



British Columbia Pipers' Association

Player Initiated Promotion Requests at the end of the 2021 Season

Because the COVID-19 pandemic has caused cancellation of many BCPA sanctioned in-person competitions for the 2021 season, limited objective data is available (i.e. competition placings and performance ratings data) for the BCPA Solo Grading subcommittee to make informed decisions on mandatory player grade promotions, that are typically announced in September each year. **Thus, there will be no mandatory player grade promotions at the end of the 2021 season.**

BCPA has been encouraging players to keep advancing their musical development by a number of means during this time, such as continuing individual lessons with their instructors, participating in the BCPA online competitions (such the Mini-Gatherings, Annual Gathering, and the Online Summer Competitions), applying for BCPA tuition bursaries for online piping and drumming summer schools, and participating in other online competitions (World Online, Clasp, etc).

The BCPA Solo Grading subcommittee believes that players who continue advancing their musical development across this season should be provided an opportunity to be assessed for promotion to the next grade level, providing certain criteria are met. In brief, that criteria is compelling evidence that the player's musical performances are of calibres at the high end or above the player's current grade level across the full range of music events for the player's current grade AND some prize winning or placings successes in BCPA competitions.

Accordingly, BCPA is again announcing the BCPA Player Initiated Promotion Requests initiative that provides players with the opportunity to apply in early to mid September for a promotion to the next grade level. If the player's request with application package is approved by the BCPA Solo Grading subcommittee, the player's promotion would be effective for competitions in the 2021/22 season (i.e. competitions after October 1, 2021).

The requirements and criteria for the application package involve:

- YouTube video recordings of ALL required music events in the player's current discipline and grade, as enumerated in the BCPA "Music Requirements for Piping, Drumming, and Pipe Band Competitions"

<https://www.bcpipers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/BCPA-Music-Requirements-with-event-numbers-Rev-9.pdf>

The video recordings shall be drawn from competition performances, such as from the player's performances submitted for the BCPA online competitions, other online competitions within the BCPA region and outside the BCPA region, or video recordings of the player's performances in in-person competitions.

- Where more than one tune is required to be submitted for a music event, only ONE YouTube video recording must be submitted for the music event
- Competition critique sheets associated with the submitted videos must be submitted. If in-person competitions critique sheets are submitted as part of the evidence, submission of the video recording of the in-person competition performance is optional.
- Letter(s) must be submitted from the player's regular instructor(s) providing compelling supporting information that the player is performing at the high end of or above the player's current grade level, according to the ANAPBA Recommended Grade Level Expectations, for the full range of the player's current grade music events

https://anapba.org/images/PDF/2020/ANAPBA_Recommended_Grade_Level_Expectations_-_v10-021220.pdf

- A comprehensive list must be submitted of the player's online competitions participation activities, including prizes or placings achieved, demonstrating their continued musical development over the period of what would have been the 2020/21 season (i.e. October 2020 to September 2021)

The link to apply for a Player Initiated Promotion Request is <https://forms.gle/z2qkyRDkK8AWS9EF7>

NOTE: You must be logged into a Google account to access the above online application form.

Please have all information ready to submit in ONE application (i.e. multiple applications with pieces of information will not be accepted).

Applications will be processed as they are received and players will be informed of the Solo Grading subcommittee's decision within two weeks of their application date.

However, the deadline for submission of the promotion request with application package is Friday September 17 and players will be informed of the Solo Grading subcommittee's decision by October 1, which enables the player to be included in the early bird random draw for the 2021/22 season BCPA Mini-Gatherings (if the player chooses to enter these competitions).

BCPA Solo Grading Subcommittee