

2007 National Band Championships Ivanhoe, Melbourne Victoria



Presented by the Victorian Bands League on behalf of the
National Bands Council of Australia
5th - 9th April 2007



News Letter No 3
29 March 2007

Countdown to the Contest – under two weeks to go!

With such a short time left we really hope that all your rehearsals and various other arrangements for getting to the Championships are going well. You should have now lodged your permit forms.

We are now in the final stages of our own preparations, with most of our planning complete, and only the physical side of the move into the venues, which can only be done just before the event, left to do. This includes signage for the venues.

Nationals Web site

If you have internet access there is much information available on the nationals web site at www.vbl.org.au where you should click on the "Nationals 2007" button on the left of the screen. That will take you to the main screen, which gives links to many different parts of the site.

Local Services in Ivanhoe

We have just put a list on the web site of the Ivanhoe facilities for food and other services which will be open on one or more days during the Championships. However this is also attached at the end of this newsletter for your information.

Solos and Accompanists

Another list that has also been included on the web site is that for the solos, including the venues and accompanists. Soloists wishing to rehearse with the appointed accompanist will need to make their own arrangements for that. Any expenses incurred for such rehearsals are the responsibility of the individual soloist.

Please note that Sonja Lee is no longer available as an accompanist. Her place has been taken by Janet Gibbs who can be telephoned on 0412 692 944. We are advising Janet of the appointments already made with Sonja, but soloists need to ring Janet to confirm their arrangements.

Band Secretaries are requested to advise soloists of the above.

Parade of Bands

Details on the web site include the general instructions to the participants and the site map. Please note that when these details were originally emailed/sent out there was an omission in the details for assembly times. Although this has been corrected in later communications we need to just emphasize these times again to avoid bands arriving at the wrong time.

Marshalling of D Grade will commence at 8:30 am. Marshalling times for other grades is: -

B Grade 9.00am

A Grade 9.30am

Concert Bands 10.35am

C Grade also at 10.35am

Bands will March Off in the order of the Saturday Draw for their Grade.

Bands will assemble in Hawdon Street, EVEN drawn Bands NORTH of Burgundy Street and ODD drawn bands SOUTH of Burgundy Street.

One item not included in the detailed instructions was in relation to the times allowed for the inspection. The time allowed for the Drum Major's preparation of the band is 2 minutes, and the time for the Adjudicator's inspection is a further 2 minutes. There will be 2 inspection areas in use simultaneously.

Also we have arranged for a brief Official Opening of the Championships to take place at 8.55 am at the Parade of Bands venue. This will be done by Cr Wayne Phillips, Mayor of the City of Banyule. The Championships venues are within the City of Banyule.

Parking

Parking will be uppermost in the minds of many coming to the Championships. Detailed instructions for car and bus entry and parking at the Parade of Bands have been issued with the instructions for the Parade. Band adherents are requested not to park in supermarket car parks whilst the Parade of Bands is on.

Whilst there is a large parking area around the main venue, there will obviously be times when parking will be at a premium. There is alternate parking for buses available adjacent to the Ivanhoe Station.

Volunteers

The details for our call for volunteers helping us to staff the Championships are also included as a web site link. Even if you are coming from the country, interstate or overseas you will still be welcome to come and help us if you have time available during the Championships. A four hour stint as a volunteer will gain you a season pass to the Championships.

Photographer

The photographer will be in attendance on Friday through to Monday inclusive from 8.00 am each day except Saturday when he will arrive by 9:00 am. Photographs will be viewable as proofs on computer screens some hours after they are taken, and orders may be placed at that time. The preferred method of ordering is to pay at the time of placing the order, and the photos will then be posted when ready. Payment can be made by credit card, cheque or cash.

Percussion Equipment

Lists of the available percussion equipment have already been forwarded to bands and are also available on the web site.

Portable Electrical Equipment

Please note that if you are bringing portable electrical equipment, such as power extension leads, bass amplifiers and so on, these must be properly tested and tagged in accordance with AS/NZ 3760:2003.

Stage Plans

To assist the Stage Managers a Stage Plan for your band is required to be lodged with us not less than one hour before sign on. Please use the attached form to draw up your plan, and lodge it at the nominated table in the foyer of the venue where your band is competing.

Contest Admission Prices

Solos

Day Pass	\$10.00	Concession \$8.00	Competitors in Uniform Free
-----------------	---------	-------------------	-----------------------------

Bands Day Pass	\$15.00	Concession \$12.00	Under 5 & Competitors in Uniform Free
Season Pass	\$35.00	all sessions except Gala Concert	
Grand Season Pass	\$50.00	all sessions including Gala Concert	

Tickets will be available at the door. You can pre-order by email or phone to the VBL office.

Gala Concert Admission Prices

Entry	\$25.00 per ticket
Concession	\$20.00 per ticket
Groups of 10 or More	\$20.00 per ticket
12 & under	\$15.00 per ticket

Music Stands and Equipment for Sale

Equipment provided for the Championships by Billy Hyde Music will be available for sale at the conclusion of the event. Sales of music stands can be arranged with Michael Jongebloed of Billy Hyde Music prior to the Championships. Call him on (03) 9894 2899 for more information.

See you all soon.

The 2007 Nationals Committee