

36 Ramore Park
Belfast
BT10 0FB

3rd March 2024

Dear Secretary,

Spring Festival 2025

Please find enclosed the entry form for the forthcoming Brass Bands Northern Ireland Spring Festival Contest which is due to be held on **Saturday 12th April 2025** at **The Strule Arts Centre, Omagh**.

We are delighted to announce that our adjudicator on the day will be **Dr Robert Childs**.

Please use our new online form to enter the contest, available here: <https://forms.gle/rKCZEK4QpRT2yUw39>

This letter and our entry form can also be found on the Downloads page within the Resources section of our website. Please note that entries will not be accepted until the corresponding payment has been received.

The closing date for entries is Saturday 22nd March 2025.

As agreed at our Annual General Meeting, the music for each section will be own choice. This contest will be run under NIBA rules (<https://nibandsassociation.uk/rules/>). Consequently, players must be registered with their band by 15th March 2025. The NIBA Registration Secretary should be notified of any guest or legacy players by 5th April 2025. Please also notify BBNI of any guest and legacy players.

Youth Bands and School Bands will compete in separate sections. The maximum age of any player in a Youth Band will be 18. Youth and School Bands will be allowed to play any own choice music, however playing time will be limited to 15 minutes. Adults may assist in youth band performances (by pointing out notes etc) but they must not participate in the performance.

All competing bands are required to use rehearsal/warm-up facilities nearby in Omagh Academy, which is less than a 5 minute walk from the theatre. The associated cost for the hire of the facilities is incorporated into the entry fee for the event.

Following positive feedback from bands, it is our intention to live stream the contest once again via our facebook page. Please indicate whether your band consents to this on the entry form.

In order to allow inspection and any necessary repairs to be carried out, **ALL PERPETUAL TROPHIES** must be returned to a member of BBNI Executive on or before **22nd March 2025**. It is the responsibility of the band holding any of the trophies to ensure that they are returned in a timely manner. We also ask that trophies are cleaned before they are returned. Due to repeated late returns in previous years **any bands that still hold trophies by this date will be fined £20 per trophy.**

We look forward to seeing you in Omagh!

Denise Gilchrist
BBNI Secretary