

# IMBA

# Contest Rules

*Internet downloadable version*



**2007 VERSION**

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(From Constitution)**

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Part IAims of the Irish Marching Bands Association as per IMBA CONSTITUTION

**1 The Association**     *The Association shall be known as the **Irish Marching Bands Association**, hereinafter referred to as “The Association” or the “IMBA”.*

**2 Aims**                     The aims of The Association are:

- (a) To promote the growth, prestige and caliber of Marching Bands.
- (b) To provide an information service
- (c) To create a forum for members’ viewpoints and encourage friendly co-operation among those engaged in the activities of banding in general and youth bands in particular; both nationally and internationally.
- (d) To co-ordinate, to organise and to standardise rules for running contests under the auspices of the IMBA.
- (e) The Association shall be non party political and non sectarian in its activities.

**3 Definitions**

AGM	Annual General Meeting
EGM	Extraordinary General Meeting
IMBA	Irish Marching Bands Association
Council	The Council of the IMBA
The Chairman	The person presiding over a meeting – normally the elected Chairman of the IMBA.
The Secretary	The person who is Secretary of The Association or his/her replacement appointed under <i>IMBA Constitution Section 7(j)</i> .
ID	Identification with photograph.
MC	Master of Cermonies.
PA	Public Address

*End of part I*

**PART II****CONTEST RULES**

*(Note: These Contest rules are separate from the main body of the Constitution and may be revised from time to time, depending on prevailing circumstances, in accordance with the Section 12(d) of the Constitution.)*

**SECTION 1 – FIELD COMPETITION RULES****I. Contest Categories**

Contests held under the auspices of the Irish Marching Bands Association must adopt the following rules as laid down by the Association. In accordance with the Constitution *Section 6(c)* IMBA field marching / show contests will be divided into 2 Divisions plus an open Traditional Division as follows, or as otherwise determined from time to time, and communicated by Council:

**A. CONTEST DIVISIONS****DIVISION 1**

- (i) This class is designed for senior bands having reached a standard higher than that required for Division 2.
- (ii) This division is open to any band that is a member of the IMBA.
- (iii) The band must perform for at least 8 minutes and for no longer than 12 minutes.
- (iv) The programme shall consist of an arena display, which must include figure marching.

**DIVISION 2.**

- (i) This class is designed for younger bands, new bands or bands currently rebuilding the standard of their performance. It is designed to allow bands that feel that the standard of their band has not yet reached the standard for Division 1 bands and allows bands to compete among bands of a similar standard.
- (ii) This division is open to any band that is a member of the IMBA.
- (iii) The Band must perform for at least 6 minutes and for no longer than 10 minutes.
- (iv) The programme shall consist of an arena display, which must include figure marching.

All bands must play in the Division agreed with the IMBA Council at the beginning of the season, for the entirety of that season. The Council however, may reclassify a band after their first performance in a season in accordance with Rule 8A.

**B. OPEN TRADITIONAL DIVISION**

- (i) This Division is designed for Bands who do not wish to participate in division 1 or 2 because of the show style marching programmes executed in those divisions. (*The word "Traditional" in this instance relates to the "style of drill" and does not imply that the music must be "Traditional Irish"*).
- (ii) This division is open "to any band that" is a member of the IMBA.
- (iii) Open to Bands, which use non-valve instruments in any key.
- (iv) Open to Bands, which use chromatic instruments.
- (v) The Band must perform for at least 6 minutes and for no longer than 10 minutes.
- (iv) The programme must consist of Traditional Style Drill.

**2 Judging System – (excluding Open Traditional Division and Street Parades)**

(a) For Field Shows there are six judging categories, each of which will be judged by one judge. The judging categories and points allocation are as follows:

(i)	Musical Ensemble & Effect.	200 points	1 Judge
(ii)	Visual Ensemble & Effect	200 points	1 Judge
(iii)	Field Visual.	150 points	1 Judge
(iv)	Percussion Field.	150 points	1 Judge
(v)	Field Music.	<u>150 points</u>	1 Judge
(v)	Colour Guard.	<u>150 points</u>	1 Judge
	TOTAL.	1000 Points.	

