BRITISH COLUMBIA PIPERS' ASSOCIATION
Information for the February Mini-Gathering   February 19, 2022

Competitors must enter the February Mini-Gathering events on-line and pay by credit card at the BCPA Registration System website at   https://bcpipers.wildapricot.org/event-4637745

Entries including full payment must be received by the dates in the tables below. All "early bird" entries received by 11:59 pm January 17 will be considered to be randomly received on January 17.

Entries will not be accepted if not fully paid. Where tune submissions are required, solo competitors who do not submit their tunes by the entry deadline shall not be eligible for placings and prizes.

TABLE 1
For all grades EXCEPT Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming:

Month	Enter By	Record & Submit Videos Between	Results Provided By
February	February 4	February 12 to February 19 at 1 pm Pacific Time	February 27

TABLE 2
For Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grade 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming:

Month	Enter By	Record Videos On	Submit Videos By	Results Provided By
February	February 4	February 19 at competitor's assigned time for the event and in the designated Zoom meeting for the event	8 hours after the player completes their performance in the event	February 27

No telephone, email or late entries accepted. **No refunds.**

For video recording and YouTube uploading technical questions, please contact BCPA IT Infrastructure Leader Garth Newlands at it.infrastructure@bcpipers.org

For general and entry questions, please contact BCPA Competition Secretary Moira Mack at 604-455-4884 or entries@bcpipers.org

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** **Requirements are submit one of each tune and minimum four parts each tune unless stated otherwise** **

Please examine the List of Events table carefully

Players must perform in appropriate highland dress per BCPA competition rules.

For events with multiple tune submissions required, the selected tune(s) for the player's performance in the event will be published in the Orders of Play on February 12.

**** For all grades EXCEPT Grades 1 & 2 Piping,
Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, and Intermediate Tenor Drumming ****

Submit one video performance per event.

Video performances must not have been and must not be submitted for any other competitions and must be unique to the BCPA 2022 February Mini-Gathering.

Submitted videos & details which are not accessible will not be followed-up and will be noted as disqualified.

* For Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, and Intermediate Tenor Drumming *

Players shall perform live in a Zoom meeting, at an assigned time on the particular date for the event, record this performance on a separate video recording device, and submit the video & details within 8 hours of the completion of the player's performance.

Submitted videos which are not accessible will not be followed-up and will be noted as disqualified.

The Orders of Play for these grades will include the assigned time on the particular date and Zoom meeting link.

PIPING

Event	Grade	Music	Requirements
103	Beginner	2/4 March (on Chanter)	4 parts of March. Two parted tunes permitted
104	Beginner	6/8 March (on Chanter)	4 parts of March. Two parted tunes permitted
111	5	2/4 March	Min. 4 parts
113	5	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts
181	** Adult Prep	2/4 March	Min. 4 parts
183	** Adult Prep	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts
173	Adult	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts
175	Adult	Strathspey & Reel	2 parts each played twice or 4 parts ea
122	4	Piobaireachd	Ground & next variation (singling)
123	4	Strathspey & Reel	2 parts each played twice or 4 parts ea
132	3	Strathspey & Reel	Min. 4 parts each
133	3	Piobaireachd	Submit 1 tune
142	2	Piobaireachd	Submit 2 tunes
143	2	Hornpipe & Jig	Min. 4 parts each
151	1	March, Strathspey & Reel	Submit 2 of each tune
152	1	Piobaireachd	Submit 3 tunes

* Requirements Legend: M = March, S = Strathspey, R = Reel

** Adult Prep is a non-competition preparatory class for adult aged pipers who desire adjudicator's feedback on their development progress prior to eventually entering competitions in the Adult grade

SNARE DRUMMING

Event	Grade	Music	Requirements
204	Beginner	4/4 March (on Practice Pad)	4 parts of BCPA Massed Band setting
205	Beginner	3/4 March (on Practice Pad)	4 parts of BCPA Massed Band setting
221	4	2/4 March	4 parts only
222	4	6/8 March	4 parts only
231	3	2/4 March	Min. 4 parts
232	3	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts
241	2	March, Strathspey & Reel	Min. 4 parts ea
242	2	Hornpipe & Jig	Min. 4 parts ea
251	1	March, Strathspey & Reel	Min. 4 parts ea
252	1	Hornpipe & Jig	Min. 4 parts ea

TENOR DRUMMING

Event	Grade	Music	Requirements
301	Beginner	2/4 March (on Practice Pad)	BCPA Massed Band setting. 75 bpm metronome accompaniment only
302	Beginner	6/8 March (on Practice Pad)	BCPA Massed Band setting. 80 bpm metronome accompaniment only
341	Novice	2/4 March	Min. 4 parts. Playing and flourishing required. Piper optional
342	Novice	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts. Playing and flourishing required. Piper optional
351	Intermediate	March, Strathspey & Reel	Min. 4 parts ea
353	Intermediate	6/8 March	Min. 4 parts

GENERAL INFORMATION

PREAMBLE
In this unprecedented time when COVID-19 has caused the cancellation of highland games and solo piping, drumming and pipe band competitions, the BC Pipers Association will not be able to conduct the Mini-Gatherings in-person, as in previous years due to potential facilities at this time not renting enough suitable rooms to external entities.

