

# BRITISH OPEN SOLO AND QUARTET CHAMPIONSHIPS

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**PROMOTED BY THE BRITISH OPEN AND TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

# RULES AND CONDITIONS

## GENERAL RULES

**The following rules apply to all Sections:**

1. All applications must be made on the official application form and returned, no later than the stipulated closing date, together with the entry fee to the address indicated on the entry form.
2. The submission of an application form and entry fee does not signify that the entry will be accepted. In the event of the competition being oversubscribed, it may be necessary for certain applications to participate in an elimination contest. If an application is not accepted, the fee will be returned as soon as possible. Successful applicants will be notified as soon as practical after the closing date for receipt of entries.
3. The time of the draw and venue for the competition will be sent to all competitors at a later date.
4. Each competitor will be responsible for ensuring that music is provided for the official accompanist (where provided) and/or the adjudicators. The adjudicators' music must be unmarked. When the official accompanist is required, it would be an advantage to the entrant if a piano copy of the test piece could be forwarded to the Contest Secretary (address on entry form) and least 2 (two) weeks prior to the competition.
5. If any competitor is not present to play at the allocated time, he/she will be disqualified if the performance does not commence within three minutes.
6. Trophies will be presented at the conclusion of the contest. Signatures will be required and all trophies must be returned to the Competition Secretary by 1st September the following year. (It is advisable for recipients of trophies to insure them against damage).
7. All sections will be closed adjudication.
8. The decisions of the organisers and adjudicators shall be final in all cases.

## **SENIOR SOLO CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

9. Competitors must be *bona fide* members of a brass band, either as players or conductors.
10. A preliminary competition will be held and trophies will be awarded to the highest placed competitors in each of the following categories
  - a) Soprano / Bb Cornet
  - b) Flugel / Eb Horn
  - c) Baritone / Euphonium
  - d) Trombone
  - e) Bass
11. From the preliminary competition, the adjudicators will select the six highest placed competitors, who will compete in a Champion of Champions Final, to be held at the conclusion of the Quartet Competition.
12. The British Open Solo Champion will gain automatic entry to the Final of the next Solo Competition.
13. In the Preliminary Competition, each competitor must play excerpts from his/her own choice solo, not exceeding 7 (seven) minutes duration (including piano accompaniment). The duration of each performance will be timed by a designated official (NOT the Adjudicators). Any performance exceeding 7 minutes will result in that competitor NOT qualifying for the Final.
14. First Class Accompanists will be engaged by the organisers and competitors should state on the entry form if they require their services. Every attempt will be made to provide rehearsal time on the day of the Championship.
15. The prize winners in the preliminary section will be announced immediately after the conclusion of this stage of the competition.
16. The Champion of Champions Final will take place at the conclusion of the Senior Quartet Competition, when nine finalists will be required to perform their solos in full (or excerpts there from). All finalists will play with piano accompaniment.
17. Finalist must appear in band uniform or appropriate dress during their appearance in the Final.

## **SENIOR QUARTET CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

18. Members of each quartet must be *bona fide* members of the same band. Quartets of all trombones will be allowed to borrow one trombone from another band.
19. No player will be permitted to play with more than one quartet party.
20. If less than ten entries are received, then the Section will be withdrawn.

### **INTERMEDIATE SLOW MELODY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

21. Competitors must be *bona fide* members of a brass band and must be under the age of 17 years on the day of the competition.
22. Successful applicants will not be permitted to enter the Senior Solo Competition or the Junior Slow Melody.
23. A preliminary competition will be held, from which the five highest placed competitors (irrespective of instrument) will be chosen.
24. These five will compete in a Champion of Champions Final to be held at the conclusion of the Junior Quartet Championship.
25. The 2008 Intermediate Solo Champion will gain automatic entry to the 2009 Intermediate Championship Final.
26. In the Preliminary Competition, each player must play excerpts from his/her own choice slow melody, not exceeding 6 (six) minutes duration. The duration of each performance will be timed by a designated official (NOT the Adjudicators). Any performance exceeding 6 minutes will result in that competitor NOT qualifying for the Final.
27. The prize winners in the preliminary section will be announced immediately after the conclusion of the competition.
28. Prize winners will be required to obtain invoices from their selected tutors and submit them to the Contest Secretary, who will arrange payment as soon as possible.

### **JUNIOR SLOW MELODY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

29. Competitors must be *bona fide* members of a brass band and must be under the age of 12 years on the day of the competition.
30. Successful applicants will not be permitted to enter the Intermediate Solo or Senior Solo Competitions.
31. A preliminary competition may be held, from which the five highest placed competitors (irrespective of instrument) will be chosen.
32. These five will compete in a Champion of Champions Final to be held at the conclusion of the Junior Quartet Championship.
33. In the Preliminary Competition, each player must play excerpts from his/her own choice slow melody, not exceeding 5 (five) minutes duration. The duration of each performance will be noted and if the time limit is exceeded a penalty may be imposed.
34. The prize winners in the preliminary section will be announced immediately after the conclusion of the competition.
35. Prize winners will be required to obtain invoices from their selected tutors and submit them to the Contest Secretary, who will arrange payment as soon as possible.

### **JUNIOR QUARTET CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

36. Members of each quartet must be *bona fide* members of the same band.
37. Competitors for this competition must be under the age of 17 years on the day of the competition.
38. One player only from a quartet party will be permitted to play with one other quartet party.
39. All quartet parties must play in band uniform or appropriate dress.