(The system for scoring captions is outlined in detail in the IMBA Judges Handbook ).

- (b) Timing and Penalties.
  - (i) Penalties may be applied at the discretion of the Chief Judge in accordance with *Section 6*.
  - (ii) Penalties may be recommended by the time keeper on a per second basis over the allotted time should a band still be playing or not be in position within three minutes of entering the arena.
  - (iii) Penalties may be recommended by the time keeper on a per second basis over the allotted maximum time specified for performance for the various categories.
  - (iv) Penalties where incurred by a band will be notified to the band's Field Commander prior to the announcement of results.
- (c) Band Member Registration / I.D.
  - (i) Performing Bands must have up to date ID for their members (*See Constitution Section 5(g)*) available at competition as bands may be randomly checked, while in the holding area, prior to entering the arena for a contest. The random check will normally be of any five performing

- members. If a non registered band member is discovered a further five members may be checked.
- (ii) Failure to produce ID will not incur penalty for the first offence in a season, provided the member is registered with the Association. In the event of a second offence a system of escalating fines will be applied. (*See Appendix 4*).
  - (iii) In the event of non-registered band members being discovered the field commander will be asked if he/she wishes to ask any non registered performing members not to take part. In the event of a first offence in a season, in circumstances of genuinely overlooking the registration of the performer, an appeal may be made to the IMBA chairman or his deputy on the day (who shall consult with the Time and Penalty judge and one other member of the Council) to allow the performers to continue. If the appeal is granted the field commander will be advised before the performance is allowed to commence. The appeal may be announced prior to the announcing of the contest results.
  - (d) Every person on the field will be judged for Visual Ensemble & Effect regardless of any other section in which they may be judged.
  - (e) Bands will be judged as Field wind or Field accordion under the Field Music category according to the nature of their instrumentation.
  - (f) In the event of a tie, the band with the highest mark for Musical Ensemble & Effect will be declared the overall winner. *Should a tie still be maintained then the band with the highest mark for Visual Ensemble & Effect will be deemed the winner. If there is still a tie then the result will be declared a tie.*
  - (g) Bands will be judged on their own merit and will not be compared to bands from any other division or class.
  - (h) All tuned and pit percussion will be judged as part of the percussion section. They are considered as part of the overall field show and will be judged accordingly.
  - (i) All bands will be judged throughout their whole performance within the allotted time.
  - (j) Score sheets will be in black and white only.

### 3 Judging System – Open Traditional Class.

- (a) For Open Traditional Class there are three judging categories, each of which will be judged by one judge who will have a maximum score of 200 points. The judging categories and points allocation are as follows:
 

Music Field.	150 points.	1 Judge.
Percussion Field.	150 points.	1 Judge.
Field Visual.	<u>150 points.</u>	1 Judge.
TOTAL.	450 Points.	

*This comment looks negative, i.e. it declares what the system is not, not what system is being used. No longer necessary as defined in greater detail in the judges handbook.*

- (b) Rule 2, Parts b, c, d, g, i & j will also apply.

- (c) In the event of a tie, the band with the highest mark for Music Field will be declared the overall winner.  
*Should a tie still be maintained then the band with the highest mark for Field Visual will be deemed the winner. If there is still a tie then the result will be declared a tie.*

