

The UniBrass Foundation

Bye Law 1

UniBrass Contest Rules

Date of bye law (last amended): 20/10/2019

This bye law may be altered according to UniBrass Foundation Bye Law 2 (9).

In this bye law, unless otherwise expressly stated, words and phrases used shall have the same meaning as defined in the Constitution. As defined therein;

“University” refers to any Higher Education establishment in the UK.

1. Entries to UniBrass shall be limited to university brass bands. Applications from non-UK Higher Education establishments will be considered on a case-by-case basis, but in general priority will be granted to UK Universities.
 - 1.1. Mergers will be considered on a case-by-case basis if a university is unable to produce a complete brass band, each institution may only be involved in a single merger at a given contest. The UniBrass Organising Committee must be informed of any proposed merger well in advance of the contest.
2. The entry fee for each band will be set by the UniBrass Organising Committee according to necessity, and must be paid by a date prescribed by the Committee to ensure entry to the contest.
 - 2.1. Bands must comprise of current students, staff, and alumni of up to 3 academic years. The conductor is exempt from this rule.
3. All players must bring identification to the contest to enable them to compete. For example, appropriately dated university student cards, staff cards, graduation certificates, or any other identification deemed suitable by the UniBrass Organising Committee.
4. Bands may include up to 3 borrowed players, but these players cannot sit on principal seats or play a featured item. The seats defined as principal seats are: Principal Cornet, 1st Trombone, 1st Euphonium, Flugel Horn and Solo Horn. If there is any uncertainty about what a featured item is, bands should discuss this with the Contest Secretary.
 - 4.1. Players unable to supply proof of status as a current student, staff or graduation within three years will count as a borrowed player.
5. There is no limit on the number of players allowed on stage.
6. The contest is open to bands composed of standard brass band instruments (including trumpets). If any bands wish to use other instruments in their set, they must inform the UniBrass Organising Committee, who must give their permission for said instrument(s) to be used.
7. The contest will be under open adjudication.
8. The performance time limit for the event will be 20 minutes, from the commencement to end of the set inclusive of anything the UniBrass Organising Committee believe the band is being adjudicated upon (e.g. spoken word, musical notes, video etc.)
 - 8.1. There will be time penalties applied to each band's score that runs over time. The first minute over time will remain unaffected. At the start of every 30 second period over time thereafter, 1 point will be deducted from the band's score (e.g. if a band runs 3 minutes and 20 seconds over time, 5 points will be deducted).
9. Scoring will be out of 150 (Split in the ratio 2:1, Quality:Entertainment).
10. The contest shall be split into two sections and the placings of bands shall be decided using a weighted average of 2:1 over the previous two years' results, favouring the most recent year.
 - 10.1. Any band which moves to a different section shall be given the median result of that section for that year when calculating weighted averages in future years.
 - 10.2. A representative appointed by the UniBrass Foundation will attend a rehearsal or concert of any new bands wishing to play in the contest. If a UniBrass Foundation representative is not available an

alternative method for deciding the section shall be decided upon by the UniBrass Foundation. The UniBrass Foundation and the UniBrass Organising Committee shall then decide which section the new band will be placed in. This band shall be given the median result for that section for the previous year when calculating weighted averages in future years.

