



Band Championships

(As of 1/31/12)

I. Who May Enter

- A. Any British-type brass band and its members that are current members of NABBA.
- B. British-type is defined as band instrumentation utilizing Eb Soprano and Bb Cornets, Bb Flugelhorns, Eb Tenor Horns (sometimes referred to as Eb Alto Horns), Bb Baritones, Bb Euphoniums, Bb Tenor and Bass Trombones, Tubas, and Percussion.
- C. While membership in a NABBA band is unlimited, a competing band in the Championship, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sections are limited to 28 brass players, up to 5 percussion players (as required by the score) plus the conductor on the competition stage at any time.

II. Exceptions

- A. Any brass band at variance with Section I.B. or I.C. must enter the Open Sections of the Championships.
- B. Entries in the Youth category are limited to 40 brass players, percussion players as needed, plus the conductor on the competition stage at any time.

III. Constraints

- A. If a player is a regular member of more than one NABBA band then they may play with all of those bands at contest as long as the total number of doubling players does not exceed more than 10% of the bands total players. In most cases that would translate to three players. It is up to the integrity of the competing bands to only use regular members of their bands with regards to this rule and those players should be on the submitted roster. All other instances should go through the contest controller for clarification.
- B. Members of bands in the Youth section must be 17 years of age or younger or enrolled in a primary or secondary school.
- C. No band member is allowed to play more than one brass instrument unless necessitated by the score. It is permissible for a brass player to also play a percussion instrument.
- D. No re-arrangements of parts will be permitted. Parts written for any particular instrument will be played only on that instrument. Parts designated for Eb or Bb Tuba may be played on tubas in any key.
- E. No band is permitted to compensate any player for their services.
- F. Bands are expected to compete with the Roster which shall be presented to NABBA at the Contest Registration table no later than 5:00 PM on Friday of the Championships.

IV. Registration

- A. A band may enter only one of the following categories of its choice:

Championship	3rd Section	Youth
1st Section	Open	Youth Open
2nd Section		

B. Competition times for each category shall be as follows:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Piece</u>	<u>Enter, Set-Up & Warm-up</u>	<u>Performance Time</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Total</u>
Championship	Masquerade	7	27 - 39	4	50
1 st Section	Pageantry	7	23 - 39	4	50
2 nd Section	Dark Side of the Moon	7	23 - 35	3	45
3 rd Section	Jubilus	7	23 - 35	3	45
Open	None	7	23 - 35	3	45
Youth	Requiem for Brass Band	7	17 - 35	3	45
Youth Open	None	7	17 - 35	3	45

C. A band's program shall consist of an assigned Test Piece (determined by NABBA), and other item(s) of the band's own choosing. The Open Sections have NO set Test Piece.

D. Complete entry must be received prior to Close of Business (COB) on the second Friday of January (1/13/12) at the address specified on the Entry Form. Membership fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable. Late entries received after COB on the second Friday of January (1/13/12) but prior to COB on the third Friday in January (1/20/12) will be assessed an additional penalty fee of \$150.00. Entries received after COB on the third Friday of January (1/20/12) will be refused and returned unopened.

E. A complete entry consists of:

1. a Band Championship Entry Form (downloadable at www.nabba.org),
2. a \$1,500 check payable to NABBA for the Championship, 1st 2nd or 3rd Sections, and Open deposit or a \$1,000 check payable to NABBA for the Youth or Youth Open deposit,
3. 3 original scores, with each measure numbered, of each piece excepting the required test piece (which will be supplied by NABBA) to be performed (Note: Scores of unpublished music shall not name composer/arranger),
4. a CD containing a black and white photo of the conductor, a black and white photo of the band (photos in JPEG format only), a brief biographical note about the conductor, and a brief biographical note about the band (bios in MSWord doc format only)

F. Any special requests/needs of the band (i.e. handicapped considerations, etc.) should be included at the time of the entry submission.

V. Procedure

A. NABBA officials will conduct the draw for contest order and will communicate the same to band contacts by February 1st. When a band has drawn the #1 position that band has a right to request that in the succeeding year their name be withheld from the draw for the first pick provided they enter the same section. After the first pick is made their name is resubmitted into the draw pool. This request must be made in writing at the time of submitting the entry materials.

B. Before a band enters the stage, a representative of the Contest Controller will verify the NABBA membership status of the band and its players.