#### 4. Contest Arena

- (a) Contest Arena Size will be 200ft x 150ft minimum.
- (b) The arena should be marked as illustrated in *Appendix 2*.
- (c) Five yard indicator markers must be used at the front and back of the arena. The figures on the markers should be a minimum of 8inches (200mm) high, of a plain font and easily legible from all parts of the arena. They should be placed from the centre outwards in both directions to the edge of the arena at five-yard intervals, with the centre marker to read 50 and the others outward to decrease numerically by five (i.e. 45,40,35,30, etc). There must also be markers at the ends of the Home and Visitor hash lines. These should have a diamond (same height as the figures) to distinguish the lines – coloured red for visitor and black for home lines.
- (d) Where possible a raised covered-in platform, 12ft by 8ft (4m x 2.4m) in area with a table and three chairs, 12 ft. (4m) high and 16 ft. (5.3m) from the front line of the arena, is to be provided for the Musical Ensemble & Effect Judge, the Visual Ensemble & Effect Judge and the Colour Guard Judge. The platform should be of safe construction, and inspected by a qualified safety officer. Access to and from the platform should be safe. Otherwise a covered Trailer may be used.
- (e) The pit percussion area will be located at the front of the arena to the minimum dimension shown, as illustrated in *Appendix 2*. Bands may use any part of the area for pit percussion.
- (f) Spectators should not have access to the area directly in front of the Judges Platform.
- (g) If the arena surface is grass this must be cut short for the contest, prior to marking.
- (h) The arena surface must be reasonably level, without any trip hazards, and provide a safe marching surface.

#### 5. Contest Rules

- (a) Each Band will be allowed three minutes to enter the arena and set-up for their performance. This will include:
- (i) Any warming up necessary.
  - (ii) Complete positioning of band ready to start performance.
  - (iii) Placing of all musical equipment, visual effects, guard equipment, etc.
- (b) Bands may only enter the arena on the indication of the Contest Marshal.
- (c) Bands may play any instrument while entering the arena, provided the Contest Marshal and Judges have been informed in advance.

- (d) Should the band still be playing or not in a position after three minutes, a fine per second over the allotted time will be as set in Appendix 4, These fines will be applied at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge having taken advice from the Time and Penalty Judge (where appointed) or Contest Marshal. The onus is on the Drum Major or Field Commander to indicate to the Time and Penalty Judge that the band is ready to commence its performance.
- (e) The Drum Major or Field Commander will indicate the band is ready by raising his or her right arm until such time as the Timekeeper / Penalty Judge has acknowledged.
- (f) Equipment such as timpani, tubular bells and heavy musical instruments must be placed inside the pit percussion area before commencement of the bands performance, and must be removed immediately afterwards.
- (g) Band Staff assisting with the placing of equipment anywhere within the arena must vacate the competition arena before the band commences its performances and remain outside the arena until the band has completed its performance. An exception will be made where for reasons of safety, and with prior notification, it is necessary for staff to support props during a performance. These members must comply with the requirements of Section 5g. Any entry to the arena during the performance may incur a fine, on a per second basis. This will be applied at the discretion of the Chief judge in consultation with the time keeper.
- (h) A band may commence its performance at any point in the arena or from the entrance to the arena. If starting from the arena entrance, this must be notified to the Contest Marshal of the arena and the Chief Judge in sufficient time to allow for the judges and the MC to be made aware of this fact.
- (i) Once the band has taken up its start position and signaled to the relevant contest official that they are ready the announcer will then ask "Are the judges ready?". Once the judges signal they are ready the announcer will then ask "Drum Major / Field Commander or Lead Musician" as the case may be, - "Is your Band / Corps ready?" The Field Commander / Drum Major or Lead Musician will signal readiness by giving a formal salute. Once the required response has been received from the band, the announcer will then say - "Name of the Band / Corps - "You may commence -your performance and the **BEST OF LUCK**"
- (j) Timing will commence on the first sound or motion from the band (*instrument note, drum beat, step or other visual movement*).
- (k) Timing will stop when the Drum Major / Field Commander or Lead Musician salutes on the completion of the performance.
- (l) Drum Majors / Field Commanders, members carrying colour guard equipment and members required for reasons of safety to support props will be the only non-performing members allowed within the competition arena during the performance
- (m) The use of pyrotechnics; the discharge of firearms, pressurised containers, flammable or toxic liquids; or any other hazardous materials or substances; by a band is prohibited and will be severely penalized by the Chief Judge (mandatory). The use of vibraphones is permitted.
- (o) The Use of wheel on props are not permitted due to potential for damage to the playing surface. All backdrop props are subject to a safety inspection by the safety officer.

