

## Contest Rule Proposal: Eliminating the five (5) minute grace period. Submitted by Liz Tubbs

Existing Wording (wording to be changed highlighted in yellow):

7.16. Band Representative Duties: A representative shall be held responsible for the prompt attendance of his or her band on the contest field. The first band to compete will be advised at the draw as to the time it must be at the starting point in the contest arena.

Thereafter, it is the duty of each succeeding band to move forward as directed by the stewards. **To reduce the gap between final tuning and competing to the lowest possible margin, there will be a five (5) minute MAXIMUM time period from the conclusion of one band's performance or from the posted time of play, whichever is later, to the appearance of the following band (in the same contest) at the starting position ready to play, or face disqualification.**

The officials shall mark off final tuning areas in the closest possible proximity to the contest arena, and bands should move forward to these areas upon request. Stewards may be provided as an aid to bands, but they carry no responsibility for the attendance of any band in the playing area. The final responsibility rests with each band to be at the starting point as and when required, and any band failing to do so and not complying with the official instructions is subject to immediate disqualification.

Proposed Wording (new wording highlighted in green):

7.16. Band Representative Duties: A representative shall be held responsible for the prompt attendance of his or her band on the contest field. The first band to compete will be advised at the draw as to the time it must be at the starting point in the contest arena.

Thereafter, it is the duty of each succeeding band to move forward as directed by the stewards. **Bands that are not at the line at their designated time are subject to disqualification.**

The officials shall mark off final tuning areas in the closest possible proximity to the contest arena, and bands should move forward to these areas upon request. Stewards may be provided as an aid to bands, but they carry no responsibility

for the attendance of any band in the playing area. The final responsibility rests with each band to be at the starting point as and when required, and any band failing to do so and not complying with the official instructions is subject to immediate disqualification.

**Rational:**

To be in line with other associations, especially the RSPBA, there should be no adjustment to the assigned time. Bands need to be at the line, ready to play at their time of draw.

**PASSED**

**Strongest possible recommendations that contest organizers provide a final tuning area to help facilitate this contest rule.**