

The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association

Application for Adjudicator Training

Explanatory Notes

Please read these notes carefully to ensure that you fully understand them

General Information

The highest standards of adjudication are essential to the competition programme of the RSPBA. Members of the approved RSPBA Adjudicators' Panel must be seen to be competent, credible, impartial and professional; and they must be capable of operating objectively, fairly and consistently in an environment which is essentially subjective and very much influenced by individual judgement. RSPBA Adjudicators are increasingly becoming the focus of world-wide scrutiny.

The effective Adjudicator requires a wide range of skills which in many ways differ from the skills required by players in Pipe Bands. Good players with high level achievements will not necessarily make good Adjudicators. It also does not follow that individuals with high level musical qualifications will possess the range of skills required for adjudication. Some of the required skills are personal attributes; some are developed through qualifications attainment or from lengthy playing experience at high level; some can be acquired or improved by initial training and continuing professional development; and others can only be achieved or enhanced gradually through practical experience of adjudication.

Applicants for entry to the RSPBA Adjudicator Training Programme must, therefore, be fully aware of the importance of the role for which they are applying and they must meet the demanding entry criteria. Applicants who meet the criteria will be accepted only on the basis of need for new Adjudicators. There can be no guarantee of acceptance. All applications will be considered by the RSPBA Adjudicators' Panel Management Board on behalf of the RSPBA Board of Directors. All information provided by applicants in the application form must be capable of being confirmed. Accurate completion of all sections of the application form is, therefore, crucial. Decisions reached by the Adjudicators' Panel Management Board will be final.

Equal Opportunities

The RSPBA is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity. All applicants will be treated fairly and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, colour, nationality or gender.

Entry Criteria

If you wish to apply you must demonstrate that you have the relevant skills, experience and potential to become an Adjudicator and must understand fully the RSPBA's expectations.

Qualifications and practical experience

You should hold:

- the RSPBA PDQB (minimum level 6) and the RSPBA Pipe Band Studies Part 1 and Part 2
- an equivalent qualification in Piping or Snare Drumming at HNC/D or degree level; or
- an equivalent qualification in musical theory together with evidence of practical application of that qualification in a Piping or Drumming environment

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Playing Experience and Achievements

You should have at least 20 years playing experience with a minimum of 10 years' recent experience in Grade One or 15 years in Grade Two in the capacity of Pipe Major, Pipe Sergeant, Drum Sergeant/Leading Drummer, Drum Corporal/Frank Drummer or distinguished band player. With at least 5 years' distinguished experience in Grade One or 10 years' distinguished experience in Grade Two.

Relevant specific achievements should also be listed.

Exceptionally applicants with a shorter experience record who have distinguished competition achievements may be accepted, provided that they also have at least 5 years' distinguished experience in Grade One or 10 years' distinguished experience in Grade Two.

You should also specify in your application the means by which the details of your playing experience and achievements can be confirmed.

Teaching/training experience

You should have a good track record of teaching Piping or Drumming in Pipe Bands, particularly at Novice-Juvenile and Juvenile levels. The application should say how the track record can be confirmed.

Conduct, integrity etc

You should submit the names of two referees who can confirm your reputation, conduct, integrity and reliability and, if appropriate, details of your experience/achievement record. These references will be taken up by the Adjudicators' Panel Management Board on receipt of application and the responses taken into account in considering whether the application should be accepted. Members of the Adjudicators Panel Management Board should not be nominated as referees.

Ability to adjudicate in terms of health and fitness.

You should submit as part of your application a written statement confirming your health and fitness to be involved in a process which could result in assessing up to 50 bands per contest in all weather conditions.

Continuing professional development

You must accept that, should you be successful, you will be required to regularly update your skills and participate in continuing professional development activities as directed by the Adjudicators' Training Group.

Adjudicator conditions and retirement policy

In order to achieve and maintain RSPBA Adjudicator status you will also require to adhere to the *Adjudicators' Terms of Reference and Code of Practice* which sets out specific standards for conduct, dress and competition procedure. You will be subject to annual appraisal of your performance as an Adjudicator, and you will be required to participate in mentoring and additional training as directed by the Adjudicators Panel management Board and the Adjudicators' Training Group.

RSPBA policy is that Adjudicators should retire at age 70.

Pre-entry interview

If you are considered to meet the criteria following confirmation of the information contained in your application form, you will also require to undertake a pre-entrance examination and interview conducted by the Adjudicators' Training Group/Adjudicators Panel Management Board

The interview will assess the following:

- written communication
- competence and ability to write music and numerical ability
- team working skills
- analysis and assessment skills
- ability to compare objectively and place in order of preference
- ability to operate under pressure
- understanding of Piping and Pipe Band Drumming, musical presentation and RSPBA structure and competition rules

If you are successful in the pre-entrance test you will be allowed entry to the RSPBA Adjudicator Training Programme. The Programme will involve two intensive weekend training courses and supervised outdoor practical training sessions over a two-year period. Successful candidates will be considered for entry to the RSPBA's approved list of Adjudicators as an Unattached (non-playing) Adjudicator. All new Adjudicators will be subject to a two-year mentoring period. They will also require to accept the RSPBA's conditions for Adjudicator membership of the RSPBA. These conditions cover conduct, dress, competition procedure, availability to adjudicate, impartiality, loyalty to RSPBA etc.

RSPBA Adjudicators' Training Group
January 2008

(updated September 2018)

The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Adjudicator Training Application Form
PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS IN BLACK INK IN BLOCK
CAPITALS

Adjudicator Training applied for: Piping []

(Please tick appropriate box) **Drumming []**

It is important that the information contained in this application form is accurate as it will be checked by the RSPBA. The RSPBA reserves the right to reject an application, or to remove the applicant from the Adjudicator training programme or Adjudicators Panel, if information provided is subsequently found to be inaccurate or misleading.

1. Personal Details

Surname:

Forenames:.....

Home

Address:.....

.....

Postcode: Telephone No:

Email address: Date of Birth:

2. Certificated Qualifications

Please provide details of the music qualifications you hold, the awarding body and the year of attainment.

Qualification:

Level of Qualification:

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Awarding Body: Year Awarded:

3. Pipe Band Playing and Other Musical Experience

Please describe your Pipe Band playing experience including Pipe Band/s played with, the positions held and the specific achievements, taking into account the requirements set out in the explanatory notes. Any other musical experience should also be shown. You may attach a separate CV if preferred. Please also comment on how your experience record can be checked.

4. Teaching/Training Experience

Please describe your experience in teaching or training in Piping or Drumming, the Pipe Bands involved and any achievements. Please also say how this record can be confirmed.

5. Character References

Please give the names and addresses of two suitable referees, preferably associated with the RSPBA, who will be prepared to support your application. The referees will be contacted by the Adjudicators' Training Group. Referees used should not be members of the current Adjudicators Panel Management Board.

1. Name: 2. Name:

Address: Address:

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Telephone No: Telephone No:

Email Address: Email Address:

6. Health and Fitness

Please provide written confirmation that you understand the demanding role of an RSPBA Adjudicator and that you consider yourself to have the health and fitness necessary to cope with these duties.

7. Adjudicator Conditions

Please confirm that you fully understand the role of the RSPBA Adjudicator; that you are prepared to accept annual appraisal, mentoring and the conditions of Adjudicator membership; that you are prepared to participate in continuing professional development as required; and that you understand that the retiral age for RSPBA Adjudicators is age 70. Any extension would be applied for annually and approved by the APMB and capped at 75.

8. Your Aspirations

Please explain in this section the reasons why you wish to be an RSPBA Adjudicator.

Signature: Date: