



# Proposed Constitutional Changes

Presented at Annual General Meeting, 2 Nov 2024

# Reference Material

- Starting point:
  - PPBAM Constitution Revised Nov 2022
  - Aka Version 1.0
- New File For Approval
  - “PPBAM Constitution Version 1.1.pdf”
- Marked Up File Showing Differences
  - “PPBAM Constitution Version 1.1 with all markups.pdf”

# Process

- Objective: Add new By-Laws regarding Scholarship Fund and Dissolution of Association
- Steps:
  1. Fix formatting to number all paragraphs consistently, remove extraneous paragraph codes, etc. Content identical to approved version.
  2. Remedy awkward or confusing phrases.
  3. Add by-laws 9 and 10.
  4. Add/update Articles regarding discrimination and land acknowledgement.
  5. Update where required to reflect “normal operations”

# Update Article 3

- Objective: Modernize intentions
- Was:

## **ARTICLE 3 PHILOSOPHY**

The association shall be non-sectarian, non-racial, and non-partisan politically.

- Is Now:

### **3. ARTICLE: NON DISCRIMINATION**

The association is committed to fostering an environment free from discrimination of any kind, where all members are treated with dignity and respect. The PPBAM prohibits discrimination of any variety that may demean a person's individual worth and human dignity.

# Update Article 4

- Reflect current appreciation of our history
- Added:

## **4. ARTICLE: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECONCILIATION**

The Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba acknowledges that our events and activities take place on Treaty 1 Territory, and our jurisdiction includes the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Anisiniw, Dakota, Lakota, and Dene Peoples, and the Homeland of the Red River Metis Nation. We recognize the deep and enduring relationship between the Scottish and Indigenous Peoples in Manitoba and honour the contributions of both communities to the cultural fabric of this land.

As we gather to share our passion for music and culture, we acknowledge the importance of respecting Indigenous sovereignty and working towards healing and understanding in our shared community. May our music and our actions reflect our commitment to honour the past, support the present, and work towards a more inclusive and equitable future for all.

# Update Article 6

- Objective: Reflect current operational strategy.
- Was:

## **ARTICLE 5 OPERATIONS**

The operation of the association shall be carried out chiefly in the Province of Manitoba, and will operate under the calendar year November 1 to October 31.

- Is Now:

## **6. ARTICLE: OPERATIONS**

The operation of the association shall be carried out chiefly in the Province of Manitoba, and will operate under a fiscal year from November 1 to October 31. The Board may from time to time enact such plans and documents to fulfill objectives not outlined in the Constitution. Any such plan or document will be generally consistent with the values identified in the Constitution".

# Bylaw 1: Membership

- No change to content. Rearranged paragraphs to flow more clearly (ie. Para 1.1 and 1.2 were swapped)

# Bylaw 2: Fees

- Added some flexibility about fee deadlines.

6.22.2 All fees shall be due by a date set by the ~~Executive Board~~ and/or when the nominal roll is filed. All fees paid after the due date shall be assigned a late fee in addition to the required fee, unless waived by the Board if they are satisfied that a reasonable explanation for such a late payment exists.



# Bylaw 3: Withdrawals and Suspensions

- Improved wording to more clearly define reasons for suspension/expulsion and actions taken

~~7.13.1~~ 7.23.1 The Board of Directors may suspend or expel any member or band upon proof of behaviour detrimental to the goals of the PPBAM or in violation of Article 3 and with the approval of the membership by quorum vote at any General meeting.

~~7.23.2~~ 7.23.2 Upon suspension or expulsion, the member shall ~~vacate~~ be dismissed from any office, committee or a band's representation in the association.

# Bylaw 4: ...Seal.

- Remove antiquated use of seal:

~~§.24.2~~ All documents required to be sealed on behalf of the association ~~including band nominal rolls~~ shall be sealed in the presence of the secretary or such persons as designated by the Board of Directors.

# Bylaw 5: Board of Directory

- Minor changes to reflect how we do business:

~~9-25.2~~ The Board of Directors will be entrusted with creating/making temporary rulings on any issue(s) that may arise during the competition season (~~Nov. to Nov.~~) that does not fall into the scope of the current by-laws and is deemed beneficial to the membership. The Board will have the responsibility of preparing a new by-law and/or process that must be presented to the membership for ratification at the next AGM.

~~9-35.3~~ The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, ~~Past President~~, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a minimum of four (4) other directors but not to exceed six (6) other directors. These directors should include Director of Grading, Director of Contests and Director of Band and Public Relations, Director of Player Development.

~~9-55.5~~ The Directors shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting from the active membership of the association. A parent may act on behalf of a minor member of the Association.

~~9-85.8~~ A majority of Board Members personally present at a Board Meeting shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business for the Association. -Virtual attendance at meetings is acceptable, when possible.

~~9-115.11~~ A director shall not vote in respect of any such contract or transaction with the association in which ~~he or she is~~ they are hold an interested, and if ~~he or she~~ they ~~shall~~ do so, that vote shall not be counted, but ~~he or she~~ they shall be counted in the quorum present at the meeting at which such vote is taken.

# Bylaw 6: Duties and Responsibilities

- Removed role of Past-President as they almost never stay with organization.
- Allocated tasks to other positions.
- Added description of “Member-at-Large” duties.

