NATIONAL BAND COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA INC

INCORPORATING THE BRASS AND CONCERT BANDS OF AUSTRALIA

2027 YEARBOOK

CONTEST REGULATIONS

Executive Officer

E-mail: executiveofficer@nbca.asn.au

Website www.nbca.asn.au

NBCA 2027 Yearbook
Contest Regulations

Table of Contents

A. Preliminaries 1

1 Preamble 1

2 Interpretation 1

B. Nationals Structure, Eligible Bands and Music 3

3 Nationals Overview 3

4 Premier Grade Brass Promotion and Relegation 3

5 On-Stage Championships 4

6 Marching Championships 4

7 Solo and Ensemble Championships 5

8 Champion of Champions 6

9 Eligible Players, Drum Majors and Conductors 7

10 Eligible Bands 7

11 Music Requirements 8

C. Organisational Matters 9

12 Authority to Conduct Nationals 9

13 Timing and Scheduling 9

14 Certificates and Trophies 9

D. Entering the Nationals, Grading and Registration 10

15 Applying for Entry to the Nationals 10

16 Registration of Band Players, Conductors and Drum Majors 11

17 Band Grading 12

18 Confirmation of Registrations and Grading 12

19 Emergency Replacement Conductors and Drum Majors 12

20 Permit Players 13

E. Conduct and Disciplinary Matters 14

21 Competitor Conduct 14

22 Breaches of Regulations 14

23 Protests and Appeals 15

Appendix A: Solo Sections 17

A. Preliminaries

1 Preamble

1.1 The objective of the Australian National Band Championships is to provide an opportunity for members of eligible community-based brass and concert bands from across Australia and internationally to come together in a premier showcase event to perform in fair competition and in a spirit of good fellowship.

1.2 The Contest Regulations provide the framework to deliver Australian National Band Championships consistent with this objective.

1.3 All Australian National Band Championships shall be conducted, directed and controlled in accordance with these regulations.

2 Interpretation

2.1 In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears —

Affiliated Band means a brass or concert band that is registered with a State Governing Body.

Australian National Band Championships means the national band competition conducted for community brass and concert bands, and their members under the auspices of the National Band Council of Australia and as governed by these regulations.

Band means a brass or concert band.

Category means the type of band as defined under regulation 3.3 (i.e. Open Brass, Junior Brass, Open Concert and Junior Concert).

Classify means the assignment of a grade to a band as specified under regulation 3.3 and section 16 of these regulations.

Conductor means that person nominated as the conductor on a band's Certified Registration List as provided by the relevant State Governing Body in accordance with regulations 14.4 and 14.5. It includes the person referred to as the "Music Director", "Bandmaster" or "Coach".

Contest Committee means the committee established by the Host State to run a given Nationals.

Contest Liaison Officer means the person appointed by the NBCA to oversee the conduct of the Nationals by performing the duties prescribed to this role in these regulations, including providing advice on these regulations and ensuring that these regulations are upheld.

Contest Regulations means the regulations for the Australian National Band Championships (i.e. these regulations).

Contest Supervisor means the person appointed by the Host State to oversee the running of the Nationals, including the band and player registration processes and the compilation of results.

Council means the Council of the National Band Council of Australia (NBCA) and comprises the President, Vice President, Executive Officer and the Councillors from each of the State Governing Bodies.

Grade means the grade used to classify a band and shall comprise the grades prescribed under each category in regulation 3.3 (i.e. Brass Bands: Open Premier, A, B, C, D, and Junior A, B, and C, and Concert Bands: Open Premier (A), B, C, D, and Junior A, B, and C).

Host State means the State Governing Body authorised by the NBCA to host a given championships.

Junior means a person who was under nineteen (19) years old at the 1st of January in the year of the championships.

National Band Council (NBCA) means the National Band Council of Australia Inc., the national body for brass and concert bands comprising all State Governing Bodies incorporated in New South Wales.

