



2026 WA State Band Championships



**Saturday May 30 and Sunday May 31
Wesley College
Goatcher Auditorium**

INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR BANDS, SOLOISTS & ENSEMBLES
UPDATED FOR 2026 – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

2026 STATES CHECKLIST

All entries must be submitted using the online form by **FRIDAY 10 APRIL 2026**

<https://tinyurl.com/WABA26>

The online entry will ask for the email address of your conductor, your main point of contact, and your principal percussionist. Please make sure you have this information to hand before starting the application.

Once the form has been submitted, you are required to send in your scores, either digitally (arrange via email to the WABA Contest email), or by post or hand (arrange via email to the WABA President)

DIGITAL SUBMISSION

contest@waba.asn.au

PHYSICAL SUBMISSION

POST

James Martin

12A Northumberland Rd, Forrestfield, WA 6058

HAND DELIVERY

Arrange by emailing: president@waba.asn.au

FOR ALL COMPETING BRASS BANDS & OPEN CONCERT BANDS

Have you...

- ☒ Submitted the online entry form?
- ☒ Sent in physical or digital copies of scores for all your pieces with bars numbered? (INCLUDING TEST PIECE)
- ☒ Submitted your own choice program for approval? (Concert Bands only)
- ☒ Affiliated with WABA for 2026 and paid your affiliation and contest fees?

FOR ALL NON-COMPETING BANDS

Have you...

- ☒ Submitted the online entry form?
- ☒ Sent in physical or digital copies of scores for all your pieces with bars numbered?
- ☒ Paid the affiliation fee and/or Festival fee as appropriate?

FOR ALL SCHOOL CONCERT BANDS

Have you...

- ☒ Submitted the online entry form?
- ☒ Sent in physical or digital copies of scores for all your pieces with bars numbered?
- ☒ Paid the affiliation fee and/or Festival fee as appropriate?
- ☒ Sent in physical or digital copies of scores for all your pieces with bars numbered?
- ☒ Paid the affiliation fee and/or Festival fee as appropriate?

FOR ALL SMALL ENSEMBLES & SOLOISTS

Have you...

- ☒ Submitted the online entry form?
- ☒ Sent in physical or digital copies of scores for all your pieces with bars numbered?
- ☒ Paid the \$10 entry fee (Cash or EFT BSB 633 000 Acc# 211 068 119)?

2026 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY MAY 30

School Concert Bands

Competing Concert Bands – A B, C and D Grade (NOTE: A GRADE CONCERT IS BACK ON SATURDAY)

Jazz Bands

Festival Bands (Concert)

SUNDAY May 31

Competing Brass Bands – all Grades

Small Ensembles (all)

Soloists (all)

Festival Bands (Brass)

All Concert Band awards will be presented on Saturday afternoon. All Brass Band awards will be presented on Sunday afternoon.

If your band would like to participate in the Championships but is unable to perform on the specified days shown in this booklet, please contact us directly by email at contest@waba.asn.au as soon as possible.

A final schedule will be published at the latest by **Monday, May 4**. If a performance time requires adjustment, it is important that WABA be notified prior to publication of the final schedule, as late changes will be extremely difficult to accommodate.

2026 CHAMPIONSHIPS FEES

Please note that for the purposes of the State Championships, entry fees are PER BAND, not per organisation. For example, if your organisation includes two bands (e.g. City of Stirling Brass Band & City of Stirling Junior Brass Band), you need to pay an entry fee for both bands.

COMPETING BANDS

Competing bands must be affiliated with WABA to participate at the event. The affiliation documents can be obtained via an email to secretary@waba.asn.au

ENTRY for competing bands is \$75 (if paid prior to December 31) or \$125 (if paid after December 31)

NON-COMPETING BANDS

Non-competing bands do not need to be affiliated with WABA to participate at the event.

ENTRY for non-competing bands is \$75 (if paid prior to December 31) or \$125 (if paid after December 31)

SCHOOL BANDS

School bands only need to be affiliate members with WABA to participate at the event.

Email contest@waba.asn.au

ENTRY for school bands is \$125 entry fee plus \$10 affiliate membership.

SOLOISTS & SMALL ENSEMBLES

ENTRY for soloists and small ensembles is \$10 per entry

2026 TEST PIECES

All competing bands will be required to play the designated test piece for their grade. The pieces have been chosen carefully to reflect an appropriate standard of the grade. The 2026 Test Pieces are as follows;

BRASS BANDS

Open A Grade	A Lowry Sketchbook	Philip Wilby	Maecenas Music
Open B Grade	Journey to the Bermuda Triangle	Pimpanit Karoonyavanich	BVT Music
Open C Grade	Pastiche	Mark Ford	Bandford Music
Open D Grade	Neverland	Christopher Bond	Christoopher Bond Music
Junior Grade	OWN CHOICE TEST PIECE		

CONCERT BANDS

Open A Grade	Moondani Dances	Taran Carter	Matt Klohs Publications
Open B Grade	The Last Flight Out	Catherine Likhuta	Self Published
Open C Grade	Land of Enchantment	Carol Brittin Chambers	Excelcia Music
Open D Grade	Silent Movie	Brian West	Brolga Music

SCHOOL CONCERT BANDS

School Concert Bands are required to play a program of music that aligns with the grade they are competing in. If you have any questions around which grade would be best for your band, please contact the music advisory board (contest@waba.asn.au) with your program.