# Bylaw 8: Rules and Regulations

- Clarifications:

~~13.2.108.2.10~~ A piper or drummer is eligible to compete for two bands under the following conditions:

- a) The piper or drummer must appear on the nominal roll of both bands, and.
- b) The two bands are of a different grade, and.
- c) The piper or drummer must appear as an instructor on the lower Grade band's nominal roll, and.
- d) Bands may only have one piping instructor and one drumming instructor who are designated members of another band.
- ~~m) The member plays different instruments in each of the bands.~~

# Bylaw 8: Rules and Regulations

~~13.2.128.2.11~~ 2.11 The competition area is defined a set playing area for adjudication. Contest organizers may choose to use a circle or concert formation for their competition area.

- a) If a contest chooses to use a circle, then the ~~exact~~ desired dimensions are as follows:
  - i. 45 ft from the start line to the center of the circle.
  - ii. 24ft. diameter circle inside circle for bands,
  - iii. 42ft diameter outside circle for adjudicators.
- b) If a contest chooses to use a concert formation, then the ~~exact~~ desired dimensions are as follows:
  - ~~i. The competition area must not exceed 30 square feet.~~
  - ~~ii.~~ i. A separate riser may be used for drummers.
  - ~~iii.~~ ii. Adjudication stations must be located to provide for best sound assessment.
- c) The “line” is defined as the starting point at which a band forms up, and marches from, to start their individual event.
- d) Each band between marching on and off the competition field must retain the same number of playing members, with due consideration of 8.2.22.

# Bylaw 8: Rules and Regulations

- Recognize realities of our population:

8.2.22 Any band member, or band on their behalf, competing at a sanctioned competition, may request accommodations from the contest organizers with respect to any disability, limited mobility or otherwise, and such requests will not be unreasonably refused.

# Band Tune Requirements

- Reflect changes being made in Grade 4 in other jurisdictions (Ontario, EUSPBA).
- Intent that contests will recognize bands heading to Scotland in the same competition season and focus on QMM in those years.

**Table 1: Band Tune Requirements by Grade**

Band Grade	Tune Requirements
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- March, strathspey, &amp; reel – submit 2 -selected at line</li> <li>- Medleys (5-7 minutes)- submit 2 – selected at line</li> </ul>
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- March, strathspey, &amp; reel – submit 2- selected at line</li> <li>- Medley (4-6 minutes)- submit 1</li> </ul>
III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- March, strathspey and reel (minimum 4 parted tunes)</li> <li>- Medley (3-5 minutes)</li> </ul>
IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quick march medley- (-8 parts of march music) <u>and/or march, strathspey, reel (minimum 4 parted tunes)</u></li> <li>- Medley (3-5 minutes)</li> </ul>
V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quick march medley</li> </ul>



# Bylaw 8: Rules...

- Simplify scoring and ensure more differentiation.
- Clarify Champion Supreme for bands playing up.

~~13.3.28.4.2~~ 13.3.28.4.2 In order to determine aggregate winners, the following point system must be used: 1st = 6 points, 2nd = ~~4~~5 points, 3rd = ~~2~~4 points, 4th = ~~1~~3 point, 5th = ~~1~~2 point, 6th = 1 point.

~~13.3.38.4.3~~ 13.3.38.4.3 Champion supreme winners, based on aggregate points for both solo and band competitions, will be awarded at the completion of each season. Champion Supreme winners must be a member in good standing and have competed in 50% of all PPBAM sanctioned contests, and be awarded Champion Supreme only for the grade level they are registered in. It is desired, but not a requirement that solo competitors, ~~in addition~~ must have at least two competitors in the contests they enter to be eligible.

# Bylaw 8: Rules...

- Allow use of recordings for all amateur drummers to ensure all drummers can compete with appropriate music.

~~13.4.138.5.13~~ 13.4.138.5.13 Use of Recorded Music for solo drum competitions. ~~Grade 3, 4, 5~~ Amateur solo Snare drum competitors and ~~Novice and Intermediate~~ Amateur Tenor and Bass competitors may use pre-recorded music to compete in person. Any music used by solo Snare drummers will be bagpipe only recordings. Tenor and Bass solo players have the option of bagpipe only OR bagpipe and Snare recordings. Each competitor is responsible for providing the recording and a portable sound system on which to play them for competition purposes. On-line contests will provide specific music rules for drummers.

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# Scholarship Fund

- Supported by Business Plan with details for who can receive and what instruction is included.

## 9. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

9.1 An investment account owned by “Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba”, colloquially known as the “Graham Bremner Memorial Scholarship Fund”.

9.2 It is the intent to maintain ~~the~~ capital at approximately \$100,000- on an annualized basis.

9.3 The PPBAM President and PPBAM Treasurer are joint signing authorities on the fund.

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9.4 The objective of the endowment is to maximize the opportunity for pipers and drummers in Manitoba to receive instruction outside of their regular band environments by financially supporting attendance at piping and drumming schools and workshops.

9.5 A subcommittee of the Board will recommend the allocation of the available disbursements each year.

# Dissolution:

- Necessary due to large amount of money in scholarship fund.

## 10. DISSOLUTION

10.1 The Association is considered to be dissolved if any of the following conditions exist:

- a) A vote to dissolve is held, and passed by a two-thirds majority by of the membership at an AGM or special meeting with the same notice requirements to the membership as an AGM requires; or
- b) Reduction in the number of member bands to two or less for a period of three years; or
- c) Reduction in the overall number of individual members to less than 10.

10.2 If, upon the winding up / dissolution of the Association, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any funds or property whatsoever, the same shall NOT be paid to or distributed among the individual members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to the following, in the proportions shown: another eligible entity selected by the membership at the time of dissolution and in respect of any applicable legislation such as The Corporations Act of Manitoba.

10.2.1 The preferred recipient organizations would be focussed on preservation of Scottish culture and heritage, including, but not limited to, pipe band organizations and highland dance organizations.