

**BRITISH COLUMBIA PIPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MANDATORY SOLO COMPETITOR AND BAND PROMOTIONS FOR THE 2016-2017 SEASON**

At the conclusion of each competition season, the BCPA Grading Committees (Solo and Band) review the results of solo and band competitions at the BCPA sanctioned competitions from the Annual Gathering through to the Pacific Northwest Highland Games and the Performance Ratings of the soloists and bands in those competitions. For soloists and bands, the Performance Rating values are the adjudicator's assessment of the competitor's performance relative to the adjudicator's expectation for the grade. The Grading Committees review all these factors and their recommendations for regrading competitors are presented to the BCPA Board of Directors for final approval.

The BCPA implements a "continent grading standard" for solo competitors and a "world grading standard" for bands, as recommended by the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations (ANAPBA). This means that solo competitors and bands graded by the BCPA would be determined to be in the correct grade if assessed by other ANAPBA member associations (for solos) or by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (for bands).

Thus solo competitor promotions are determined based on assessed ability to successfully compete (i.e. have a reasonable chance of attaining some placings) at the next grade level, not only in BCPA sanctioned competitions, but also in sanctioned competitions in other ANAPBA member associations. Band promotions are determined based on the standard of the grades at the World Pipe Band Championships.

Solo competitors and bands within the BCPA jurisdiction (BC, Washington, and Oregon) are not permitted to "self-promote" themselves to the next grade level. However, solo competitors and bands which have not been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA by submitting a completed BCPA Regrading Appeal Form. Similarly, solo competitors and bands which have been promoted may appeal the decision to the BCPA by submitting a completed BCPA Regrading Appeal Form. **Amateur soloist regrading appeals, except for those to the Open grade, will only be accepted in the period September 19 to October 15, 2016 and another period in late winter, to be announced.**

Solo competitors and bands may request a summary of their 2015/16 season Performance Ratings by emailing secretary@bcpipers.org and including competitor name, grade, instrument (i.e. piper, snare drummer, tenor drummer, band). Solo competitors and bands are encouraged to request their Performance Ratings summary so that when coupled with the results at BCPA sanctioned competitions (located on the BCPA website www.bcpipers.org ) a more comprehensive picture is presented of the solo competitor/band performances throughout the season.

**Competitors who do not appear on the mandatory promotions list shown below are encouraged to discuss an appeal with their instructor. If the instructor feels a promotion is warranted based on strong and consistent performance in placings and performance ratings, as well as other information not generally available to the appropriate Grading Committees, then the appropriate Grading Committee encourages the competitor to file an appeal using the BCPA Regrading Appeal Form (located on the BCPA website).**

After careful review, the BCPA Board of Directors has approved the following mandatory solo and band competitor promotions for the 2016-2017 season.

Beginner to Grade 5 Piping	All Beginner players who have competed in the Beginner grade for more than 12 months
Grade 5 to Grade 4 Piping	Callum Bevan, Connor Francis, James Hughes, Venudhar Lowe, Thomas Merry, Cameron Robson, Fergus Terry, Avery White
Grade 4 to Grade 3 Piping	Matthew Fleek, Ewan Jones, Weston Kennedy, Alexandra Lye, Katie Pinter, Vienna Scheyer, Savannah Walker, Duncan Winters, Malachi Wonder
Adult to Grade 3 Piping	No promotions
Grade 3 to Grade 2 Piping	Gerry Anderson, Collin Dazey, Fraser Jones, Peyton Stewart, John Sommer, Sam Toohey
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Piping	Alistair Bevan, Charles Morris
Beginner to Grade 4 Snare Drumming	All Beginner players who have competed in the Beginner grade for more than 12 months
Grade 4 to Grade 3 Snare Drumming	Thomas Bennett, Dean Jones, Heather-Lynn Kirk, Calum Merry, C. Christian Nickerson, Griffin Roberts
Grade 3 to Grade 2 Snare Drumming	Alonso Cruz, Blake Prescott, Tasha Wilson
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Snare Drumming	Brady Byers, Robert Graham Jr, Julia Snow
Beginner to Grade 2 Tenor Drumming	All Beginner players who have competed in the Beginner grade for more than 12 months
Grade 2 to Grade 1 Tenor Drumming	No promotions
All band regradings	No regradings. Comprehensive review of band gradings to be done in the 2017 season.