The North East Midlands Brass Band Association

February 2027 Area Test Piece Contest Rules

1. The contest is an area test piece contest.
2. The entry fee for the contest is £130 and includes membership of NEMBBA and free admission to the hall for all competitors.
3. The grading of bands will be in accordance with their national grading for the current year. Bands may only enter the section of their grading.
4. The closing date for entries is 15th January 2027 unless all the contest places are taken beforehand. Bands should email their completed form to admin@nembba.org.uk and pay by BACS to

   North East Midlands Brass Band Association
   NatWest Bank, sort code 60-01-10, account number 43212182

   or post their completed form to Robert Stansfield, 29 Neale Street, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 1FF with a cheque payable to

   North East Midlands Brass Band Association (no abbreviations, please)
5. Band should use any large percussion items provided by the Association (a list of which will be available before the contest). Bands should provide any additional percussion items which they require, including beaters.
6. All sections will be pre-drawn, and bands notified of their draw and estimated playing time before the contest. Bands are responsible for ensuring that their draw is not publicised.
7. Bands should be ready to perform within 5 minutes of the preceding band vacating the stage.
8. All bands competing at the contest shall play a maximum of thirty (30) standard brass band instrumentalists plus percussion as required by the musical score.
9. All bands must appear in uniform or uniformity of dress, unless the Association has previously given special permission.
10. All registered players must be registered with Brass Band Players Ltd or the Scottish Brass Band Association.
11. Bands may borrow up to four (4) players for the contest. These borrowed players must be from a brass band in the same section (national grading) or below or be unregistered. Fourth section bands may borrow players from the third section. Borrowed and unregistered players should be entered on the Player Information Form in red and a letter of consent is required from the player's own band.
12. The contest will be held under closed adjudication.
13. No application for borrowed players will be allowed on the day of the contest except in circumstances beyond the control of the band concerned. In the event of sickness or accident, self-certification or medical evidence from a doctor or GP is required.
14. The results will be announced, and prizes awarded at the end of each section.
15. Bands and individuals winning trophies at the contest will be required to sign a receipt at the time of the award (in the case of juniors, the receipt must be signed by a responsible adult). The trophies must be kept in a good and safe condition, be insured by the band, and be returned upon receipt of a request from the Association's Trophy Officer.
16. Protests or complaints regarding the contest must be in writing and handed to the administration manager on the day of the contest, or within seven days, and must contain all relevant particulars. A deposit of £50 must accompany the protest or complaint, which will be returned if the protest or complaint is upheld by the Association.
17. The adjudicator's decision is final.
18. The North East Midlands Brass Band Association cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage to persons or property.

Approved October 2022