- 10.3.** Any band which has not competed in one of the years shall be given the mean placing between their last performance and the lowest placing of the previous year.
- 10.4.** Any band which has not competed for two consecutive years shall be assigned a section as detailed in rule 10.2.
- 10.5.** To decide which bands shall be moved between sections, the weighted average detailed above will be calculated. The final decision of how many bands move between sections rests with the UniBrass Organising Committee. In general, the UniBrass Organising Committee will aim to move two bands between the Trophy and Shield sections each year. In order to maintain similar sized sections, should, prior to the draw, the difference in number of bands in the sections be greater than two, the committee will move the required number of bands to bring the difference back to two. The bands to be moved will be decided as above.
- 11.** The draw will be made at least one month before the contest.
 - 11.1.** Any band may request an early draw. This must be communicated to the UniBrass Organising Committee at least 7 days before the date of the draw. For organisational purposes the host band cannot be drawn in the first two or last two bands.
- 12.** A list of percussion equipment to be provided by the contest will be supplied to bands well in advance of the contest. Bands who require additional percussion not on the list must request it no less than one month before the contest, but the UniBrass Organising Committee cannot promise that every request will be satisfied.
 - 12.1.** The cost of additional percussion provided by the contest may be charged to bands; the cost of any requested percussion will be communicated to the requesting band no later than one month before the contest, and prior to confirmation of the request.
 - 12.2.** Bands that wish to use their own percussion must inform the UniBrass Organising Committee well in advance of the contest, by a deadline set by the UOC
- 13.** Bands may request additional technical equipment to embellish their performance, but the performance should not be entirely dependent on the successful execution of technical effects. Requests should be made as part of the initial booking form completed by the date defined by the UniBrass Organising Committee. The UniBrass Organising Committee will endeavour to provide all equipment requested by this deadline, however they cannot guarantee that all requests will be met.
 - 13.1.** The UniBrass Organising Committee reserves the right to pass on reasonable costs incurred by the provision of requested technical requirements to the competing bands if necessary. Both the feasibility and the cost of any requested technical equipment will be communicated to the requesting band no later than one month before the day of the contest.
 - 13.2.** It is strongly recommended that bands requesting technical effects provide a supporter to direct the technical operators in the sequencing of their effects. The UniBrass Organising Committee will not be held responsible for any unforeseeable errors in technical effects, regardless of the effect this has on the performance.
- 14.** Bands must provide two unmarked copies and a digital copy of the scores of the chosen entertainment programme for the adjudicators (photocopies allowed). These must be received by the contest no less than 3 weeks before the date of the contest.
- 15.** Prizes will be awarded within both sections for the following: Best Solo/Feature, Best March, Most Entertaining Band, Best Student Conductor, and Best Percussion Section, as well as for Overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.
 - 15.1.** The award for Best Student Composition or Arrangement will be awarded across the contest as a whole.

- 15.2.** The award for Best Student Composition or Arrangement may be split into a separate Best Student Composition prize and a Best Student Arrangement prize, at the discretion of the adjudicators and UniBrass Organising Committee, on the basis of the number of entries under each category.
- 15.3.** The award for Best Student Composition or Arrangement is open to all students enrolled at a university on the date of the contest.
- 15.4.** The awards for Best Student Conductor are open to all students enrolled at the university of the band they are conducting on the date of the contest.
- 15.5.** In the case of a points tie for any other placings, musicality points will be taken over entertainment points (if the bands are still level then they shall be jointly placed). In the case of one of the bands receiving a time penalty, the original musicality points before the penalty will be used.
- 16.** If any band is not ready to perform when requested, then the issue will be resolved at the discretion of the UniBrass Organising Committee.
- 17.** Any band found to be using inappropriate language, props, or making comments likely to cause offence or be deemed as discriminatory in any shape or form may be disqualified. Discrimination or behaviour likely to cause offence will not be tolerated. Any disqualification may mean that a band is prevented from entering in subsequent contests. Bands are encouraged to speak to the UOC in advance if they have any concerns.
- 18.** Scores as assigned by the adjudicators are final. The application of all other rules is at the discretion of the UniBrass Organising Committee. The decision of the UniBrass Organising Committee is final.

Change History

Date	Issue Number	Changes
25/1/15	1.0	Adoption as bye law by the UniBrass Foundation trustees
11/10/15	1.1	
10/10/17	2.0	Rules surrounding 2 sections
15/7/18	2.1	Changes for 2019 contest
28/9/19	2.2	Changes for 2020 contest
20/10/19	2.2.1	Final approval of 2020 contest rules