

U.S. OPEN BRASS BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

RULES and REGULATIONS

1. Registration
 - 1.1. Each band must complete and return an official U.S. Open registration form to the Great Lakes Brass Band Association (GLBBA) Contest Committee with the entry fee, which will be non-refundable and non-transferable. Entries received after the posted deadline date will be allowed a grace period of five days with an additional \$100 fee.
2. Performance
 - 2.1. Band members are only permitted to play with one band.
 - 2.2. In addition to a conductor, bands may have no more than 33 brass and percussion players perform at a given time. Total membership of each band is unlimited, but personnel changes may only be made between contest pieces.
 - 2.3. All performances at the U.S. Open Brass Band Championship will be recorded and remain the property of the U.S. Open for promotion and fundraising.
 - 2.3.1. Any entries for original compositions or new arrangements shall provide mechanical rights and all other rights for the contest's recording and distribution.
 - 2.4. Bands must provide three copies of a score for each piece in their program. Original scores are preferred, but not required; however, copies should be legible and must be bound. Each score must have all measures numbered. Scores will be returned to bands following the awards ceremony.
3. Instrumentation
 - 3.1. Bands must utilize standard British brass band instrumentation during their performance. This consists of Eb soprano cornet, Bb cornets, flugelhorn, Eb tenor horns, Bb baritones, Bb euphoniums, basses (in any key or shape) and percussion.
 - 3.1.1. Players may perform on any number of instruments including both brass and percussion as needed.
 - 3.2. Electronic amplification, unless specifically notated in the score, is not allowed.
 - 3.2.1. Bands are required to provide all their own audio equipment and must notify the U.S. Open of such provision at the time of program submission.
 - 3.2.2. Battery operated lighting including, but not limited to, stand lights will be allowed.
 - 3.3. Videos accompanying a band's performance are allowed. The U.S. Open will provide a screen and an HDMI hookup. Bands are responsible for providing a video playback device and a person to operate that device.
 - 3.3.1. The person operating the video playback device will not count against the performer total.
 - 3.3.2. No extra setup time will be allowed for bands with a video.
 - 3.3.3. There will be a time designated for video testing and troubleshooting prior to the competition.

- 3.4. The U.S. Open announcer will introduce your band. Bands wishing to use a script or program notes to enhance or aid the overall performance are welcome to and are required to use their own narrator. All scripts are subject to review by the contest committee. Narration length will be considered in overall timing requirements.
4. Draw
- 4.1. A double blind draw will be conducted during the first week in October for both the Challenge and Championship sections. The draw will be conducted by two non-participating GLBBA contest committee members.
5. Setup
- 5.1. Each band must provide a small team to arrange the stage to suit their performance needs prior to the full band taking the stage.
- 5.2. A list of percussion equipment provided by the hosting venue will be given to band representatives after registration.
- 5.2.1. Any required percussion equipment in excess of that provided by the host is to be supplied by the competing band.
6. Timing and Penalties
- 6.1. Each band will be assigned a 35 minute time slot based on the results of the draw.
- 6.1.1. Stage timing will begin when the first member of a band walks on stage for setup.
- 6.1.2. Stage timing will end when the last member of a band leaves the stage after performing and/or teardown.
- 6.1.3. Point deductions will be applied as outlined:
- Stage Timing Penalties**
There will be no grace period: a three point deduction for each 30 seconds over stage time.
For example:
35:01 to 35:30 = 3 point penalty
35:31 to 36:00 = 6 point penalty
36:01 to 36:30 = 9 point penalty
and so on...
- 6.2. Each band should perform for 20 to 25 minutes immediately following the band announcement.
- 6.2.1. Performance timing will begin at the first performed sound including any narration or at the start of a video.
- 6.2.2. Performance timing will end at the last performed sound or when the accompanying video ends. Final applause will not be included in performance timing.
- 6.2.3. Point deductions will be applied as outlined:
- Performance Over Time Penalty:**
25:01 to 25:30 = Grace period: no penalty.
After the grace period – a one point for each 30 seconds

over performance time.

For example:

25:31 to 26:00 = 1 point penalty

26:01 to 26:30 = 2 point penalty

26:31 to 27:00 = 3 point penalty

and so on...

7. Scoring

7.1. Three adjudicators will give each band a score out of 100 points.

7.1.1. Up to 75 points will be awarded based on musical performance.

7.1.2. Up to 25 points will be awarded based on entertainment value.

8. Awards

8.1. The adjudicators' decisions are final on all matters relative to the adjudication.

8.2. The following awards will be given:

Championship Section:

2022 U.S. Open Grand Champion

2nd Place

3rd Place

Challenge Section:

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

Caption Awards:

Most Entertaining Performance

Best Performance of a March

Best Performance of a Solo

Best New Arrangement or Original Composition

Outstanding Individual Performer Championship Section

Outstanding Individual Performer Challenge Section

Best Cornet Section

Best Flugelhorn & Tenor Horn Section

Best Euphonium & Baritone Section

Best Trombone Section

Best Bass Section

Best Percussion Section

8.3. One representative from each band will be responsible for accepting all awards.

Band representatives will gather in a designated area five minutes following the final performance.

U.S. OPEN BUSKERS RULES and REGULATIONS

9. Registration

- 9.1. Each Buskers group must complete and return an official U.S. Open registration form to the Great Lakes Brass Band Association (GLBBA) Contest Committee with the entry fee, which will be non-refundable and non-transferable. Buskers entries received after the posted deadline date will be allowed a grace period of five days with an additional \$10 fee.
- 9.2. Buskers groups do not need to be associated with a band competing in the U.S. Open Brass Band Championships.
- 9.3. If a band wishes to have more than one Buskers group, each group must register separately and pay their own entry fees.

10. Instrumentation

- 10.1. Buskers groups will be limited to a maximum of nine (9) players.
- 10.2. Performers may sing during their Buskers performance.
- 10.3. Brass players in the Buskers groups must use standard British brass band instruments during their performance. This consists of Eb soprano cornet, Bb cornets, flugelhorn, Eb tenor horns, Bb baritones, Bb euphoniums, basses (in any key or shape) and percussion.
- 10.4. The U.S. Open will provide nine (9) music stands, a drum set, a keyboard, a microphone, and an amplifier.

11. Draw

- 11.1. The performance order for the evening will be determined two weeks prior to the Buskers event.
 - 11.1.1. Consideration will be given to groups traveling from afar.

12. Timing and Penalties

- 12.1. Each group will be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes of stage time.
- 12.2. This includes setup and teardown.

13. Scoring

- 13.1. There is no formal scoring for the Buskers. A single judge will rank the events based on the entertainment value of the performance.

14. Awards

- 14.1. The adjudicator's decisions are final on all matters relative to the adjudication.
- 14.2. On Friday night, the top three Buskers groups will be announced (in alphabetical order). Those three groups will perform during the adjudicator break on Saturday as an unscored encore entertainment only performance. The ranking from Friday's performances will be used to determine the winner.

- 14.3. One representative from the three Busker's finalists will gather in a designated area five minutes following the final performance.