School Concert Band A Grade	<i>Works to be selected from grade 4+ works</i>
School Concert Band B Grade	<i>Works to be selected from grade 3+ work</i>
School Concert Band C Grade	<i>Works to be selected from grade 1.5 to 2.5</i>

2026 PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS

Competing Brass Bands (Open & Junior)

Each band* must perform:

Hymn/Sacred Work**	Marks available: 50
Test Piece	Marks available: 100
March***	Marks available: 50
TOTAL POINTS: 200	

The champion band for each grade is the band with the highest mark out of 200.

Competing Brass Bands must **also** perform either:

Own Choice Test Piece	Marks available: 100	OR
Concert Program (10 minutes max.)	Marks available: 100	

The competing brass band from any grade with the highest mark for an own choice test piece will win the “Own Choice Work of the Year” award, and the competing brass band from any grade with the highest mark for a concert program will win the “Concert Program of the Year” award.

* Competing bands may not give verbal instructions or commentary of their music, by their MD or anyone else in the band. Program notes for the test pieces will be included in the program.

** Brass bands must play a hymn or sacred work (as defined by NBCA).

*** This march must either be selected from the NBCA Prescribed March List. (https://www.nbca.asn.au/files/2021_Prescribed_March_List.pdf), or pre-approved by the WABA Music Advisory Board (contact via contest@waba.asn.au) for approval as soon as possible.

Competing Concert Bands (Open)

Each band* must perform:

Slow Work**	Marks available: 50
Test Piece	Marks available: 100
March***	Marks available: 50
Own Choice Program	Marks available: 125
TOTAL POINTS: 325	

The champion band for each grade is the band with the highest mark out of 325.

TIME REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN CONCERT BAND OWN CHOICE PROGRAMS

Open A Grade Concert	18-25 minutes of music
Open B Grade Concert	12-18 minutes of music
Open C Grade Concert	10-16 minutes of music
Open D Grade Concert	7-12 minutes of music

PROGRAMMING ADVICE FOR OPEN CONCERT BAND OWN CHOICE PROGRAMS

Concert bands may choose to present elements from any of the following repertoire types for their own choice program:

Major works (such as Hindemith's Symphony in Bb);
Slow works (such as Wagner's Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral);
Overture/Shorter concert works (such as Bernstein's Candide or Hazy's Sevens);
Popular/Movie/Musical/Jazz works or medleys.

Bands should not perform a concerto or solo work (such as Sparke's Tuba Concerto).

PROGRAMMING STANDARD FOR OPEN CONCERT BAND OWN CHOICE PROGRAMS

While a single work within a program may not reflect the following grade descriptors, the bulk of works selected in the own choice program should reflect the following levels:

Open A Grade Concert	Present an Own Choice program of works at Grade 5 or 6
Open B Grade Concert	Present an Own Choice program of works at a Grade 4 or 5
Open C Grade Concert	Present an Own Choice program of works at a Grade 3 or 4
Open D Grade Concert	Present an Own Choice program of works at a Grade 3 or less

ADVICE AND APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN CONCERT BAND OWN CHOICE PROGRAMS

If you have questions regarding the make-up of the program, please contact the Music Advisory Board (contest@waba.asn.au) for further advice. Your own choice program must be approved by the Music Advisory Board prior to the due date for entries. Please submit your proposed program to the Music Advisory Board (contest@waba.asn.au) .

If you wish to request that a piece should be considered for your grade even if it doesn't fit the required grade (i.e a grade 3 work in B grade) you must do this by March 1st.

* Competing bands may not give verbal instructions or commentary of their music, by their MD or anyone else in the band. Program notes for the test pieces will be included in the program.

** Concert bands may play any slow piece, which does not need to fit the NBCA hymn/sacred work definition.

*** This march must either be selected from the NBCA Prescribed March List (https://www.nbca.asn.au/files/2021_Prescribed_March_List.pdf) , or pre-approved by the WABA Music Advisory Board (contact via contest@waba.asn.au) for approval as soon as possible.

Festival/Non-Competing Bands

Own Choice Program of between 20 – 30 minutes duration.

Festival Bands may select whether they wish to have feedback and comments from the adjudicator.

The State Band Festival is a great way for your band to participate in the WA banding community without contesting. Pick whatever repertoire you want to perform – as serious or lighthearted as you like. For some guidance, previous performances have included movie medleys, marches, popular songs, original works, soloist items, vocalists and comic works. Please contact us at contest@waba.asn.au if you require further guidance or advice.

School Concert Bands

Each band must perform: 15 to 20 minutes of music of the grade level you are entered in.
All school bands will receive either a Gold, Silver, or Bronze award for their performance.

Soloists

Each soloist must perform 1 work in any of the following grades:

Advanced	Piece of music at approximately AMEB Grade 7 or higher
Intermediate	Piece of music at approximately AMEB Grade 5 or 6
Developing	Piece of music at approximately AMEB Grade 4 or lower
Slow Melody	Slow piece of music at any grade level

Soloists may perform with a live accompanist, a pre-recorded accompaniment, or without accompaniment. WABA will not provide an accompanist in 2026.

Soloists will receive a mark out of 100 for their piece and the highest mark in each of the above sections will be awarded 1st place.

Small Ensembles

Each small ensemble must perform:

1 piece, or a program of pieces between 2 – 8 minutes duration.

Ensembles will receive a mark out of 100 for their program and the highest mark will be awarded 1st place.