BAND AND DRILL COMPETITION

Replaces: CRCO 1833, Band & Drill Competition

AIM

1. To detail the responsibilities and procedures applicable to the conduct of the Central Region Cadet Band and Drill Competition.

BACKGROUND

2. As detailed at CATO 14-21, Music Program, bands play a significant role in cadet corps/squadrons of the Canadian Cadet Organizations (CCOs). Cadet bands provide their corps/squadrons with accompaniment for ceremonial occasions, add visibility within the community, and build esprit de corps. Equally important, the cadet music program provides individual cadets with a challenging, worthwhile means of developing as cadets, musicians and members of the community.

3. Similarly, drill plays a significant role in cadet corps/squadrons of the CCO. Drill is one of the foundations of cadet training, the hallmarks of which are efficiency, precision and dignity. These qualities are developed through self-discipline and practice leading to both unit pride and cohesion.

4. Cadet band and drill competitions are conducted to provide cadets with a challenging opportunity in which to apply their practical and leadership skills while achieving a sense of team work.

REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

5. The Regional Cadet Support Unit (Central) (RCSU Central) is responsible for the coordination and supervision of the Central Region Cadet Band and Drill Competition. RCSU Central’s four Area Cadet Detachments are responsible for annually conducting a band and drill competition in order to identify advancing teams/bands to the regional level competition. RCSU Central will conduct a regional band and drill competition for the top placing bands and drill teams from the four area competitions.

6. The RC Music Trg O is responsible for the overall implementation and supervision of the area and regional band & drill competitions. Direct liaison is authorized between any levels of the following: RC Music Trg O; Detachment Office of Primary Importance (OPI); and corps/squadrons for matters relating to band and drill competitions.

7. Detachment Commanders will appoint an OPI for their area competition who will liaise with the RC Music Trg O as required, and work with corps/squadrons in their respective areas to keep them up to date on all information pertaining to their area competition.
CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

Categories and Composition

8. Competitions are open to all sea, army and air cadet corps/squadrons, and two cadet corps/squadrons may enter the competition as a single, combined drill team or band. The competition routine for bands and drill teams will consist of both a compulsory sequence and a freestyle routine.

9. **Band.** The following band categories are authorized for competition:

   a. **Military Band.** Military Bands will consist of not more than 31 and not less than 13 musicians, including the drum major, with the following instrumentation:

      (1) **Brass & Reed.** Brass instruments with a minimum of three valves, trombones (optional), pitched in B\(^b\), woodwind reed instruments and percussion;

      (2) **Drum & Bugle.** Instruments with one or maximum of three rotor/valves, pitched in any key with percussion, may include bell lyra, no reed instruments; and

      (3) **Other.** A band, other than a pipe band, made up of instruments not listed above will compete in the military band category. For example, a fife and drum band will compete in the military band category.

   b. **Pipe Band.** Pipe bands will consist of not more than 31 and not less 6 musicians (bagpipers, snare drummers, bass/tenor drummers), including the drum major. Additionally, corps/squadrons may choose to incorporate highland dancers in their freestyle routine; however, the combined number of musicians and dancers shall not exceed 31. Highland dancers may not be used to achieve the minimum number of musicians required.

   c. **Junior Band Option.** A Military or Pipe Band may choose to be designated as a Junior band in order to introduce their cadets to the band competition. The following lists the details surrounding junior bands:

      (1) a Junior band will participate in the compulsory and/or freestyle routines at their own discretion;

      (2) the drill and music judges will provide feedback; however, a numerical score will not be given and the Junior bands shall not be ranked against each other or against the non-junior bands;

      (3) score penalties will not be applied;
CRCI 4505

(4) all other rules and procedures in this CRCI and the Central Region Band & Drill Competition Manual will apply to Junior bands; and

(5) Junior bands, regardless of their level of achievement, will not advance to Phase 2 of the competition.

10. **Drill.** The following drill team categories are authorized for competition:

   a. **Drill without Arms.** Teams will be made up of 10, 13 or 16 members, including the team captain;

   b. **Drill with Arms.** Teams will be made up of 10, 13 or 16 members including, the team captain.

11. All competitions will be conducted IAW the publication entitled “Central Regional Cadet Band and Drill Competition Manual”. This publication contains rules, regulations, penalties, score sheets and the compulsory competition sequences. It is to be read in conjunction with this CRCI.

12. Additional guidance and reference information on drill may be found in the following publications:


      **Note:** Chapter 14 – Band Drill outlines band-specific and Drum Major drill.


   c. *Central Region, Lee Enfield Rifle Drill – Royal Canadian Sea, Army, and Air Cadets.*

**Phase 1 – Area Band and Drill Competition**

13. Four area band and drill competitions (WOA, COA, EOA & NOA) will be held annually. These competitions will be conducted between 1 March and 15 May of each training year. Each of the area competitions will be conducted in accordance with this CRCI and the publication entitled “Central Region Cadet Band and Drill Competition Manual”.

