



Rules & Regulations of The European Brass Band Championships

These Rules replace all rules previously issued
and are effective from 30 August 2025 until further notice.

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REGULATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN BRASS BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. DEFINITIONS AND BASIC PROVISION

- STATUTES: - means the regulations governing the constituent bodies of the EBBA, as defined in the [EBBA statutes](#)
- CONTESTING RULES - means the rules governing European Brass Band Championships EBBC.
- MANAGEMENT CONTRACT - means the terms and conditions governing the organisation and administration of the EBBC and the engagement of adjudicators.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – EC and MUSIC COMMISSION - MC

The EC and MC of EBBA will supervise all the events, competitions, championships and concerts of the EBBC.

EC and MC will oversee all matters relating to music and organisational matters, and shall be responsible for specific musical matters such as the choice of test pieces, checking of the own choice pieces, reviewing the lists of adjudicators, recommending adjudicators, recommending composers for the commissioning of new works, evaluation of new scores, evaluation of concert halls and venues, approval of the opening ceremony etc.

C. THE ORGANISER

The Organiser is free to select the appropriate ways and means to administer the championships successfully. Important infrastructural decisions, the pricing policy for tickets, as well as marketing and sponsorship are to be consulted with EBBA.

D. FINANCES

The Organiser takes full and sole responsibility for any losses or any costs in their country resulting from the organisation of the EBBC.

E. CONTESTS

All contests, championships, etc organised by the EBBA shall be subjected to rules formulated by the EC:

- The EBBA contesting rules for the EBBC.
- The management contracts for the organisers.
- The regulations concerning the adjudication of the band performances.
- The schedule of duties for adjudicators

RULES OF THE EUROPEAN BRASS BAND CHAMPIONSHIP- EBBC

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Opening paragraph

The European Brass Band Championships (EBBC) is widely recognised as an unique, influential and highly respected annual brass band festival, created and developed over its history to provide both a positive experience and valuable development opportunity for the participating bands. EBBC creates the environment and structure for the individual members and the bands to build confidence and strengthen their identity through participation in and preparation for EBBC, where performances of the highest musical standard are the result.

The foundation of EBBC is that all contest management and participation is based on core principles with fairness and high ethical and moral standards. These values are reflected in the following Rules and Regulations.

Definitions

- 1) In these Rules the expressions listed shall have the following meanings:
"EBBC" means the European Brass Band Championship, which is divided into Championship and Challenge Section.
"Organiser" means the individual or organisation appointed by the European Brass Band Association, to organise and assume financial responsibility for the Championship in any particular year;

General

- 2) These Rules govern the Championship and the English language version is definitive.
- 3) The EBBA shall have the right to decide the following matters in connection with the Championship:
 - a) the European country and location in which the Championship will be held in any particular year.
 - b) the appointment of the Organiser.
 - c) the appointment of the Adjudicators and Contest Controllers.
 - d) the amount of prize money to be awarded.
- 4) In these Rules wherever the context so requires the masculine shall include the feminine and the singular shall include the plural.

Basic Provisions

- 5) The Championship will be held on the last weekend in April or on the first weekend in May any particular year unless otherwise decided by the EBBA.

- 6) The Championship is open to brass bands only consisting of a maximum of 35 players including percussionists who should perform in dress of a uniform nature.
- 7) a) The Championship is open for Bands in the European Brass Band Championship which will be known as the Championship Section, comprising the winning band from the previous year and the champion band and/or nominated band from each European country, provided that country has paid the full membership for the current year and the band has paid the entry fee to the EBBA.

The Champion band of Europe will be invited back the following year to defend its title. The country of the defending champions will also be allowed to nominate one more band to the EBBA for participation in the Championship at which the champions are invited to defend their title.

- b) Bands in the Challenge Section from countries that are non-members of EBBA will be invited by EBBA.
- c) If, based on the above criteria, the number of bands invited to compete in the Championship-Section is less than 12, invitations may be issued by the EBBA to bands proposed by the EC on an experts' report from the MC of EBBA.
- d) The number of bands in each section can be adjusted by the EC of EBBA on an experts' report from the MC of EBBA.
- e) The total number of bands in the Championship Section and the Challenge Section shall not exceed 18 bands.

Contest Procedure

- 8) a) Each qualifying Band must inform their Federation and EBBA by the **1 December 2025** least if they will compete in the Championship or Challenge Section (31 December 2025 for bands having championships in November or December).
- b) The members of the EBBA will notify the Executive Committee of the band nominated to compete in the Championship and its acceptance.
- c) The EBBA will send an official invitation and a contest controller's form after acceptance.
- d) The band secretary shall confirm to the Executive Committee of EBBA the band's acceptance of the invitation and will pay by 31 December the entry fee of the accurate of **EUR 500**, FREE OF ALL BANK CHARGES FOR EBBA, by direct credit to EBBA.
- e) If a country is not a member of EBBA, the entry fee is fixed at **EUR 700**, FREE OF ALL BANK CHARGES FOR EBBA, by direct credit to EBBA by 31 December.
- 9) a) Bands in the Championship Section will play a new test piece and an own choice piece. The test pieces will be selected by the EBBA and will be sent to the band by EBBA at least eight weeks prior to the date of the Championship.
- b) In the Own Choice section of the contest, the Championship Section Bands can choose to play any piece they wish. Bands must submit the name and composer of the chosen piece not later than eight weeks prior to the date of the Championship. The maximum duration of an Own Choice piece should be no longer than 20 minutes (bands may apply

for approval from the EC to perform a piece longer than 20 minutes duration. Such application must be made not later than ten weeks prior to the date of the Championship). Bands, however, are not allowed to play the same own choice piece in two consecutive years of appearance at the European Brass Band Championship.

- c) A band must be conducted by the same conductor in both sessions of the Championship.
 - d) Bands in the Challenge Section will play a new test piece with a maximum of 12 minutes plus an own choice program in a single performance. The total playing time shall not be longer than 25 minutes. Bands exceeding this time limit will be subject to the deduction of penalty points.
 - e) Bands must supply to the EBBA three printed scores of their own choice pieces for adjudication proposed at least eight weeks prior to the date of the Championship. After this date no alterations can be made to the original choice of piece.
- 10)
- a) The adjudicators will be appointed by the EBBA. Screened adjudicators will be used in accordance with the procedures laid down by the EBBA.
 - b) In the event of a tie in the aggregate placing, the placing awarded for the performance of the test piece shall determine the overall placing.
- 11)
- a) A contest schedule will be sent to the band secretary by the General Secretary least three weeks before the date of the Championship.
 - b) The order in which the bands shall perform in each session of the Contest will be decided by means of a draw on the day of the Contest organised by the Contest Controller of EBBA as stated in the contest schedule.
 - c) A band shall appoint a delegate to attend the draw and to act on its behalf in all matters pertaining to the Rules. Any queries regarding the Contest must be raised by the delegate before the draw takes place.
 - d) At the draw the band delegate is responsible to submit to the contest controller a list of band members eligible to compete in all parts of the competition. No substitutions are allowed between different parts of the competition.
 - e) If the band's delegate fails to attend the draw, an official of the Organiser will act as proxy and the band concerned must accept the order of performance drawn.
- 12)
- a) The band drawn first must assemble at the control table at least 15 minutes before the time stated by the European Contest Controller for the session to commence.
 - b) All players taking part in the Championship and Challenge Sections must be a citizen of, or permanent resident / registered student in the country their band is representing. Evidence at registration to be in the form of passport/national identity card. For the United Kingdom of Great Britain (Bands representing England / Scotland / Wales and Northern Ireland) players will in addition to the above need to produce a valid Registration card from the registry in the country they are representing.
 - c) Each player must present his/her identity card and Registration card (UK) to the control official (for identification purposes only). Players must sign their name for each session (test piece and own choice). The maximum number of players listed on the Contest Control sheet must not exceed 35.