National Music Consultative Committee (NMCC) means the sub-committee of the NBCA that deals with music-related matters.

Nationals means the Australian National Band Championships (and is mainly used to refer to the championships held in a given year although it may refer occasionally to multiple occurrences of the championships).

NBCA Executive means the President, Vice President and Executive Officer of the NBCA.

Open Section means a part of the competition in which all registered players can perform in, regardless of his or her age.

Permit player means a player from an eligible band who has obtained permission to play in another band during a given Nationals.

Protest Committee means the committee established to deal with protests during the Nationals.

Regulations means these contest regulations.

State Governing Body means a State Band Association affiliated with the NBCA and may unless the contrary intention appears, include the regulatory authority for the brass and/or concert bands in other countries or where a regulatory authority does not exist, as determined by the NBCA.

B. Nationals Structure, Eligible Bands and Music

3 Nationals Overview

3.1 The Nationals shall be held once in each calendar year.

3.2 The Nationals will consist of three (3) separate championships – On-Stage Championships, Marching Championships and Solo and Ensemble Championships.

3.3 The Nationals may provide for the following grades within each category of band:

Category	**Grades**
Brass Bands:	Open Premier, A, B, C, D and Junior A, B, and C
Concert Bands:	Open Premier (A), B, C, D and Junior A, B, and C

3.4 Competitors in the Nationals shall perform music consistent with the specifications prescribed in these regulations.

3.5 Entries to the Nationals will be restricted to bands and band members who meet the conditions specified in these regulations and fulfil the specified registration requirements before and during the Nationals.

3.6 All matters relating to the Nationals not covered by these regulations shall be determined on submission to the National Band Council of Australia.

4 Premier Grade Brass Promotion & Relegation

4.1 **Method of Ranking**

At the conclusion of each National Band Championships, bands competing in Open Premier Grade Brass shall be ranked in each on-stage item. Points shall be allocated according to placing, with 1 point awarded for first place, 2 points for second place, and so on in ascending order.

The annual ranking score for each band shall be the aggregate of its ranking points across all on-stage items.

4.2 **Non-Attendance Ranking**

A Premier Grade Brass band that does not compete at a National Band Championships shall, for each on-stage item, be allocated a score using the below formula:

The score shall be calculated as N minus 1.5 where N is the number of bands competing in that on-stage item. The band's annual score shall be the aggregate of these scores across all on-stage items.

4.3 **Relegation**

Relegation from Premier Grade Brass shall be determined on the basis of performance over a rolling period of three (3) consecutive National Band Championships. The band with the highest aggregate score over the relevant three-year period shall be relegated from Premier Grade Brass.

Any Premier Grade Brass band that does not compete in two consecutive National Band Championships shall automatically be re-graded to Open A Grade Brass.

4.4 **Eligibility for Relegation**

A band shall not be eligible for relegation until it has been eligible to attend three (3) National Band Championships in Open Premier Grade Brass. Bands newly admitted to Premier Grade brass shall be exempt from relegation until this requirement has been met.

If a band is relegated and then promoted again, they don't become eligible for relegation again until they have completed the above requirement.

4.5 **Field Size**

All points, including those allocated for non-attendance, shall be calculated by reference to the number of bands actually competing in each on-stage item in the relevant year.

4.6 **Tie for Relegation**

In the event of a tie for relegation, the following criteria shall apply in order:

The band relegated will be
(a) the band with the lower Test Piece rank in the most recent Championships;
(b) the band with the lower Test Piece rank in the preceding Championships;
(c) the band with the highest cumulative Test Piece rank score (eg: 6+5+6) within the three-year period.

4.7 **Promotion to Open Premier Grade Brass**

The winning Open A Grade Brass band each year shall be offered the opportunity to be promoted to Open Premier Grade Brass for the following year Championships.

Should a band win two Open A Grade Brass titles across 3 years, they shall be automatically promoted to Open Premier Grade Brass.

5 On-Stage Championships

5.1 The On-Stage Championships for each grade of brass and concert bands, including junior bands, shall consist of a test selection, own choice selection, hymn/sacred item and march.

5.2 The points for these items will be:

Test	200 points
Own Choice	200 points
Hymn/Sacred Item	100 points
March	100 points

5.3 All items shall be optional but a band cannot win the On-Stage Championships in a grade if it does not perform all items.

5.4 The band gaining the highest aggregate points shall be the On-Stage Champion Band. In the event of two (2) or more bands having identical highest aggregate points, the trophy or trophies shall be awarded to the band gaining the highest number of points in the test selection, and then if there is still a tie, the trophy or trophies shall be awarded to the band gaining the highest number of points in the Own Choice.

6 Marching Championships

6.1 The Marching Championships shall consist of a parade of bands (i.e. street march) with inspection for each grade.

6.2 All Marching Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the Drill and Marching Regulations of the National Band Council of Australia.

6.3 For Marching Championships, concert bands and brass bands shall compete against each other in their respective grades.

6.4 The points for the marching events will be:

Music	40 points
Drill	100 points
Inspection	20 points
Change of Direction	20 points

6.5 The band gaining the highest aggregate points for the marching events in each grade will be the Champion Marching Band in that grade. In the event of two (2) or more bands both have identical highest aggregate scores in the same grade, the trophy or trophies shall be awarded to the band gaining the highest number of points in drill and then if there is still a tie, the trophy or trophies shall be awarded to the band gaining the highest number of points in the inspection.

7 Solo and Ensemble Championships

7.1 Solo and Ensemble Championships must be held in conjunction with the other Championships that comprise the Australian National Band Championships and will include a Champion of Champions event.

7.2 The Solo and Ensemble Championships shall consist of solo, quartet and quintet competitions for junior and open age competitors.

7.3 Solo competitions will be conducted for the instruments approved by the NBCA and listed as sections in Appendix A.

7.4 An entrant in the solo competition shall only play the instrument specified for the section in Appendix A when competing in that section.

7.5 Test pieces must be selected for all solo competitions. Should occasions arise where a specific item is no longer available after the release of the Nationals Schedule, a change of title or an own choice can only be made after approval by the NMCC.

7.6 At a given Nationals, no entrant in the solo competition shall play any music with which that soloist has won any national contest in any country in the prior 24 months, unless that music is set as a test piece.

7.7 In any solo competition, competitors may 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 the competitor's starting time.

7.8 Competitors in solo competitions shall not be allowed the services of a conductor during the performance but competitors in quartet and quintet competitions shall be allowed the services of their own conductor or a registered member of their own band.

7.9 Competitors in quartet and quintet competitions shall consist only of registered members of the same band. If a band has multiple entries in an ensemble competition, it may not include any member in more than one entry. No permit players shall be allowed in an ensemble competition.

7.10 Percussion players may participate in ensemble competitions but shall be counted as members of the ensemble.

7.11 Soloists and ensembles are permitted to undertake brief initial tuning before the commencement of any performance.

7.12 The time limit for Ensemble sections is 10 minutes

8 Champion of Champions

8.1 A Champion of Champions event shall be conducted for each of the brass, percussion and concert band instruments and for both open and junior age groups within the overall Solo and Ensemble Championships.

8.2 The winner of each solo event in the Solo and Ensemble Championships shall be invited to compete in the Champion of Champions event, but entry is not compulsory.

8.3 If the winner of a solo event does not intend to enter the Champion of Champions event the Contest Committee must be notified at the earliest opportunity.

8.4 The music for Champion of Champions event shall be own choice. Competitors in the Champion of Champions' event may choose to play their winning test solo, a test solo selected from any other section of the Championships or any other work they wish to play. All music chosen in the Champion of Champions event will be subject to regulation 6.6 with a maximum time limit of 10 minutes.

8.5 The Adjudicator(s) of the Champion of Champions event shall not allocate points to any competitor and shall not award any placings other than first place.

9 Eligible Players, Drum Majors and Conductors

9.1 Players, drum majors and conductors are permitted to participate in the Nationals if for at least forty-two (42) days prior to the date of the Nationals they are either:

- a member of an eligible band (as per regulation 9.1); or
- affiliated with a State Governing Body

9.2 Players wishing to compete in any of Junior A, B, and C Grade Championships must be under nineteen (19) years old at the 1st of January in the year of the Nationals. This age restriction does not apply to conductors and/or drum majors of any band wishing to enter a junior grade.

10 Eligible Bands

10.1 A brass band in the Nationals shall have a maximum of thirty-four (34) instrumentalists and a minimum of sixteen (16) brass instrumentalists, plus percussion as required. This regulation shall not apply to junior brass bands whose instrumentalists shall not exceed forty (40) brass instrumentalists plus percussion, when playing in junior grade.

Instrumentalists in open brass band grades shall not play trumpets and french horns, unless originally indicated by the composer in the musical score as supplied to the adjudicator. Instrumentalists playing in junior brass grades may play trumpets and french horns.

10.2 A concert band in the Nationals shall have a maximum of seventy (70) instrumentalists and a minimum of twenty-four (24) instrumentalists, plus percussion as required. The instrumentation of a concert band including percussion instruments, shall be those indicated in the musical score as supplied to the Adjudicator except that:

- bass guitars and/or keyboards may be used to replace or supplement any bass line instrument on the score; and
- reasonable substitutions within the concert band instrumentation are allowed provided the musical integrity of the score is maintained.

10.3 Bands may change their personnel and instrumentation during the Nationals provided that such alterations are made from the registered members of the band and that these personnel appear on the certified list as per section 15 of the regulations as provided by the affiliated State Governing Body.

11 Music Requirements

11.1 The Host State (or delegate) is responsible for the selection of test pieces at a given Nationals. However, test pieces must be submitted to the NBCA for approval by 1st June in the year preceding the Nationals.

11.2 Each competitor is responsible for the selection of all other music (i.e. own choice music) they will perform. However, these music selections must comply with all requirements specified in these regulations, and be approved by the Host State (or delegate).

11.3 Each band shall forward to the Host State by the date specified in the contest schedule, which should be not less than forty-two (42) days prior to the Nationals, all scores of own choice music to be played at the Nationals.

Copies of music intended for the Adjudicator's use shall not bear any name, sign or mark which may indicate the band or individual to which it belongs.

Photocopies of original music made for the purposes of providing an Adjudicator's copy for the Nationals shall be submitted in accordance with OneMusic Australia requirements.

11.4 The Hymn or Sacred Item can only be a reflective piece connected with religion or of a spiritual nature.

11.5 The On-Stage March to be played as part of the On-Stage Championships must be selected exclusively from the NBCA Prescribed March List (PML). Additions to the Prescribed March List (PML) shall be forwarded to the Executive Officer (EO). Any submissions received after 31st January shall not be added to the list until the conclusion of that year's Nationals.

11.6 At the Nationals, no band shall play any music with which that band has won any category at a contest in any country in the prior 24 months, unless that music is a set test piece.

11.7 A junior brass band playing in Open D Grade shall be permitted to perform any item more than once at the same contest, and a junior concert band playing in an open grade below B Grade shall be permitted to perform any item more than once at the same contest.

11.8 All competitors in the Nationals must comply with Commonwealth laws regarding copyright. The NBCA and the State Governing Bodies (including the Host State) do not accept responsibility for any breaches by bands, soloists, or ensembles entering the Nationals.

C. Organisational Matters

12 Authority to Conduct Nationals

12.1 The NBCA shall allocate the Nationals in rotation to each of the affiliated State Governing Bodies. In the event the relevant State Governing Body does not apply for the right to hold such Nationals on or before 31st March two years prior to the year of the proposed Nationals, the NBCA may allocate such Nationals as it deems fit.

