



Royal New Zealand Pipe Bands' Association

Rule 4.1.3 'Playing Up' Dispensation Application

The rules relating to the composition of bands and the dispensation for pipers and drummers to play with higher grade bands are listed below.

Applications must be received by the Contest Group Leader by the last day in November, for the following competing year, by one of the options below:

1. The RNZPBA Contest Group Leader: contest@nzpipebands.org.nz; or
2. Electronically by clicking on this link here: <https://rnzpbawildapricot.org/Playing-up> ; or
3. Electronically by QR code:



4.1 COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP OF BANDS

- 4.1.1 Grades 1, 2 and 3 Bands shall comprise not less than 8 pipers, 3 side drummers and 1 bass drummer. Grade 4 bands shall comprise not less than 6 pipers, 2 side drummers and 1 bass drummer.
- 4.1.2 Every member of a competing band may compete with only one band at a contest.
- 4.1.3 However, dispensation may be sought to allow an **Eligible Band Officer** to compete with a Band in a higher grade.
 - 4.1.3.2 **Eligible Band Officer** is defined as a Pipe Major, Musical Director, Pipe Sergeant, Pipe Corporal, Drum Sergeant, Leading Drummer, Drum Corporal, Section Leader, Pipe Tutor and Drum Tutor.

- 4.1.3.3 Any player for whom dispensation is sought must have been an Eligible Band Officer in a Lower Grade Band for at least six months prior to the National Contest.
- 4.1.3.4 A band may have no more than three members: one piper, one snare drummer, one tenor/bass player that shall be granted dispensation to play in two bands.
- 4.1.4 Application shall be made by the player and Band seeking dispensation on the prescribed Application Form.
 - 4.1.4.1 All applications for dispensation must be supported by full documentation from the Lower Grade Bands records including copies of minutes of Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings confirming appointment to the position held by any player for whom dispensation is sought.
 - 4.1.4.2 Applications shall be made at the time of submitting entries for the National Contest and must be forwarded to the Contest Group Leader for determination.
- 4.1.5 The Contest Group Leader will decide on the application in consultation with the Board. The Contest Group Leader may consider noncompliant applications which outline extenuating circumstances.
- 4.1.6 Dispensation shall not be granted where the prescribed requirements are not documented in an acceptable format.
- 4.1.7 Details of all approved dispensations shall be published and circulated to all competing bands at least 28 days prior to the Contest.

Note: in the event that voting on a remit that changes the above rules has not been concluded by the due date, applicants must submit their application as if the remit will be passed. In the event that it is not the Association will contact affected bands to discuss what steps are required to process the application.

Application for 'Playing Up' Dispensation

Name of Band Member wishing to 'play up'	
Name of G4, G3 or G2 Band (the lower grade band)	
Grade (of lower grade band)	G4B G4A G3 G2
Position held by the applicant in this band (rule 4.1.3.2)	
For which discipline is this application (rule 4.1.3.4)?	Piping / Side Drumming / Bass and Tenor
Date of appointment to the 'Eligible Officer' position (rule 4.1.3.3) – evidence must be provided of this appointment	
Name of G1 or G2 or G3 Band (the higher grade band)	
Grade (of higher grade band)	G3 G2 G1
Comments in support of this application (use additional pages if necessary)	
Contact details of person submitting this application (please include email)	

Please ensure you attach **evidence** (minutes of the relevant meeting) of your appointment to the position in the lower band.