



Hunter Regional Band Association

Email: huntregbandassoc@gmail.com

SOLO & ENSEMBLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Information and Rules

DATE: **Saturday 19th September 2026**

LOCATION: **Westlakes Music Centre**
 33 Stilling Street
 RATHMINES NSW 2283

ELIGIBILITY:

- Members of Bands that are registered with the Band Association of NSW or other equivalent State Associations and members of Bands that are affiliated with the Hunter Regional Band Association (HRBA).
- Members of School Bands on the provision that they become affiliated with HRBA.

ENTRIES:

- Entries must be on the Official Entry form and emailed to huntregbandassoc@gmail.com
- **Entries will close at 5pm Friday 28th August 2026**
- Entries submitted without payment will not be accepted unless the band advises that a direct (electronic) deposit has been made. Any entry form received in an incomplete state will be returned to the sender.

LIMITATION OF ENTRIES:

- Contestants are only permitted to enter their own age group, and the age group immediately above. This also applies to the Slow Melody. The exception is the Veterans events where the entrant must be over 55 years of age.

DEFINITION OF A SLOW MELODY:

- A Slow Melody is an item that is played with a "singing style" (cantabile). This item can either have words set to it, as in a Ballad, or have no words set to it. No variations or cadenzas are allowed.

TIME LIMITS:

- **Time limits will be enforced.** A Contestant must ensure that the music selected does not exceed the time limit indicated on the Events List. (Time your performance prior to the Championship.)

RECORDING:

- Each performance will be recorded with Adjudicator's comments overlaid, and will be made available to the contestant shortly following the event. We are unable to provide a recording without the Adjudicator's comments.
- Please supply a personal email address so that the recording can be sent to the appropriate person



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MUSIC:

- Music will be Own Choice for All Events.
- Contestants **MUST** supply the Adjudicator with music. The Adjudicator's music is to be submitted to the Registrar upon registration.
- **The Adjudicator's copy must have all bars numbered.** Photocopies of own Choice music are acceptable for the Adjudicator. A photocopy will not be returned (copyright law).
- If the piece has a piano accompaniment then it needs to be supplied to the Accompanist. It is **highly recommended** that the Accompanist's music is emailed to the Accompanist as soon as possible, preferably at least **TWO WEEKS** before the event. If this is not possible then it can be given directly to the Accompanist on the day of the event but this is not recommended. The accompanist's email addresses will be provided with the final specific information sent to contestants in the weeks prior to the championship.
- **Accompanist music MUST NOT** be in loose-leaf form. Please use a folder.
- The Registrar and Contest Supervisor have the right to refuse poor quality photocopies.

LIMITATION OF MUSIC:

- A Contestant can use a Solo only **ONCE** during the Championships.
- A Contestant can use a Slow Melody only **ONCE** during the Championships.
- A Contestant winning an event at a State or National Contest shall not, after a period of twenty eight (28) days, play the same music at any contest as own choice until after the expiration of two (2) years after the commencing date of the said contest (BANSW By-Law 24C).

REGISTRATION:

- Registration is required at least 30 minutes prior to the start of an event.

ADJUDICATION:

- The Adjudicator will be screened to provide anonymity of the performance.
- At the Adjudicator's discretion, they may provide generic comments to the audience after a section's performance.
- Each performance is marked by the Adjudicator out of 100.
- If an Adjudicator becomes aware of a conflict of interest prior or during an event then all practical measures will be made to remove or appropriately manage the conflict.

ACCOMPANISTS AND USE OF PRE-RECORDED MUSIC:

- An official Accompanist is provided in each of the two performance halls.
- Official Accompanists will not be changed from one hall to another for the convenience of contestants.
- A contestant can choose to provide his/her own Accompanist, **but this Accompanist must be available at the time that the contestant is due to play**, otherwise the official Accompanist is to be used.
- Pre-recorded music is not recommended but is allowed to be used. If a contestant does wish to use pre-recorded music then they **MUST** provide a



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suitable device, including extension leads, to play the recording.