14. Area Competitions will be organized, funded and run by the applicable area detachment who shall:

   a. establish the date for the competition;

   b. select an appropriate venue;
c. process applications (Annex B to this CRCI) from corps/squadron;

d. coordinate transportation and accommodations with cadet corps/squadrons, as required;

e. physically set up each venue;

f. provide all competition staff IAW staffing requirements located in the *Central Region Band and Drill Competition Manual* with the exception of staff for the band portion of the competition (provided by RC Music Trg O);

g. establish a schedule of events for the competition (guidance for scheduling located at Annex A to this CRCI) ; and

h. publish the results of the competitions and ensuring awards are presented to winning teams, bands and individuals at an appropriate opportunity.

**Phase 2 – Regional Competition**

15. The Regional Band and Drill Competition will be held in May of each training year (allows for ACR/unit event planning). Teams/Bands are selected to compete based on results of the four, Phase 1 - Area Competitions. Teams/bands are selected for Phase 2 of the Regional Band and Drill Competition based on the following allocation for each area:

a. 1st and 2nd place military bands;

b. 1st place pipe band;

c. 1st place drill without arms team; and

d. 1st place drill with arms team.

16. In the event that a 1st place band/drill team (or the 2nd place military band) is not able to attend the Phase 2 – Regional Competition, subject to para 17 below, the next highest placing team/band will be selected to attend.

17. Regardless of band/drill team placement, in order to advance to Phase 2 of the competition, a minimum overall score of 60% is required.

18. Applicable RCSU Detachments are responsible for informing corps/squadrons of their selection to proceed to the regional level of the competition as well as the processing of registrations and organization of travel arrangements to and from the regional competition for each of their drill teams/bands.
CANCELLATIONS

19. Once a band/drill team has been registered to attend either Phase 1 or 2 of the competition, a cancellation must be justified in writing by the corps/squadron Commanding Officer to the RC Music Trg O. In consultation with the applicable area detachment, the RC Music Trg O will determine if the withdrawal is acceptable.

20. Given the level of effort required of cadets for the preparation, it is expected that no cancellation will occur unless a major reason exists. The following list are examples that include, but are not limited to cancellations that will not be accepted:
   a. the CO has scheduled another activity during the competition;
   b. the CO or instructor decides to penalize the cadets; or
   c. the CO, instructor and/or cadets decide that the drill team/band are not good enough to win;

21. Musicians and drill team member work extremely hard throughout the year to prepare for such an event, and it is expected that instructors will prepare them adequately and in time for the competition. Even without winning the competition, cadets can greatly benefit from the comments received from judges and the overall experience of participating in the event.

   Note: Removing a drill team/band because you think they cannot win is a sure way to take away the cadets’ desire to continue and progress.

SERVICE SUPPORT

Funding

22. Area Competitions. The responsible area detachment will provide funding to support all aspects of the area competition with the following exceptions which will be funded (and coordinated) by RCSU Central:
   a. music judges; and
   b. awards.

23. Regional Competitions. RCSU Central will cover costs of staff, accommodations, rations, and facilities. RCSU Central will initiate and process travel claims and pay forms for staff hired in support of the Regional Band and Drill Competition.

24. Payment of any costs and arrangements required to transport teams to and from the regional competition is the responsibility of the applicable RCSU Central Detachment.
AWARDS

25. **Funding.** Below-listed awards for all levels of the Central Region Band and Drill Competition are funded through the Lord Strathcona Trust Fund (LSTF).

26. **Presentation.** The following awards shall be presented to the top placing bands, drill teams, drum majors and team captains (regardless of element) for both the area and regional phases of the Central Region Band and Drill Competition:

   a. **Military Bands.**
      i. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed bands; and
      ii. top military band drum major;

   b. **Pipe Bands.**
      i. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed bands; and
      ii. top military band drum major;

   c. **Drill Without Arms.**
      i. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, and
      ii. top drill without arms team captain;

   d. **Drill With Arms.**
      i. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, and
      ii. top drill with arms team captain;

   e. **Best Dressed Awards.**
      i. best dressed drill team; and
      ii. best dress band.

27. **Supplemental Guidelines.** The following supplemental guidelines have been established regarding the presentation of awards:

   a. 1st place awards will be presented for each category regardless of the number of bands/teams competing in that category; however, if only one band/team is competing in a category, they must complete both the compulsory and freestyle sequences, and receive a minimum 60% in order to be eligible for the 1st place award;

   b. 2nd place awards will only be presented if three or more bands/teams are competing in the same category;
c. 3rd place awards will only be presented if four or more bands/teams are competing in the same category; and

d. elementally-specific awards, and awards not listed in para 26 above, will not be funded by the LSTF and will not be presented in recognition of a band/drill team’s placement or achievement.

28. Take-home Awards. Region-supplied take-home awards, e.g. plaques, trophies, medals, etc., will be determined annually based on funding available, and procured by the RC Music Trg O. Awards will delivered to the applicable Det OPIs on or before the date of the competition.

REFERENCE

- CATO 14-21, Music Program
- CRCI 4505, Annex A – Guidance for the Scheduling of Competitions/Sample Competition Schedules
- CRCI 4505, Annex B – Central Region Band and Drill Competition Entry Form
- Central Region Cadet Band and Drill Competition Manual

OPI: RC Trg O
Date: 1 December 2013
GUIDANCE FOR THE SCHEDULING OF COMPETITIONS

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Schedules below are provided as guides only. Det OPIs may develop their own schedules as required to accommodate for local factors.

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## SAMPLE ONE-DAY COMPETITION (BANDS)

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