For the purposes of these regulations, the State Governing Body authorised to host a Nationals shall be referred to as the Host State and will include any persons with delegated authority to act on behalf of the relevant State Governing Body.

12.2 No person or body of persons shall have authority to conduct or direct the said Australian National Band Championships unless specifically authorised by the NBCA.

13 Timing and Scheduling

13.1 The Nationals shall be held once in each calendar year.

13.2 The Nationals for a given year shall be conducted at a time and date(s) and in venues approved by the NBCA.

13.3 The Nationals are to be conducted using a schedule which has been prepared and submitted by the Host State, and approved by the NBCA.

13.4 No items on the Nationals schedule can be cancelled by the Host State without the approval of the NBCA.

14 Certificates, Trophies and Mutes

14.1 The perpetual trophies allocated to events at the Nationals are listed in the Contest Guidelines

14.2 The NBCA Executive Officer shall maintain a list of perpetual trophies and advise the affiliated State Governing Bodies of the due date by which the return of the trophies is required.

14.3 Each State Governing Body shall arrange for the trophies won by their affiliated bands to be forwarded to the Contest Committee no later than 21 days before the Nationals.

14.4 The Contest Committee shall advise the NBCA Executive Officer of the receipt and condition of the trophy and arrange for the trophy to be available for presentation at the Nationals. Any postage or transport costs associated with the return of a trophy or trophies shall be the sole responsibility of that State Governing Body.

14.5 A State Governing Body will incur a fine of $100 for each trophy that is not forwarded from their affiliated bands to the Contest Committee by 21 days before the Nationals.

D. Entering the Nationals, Grading and Registration

15 Applying for Entry to the Nationals

15.1 Any band or solo and ensemble entrants who wish to compete in the Nationals must complete the entry procedures developed in light of these regulations to demonstrate they meet the eligibility requirements including:

(i) Players, drum majors and conductors are eligible (as per sections 8 and 15 of these regulations);
(ii) The band is either a brass band or a concert band (as per section 9 of these regulations);
(iii) The music to be performed meets contest requirements (as per section 10 of these regulations).

15.2 The Contest Committee shall provide entry forms for the Nationals that shall be completed and signed by the Secretary of a band competing in the Nationals or by the competitors for the Solo and Ensemble Championships.

15.3 Each entrant applying to compete in the Nationals shall forward to their State Governing Body not later than 21 days prior to the commencement date of those Nationals, the names of the players, drum major and conductor wishing to participate in nominated events.

15.4 The Secretary or Registrar of the State Governing Body shall, for each band competing from their State, certify that the players, drum major and conductor comply with the player registration requirements (as per section 15 of these regulations) and certify the band's grading complies with the grading requirements (as per section 16 of these regulations).

15.5 If the State Governing Body is fully satisfied a proposed entry meets the grading and player registration requirements, the State Governing Body shall endorse the proposed entry and forward the certified entry (including the names of all entrants) not later than 14 days prior to the commencement date of the Nationals to the Contest Administrator.

15.6 Any player, conductor or drum major whose name does not appear on the certified entry provided by the State Governing Body by the specified due date will

be ineligible to compete in that Nationals except if they meet the specific exemptions provided in the following regulations, including permit players.

15.7 For international competitors wishing to enter the Nationals, the NBCA (or their delegate) will fulfil the entry, registration and grading roles that would otherwise be undertaken by the State Governing Bodies on behalf of local entrants.

15.8 Entries for the Nationals shall only be accepted if they meet all requirements specified in these regulations, including, but not limited to grading and registration, player eligibility, music selection requirements and payment of entry fees.

16 Registration of Band Players, Conductors and Drum Majors

16.1 Each playing member, conductor and drum major must be registered with a State Governing Body or the NBCA for international entrants at least 42 (forty two) days immediately prior to the date of any Nationals (and meet the eligibility requirements specified in section 8 of these regulations).