## 6. Penalties

- (a) The following may result in a penalty:
- (i) If a band is not ready at the allotted time and causes the contest running to be delayed.
  - (ii) If a band does not adhere to the IMBA contest rules relating to their departure from the arena.
- (b) All penalties will be taken into consideration when compiling final IMBA League Positions.
- (c) All penalties incurred must accompany the results when sent out by the IMBA secretary, stating the penalty and the reasons why.
- (d) Bands or individual musicians must refrain from playing instruments, unless they are in a designated practice area or in the contest arena. Failure to adhere to this situation may result in a penalty.
- (e) Disrespect to any band, judges or council, such as booing, other aggressive retorts or behavior are not permitted. A band or its individual members deemed to be in breach of this rule may attract a penalty or in the case of finals may lead to disqualification.

## 7 Disqualifications

Any of the following actions may result in disqualification:

- (a) The continued indiscriminate playing of instruments, before, during or after competition.
- (b) The use of offensive language by any member of a band or band staff.
- (c) If the behavior of the band, or any member of the band or band staff, is such that it disrupts the contest in any way.
- (d) If a band is in contravention of IMBA Contest Rule 5(g) of these rules, which describes the rules relating to the presence of band staff on the field.
- (e) See also Rule 6e above.

## 8 Competing Bands

- (a) Bands should inform the IMBA which division they wish to compete in. The IMBA judges shall advise the Council who will decide if this division / class is appropriate to the particular band. Where it is not, the IMBA will suggest a more suitable division / class, for the band.
- (b) All competitors must be members of the band they perform with (See *Section (g) of the Constitution*) and may only compete in one band at a contest.
- (c) There is no limit to the size of any band in any class or division.
- (d) There is no restriction on Colour Guard equipment, except those stated in Rule 5(m).

**9. IMBA League System**

- (a) When there are a sufficient number of competitions planned for a year the IMBA Council will introduce a league system.
- (b) The League points and League table will be circulated to all member bands by the IMBA after each contest.
- (c) To participate in a league system, each band must enter a minimum amount of I.M.B.A. league contests within the league. The minimum number is defined as the total number of league competitions less one. (For example – if three league competitions are held in a year, the minimum number of competitions is two). A band may compete in a single competition without being considered in the League.
- (d) A band's league score for a given season is calculated as the average of the band's best results from the minimum number of competitions. (A band that competes in more than the minimum number of competitions will have their best results considered).
- (f) At the end of the season, a Perpetual Plaque will be awarded to the league winning band in each division.
- (g) Bands will be informed which IMBA approved contests will be included in the league system in advance of the marching season by the Council of the IMBA.
- (h) A band shall lose its competition fee for withdrawing from competition within seven days of a competition unless there are extenuating circumstances.

**10. Parade Contests**

- (a) If there is a parade after a competition, a trophy may be awarded to only one Band.
- (b) A parade will not be allowed to commence until the competition on the arena is complete and all bands are in position and ready to begin.

**11. Award System for Contests**

(a) The individual judging category medals will be award as follows for each judging category. Overall Effect categories are marked out of 200 points, and four section categories are marked out of 150 points.

- (b) The levels of caption awards are as follows:

Musical Ensemble & Effect and Visual Ensemble & Effect

- (i) Gold Medal over 160 points
- (ii) Silver Medal from 121 to 160 points
- (iii) Bronze Medal from 61 to 120 points
- (iv) Certificate below 61 points.

Field Music, Percussion, Field Visual and Colour Guard.

- (v) Gold Medal over 120 points
- (vi) Silver Medal from 91 to 120 points
- (vii) Bronze Medal from 46 to 90 points

- (viii) Certificate below 46 points.
  