C. Stages will be pre-set in a standard brass band configuration with percussion instruments furnished by NABBA. A list of provided percussion will be posted www.nabba.org.

D. Competition Day Outline

1. Bands should assemble in the Founders Hall of the Cincinnati Masonic Center (1st door on left after entering the building) no later than 90 minutes prior to their competition time.
2. A page will be assigned to each band to assist you from location to location.
3. Bands will proceed to a secure room to open and store cases until the conclusion of their competition.

4. Bands will be escorted to a warm-up room that coincides with the competition period preceding their own.
 5. Ten (10) minutes before a band's competition time, they will assemble adjacent to the Competition venue.
 6. Seven (7) minutes before a band's competition time, the band will be permitted to enter the contest stage, arrange percussion and chairs, and be seated. (**Note:** If a band chooses to utilize its own percussion they may move the provided percussion aside with the clear understanding that a) no additional time is allowed for the switch, and b) the provided percussion must be returned to its original position prior to exiting the venue). Players may play during this set-up period. Sound produced by a brass instrument will not cause the competition clock to start. The competition clock will not start until after the band is introduced.
 7. After the seven minute period and at a signal from the stage manager, contest personnel will introduce the band and announce its program. The band will then perform its contest program.
 8. After conclusion of a band's performance, they must immediately exit the stage to return to their case storage room.
 9. Pictures may be taken at this point at the discretion of the individual band.
- E. If a band's program does not fall within the required time, penalty points will be deducted from the adjudicators total at the rate of one point from each adjudicator's score for each minute or fraction thereof by which the time is exceeded or lacking. Points may also be deducted if, in the opinion of Contest personnel, a band inserts inordinately long pauses between movements or musical selections in order to achieve the minimum time requirement.
- F. Bands are expected to perform the program submitted on their registration form. Changes are allowed only with the prior approval of the Contest Controller. Any band performing a program other than that submitted and/or approved by the Contest Controller will receive adjudicator comments but will be ineligible for points.
- G. The results of the Competition will be announced Saturday evening. The adjudicator's recorded and written comments will be presented to a band representative at the conclusion of Saturday evening's event.
- H. All competing bands will receive an Evaluation Form to be completed after the competition. They will be utilized by NABBA to improve future Championships.
- I. In the case of a physical emergency or mechanical malfunction, the Contest Controller has the sole authority to suspend the timing of a performance.

VI. Scoring

- A. Adjudicators will rank bands based on criteria to include: tone quality, balance, blend, intonation, rhythm, technique, and musical interpretation.
- B. The final scores will be weighted as follows: 60% for the test piece, and 40% for the free choice item(s).
- C. In addition to the score sheets, adjudicators will provide recorded verbal comments on each performance.
- D. In the event of a tie, the band with the highest combined point total in the test piece will be declared the winner. In the event that the test piece scores are also tied, the band rated higher on the test piece by two of the three adjudicators shall be declared the winner.

VII. Final Authority

During the Championships, the Contest Controller has final and absolute authority regarding penalties, appeals, interpretation of the rules, and conduct of the Championships.

Solo Championships

VIII. Who May Enter

- A. Any current NABBA member performing on a cornet, flugelhorn, tenor horn, baritone, tenor or bass trombone, euphonium, tuba or percussion instruments utilized in a “British Style” brass band.
- B. Accompanied solos may be utilized but soloists must make arrangements for their own accompanist. Accompaniment is not required and is not taken into consideration for the final placement.

IX. Constraints

- A. Entry is limited to one solo entry per individual. However a soloist may participate as a member of a brass or percussion ensemble.

X. Registration

NOTE – Seniors (age 62 & over) may now enter either one of the 1st four contests below (i.e. Any Age) as in previous years, or enter one of the new Senior contests (i.e. 5 through 8) below.