16.2 Not less than 42 (forty two) days before the Nationals, each registered player, conductor and drum major must nominate the band or bands with which they will be competing. Excepting permits, a player can only nominate to play with a band which is entered from the same State Governing Body with which the player is registered.

16.3 Transfers of nominated personnel shall not be allowed between competing bands within 42 days of the Nationals.

16.4 For all Nationals the 42 (forty two) days shall be counted prior to the commencement date of the Nationals.

16.5 Any player can nominate to play with one (1) band in each grade as defined in regulation 3.3, except,

(i) A junior member can nominate as a playing member of more than one (1) junior band without being recognised as a permit player.
(ii) A permit under section 19 of these regulations is required in order for any player to play with a second or subsequent band in any open grade as defined in regulation 3.3

16.6 A person may nominate to conduct more than one (1) band at the Nationals.

16.7 A drum major may nominate to lead more than one (1) band at the Nationals.

16.8 Persons who are registered as a conductor or as a drum major in a band competing in a given Nationals may also compete in another band and/or compete in the Solo and Ensemble Competitions held as part of the same Nationals, subject to them meeting all other eligibility requirements.

17 Band Grading

17.1 A State Governing Body must classify or re-classify any of its affiliated bands for the purposes of competing in the Nationals using the grades specified in regulation 3.3. The grading must appropriately reflect the standard of players that comprise the band.

17.2 The National Music Consultative Committee will grade each overseas band applying for entry to the Nationals. Overseas bands wishing to participate in the Nationals must submit evidence of musical standard if requested to the National Music Consultative Committee. This evidence must include a recording, not more than 12 months old, and enough additional information to allow the National Music Consultative Committee to determine a grading level for the band. The submission of evidence of musical standard will not be required of New Zealand brass bands.

17.3 All bands must compete in the grade as determined by the appropriate State Governing Body (or the NBCA in the case of overseas bands)

17.4 Any band, brass or concert, open or junior, graded B, C, or D winning the aggregate of music items at any Nationals in two (2) consecutive years in the same grade shall not be permitted to contest the same grade or a lower grade in the third consecutive year.

18 Confirmation of Registrations and Grading

18.1 A single authorised representative of each band must sign the certified entry to confirm the players competing, immediately prior to the band entering the warmup room for the onstage championships. No names can be added to the certified entry at this time.

18.2 If a player or conductor is found to be ineligible, they and/or their band will be dealt with under the disciplinary provisions in section 21 of these regulations.

19 Emergency Replacement Conductors and Drum Majors

19.1 If within forty-two (42) days of the Nationals and more than fourteen days (14) days prior to the start of the Nationals, a conductor or drum major becomes unavailable, the band may apply to its State Governing Body for permission to use an alternative person in the role.

19.2 If within fourteen (14) days of the Nationals and during the Nationals a conductor or drum major becomes unavailable, the band may apply to the Contest Supervisor for permission to use an alternative person in the role. The Contest Supervisor will confer with the Contest Liaison Officer in approving the application.

20 Permit Players

20.1 Applications for permit players at the Nationals shall be made in writing, on the appropriate permit form, to the State Governing Body of the competing band not later than twenty one (21) days prior to the commencement date of the contest. The State Governing Body will not grant any permit application unless written permission from the band with which the player is registered has been given by way of completing that section of the permit form. A permit player must be registered with a State Governing Body or equivalent international body. Additionally, a permit player may play any instrument.

20.2 The maximum number of permits for instrumentalists to any brass band shall be four (4) and to any concert band shall be six (6). Bands shall be granted permits for percussion as required.

20.3 Emergency permits may be granted by the Contest Supervisor in consultation with the Contest Liaison Officer in the case of death or extreme emergency at any time after the close of registration and the nomination period and prior to or during the currency of any contest.