  - (c) The overall medal will be awarded from the total of the five judging categories (1000 points) as follows:
    - (i) Gold Medal over 800 points
    - (ii) Silver Medal from 601 to 800 points
    - (iii) Bronze Medal from 301 to 600 points
    - (iv) Certificate below 301 points
  
  - (d) An award will be presented to the winning band of each category in each division.
  - (e) The Award ceremony will take place at the end of the contest.
  - (f) The Field Commander/Drum Majors / or a nominated band member from each band should assemble for the award ceremony. As awards are announced the Field Commander / Drum Majors / band member will step forward to accept any award they are presented with and will signify his/her acceptance of the award by saluting the person presenting the award.
  - (g) Results will be announced for the lower Division first and then the higher Division. Results will be announced in order of performance, followed by prizes.
  - (h) Within each division the IMBA MC will announce the band with the highest score within each judging category and the medal awarded for that category. The MC will then announce the runner up and winner within the division in reverse order without announcing their score.
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**SECTION 2 – RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IMBA****1. Before the Contest**

- (a) The order of play at the competition will be decided by the IMBA Council in advance of the competition. All competing bands will be given this information in advance of the competition day. (*At least one week in advance*).
- (b) Each IMBA registered band or any band that has been accepted to perform in an IMBA accredited contest will be forwarded the following information in advance of the contest:
  - (i) Entry form.
  - (ii) Exact arena dimensions.
  - (iii) Sample diagram of IMBA contest arena.
  - (iv) Availability of practice fields.
  - (v) List of divisions / classes.
  - (vi) Details of changing facilities (if available).
  - (vii) Small guide map to arena.
  - (viii) Order of play.
  - (ix) Details of a parade if one is to take place.
- (c) Bands will be notified when the secretary has received their entry form.
- (d) Judges will be recommended by the Chief Judge and booked by the IMBA Council in advance of a competition.
- (e) IMBA will organise air-tickets, transport to and from the airport, suitable accommodation (single room per judge) for international judges, where the contest organizer requests it.
- (f) The following information will be sent to each judge no later than one month prior to the competition:
  - (i) Competition timetable.
  - (ii) Confirmation of fee.
  - (iii) Location of the arena.
- (g) The IMBA will provide judges tapes, score-sheets, trophies and certificates for the contest.
- (h) While the marking of the arena is the responsibility of the contest organizer the IMBA Council will provide assistance in the marking or lining of the arena if it is so required by the contest organiser.

**2. During the Contest**

- (a) Current Public Liability insurance covering the event must be in place and available for checking if requested, during the contest.
- (b) The judging tapes should be made available to bands after their performance. The judges sheets should be made available to the bands after the awards ceremony.

**3. *After the Contest***

- (a) The organiser will arrange a meal for the judges and members of council in attendance, after the competition. Refreshments during the event are also required.
  - (b) The league points and league table will be circulated to all member bands by the IMBA council after each contest by post.
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**SECTION 3 – RESPONSIBILITIES OF BANDS*****1. Before the Contest***

