

AUSTRALIAN PIPE BAND COLLEGE

PRELIMINARY DRUMMING SYLLABUS 2004



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INTRODUCTION

The Preliminary Drumming syllabus is the first of four drumming qualifications of the Australian Pipe Band College. It is an entry-level qualification for pipe bands in that it is intended to prepare drummers to be able to perform in a grade 4 band in a learner capacity.

The resources required for the study of the Preliminary Certificate are:-

- The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, “*Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate*”, and
- APBC Preliminary Certificate Resource Pack.

Your Branch of the Australian Pipe Band Association should be consulted for the availability of the above essential resources.

The Syllabus is presented first and this contains the topic areas contained within the Preliminary Certificate. It will be necessary for you to use all of the essential resources (listed above) in order to address the topic areas.

The Specific Objectives are given following the syllabus. These will be particularly helpful in identifying the exact knowledge and skills that you must possess in order to pass the Preliminary Certificate Examination.

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE SYLLABUS

MAJOR REFERENCE

The major reference for this qualification is The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "*Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate*"

THEORY OF MUSIC (refer to 'Appendix A' for the specific objectives)

1. **Sound**: Production, Characteristics, Musical and Unmusical , Kinds of Musical Sounds.
2. **Staff Notation Terms**: Scale, Octave, Great Staff, Short Staff, Clefs (Treble & Bass)
3. **Duration of Sounds**: Note Names, Note Shapes, Note Relative Values, and Note Groupings.
3. **Rests**: Rest Names, Rest Shapes, Rest Relative Values, and Rest Groupings.
4. **Lengthening Notes**: Dot (single), Tie.
5. **Rhythm**: Kinds of Time, Bars, Barlines.
7. **Simple Time**: Definition, Examples, Subdivision of Beat Notes.
8. **Time Signature**: Definition, Simple Time Use.
9. **Tempo and Volume**

PLAYING: SNARE DRUM (refer to 'Appendix A' for the specific objectives)

1. The candidate is to sight-read and play on a Practice Pad selected fundamental exercises from The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "*Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate*: Pages **1.21.1 to 1.21.17** inclusive, (this comprises exercises 1 to **10**) and the *APBC Resource Pack for the Preliminary Certificate*. Note: Only Simple Time Exercises are to be used.
 - Holding the Drum Sticks
 - Single Stroke Beating
 - Single Stroke Beat Subdivision
 - Triplets: accented on 1st beat, hand-to-hand
 - Counting Exercises in Simple Time (Duple only)
 - Stick Control Exercises
 - The Long Open and Closed Roll
 - Five or Seven Stroke Roll: Open and Closed, hand-to-hand
 - Nine or Thirteen Stroke Roll: Open and Closed, hand-to-hand
 - the Closed 17 or 25 Stroke Roll as an Introductory Roll
 - Paradiddle: Unaccented and with Accent on first beat.
2. The candidate will choose a Simple Time, two-parted score and play it on a snare drum. The score must incorporate combinations of the above exercises.

PLAYING: BASS and TENOR DRUM (refer to 'Appendix A' for the specific objectives)

1. The ability to play correctly, the selected Simple Time exercises in the Snare, Bass and Tenor sections of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate": Pages **1.21.2 to 1.24.1**. Note: Only Simple Time Exercises are to be used.
 - Holding the Drum Sticks
 - Single Stroke Beating
 - Single Stroke Beat Subdivision
 - Triplets: accented on 1st beat, hand-to-hand
 - Exercises in Simple Duple
 - Stick Control Exercises
 - Monotone Exercises
2. To play a two-parted Simple Time march of the candidate's own choice on the primary instrument for the examination (Bass or Tenor). The score must contain a variety of movements as shown in '1' above, and each part is to be repeated.

MUSIC WRITING: SNARE DRUMMERS (refer to 'Appendix A' for the specific objectives)

Write neatly, on the Mono-linear Staff, **eight bars of Simple Time** including the following:

- Single Strokes,
- Double Strokes,
- Paradiddles,
- the Closed 5 or 7 Stroke Roll,
- the Closed 9 or 13 Stroke Roll,
- Accents,
- Dotted Notes,
- Rest

MUSIC WRITING: BASS AND TENOR DRUMMERS (refer to 'Appendix A' for the specific objectives)

Write neatly on the Monolinear Staff, eight bars of Simple Time showing a varied selection of movements such as covered in the "playing" section of the syllabus, and including a Rest.

