

# Rules and Requirements



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## I. REGISTRATION

- A. A band must properly complete and return to the Contest Committee an official Entry Form together with appropriate Entry Fee, which will be non-refundable and non-transferable. Failure to meet the deadline or registration requirements will require approval from the Contest Committee.

## II. PERFORMANCE

- A. A band member is permitted to play with one band only. Petitions or exceptions must be referred to the Contest Committee no less than 2 hrs. before performance time.
- B. A band member may not normally compete with more than one band unless a bona fide member of two separate bands. No special scheduling considerations will be made to accommodate such situations.
- C. A band member who derives seventy-five percent or more of his/her income from the performance of a brass or percussion instrument shall be regarded as a professional musician and as such deemed ineligible to participate. A band member engaged in teaching the performance of music shall NOT be regarded as a professional.
- D. Total membership of each band will be unlimited, but only a total of 33 instrumentalists, plus conductor, shall be permitted to perform at one time. Any personnel changes can only be made between contest pieces.
- E. All bands' performances at the U.S. Open Brass Band Championships shall be recorded and remain the property of the U.S. Open for promotion and fundraising.
- F. All entries for original composition or new arrangement shall provide mechanical rights and all other rights for contest organizer's recording and distribution as mentioned in II.E.

## III. INSTRUMENTATION

- A. For 2016, in addition to the standard brass band instrumentation, bands will be permitted to utilize any standard brass instrument during their performance
- B. Although electronic instruments and electronic amplification are not allowed, battery operated lighting will be allowed, including but not limited to stand lights.

**For questions, please contact:**

<b>Clark Niermeyer:</b>	<b>clark@usopenbrass.org</b>	<b>01-262-646-5224</b>
<b>Dallas Niermeyer:</b>		<b>01-262-312-4912</b>

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## IV. AWARDS

- A. The following awards will be given:
1. Grand Champion
  2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
  3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  4. Special Caption Award: Most Entertaining Performance
  5. Special Caption Award: Best Performance of a March
  6. Special Caption Award: Best Performance of a Solo
  7. Special Caption Award: Best New Arrangement or Original Composition
  8. Special Caption Award: Most Outstanding Percussion Section
- B. The results of U.S. Open will be announced at the Awards Banquet. Adjudicator's recordings and written comments will be presented to each band, or a band representative, at the Awards Banquet. The adjudicator's decision shall be final on all matters relative to the adjudication. If for any reason a band representative is not present at the Awards Banquet the tapes and written comments will be mailed to the band on the next business day.

## V. SETUP

- A. The stage will be set-up in a standard brass band configuration with percussion instruments as will be furnished by the hosts and communicated to all competing bands in advance. Each band will provide a small team to arrange the stage seats to suit the band and to ensure that percussion instruments are in position prior to the band taking the stage. The U.S. Open Committee will notify all contesting bands of the percussion instruments that shall be available for their use. Percussion equipment in excess of that provided by the host is the responsibility of the competing band. However, no additional set-up time will be permitted beyond what is allowed in section VI.B. below.

## VI. TIMING & PENALTIES

- A. Although bands are scheduled in 45 minute intervals, the total maximum music performance time for each band is 25 minutes. There is no minimum time requirement.

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