Following the opportunities provided by the BCPA Mini-Gatherings, Annual Gathering, and the Online Summer Competitions last season, the November Mini-Gathering will follow this similar online recordings format.

As much as practical, it is BCPA's intention to keep to the format and conduct of an in-person competition using this online recordings format.

INSTRUCTIONS
Step 1: Competitors must enter the events on-line and pay by credit card at the BCPA Registration System at https://bcpipers.wildapricot.org/event-4637745

If you do not have a credit card, you may use a Visa® Gift Card purchased at any of the following locations. In Canada: Vancity credit unions, Shoppers Drug Mart, Pharmasave, 7-Eleven, and other retail outlets. In the USA: Albertsons, Kroger, Safeway, Staples, & other retail outlets.

Step 2: You should print this information document in order to read the information, music and rules requirements on all pages.

Step 3: Players in the Grade 2 Piping event 142 and all the Grade 1 Piping events must submit their tunes names with their entry and will be informed of the tunes that have been selected for them one week before the event. **For events where tune submissions are required, solo competitors who do not submit their tunes by the entry deadline shall not be eligible for placings and prizes. Players entered for these events may submit tune changes to the BCPA Competition Secretary (entries@bcpipers.org) up to the entry deadline.**

Step 4:. You must complete all fields of the competitor information section online. Your BCPA Membership number is located in your Profile in the BCPA Registration System. Select events, check the required confirmations, and complete payment.

Step 5: Players will then receive a registration confirmation email that advises players to watch for an email when the Orders of Play are published that will include instructions and a link

to enter the particular YouTube links of the player's performances and details of those performances (to be completed once the performances have been posted on YouTube).

RULES
All events are conducted under the rules of the BC Pipers Association (www.bcpipers.org).

FEES
Fees are $10 CDN per event.

Players who are not current 2021/22 members of the BC Pipers Association (BCPA) or an officially recognized piping/pipe band association affiliated with the BCPA (e.g. associations in the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations) must pay an additional $12 CDN per competitor to the entry fees total. Non-BCPA members, please upload a picture or scan of your current membership card, or similar proof, during the online entry process.

ORDERS OF PLAY, TUNE SELECTIONS, & SCHEDULES
ALL events are *first to enter, last to play*, however all "early bird" entries received by 11:59 pm January 17, 2022 will be considered to be randomly received on January 17.

The Orders of Play will be posted on the BCPA website (www.bcpipers.org) 1 week before the competition date. Adjudicators will assess the performances according to the Orders of Play.

For events with multiple tune submissions required: The Orders of Play for these events will include the adjudicator selected tune(s) for the player's performance in the event.

For Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, and Intermediate Tenor Drumming: The Orders of Play for these grades will include the player's assigned time on the particular date of the event, and Zoom meeting link. Players not ready to play in the posted order and at the given time may be disqualified.

ADJUDICATOR EVENT ASSIGNMENTS
The adjudicator assigned to each event will be posted on the BCPA website 3 days before the competition date.

HIGHLAND DRESS
Refer to the BCPA competition rules for appropriate highland dress.

TUNING TIME
Tuning time is a maximum three minutes (except piobaireachd which is a maximum five minutes).

DRUMMING ACCOMPANIMENT

For this competition:
- Except for the Beginner grade, snare drummer competitors must perform with live or recorded piping accompaniment
- For the Tenor drumming grades, competitors must perform with live or recorded accompaniment as follows:
  Beginner: Metronome only
  Novice: Snare drumming only
  Intermediate: Snare drumming & piping

VIDEOS RECORDING & SUBMISSION TIMING
For all grades EXCEPT Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming: Players must record and submit their performances videos and music details in the periods defined in Table 1 on Page 1 of this document.

For Grades 1 & 2 Piping, Grades 1 & 2 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming: Per the details in Table 2 on Page 1 of this document, at the competitor's assigned time for the event on the defined competition days and in the designated Zoom meeting for the event, the player shall perform LIVE, record the performance on a separate video recording device, and submit that performance video and its music details within 8 hours of the completion of that performance.

VIDEOS UNIQUENESS
Video performances shall be unique to the BCPA 2022 February Mini-Gathering (i.e. has not been used for and will not be used for any other piping or drumming competitions).

RESULTS
Results will be published 8 days after the event and competitors adjudication sheets will be emailed out at that time.

PRIZES
For Mini-Gatherings, the prizes are certificates. Adult Prep class players will be eligible for random draws for piping items.

The aggregate winner in each grade for the combined November and February Mini-Gatherings receives a perpetual shield following the February Mini Gathering.

Winner of the "super aggregate" for Grade 1 Piping competitions will be a total aggregate score from the 2021/22 Mini-Gatherings and the 2022 Annual Gathering. This aggregate will be calculated on a total of all results of each event, being weighted equally. The winner receives up to a maximum of $600 CDN toward an airline ticket to Ontario to compete in the George Sherriff Memorial Invitational competition. Winner must be a current BCPA member and reside in

the BCPA sanctioning jurisdiction (BC, WA, OR). Winner must have also played in the Annual Gathering Grade 1 Piobaireachd, which will be used to break a tie. 4 or more players must compete in each event for the travel prize to be awarded.

