

MWPBA
Chief Steward Recap 2018

Terry McHugh Regional Solos:

Friday January 12 - Kansas City MO - Winter Storm Weekend - 6 Registrants

Saturday February 10 - Alma MI - 14 Registrants

Sunday February 11 - St. Paul MN - 8 Registrants

Saturday February 24 - Louisville KY - 15 Registrants

Saturday March 3 - Hales Corners WI - 13 Registrants

Saturday April 21 - Park Ridge IL - Finals and also the Ian Swinton Open
Ian Swinton Open - 14 Registrants

Comments: I was only a Steward at the Hales Corners WI and Park Ridge Regional competition and this was prior to my becoming the Chief Steward.

From what I have observed all was in good order. At the final a few suggestions I would like to make are that:

1. We have more stewards and use walkie talkies for the finals.
2. The facility was nice, yet it was a lot of walking up and down stairs. (At the Finals)

Games:

Alma - May 26-27 - 2 Day Games - Champion Supreme - 16 Bands

Comments: This was my first games as Chief Steward and Jim Sim was available at these games to help. I only did the announcing for the band contests, the games organizers do mass bands and awards.

1. The games had changed from past years, again changing the layout. Although the piping and drumming competitions and band competitions stayed in the same location, the vendors shared the location with us.
2. Although it seems to work out just fine, there was some confusion for some of the solo competitors as to where the tables were located. They were actually on the hill as usual however, they were hidden due to the vendor tents being located at the bottom of the hill in front of the solo tables.
3. There had been some apparent complaints by the vendors that the pipers were too loud near their tents and we had been given a phone number by the games organizers to the representatives at the MWPBA tent to give out should we hear any of the complaints. We did not.
4. We did have a storm on Saturday night of the games, as per usual for Alma. :). Things worked out just fine.

Milwaukee - June 2 - 15 Bands

Comments: These games seem to go on without a hitch. It was my first games actually doing the awards announcing and Mass Bands. Again Jim was available to assist.

Chicago - June 15th-16th - 2 Day Games - Champion Supreme - 38 Bands

Comments: Overall the games worked out well. Only a few glitches, one being a storm as usual per a Chicago games, early Sunday morning. We had a few of the solo tents destroyed as well as had a few bands. The ground was absolutely drenched and mud was a plenty as the morning started out.

1. At mass bands, the field was full of pot holes from the heavy weight games and the soft ground. This was a problem for the bands and therefore once they marched on they stayed where they were and did not move during the playing.
2. Keith did the announcing for most of the band competitions which was a nice treat for both he and I.
3. The only complaints we had were that it was a lot of walking and we were too far from the rest of the games.

Minnesota - July 21 - 8 Bands

Comments: I was not in attendance these games, however, Stuart Barr stepped in and was the chief steward of the day. Thank you Stuart.

Per Stuart about the day:

The MN games went very smoothly overall, very good day for it, in a rather pleasant location, and well attended.

The opening parade was very professionally executed, nicely short, and on time, and appreciated by the audience. D/M Doug Weisheit did it three times! Only downside was that one of the solo events was moved due to being right in the middle the parade route, but we got it completed before the parade started.

The competition was well staffed with a good number of entries (8 bands, 11 band events overall, plus 78 entries in the solos), and all materials and resources needed were well provided for. Band and solo competitions went off without a hitch, and ran on time.

Massed Bands started on time, and efficiently executed by all.

Stuart Barr filled in for Sherry as Chief Steward for the day, and survived the experience. An enjoyable gig -- I would recommend it.

Wisconsin - September 1 - Champion Supreme - 17 Bands

Comments: Overall the games went well. The weather cooperated even with a slight shower, it cleared up nicely. It did not seem as though this games was attended as well as it has been in the past. Although we are only there one day it was difficult to say if it got better on Sunday. The rain in the morning certainly and most likely played a part in the games attendance.

1. We need to make sure that there is something behind Julie as too many people were going behind her to either get food or speak with others within the tent.
2. This was Russ Reads final games as he retired.

Columbus IN - September 8 - 4 Bands

Comments: The games were a bit wet. Due to the weather its with near certainty that it played a part in the attendance of the games.

1. When it came to the band competitions, we had to move them from the circle and put them in the fairgrounds horse barn outbuilding. We created a circle type environment for the bands. They walked from our starting location to the circle playing. At the other end of the outbuilding is where they warmed up. It was difficult to hear at times, yet the judges and bands all made the best of what was a flooding good time.

2. The parade at noon proceeded with very few bands participated. Those that did not, lost their travel money.

Kentucky - There are no band competitions so we were not present.

St. Louis - September 29 - Champion Supreme - 4 Bands

Comments: The weather was very chilly. Over everything went well. Very low turn out in bands.

1. We need to gate off the judges tables in the future as people were sitting in the judges seats while the bands were playing.