- (a) Bands must brief all band members (their staff and helpers) on the timetable of events i.e. the time they are due to get changed etc., and to meet the “ready” time for entering the arena holding area.
- (b) In advance of the season, forms will be sent to each band detailing competitions for the year. All competition entry forms are to be returned to the secretary, from the bands, by the date specified on the form. The secretary will confirm receipt of the entry form and fees to the band.
- (c) Entry forms will not be accepted unless they are accompanied by the appropriate competition fee, made payable to the IMBA.
- (d) Bands must read the IMBA contest rules carefully. Bands must return a copy of the rules receipt, signed by both Musical Director / Field Commander and Chairman, before entering any competition. If the requirements any of the rules are not fully understood to your complete satisfaction, please contact your Regional Officer or the Secretary of the IMBA for clarification, before you enter.
- (e) Entry forms should be filled in carefully and completely.
- (f) If unavoidable withdrawal does become necessary, phone the secretary of the IMBA as soon as possible, and then confirm your intention to withdraw in writing with an explanation as to why you have to withdraw. (No time should be wasted so that the alternative arrangements can be made with the organiser.)
- (g) Please read the final instructions carefully and make sure they are completely understood and that any questions you might have are answered. If there are any outstanding questions contact the organiser or the IMBA secretary straight away.
- (h) In advance of the band’s entry to the arena the Drum Major or Field Commander or Lead Musician will take his or her instructions from the Contest Marshal.
- (i) If changing facilities are available for use please leave them as found. The continued availability of premises for future use at contests relies on the good behavior of band members.
- (j) Courtesy must be shown at all times to other bands, organisers and the IMBA Council. Complaints or serious incidences may result in competition penalties, disqualification or suspension from the IMBA for the band – *as laid out in Section 6, Penalties.*

**2. *During the Contest***

The band will be under the sole control of their Drum Major or Field Commander from entry to the competition arena until clearing the arena at the completion of the performance.

**3. *After the Contest***

- (a) The Drum Major/Field Commanders / nominated performing band member must be available at the end of the contest to participate in the awards ceremony.
  - (b) All bands must be prepared to play the National Anthem.
  - (c) Bands will exit the arena, via the exit indicated by the Contest Marshal, as the winning band plays the other bands off.
  - (d) Bands invited to play bands off arena after the presentation of awards must play music with a consistent beat for marching. Bands must not play after leaving arena until all other bands have left the arena.
  - (e) All Bands must refrain from beating of drums and playing of instruments, throwing of drumsticks, flag poles, items of band uniform etc., at the awards ceremony.
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**SECTION 4 – RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTEST ORGANISER****1. Before the Contest**

- (a) It is the contest organiser's responsibility to ensure that all their officials are thoroughly briefed in their duties and carry them out effectively.
- (b) The contest organiser must liaise with the Gardai well in advance of the competition to consider possible traffic control problems or requirements, particularly where there is a street parade organised.
- (c) Arrangements must be made to provide approved First Aid facilities on the day.
- (d) The organiser will arrange air-tickets, transport to and from the airport, suitable accommodation (single room per Judge) for judges if necessary.
- (e) Adequate signage should be erected around the district indicating the direction to the contest.
- (f) If possible, changing facilities should be provided for bands. If changing facilities are not available this should be made clear to the IMBA council well in advance of the competition to allow them to notify the bands.
- (g) The contest organiser must provide adequate car and coach parking facilities for bands, officials and council members.
- (h) Contest organisers should refer to Section 1, Rule 4 of these rules regarding the layout, preparation and design of the Contest Area and IMBA requirements. The Arena must meet the requirements of the IMBA.
- (i) The IMBA must be provided with details on the following by the Contest Organiser:
  - (i) Entrances.
  - (ii) Car and Coach Parking.
  - (iii) Check in Bands
  - (iv) One person to be assigned to each Band for the day.
  - (v) Any sponsor requirements.
  - (vi) Parade details.
  - (vii) Availability of assistants for judges and officials.
  - (ix) Conductor's rostrum, podium and judging tower
- (j) If there is to be a parade the IMBA must approve the route in advance.

**2. During the Contest**

- (a) An adequate number of refuse sacks should be provided at the contest grounds.
- (b) A room should be provided as a judges changing and briefing room. This room should be reserved for judges and council members directly associated with the judging staff only.
- (c) Each contest organiser must supply a clear Public Address (PA) system.

- (d) The contest organiser may appoint an MC for the day. Payment for this person will be the sole responsibility of the organiser. The IMBA council will appoint their own MC for competition coverage and the announcing of results.
- (e) A contest official must be available at all times to deal with enquiries, complaints or other problems.
- (f) All contest officials must be clearly identified by wearing official contest badges (and Hi-Vis vests).
- (g) Any booster stalls, sales outlets or other attractions must not be situated near the arena or judging area.
- (h) A photocopier shall be available at the contest grounds.

### **3 *After the Contest***

The contest organiser will be responsible for the clean up of the arena after the contest.

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**SECTION 5 – STREET PARADES UNDER AUSPICES OF IMBA RULES****1. Street Parades**

- (a) No street parade shall take place or be judged under the auspices of the IMBA rules unless:
- (i) Previously arranged with IMBA at the time of organising the associated competition, where there is a competition organised.
  - (ii) Judges names are put forward for consideration by the IMBA council, if IMBA judges are not required.
  - (iii) Parade organisers have insurance in place.
  - (iv) Parade organisers have cleared route with the Gardai and the Local Authority, as necessary, and have arrangements in place for all necessary traffic diversions where parade takes place on the public roadway. (Documentary evidence of the last two issues will be required by IMBA council in advance).
  - (v) Parade is stewarded by the organisers.
  - (vi) Stewarding includes – a steward to be at the head of the parade, also at all major junctions and change of direction and to control traffic.
  - (vii) A marshal / steward is with each band and at least two stewards / marshals at the rear of the parade to keep traffic and the public back from the end of the last band.
- (b) Band Directors / Drum Majors shall have the right to take shelter in particularly bad or inclement weather, or to withdraw from a parade in such circumstances, or in circumstances where they reasonably deem the safety of their band to be at risk.
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**SECTION 6 – COMPLAINTS AT EVENTS**

- 1(a) Complaints from Bands or their supporters, should they arise, shall only be considered by the IMBA if they are formally in writing, made only by the Band Chairperson or their Musical Director / Drum Major and co-signed off by the Band Secretary or other Committee member in his absence and addressed to the Secretary of the Council of the IMBA or another council executive in his absence from the event.
  - (b) No complaints shall be made personal; nor shall be directed to any of the judges. On receiving a formal complaint the IMBA Secretary or senior executive (in his absence) shall immediately arrange to set up a Complaints Tribunal (committee) whose decision shall be final.
  - (c) The Complaints Tribunal shall consist of three persons namely the chairman of the IMBA or his nominee from the council, the secretary or other council nominee and a person independent of banding where practicable, or a third council member. No member of the Tribunal shall be directly associated with the complaining band or the subject of the complaint.
  - (d) Complaints must be facts based and verifiable. They shall not relate to hearsay, innuendo or assumption – otherwise they will not be entertained - in such circumstances a fine may be applied.
  - (e) Only the Chairperson and Secretary shall represent the complaining band. In rare circumstance (e.g. non availability at the event) one of the above shall nominate a substitute from their committee.
  - (f) Where the complaint is made against a band or organising body, then that organization shall be similarly represented by their Chairman and Secretary or nominated substitutes from their committee in rare circumstances.
  - (g) The chairman of the IMBA or his nominee shall have final say as to whether a substitute is accepted or not.
  - (h) Where the complaint is against the Chairperson of the IMBA then the Vice-chairperson shall directly substitute for the chairperson. Similarly, for other officeholders.
2. The above procedures are for situations that arise at IMBA parades or competitions, only. Other situations shall be more properly addressed through the application of the IMBA Constitution or an EGM.

