beginning Solo Tenor events for one year and are *automatically* graded into the next higher grade.

### **Grading Decisions**

#### **PIPING**

##### Grade 4 Senior to Grade 3

Michelle Blam  
Anthony St. Clair

##### Grade 4 Junior to Grade 3

Orin Weiss (Light Music only)

##### Grade 2 Grade 1

Ray Flanagan

For the Music Board,

Tom Weithers  
Chairman

Chris Apps  
Jim Enright  
Andrew Hoinacki  
Andrew Lewis  
Scott McCawley

## Advisory Committee Proposals

1)

Submitted by: The MWPBA Executive Board

Subject: Permit Grade 2 bands in the MWPBA to have Registered Instructors

**<Cited Rule>**

### **II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMPETING BANDS**

**Registered Instructor (RI):** A piper of a *higher-graded* pipe band who is registered to play pipes with one lower-graded pipe band during competition – OR – a snare drummer of a *higher-graded* pipe band who is registered to play drums with one *lower-graded* pipe band during competition – OR – a tenor drummer of a *higher-graded* pipe band who is registered to play drums with one *lower-graded* pipe band during competition.

A band in grades 3, 4 or 5 may have one pipe playing RI and/or one snare drum playing RI and/or one tenor drum playing RI. RIs do not count toward fulfilling the minimum player requirements. *See II. D. BAND MEMBER REQUIREMENTS*

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Proposal: To change the use of Registered Instructors in competing bands to include Grade 2, as well as Grade 3, 4, and 5 as such:

**<Proposed Change>**

“A band in grades 2, 3, 4 or 5 may have one pipe playing RI and/or one snare drum playing RI and/or one tenor drum playing RI. RIs do not count toward fulfilling the minimum player requirements. *See II. D. BAND MEMBER REQUIREMENTS*”

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2)

Submitted by: The MWPBA Executive Board

Subject: Change the daily adjudication rate & per diem

**<Cited Rule>**

### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF GAMES SPONSOR**

#### **I. A. GENERAL**

When choosing **Judges** for the Games, the Games Sponsor must make the Judge aware that they will not be allowed to compete as a soloist on the day they are judging solo contests nor shall they judge a band in which they are a registered member.

- Judges are to receive the current judging fee (\$250/day) and all related expenses (including hotel, travel, plus \$35 per diem), paid for by the Games Sponsor.

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Proposal: To change the adjudication rate to \$300 USD/day, and the per diem to \$50 USD.

**<Proposed Change>**

“Judges are to receive the current judging fee (\$300/day) and all related expenses (including hotel, travel, plus \$50 per diem), paid for by the Games Sponsor”

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## Membership Proposals

1)

Submitted by: Lucas Greenlee

Subject: Marching into the Competition Circle Modifications for QMM, Mini MSR & MSR

### <Cited Rule>

#### **II. C. PERFORMANCE ON THE FIELD**

**Quick March Medley (QMM), Mini MSR and March/Strathspey/Reel (MSR):** Bands must begin marching forward into the prescribed competition circle on the first 3-pace roll, form a circle while playing and finish the performance in that circle.

*Proposal text:*

Request for clarification and/or revision of the QMM Performance on the Field rule in Section II. C. found on page 5 of the *Rules and Regulations - 2022 Season*, (Ref. *2022-MWPBA Rules 2022-1-13 final.docx*). The rule is ~~included below~~ (cited above) for reference:

I'd like to make sure that accommodations are made for those with an ambulatory disability while still meeting the sporting intent of the rule. I recommend pipe majors be notified that those requiring accommodations may set up in the circle prior to the performance. Then, the remainder of the band would start from the line with "*3-pace roll, form a circle while playing and finish the performance in the circle.*"

I would also like attendees to discuss what accommodations are made for Grades 1 through 4.

### <Proposed Change>

*(Sec/Treas):* "Disabled or otherwise mobility-challenged players can be placed in the circle prior to the start of that band's performance. Pipe Majors (or a designated band representative) must notify the Chief Steward at the morning band meeting of such exemptions/accomodations."

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2)

Submitted by: Andrew Hoinacki

Subject: Musical Accompaniment for Solo Drummers

### <Cited Rule>

#### **III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SOLO COMPETITORS**

##### **III C. MUSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

The solo Snare and solo Tenor drummers must be accompanied by one or two properly attired pipers but no accompanying tenors. Solo Tenor may have one snare accompanist. Solo Bass must be accompanied by one or two properly attired pipers with one snare optional... Recorded Music is not permitted.

- Proposal to modify the rule to read: “All solo drummers are required to be accompanied by live or recorded music.
  - For live accompaniment: Solo Snare, Solo Tenor, and Solo Bass drummers must be accompanied by one or two properly attired pipers but no accompanying tenors or basses. Solo Tenor and Solo Bass drummers may have one optional properly attired snare accompanist.
  - For recorded accompaniment: Solo Snare, Solo Tenor, and Solo Bass drummers may use recorded instead of live accompaniment. Solo Snare drummers should be accompanied by a recording of one or two bagpipers but no tenors or basses. Solo Tenors and Solo Basses should use a recording of one or two bagpipers and one optional snare drummer, but no tenors or basses.
  - Any soloist using recorded accompaniment must provide a device capable of operating without external power and which can broadcast the audio recording at an adequate volume to be heard over their own performance by both the competitor and the judge(s) of the event. Contest organizers may provide a means of amplification, and are encouraged to do so, but this should not be relied upon.”

**<Proposed Change>**

As above