

PIPING AND DRUMMING QUALIFICATIONS BOARD

LEVEL FIVE CERTIFICATE - PIPING

SYLLABUS

1. **Maintenance**
 - a. Candidates must be prepared to answer questions on maintenance at any previous certification level.
 - b. Candidates must be able to describe all steps required to put a set of bagpipes into good playing order, and to maintain them in that condition thereafter.

2. **Practical**
 - a. On the Practice Chanter: Sight read from a set piece equivalent in standard required for the practical examination
 - b. On the Bagpipe:
Candidates submit tunes as follows:
 - (1) 4 Piobaireachds, one each of the following type:
 - (a) standard crunluath
 - (b) crunluath breabach
 - (c) crunluath fosgailte
 - (d) crunluath a mach
 - (2) 4 competition style 2_4 Marches
 - (3) 4 competition style Strathspeys
 - (4) 4 competition style Reels
 - (5) 4 competition style Hornpipes
 - (6) 4 competition style Jigs

Candidates will be asked to play one tune from each category and the examiner may request additional tunes or parts thereof to be played. Candidates will be expected to achieve a very good blend of chanter and drones.

Candidates will also be assessed on Marching and Deportment.

3. **Theory and History**

Candidates must be able to:

 - a. Answer questions on theory from any of the previous certification levels
 - b. Understand the difference between relative and absolute pitch
 - c. Demonstrate a knowledge of the three Highland Bagpipe pentatonic scales
 - d. Compose harmony to a set piece of music
 - e. Understand how the bagpipe scale relates to the western major scale
 - f. Demonstrate a knowledge of the tones and semitones used in these scales
 - g. Write the first line of a piobaireachd ground on a stave

h. State the requirements and the format for the following dances:

- (1) Highland Fling
- (2) Sean Truibhas
- (3) Sword Dance
- (4) Sailors Hornpipe
- (5) Irish Jig

i. Write a short essay of not more than 500 words selected from one of the following topics:

- (1) Solo competition system
- (2) The pipe band movement
- (3) A famous piper and his/her contribution to piping
- (4) Present day piping organisation and their contribution to piping