

BRITISH COLUMBIA PIPERS' ASSOCIATION

Information for the February Mini-Gathering

February 20, 2021

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-4109619>

Entries including full payment must be received by February 5. All "early bird" entries received by 11:59 pm January 10 will be considered to be randomly received on January 10.

For all grades EXCEPT Grade 1 Piping, Grade 1 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming:

Enter By	Record & Submit Videos Between	Results Provided By
February 5	February 13 to February 19 at 6 pm Pacific Time	February 28

For Grade 1 Piping, Grade 1 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming:

Enter By	Record Videos On	Submit Videos By	Results Provided By
February 5	February 20 at competitor's assigned time for the event and in the designated Zoom meeting for the event	6 pm Pacific Time February 20	February 28

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

For video recording and YouTube uploading technical questions, please contact BCPA Communications Chair Garth Newlands at communications@bcpipers.org

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

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

Submit one video performance per event.

Video performances must be unique to the BCPA February 2021 Mini-Gathering (i.e. has not been used for and will not be used for any other piping or drumming competitions)

Submitted videos which are not accessible will not be followed-up and will not be adjudicated.

Players must perform in appropriate highland dress per BCPA competition rules

*** For events with multiple tune submissions (Events 142, 151, and 152), players shall submit the names of the tunes with their entry. One week after entries close, players will be informed of the selected tune(s) to perform ***

Please examine the List of Events table carefully

PIPING				SNARE DRUMMING			
Event	Grade	Music	Requirements	Event	Grade	Music	Requirements
103	Beginner	2/4 March (on Chanter)	4 parts of March. Two parted tunes permitted	204	Beginner	4/4 March (on Practice Pad)	BCPA Massed Band setting
104	Beginner	6/8 March (on Chanter)	4 parts of March. Two parted tunes permitted	205	Beginner	3/4 March (on Practice Pad)	BCPA Massed Band setting
111	5	2/4 March		221	4	2/4 March	4 parts only
113	5	6/8 March		222	4	6/8 March	4 parts only
122	4	Piobaireachd	Ground & next variation (singling)	231	3	2/4 March	
123	4	Strathspey & Reel	2 parts each played twice or 4 parts ea	232	3	6/8 March	
132	3	Strathspey & Reel		241	2	March, Strathspey & Reel	
133	3	Piobaireachd	Submit 1	242	2	Hornpipe & Jig	
142	2	Piobaireachd	Submit 2 tunes	251	1	March, Strathspey & Reel	
143	2	Hornpipe & Jig		252	1	Hornpipe & Jig	
151	1	March, Strathspey & Reel	Submit 2 of each tune	TENOR DRUMMING			
152	1	Piobaireachd	Submit 3 tunes	Event	Grade	Music	Requirements
172	Adult	Slow Air	Min 2 parts, repeats to be observed	301	Beginner	2/4 March (on Practice Pad)	4 parts of BCPA Massed Band setting. 75 bpm metronome accompaniment only
173	Adult	6/8 March		302	Beginner	6/8 March (on Practice Pad)	4 parts of BCPA Massed Band setting. 80 bpm metronome accompaniment only
<i>*Requirements Legend: M = March, S = Strathspey, R = Reel</i>				341	Novice	2/4 March	Min 4 parts. Playing and flourishing required. Piper optional
NOTE: All events to be performed without the aid of music				342	Novice	6/8 March	Min 4 parts. Playing and flourishing required. Piper optional
NOTE: Beginner grade Tenor Drumming competitors shall provide the metronome accompaniment				351	Intermediate	March, Strathspey & Reel	
				353	Intermediate	6/8 March	

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.

Following the opportunity provided by the BCPA Online Performance Assessments in May, June, and July, the Mini-Gatherings 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 Mini-Gathering events on-line and pay by credit card at the BCPA Registration System at <https://bcpipers.wildapricot.org/event-4109619>

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 Events 142, 151, and 152 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. Players who do not submit tunes for these events will receive adjudication sheets only (no placings) for those events.

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 includes a link to a NEW SYSTEM 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).

VIDEOS RECORDING & SUBMISSION TIMING

For all grades EXCEPT Grade 1 Piping, Grade 1 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming: Players must record and submit their performances videos and music details in the period February 13 to 19 at 6 pm Pacific Time.

For Grade 1 Piping, Grade 1 Snare Drumming, & Intermediate Tenor Drumming: At the competitor's assigned time for the event on February 20 and in the designated Zoom meeting for the event, players shall video record and submit their performances videos and music details by 6 pm Pacific Time on February 20.

VIDEOS UNIQUENESS

Video performances shall be unique to the BCPA February 2021 Mini-Gathering (i.e. has not been used for and will not be used for any other piping or drumming competitions).

DRUMMING ACCOMPANIMENT

For this competition:

- Except for the Beginner grade, snare drummer competitors must perform with live or recorded piping accompaniment
- Except for the Beginner grade, tenor drummer competitors must perform with live or recorded snare drumming accompaniment

FEES

Fees are \$8 CDN per light music event and \$10 CDN per Piobaireachd event.

Players who are not current 2020/21 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 soloist to the per event entry fee. Non-BCPA members, please upload a picture or scan of your current membership card, or similar proof, during the online entry process.

RULES

Mini-Gatherings competition events in piping and drumming are conducted under the rules of the BC Pipers Association (www.bcpipers.org).

ORDERS OF PLAY

Mini-Gathering events are *first to enter, last to play*, however all "early bird" entries received by 11:59 pm January 10 will be considered to be randomly received on January 10.

All Mini-Gatherings orders of play will be posted on the BCPA website (www.bcpipers.org) one week before the competition, and Grade 1 Piping, Grade 1 Snare Drumming, and Intermediate Tenor Drumming events will include

player's assigned time, Zoom meeting link, and selected tune(s) [for Events 142, 151, & 152].

HIGHLAND DRESS

Players must perform in appropriate highland dress per BCPA competition rules or their performance will be disqualified.

RESULTS

Results will be announced 8 days after the event and adjudication sheets and prize certificates will be emailed out at that time.

PRIZES

For Mini-Gatherings, the prizes are certificates. 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 2020/21 Mini-Gatherings and the 2021 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.

Winner of the "super aggregate" for Grade 1 Snare Drumming competitions will be a total aggregate score from the 2020/21 Mini-Gatherings and the 2021 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.

Winner of the "super aggregate" for Intermediate Tenor Drumming competitions will be a total aggregate score from the 2020/21 Mini-Gatherings and the 2021 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.

WAIVER STATEMENT

(To be agreed to by competitor, or parent/guardian if under age 18)

I desire to enter the events identified, and in consideration of your acceptance of this entry, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and relieve any and all claims I may have against the BCPA competitions for injuries which may be suffered by me while in attendance. I agree to release any photo images & video that may be taken during my participation in the BCPA competitions. I have read and understand the information in this information document. I have read and understand the Competitor Code of Conduct on the BCPA website www.bcpipers.org/about/rules

PERFORMING RIGHTS STATEMENT

(To be agreed to by competitor)

The player referenced on this entry has permission to publicly perform all of the music he/she will perform at BCPA events and consents to the BCPA recording, storing, reproducing and broadcasting any performances publicly through whatever means it deems appropriate.

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 (Grade 1 Piping 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
- 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 2021 - PLAYER FULL NAME - DISCIPLINE - GRADE – MUSIC IDIOM"
e.g. "BCPA Mini-Gathering February 2021 - 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 audio quality, and then go to the link in the registration confirmation email to enter the particular YouTube link of the performance and details of that performance**