- A. Entries can be in one of the following categories:
 - 1. Adult High Brass Slow Melody – Any Age (Cornets, Flugelhorns & Tenor Horns only)
 - 2. Adult High Brass Technical Work – Any Age (Cornets, Flugelhorns & Tenor Horns only)
 - 3. Adult Low Brass Slow Melody – Any Age (Baritones, Trombones, Euphoniums & Tubas only)
 - 4. Adult Low Brass Technical Work – Any Age (Baritones, Trombones, Euphoniums & Tubas only)
 - 5. Adult High Brass Slow Melody - Senior (Cornets, Flugelhorns & Tenor Horns only)
 - 6. Adult High Brass Technical Work – Senior (Cornets, Flugelhorns & Tenor Horns only)
 - 7. Adult Low Brass Slow Melody – Senior (Baritones, Trombones, Euphoniums & Tubas only)
 - 8. Adult Low Brass Technical Work – Senior (Baritones, Trombones, Euphoniums & Tubas only)
 - 9. Youth Brass Solo – must be 17 years of age or younger or enrolled in a primary or secondary school.
 - 10. Adult Percussion Solo
 - 11. Youth Percussion Solo – must be 17 years of age or younger or enrolled in a primary or secondary school.
- B. Complete solo entries must be received prior to COB (close of business) on the second Friday of January (1/13/12) at the address specified on the entry form.
- C. A complete entry consists of:
 - 1. a Solo Championship Entry Form (downloadable at www.nabba.org),
 - 2. a nonrefundable \$20 check payable to NABBA for the entry fee,
 - 3. An original copy (no photocopies) of the piece to be performed.

XI. Procedure

- A. The contest order will be posted at www.nabba.org by February 1st.
- B. There is a 10-minute time limit per soloist (including set-up, tuning, performance and exit), 7 minutes of which being the maximum a soloist will be allowed to play.
- C. Any soloist exceeding the 7-minute playing limit will have 5 points deducted from their final score. Contest personnel will halt performances once the maximum time is exceeded by 30 seconds.

XII. Final Authority

During the Solo Championships, the Contest Controller has final an absolute authority regarding penalties, appeals, interpretation of rules, and conduct of the Championships.

Ensemble Championships

XIII. Who May Enter

- A. Any current NABBA members performing on cornet, flugelhorn, tenor horn, baritone, tenor or bass trombone, euphonium, tuba or percussion instruments utilized in a “British Style” brass band.

XIV. Constraints

- A. No more than 2 Brass Ensembles or more than 1 Percussion Ensemble may be entered from any one band.
- B. All ensembles must have a minimum of 3 members. Brass Ensembles may not exceed 10 members, Percussion Ensembles may not exceed 8 members, and the 10 Piece Brass ensembles may not exceed 10 brass instruments plus 1 percussionist.
- C. No individual may play in more than one ensemble per NABBA Band of which the player is a regular member. For example, if a player is a regular member of two NABBA Bands, then that player may perform with one ensemble per NABBA Band.
- D. A conductor is permitted ONLY for the 10 Piece Ensemble.

XV. Registration

- A. Entries can be in one of the following categories:
 - 1. Adult Brass Ensemble
 - 2. Youth Brass Ensemble - all members must be 17 years of age or younger or enrolled in a primary or secondary school.
 - 3. Adult Percussion Ensemble
 - 4. Youth Percussion Ensemble – all members must be 17 years of age or younger or enrolled in a primary or secondary school.
 - 5. 10 Piece Brass Ensemble with the following instrumentation: 4-Bb Cornets, 1-Eb Tenor Horn, 1-Trombone, 1-Bass Trombone, 1-Euphonium, 1-Eb Bass, and 1-Percussion (Try this link as a musical aid: <http://www.justmusicuk.com/spweb/publications.php?categoryid=20>)
- B. Complete ensemble entries must be received prior to COB (close of business) on the second Friday of January (1/13/12) at the address specified on the entry form.
- C. A complete entry consists of:
 - 1. an Ensemble Championship Entry Form including roster (downloadable at www.nabba.org),
 - 2. a nonrefundable \$40 check payable to NABBA for the entry fee,
 - 3. An original copy (no photocopies) of the piece to be performed.

XVI. Procedure

- A. The contest order will be posted at www.nabba.org by February 1st.
- B. There is a 15-minute time limit per ensemble (including set-up, tuning, performance and exit), 10 minutes of which being the maximum an ensemble will be allowed to play.
- C. Any ensemble exceeding the 10-minute playing limit will have 5 points deducted from their final score. Contest personnel will halt the performance once the maximum time is exceeded by 30 seconds.

XVII. Final Authority

During the Ensemble Championships, the Contest Controller has final an absolute authority regarding penalties, appeals and conduct of the Championships.