***** End of Preliminary Syllabus *****

APPENDIX A:
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE: MUSIC THEORY

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
1	Sound: Production, Characteristics, Musical and Unmusical , Kinds of Musical Sounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With reference to the Originator, Vibrating Body, Medium, and Receptor, explain how sound is produced. • Briefly explain the meaning of the terms: Pitch, Volume, and Quality (Timbre). • With the aid of a sketch, briefly explain the difference between Musical and Unmusical sounds. • Briefly explain the meaning of the terms: Legato, and Staccato. 	The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, " <i>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</i> "
2	Staff Notation Terms: Scale, Octave, Great Staff, Short Staff, Clefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly explain the meaning of the term "Scale". • With the aid of an example, explain the meaning of the term "Octave". • Draw the Great Staff and label the lines and spaces. • Draw the Great Staff and on it identify a Short Staff. • State the name of two clefs, Treble and Bass, and draw these on a diagram of the Great Staff 	
3	Duration of Sounds: Note Names, Note Shapes, Note Relative Values, Note Groupings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State the name of the first 6 notes. • Draw the symbols for the first 6 notes. • State the relative values of the first 6 notes. • Resolve a variety of simple note groupings into one equivalent note. 	
4	Rests: Rest Names, Rest Shapes, Rest Relative Values, Rest Groupings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State the name of the first 6 rests. • Draw the symbols for the first 6 rests. • State the relative values of the first 6 rests. • Resolve a variety of simple rest groupings into one equivalent rest. 	

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
5	<u>Lengthening Notes</u> : Dot, Tie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly explain what a single Dot does to a note. • Give examples of single dotted notes and the resultant equivalent value. • Briefly explain the meaning of a Tie and give an example. 	The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, " <i>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</i> "
6	<u>Rhythm</u> : Kinds of Time, Bars, Barlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the meaning of the term "Rhythm" • State the name for 2, 3, and 4-pulse rhythmic patterns • State the strength of natural pulses for Duple, Triple and Quadruple time • With the aid of examples, explain the meaning of the terms "Bar" and "Barline" (single and double). 	
7	<u>Simple Time</u> : Definition, Examples, Subdivision of Beat Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly explain the meaning of Simple Time, and the categories of Duple, Triple and Quadruple. • Briefly explain the principle of beat sub-division. 	
8	<u>Time Signature</u> : Definition, Simple Time Use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly explain the meaning of the term "Time Signature" • Draw examples of Simple Duple, Simple Triple, and Simple Quadruple Time Signatures and explain the meaning of each number. 	
9	<u>Tempo and Volume</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the meaning of "Tempo" and give an example. • Explain the meaning of "Volume", and the related terms of Crescendo, Diminuendo, Accents, and Dynamics. 	

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE

PLAYING: SNARE DRUM

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
1	<p>The candidate is to sight-read and play on a Practice Pad selected fundamental exercises from The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "<u><i>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</i></u>: Pages 1.21.1 to 1.21.17 inclusive, (this comprises exercises 1 to 10). Note: Only <u>Simple Time Exercises</u> are to be used.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold the sticks correctly using either the Conventional Grip (illustrated) or the Matched Grip (not illustrated). • Play exercise 1 at a tempo of 80 bpm. • Play exercises 2, each line one at a time, at a tempo of 80 bpm. • Play exercises 4, "Triplets", each line one at a time, at a tempo of 80 bpm (compound time line omitted). • Play triplets, hand-to-hand, at a tempo of 70 bpm, accented on the first beat of each triplet. Refer to "<u><i>The APBC Resource Pack for Examinations</i></u>" • Play page 1.21.8, lines 1 to 4 (Simple Duple Time), at a tempo 80 bpm. <p>{Exercise 5 "Single Stroke Development" page 1.21.10 is covered satisfactorily in exercise 2}</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Exercise 5 "Single Stroke Development" page 1.21.11 A, B, C, and D, at tempo of 70 bpm. • Play exercise 6, as an Open Roll, with a gradual increase in tempo to a minimum of 70bpm (with quaver sub-division played). • Play exercise 6, as a long Closed Roll, sustaining an acceptable sound for at least 10 seconds. • Play exercise 7, "Five Stroke Roll Development" or "exercise 8, "Seven Stroke Roll Development", using the open movements hand-to-hand; tempo not specified. • Play exercise 7, "Five Stroke Roll Development" or "exercise 8, "Seven Stroke Roll Development" using the closed movements hand-to-hand; tempo not specified. • Play exercise 7, "Five Stroke Roll Development" or "exercise 8, 	<p>The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "<u><i>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</i></u>"</p> <p><u><i>"The APBC Resource Pack for Preliminary Certificate"</i></u></p>