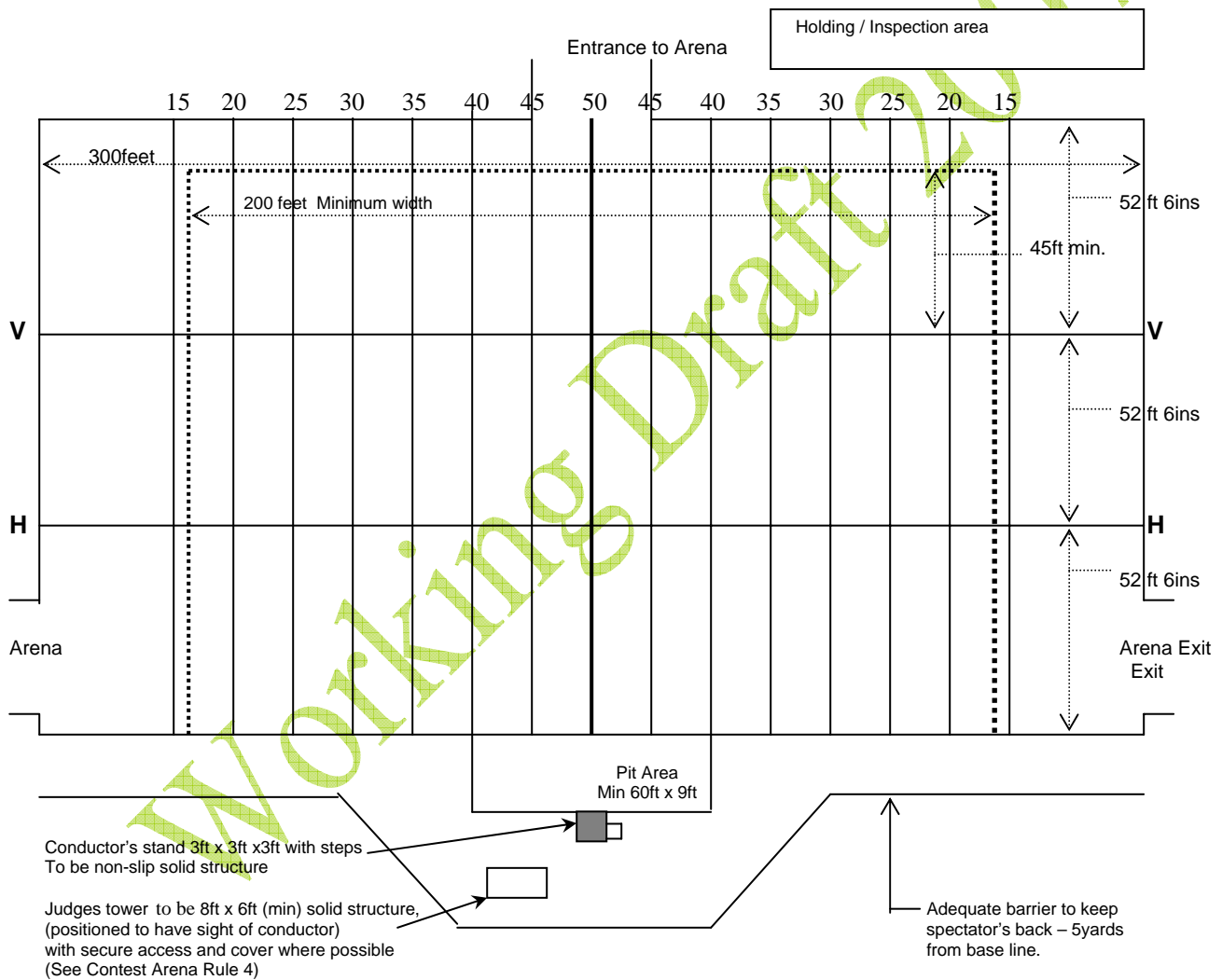
*END*

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**PART 4 – APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX II**

**Arena Layout – Minimum requirements**



(Note Visitor Home & 50 yard hash lines may need to be repainted during interval)

**APPENDIX III****Fees & Subscriptions (2007)**

Full Member Band	€17.00
Associate Member Band	€8.00
Affiliate Member Band	€3.00
Individual Member	€15.00
Contest Organiser	€100.00 to include costs covered by the IMBA.* <sup>1 2</sup>
Replacement cards	€5.00
Competition entry fee	€8.00

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Contest Organiser means Field Contest organiser

<sup>2</sup> Where a member band undertakes to be a contest organiser at the beginning of a year the contest fee is deemed to included for that particular contest.