CONTESTANTS WITH DUAL REGISTRATION:

- A contestant that is registered with a brass band and a concert band can represent each band, playing the instrument relevant to each band. The contestant must be dressed in the correct band uniform for each band of which they are representing.
- Where a uniform is not available, the contestant may wear 'all black'.
- In the unlikely situation where events are combined and the new event involves a contestant performing on both instruments, the contestant will be limited to one instrument and must choose which band they are representing. **A contestant can only enter once per event, including ensembles.**

SOLO NOVICE EVENTS:

- Any Wood/Reed or Brass player **who has not competed** in an event at any age in a Solo contest conducted under National Band Council of Australia, Band Association of NSW or Hunter Regional Band Association rules can enter.
- If less than three entries are received for a Solo Novice Event may be combined or cancelled.

LARGE ENSEMBLE EVENTS:

- The minimum number of musicians in a large ensemble is **six**, the maximum number of musicians is **eight**.
- Events for smaller ensembles including trio, quartet and quintet events may be combined with events for large ensembles at the organiser's discretion
- Percussionists are included as members of ensembles.
- A Conductor is allowed for this event but is not counted in the number of musicians in an ensemble, except if the conductor also plays an instrument during the performance.
- No contestant can play in more than one ensemble per event.

STRUCTURING EVENTS:

- The Organiser reserves the right to combine, divide or cancel events on the basis of entries received.

AGE QUALIFICATION:

- In all age groups, age shall be at the date of competition. e.g. U/13 yrs means that the Contestant is 12 yrs or younger at contest date.

AGE CHAMPION:

- Some events contribute to age championships.
- The Age Champion will be decided on points awarded in those events which are nominated as Championship events. Any Contestant in a leading position must be available at the result announcement or arrange a representative to collect the award.
- Awards will not be forwarded if not collected.



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TROPHIES:

- There is no Regional restriction on Perpetual Trophies. The winner must return any trophy before the following year's competition.
- It is the recipients responsibility to have the Perpetual Trophy engraved

CERTIFICATES:

- The first place winner of every section will receive a certificate, where there are five or more contestants then certificates will also be presented to those that achieve second and third placings. Certificates will also be awarded to Ensembles.

U/10 AND U/13 CONTESTANTS:

- Each Contestant will receive a Participation Certificate.

UNIFORM:

- **All Contestants must be in Band Uniform or School Uniform.** Should a band have several uniforms (e.g. an additional summer uniform with "polo/casual" shirt and no jacket), the uniform choice is left to the contestant.
- Where a band is not able to provide a uniform, the contestant may wear 'all black'.

PERCUSSION EQUIPMENT:

- A snare drum will be made available for snare events. A glockenspiel and xylophone will be made available for the mallet events.
- Contestants are welcome and encouraged to bring their own instrument if they wish to.

FINAL SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS:

- Final instructions naming detailed information such as the email address to send accompanist music will be made available in the two weeks prior to the event.

ENTRY FEES

- Solo entry fees per individual entrant:
 - **FIRST EVENT** **\$25**
 - **SECOND EVENT** **\$15**
 - **ALL CONSECUTIVE EVENTS** **\$10**
- All duets, trios, quartets, quintets and large ensembles have the same fee
 - **MULTI-CONTESTANT EVENTS** **\$25**



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PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Payment can be made by:

Direct deposit

Greater Bank

Account Name: Hunter Regional Band Association

BSB: 637-000

Account Number: 780061065

The deposit must identify the Band / Band member's name.

An email advising that the deposit has been made is also required Email: huntregbandassoc@gmail.com

All Entries and any correspondence pertaining to the Soloist & Ensemble Championships should be sent to:

- Email: huntregbandassoc@gmail.com

*****REMEMBER: ENTRIES CLOSE Friday 28th AUGUST 2026*****

Kind Regards

Jou Kerin

Secretary

Hunter Regional Band Association

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