- d) A player may play with one band only at the Championship.
- 13) a) The Championship organiser will provide certain items of percussion as stated in the contest schedule and delivered percussion list, which must be used by all bands! Any band substituting its own percussion may be disqualified.
- b) The control officials will report any discrepancy to the Contest Controllers. In case of doubt the Contest Controllers will notify the band secretary that the player concerned and the band may risk disciplinary action.
- 14) If any band is not ready to perform within five minutes of the time stated for the session to commence, or of the preceding band leaving the stage, the band may risk disciplinary action.
- 15) a) The adjudicators' decision shall be final.
- b) Results will be announced and trophies will be presented at the time stated in the contest schedule.
- c) Prize monies will be distributed in accordance with Rule 21 + 22 below.
- 16) a) Any objection concerning any alleged breach of these Rules or error in the results must be submitted in writing to the EBBA within 14 days of the Championship.
- b) Where the EBBA decides that there has been a breach of these Rules or an error in the placement, it will revise the list of results.
- 17) Providing that no objection has been received, at the expiration of 14 days the EBBA will send prize monies to the relevant bands.
- 18) a) The trophies will be competed for each year unless otherwise decided by the EBBA.
- b) A band winning a trophy must give an undertaking signed by one official of the band to keep the trophy and its protective case in good and safe condition and to protect and insure the trophy and its case against loss or damage.
- c) It is the band's responsibility to return the trophy and its case in good condition upon instructions from the EBBA.

Copyrights and permissions

- 19) a) All rights appertaining to the performances by the bands performing at the EBBC, and associated events organised by the EBBA in conjunction with the championships shall be the property of the EBBA. EBBA will collect written approval from all bands and all their individual musicians, and all external soloists concerning their performing rights. This will be done by means of signing the EBBA contest controller form by each participating musician.
- b) It is the responsibility of bands to have and be able to evidence in writing, permission for performance, recording/filming of all *non-published* material used at the contest. Copies of required permissions to be submitted no later than 21 days prior to the contest to general.ebba@gmail.com
- c) The European Brass Band Championships are recorded for digital delivery and will be live-streamed through wobplay.com, which will be accessed by subscribers in perpetuity.

In doing so, no performance royalties will be paid to bands, but all copyright ownership will be communicated to the PRS for Music who will pay all mechanical royalties in due course, as long as Mechanical Copyright holders are members of MCPS. Any queries should be directed to the PRS for Music. PRS for Music is the trading name of Performing Rights Society Ltd (PRS), Mechanical Copyright Society Limited (MCP{S) and the MCPS-P.

- 20) By sending in the Online Application Form, the representative of the participating band grants in the name of the participating band and all its musicians the right to EBBA as controller to process the personal data provided in the Online Application Form for the administration of the EBBC, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union (EU) and the national data protection law applicable to EBBA.

The personal data provided in the Online Application Form, in particular the first name, family name, postal address, e-mail address, telephone number, bank coordinates will be used for the purposes to register the bands, verify the compliance with the conditions of the competition and effectively administer and promote the EBBC.

Each representative of the band grants in the name of the participating band and all its musicians the right to EBBA to publish in any suitable form, including on the internet, the name of the band and name of the conductor.

Furthermore, the representative of each band retains the rights according to the GDPR and the applicable national law. These include the right to be informed about personal data EBBA processes about contact details or to submit a request to rectify or erase any personal data EBBA holds about the participating band. Requests are to be addressed to general.ebba@gmail.com

Discipline & Appeals

- 21) Disciplinary action may be taken by the EBBA for any of the following offences:

- I. any breach of these Rules
- II. failure to comply with the instructions set out in the contest schedule
- III. any action, which the EBBA deems detrimental to the reputation of the Championship

- 22) In the event of any player, official or band being found guilty of any of the above offences, the individual or band may be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

- I. disqualification from the Contest;
- II. forfeiture of trophies and/or prize monies;
- III. suspension from being invited to compete in the Championship in the future.

- 23) a) Any player, official or band who has a complaint against the Organiser or who has been subjected to disciplinary action by the EBBA shall have the right of appeal.

b) The appeal must be submitted in writing to the President of the EBBA General Meeting.

c) The EBBA General Meeting will hear and decide any appeal at its next meeting and the following procedure will apply:

- I. the appellant will be invited to put the case at the meeting,

- II. the EBBA General Meeting's decision will be communicated in writing to the appellant within seven days of the meeting,
- III. the EBBA General Meeting's decision shall be final and shall not be subject to any legal proceedings whatsoever.

European Brass Band Association

sig. Ulf Rosenberg
President EBBA

sig. Lilli Anne Grong
General Secretary EBBA