20.4 Any application for an emergency permit must be made on the official form and sent to the Contest Liaison Officer.

20.5 The emergency permit player must play the same instrument and band part as the player being replaced. The player being replaced must take no further part in the competition in any capacity.

E. Conduct and Disciplinary Matters

21 Competitor Conduct

21.1 All competitors shall behave with appropriate decorum throughout the Nationals to uphold the good reputation of community banding and to ensure the smooth running of the Nationals. Failure to uphold appropriate standards of behaviour will result in disciplinary action up to and including permanent disqualification of the band from competing in Nationals.

21.2 All bands, ensembles and soloists that have entered for a Nationals shall be deemed to have had notice of these regulations and, by their entry, to have accepted and be bound by all of these regulations.

21.3 All bands, ensembles and soloists entering the competition shall comply with all instructions from contest officials provided these instructions are consistent with these regulations.

21.4 Bands may be permitted to play, as a band, two short (maximum time of approximately 5 seconds) tuning notes or chords which may be played only before the start of a bands first item to be played on stage at each appearance on stage. These two chords will not be considered part of the bands adjudicated

performance, however, any other sounds will be considered. Between the two chords or notes, the conductor may take a maximum of 1 minute to make minor tuning adjustments. No other signal by note, tap of conductor's baton or by any other means shall be allowed before, during or after any competition performance.

21.5 All competitors shall compete in uniform

22 Breaches of Regulations

22.1 Any alleged breach of regulations involving failure to comply with the instructions of a contest official or failure to uphold appropriate standards of behaviour or other misconduct by a competitor at the Nationals may be referred by a contest official to the Contest Supervisor or Contest Liaison Officer during the Nationals.

22.2 If the Contest Supervisor or Contest Liaison Officer is satisfied that further action is warranted, they will refer the matter as a formal protest to the Protest Committee as soon as practical under the provisions of section 22. The Protest Committee will not be bound by the restrictions imposed by regulations 22.5 and 22.6 in dealing with these protests, especially any alleged serious breaches of regulations that potentially threaten the safety and welfare of others or seriously compromise the running of the Nationals.

22.3 A band or member subject to a disqualification shall not be eligible to take part in any contest until the disqualification period is served.

22.4 Any band with a player who is, at the date of the Nationals, suspended or disqualified under these regulations or by a State Governing Body shall render itself liable to disqualification.

22.5 Any alleged breach of regulations involving failure to comply with the instructions of a contest official or failure to uphold appropriate standards of behaviour or other misconduct by a competitor at the Nationals but raised after the Nationals have concluded shall be dealt with by the NBCA.

22.6 A Host State permitting a breach of these regulations or failing to enforce them at the Nationals shall be dealt with by the NBCA.

23 Protests and Appeals

23.1 Subject to the further regulations in this section, formal protests may be made at the Nationals to the Protest Committee through the Contest Supervisor.

23.2 A protest can only be a claim that:

(i) a competitor in an event is either not qualified to compete in that event, as a result of these regulations; or
(ii) a competitor in an event has breached one or more regulations.

A protest relating to any other matter must not be considered by the Protest Committee.

23.3 A protest may be lodged against:

(i) any competing band, ensemble or soloist by the Contest Liaison Officer or Contest Supervisor;
(ii) a band by the Conductor, Drum Major or Secretary of a band competing in the same section; or
(iii) a soloist or ensemble by a soloist or a Conductor of an ensemble competing in the same section or, in the case of a junior section, a representative of that soloist or Conductor.

23.4 The person protesting shall state clearly the grounds for the protest.

23.5 A protest must be lodged at the contest office not later than 30 minutes after the results of the section have been announced.

23.6 Any band subject to a protest shall be allowed to compete, and any protest must not be considered by the Protest Committee until that band has completed their performance.

23.7 The Protest Committee shall consist of the Contest Supervisor, the Contest Liaison Officer, two (2) representatives of the NBCA and the Contest Administrator or their nominees.