Winner of the "super aggregate" for Grade 1 Snare Drumming competitions will be a total aggregate score from the 2021/22 Mini-Gatherings and the 2022 Annual Gathering. This aggregate will be calculated on a total of all results of each event, being weighted equally. The winner will receive up to a maximum of $600 CDN toward an airline ticket to Scotland or Missouri to compete in the World Solo Drumming Championship or the Midwest Highland Arts Fund Winter Storm competitions, respectively. Winner must be a current BCPA member and reside in the BCPA sanctioning jurisdiction (BC, WA, OR). Winner must have also played in the Annual Gathering Grade 1 March, Strathspey & Reel, which will be used to break a tie. 4 or more players must compete in each event for the travel prize to be awarded.

Winner of the "super aggregate" for Intermediate Tenor Drumming competitions will be a total aggregate score from the 2021/22 Mini-Gatherings and the 2022 Annual Gathering. This aggregate will be calculated on a total of all results of each event, being weighted equally. The winner will receive up to a maximum of $600 CDN toward an airline ticket to Scotland or Missouri to compete in the International Tenor Drumming Championship or the Midwest Highland Arts Fund Winter Storm competitions, respectively. Winner must be a current BCPA member and reside in the BCPA sanctioning jurisdiction (BC, WA, OR). Winner must have also played in the Annual Gathering Intermediate March, Strathspey & Reel, which will be used to break a tie. 4 or more players must compete in each event for the travel prize to be awarded.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAVEL PRIZES
For all travel related prizes, the amount allocated will be based on a flight originating in Vancouver or the winner's city whichever is lesser cost.

Piping and Drumming prize trips must be made in the year the prize is won (or the next Winter Storm competition in the case of Winter Storm travel prizes) or the allocation toward the travel will be forfeited.

If a prize trip is not made by the winner or the requirements for the specific travel prize are not met, the monies will be re-allocated to the respective Piping, Snare Drumming, or Tenor Drumming travel support fund for BCPA members.

VIDEO CREATION AND SUBMISSION

Each performance must

- be prepared as a separate video
- be completed in one take (no editing or splicing), although multiple attempts can be made
- not include tuning time (Piping Grades 1 & 2 grades excluded)
- be on the full instrument (except for Beginner grades which are on Chanter & Practice Pad and except for the following bullet point)
  - for Snare Drummers where their smartphone/tablet does not produce or their room conditions interfere with a good quality snare drum recording, the performance may be played on practice pad.
- start with the player clearly stating:
  - that this is for the "BCPA February Mini-Gathering"
  - the date of the recording
  - their full name
  - grade
  - music event and
  - tune(s) they will perform

GUIDANCE FOR QUALITY VIDEO RECORDING

- Smartphones and tablets, mounted or held in a stable position, are quite suitable for recording the videos
- **For players competing live, ensure you have enough available storage memory on your recording device for all your day's events. Also consider using a second simultaneous recording device, in case your primary recording device has an unexpected problem.**
- Record the video in Portrait mode unless Landscape mode is needed for the performance
- Frame the picture so the player is facing the camera straight on and is showing all of the player's body. Try to have the microphone(s) around head height.
- Ensure adequate lighting so body and hands can be clearly seen
- Turn off automatic gain control on the audio and adjust the recording volume to a high but not distorted level
- Keep at least 10 feet distance from the camera. Except for piobaireachd, marching/walking is not preferred (due to sound level changes in the recording) however tapping your foot is encouraged.
- Perform indoors on a carpet, rug, or blanket on the floor rather than on bare hardwood or tile (to reduce sound reflections). Turn off ceiling and floor fans. If not possible to perform indoors, record in an outdoor setting in reasonably close proximity with no or minimal visual and audible distractions (e.g. wind noise).
- If performing with accompaniment, ensure that the accompaniment sound can be adequately heard but does not overwhelm the competitor's sound.

The requirements for uploading to YouTube are"

- A Gmail account or a Google account associated with a non-Gmail email is required. If not already done, a channel will need to be created.
- Use a computer browser or the YouTube app to login and upload the video recording(s)
- **Set the video to Public (viewable by everyone) or Unlisted (viewable by only those with the link to the video). Do not set to Private (only viewable by the account owner)**
- Title must be in the format :"BCPA Mini-Gathering February 2022 - PLAYER FULL NAME - DISCIPLINE-GRADE - MUSIC IDIOM"
  e.g. "BCPA Mini-Gathering February 2022 - Joe Smith - Piping - Grade 4 - Strathspey & Reel"
- Description field should include the name(s) of tune(s) e.g. "Dornie Ferry, Rejected Suitor)
- **Following upload, listen to the video to ensure it is of acceptable quality, and then go to the link published with the Orders of Play details to enter the particular YouTube link of the performance and details of that performance**