23.8 The NBCA Executive Officer shall attend the Protest Committee to record proceedings.

23.9 The presiding officer of the Protest Committee shall be selected by the members of the Protest Committee.

23.10 Once a protest is lodged, the Protest Committee must be convened to deal with the matter as soon as is practicable on that day. It is the responsibility of the Contest Liaison Officer to convene the Protest Committee and to make known its decisions.

23.11 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 on such protest, shall temporarily cease to be a member of the Protest Committee and shall not be eligible to take any part in the proceedings relating to such protest nor to attend any meetings as a member of the Protest Committee while such protest is being considered.

23.12 When a band, ensemble or soloist has been disqualified, the prize or prizes gained by such band, ensemble or soloist shall be awarded to the next in order of merit. Any protest against a band, ensemble or soloist which, by virtue of such disqualification, comes into the prize list for the first time must be lodged with the Contest Administrator not later than 30 minutes after the decision of the Protest Committee has been announced.

23.13 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;
(ii) two (2) representatives of a band, ensemble or soloist against whom a protest has been lodged; or
(iii) any other person required by the Protest Committee.

Any such parties shall be entitled to produce oral or documentary evidence in support of their case.

23.14 In addition to the oral or documentary evidence supplied, the Protest Committee may inform itself about the matter in any way it considers necessary to fairly and efficiently deal with the protest.

23.15 The Protest Committee shall decide any protest and, should such protest be upheld, may impose on the band, ensemble or soloist against whom the protest was lodged, an appropriate penalty commensurate with the severity of the breach of regulations including imposing a reprimand, loss of competition points or disqualification from the Nationals for a specified period.

23.16 Should a trophy be awarded before the announcement of a protest decision which involves the imposition of a penalty that results in the loss of a trophy, the recipient must return that trophy to the Contest Supervisor.

23.17 A party to a protest may appeal to the NBCA against a decision of a Protest Committee. Any notice of appeal must be lodged in writing with the NBCA Executive Officer within 7 days of the conclusion of the Nationals. If no appeal is received, the decision is final.

23.18 All appeals should be dealt with by the NBCA at the earliest reasonable opportunity. Subject to the observance of the principles of natural justice, the NBCA may regulate its own proceedings.

23.19 The decision of the NBCA upon such appeal shall be final and conclusive. Upon hearing the appeal, the NBCA can quash, amend or substitute any penalty as it sees fit.

23.20 Any trophy awarded to a contestant in light of protests must be returned by that contestant to the NBCA Executive Officer if an appeal against a protest results in a change in the award of that trophy.

Appendix A: Solo Sections

Brass	Woodwind	Percussion
Eb Soprano Cornet	Piccolo	Open Side/Snare Drum
Bb Cornet	Flute	Open Mallet Percussion (a)
Trumpet	Clarinet	Open Timpani
Flugel Horn	Bass Clarinet	Open Multi Percussion
Eb Tenor Horn	Tenor Saxophone	Junior Side/Snare Drum
French Horn	Alto Saxophone	Junior Mallet Percussion (a)
Baritone	Baritone Saxophone	Junior Timpani
Euphonium	Oboe	Junior Multi Percussion
Tenor Trombone	Bassoon	
Bass Trombone	Junior Piccolo	
High Tuba (EEb & F)	Junior Flute	
Low Tuba (BBb & C)	Junior Clarinet	
Junior Eb Soprano Cornet	Junior Bass Clarinet	
Junior Bb Cornet	Junior Tenor Saxophone	
Junior Trumpet	Junior Alto Saxophone	
Junior Flugel Horn	Junior Baritone Saxophone	
Junior Tenor Horn	Junior Oboe	
Junior French Horn	Junior Bassoon	
Junior Baritone		
Junior Euphonium		
Junior Tenor Trombone		
Junior Bass Trombone		
Junior High Tuba (EEb & F)		
Junior Low Tuba (BBb & C)		

(a) Mallet percussion comprises Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Vibraphone and/or Marimba