		<p>“Seven Stroke Roll Development”, lines A, B, and C, at a tempo of 70bpm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play exercise 9, “Nine Stroke Roll Development” or “13 Stroke Roll Development” (<i>APBC Resource Pack</i>), using the open movements hand-to-hand; tempo not specified. • Play exercise 9, “Nine Stroke Roll Development” or “13 Stroke Roll Development” (<i>APBC Resource Pack</i>), using the closed movements hand-to-hand; tempo not specified. • Play exercise 9, “Nine Stroke Roll Development” or “13 Stroke Roll Development” (<i>APBC Resource Pack</i>), lines A, B, and C, at a tempo of 70bpm. • Play exercise 10, “The Paradiddle”, at a tempo of 70bpm. • Play 17 or 25 stroke introductory rolls at a tempo of 70bpm. 	<p>The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, “<u><i>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</i></u>”</p> <p>Where there is no RSPBA reference, refer to “<u><i>The APBC Resource Pack for Preliminary Certificate</i></u>”</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Demonstrate the ability to play <u>on a snare drum</u> a two-parted Simple Time score of the candidate’s <u>own choice</u>, incorporating combinations of the above exercises.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The score is to be presented to the examiner in a legible and correctly written form. • The candidate is responsible for providing the drum. • Tempo can be at the candidate’s choice, with a minimum of 70bpm. • Each part is to be played twice-through. • 3 Pace Rolls are optional. • Minimum elements to be incorporated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct holding of the drum sticks • Single stroke beat subdivision • Triplets: single and/or hand-to-hand • Five or Seven Stroke Roll: Closed • Nine or Thirteen Stroke Roll: Closed • Paradiddle: single and/or hand-to-hand 	<p>As above, or from tutor, or from own band.</p>

PLAYING: BASS/TENOR DRUM

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
1	The ability to play correctly the selected <u>Simple Time</u> exercise in the Snare, Bass and Tenor sections of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, " <u>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</u> ". Pages-1.21.2 to 1.24.1. Note: Only <u>Simple Time</u> exercises are to be used.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold the sticks correctly using the Matched Grip (not illustrated). • Play exercise 1 (page 1.21.3) at a tempo of 80 bpm. • Play exercises 2 (page 1.21.4), each line one at a time, at a tempo of 80 bpm. • Play exercises 4, "Triplets" (page 1.21.6), each line one at a time, at a tempo of 80 bpm (compound time line omitted). • Play triplets, hand-to-hand, at a tempo of 70 bpm, accented on the first beat of each triplet. Refer to "<u>The APBC Resource Pack for Preliminary Certificate</u>" • Play exercise 5 "Stick Control Exercises", page 1.21.11 A, B, C, and D, at tempo of 70 bpm. • Play exercise 2, "Simple Duple Time" (page 1.22.3), A and B, at a tempo of 70bpm. • Play exercise 2, "Simple Duple Time" (page 1.23.2), A and B, at a tempo of 70bpm. • Play Monotone Exercises (page 1.24.1), lines 1 and 2, at a tempo of 70 bpm. 	<p>The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "<u>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</u>"</p> <p>Refer to "<u>The APBC Resource Pack for Preliminary Certificate</u>"</p>
2	To play a two-parted Simple Time march of the candidate's own choice. Must be played twice through each part on the candidate's primary instrument (Bass or Tenor). The score must contain a variety of movements as shown in the previous reference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The score is to be presented to the examiner in a legible and correctly written form. • The candidate is responsible for providing the drum. • Tempo can be at the candidate's choice, with a minimum of 70bpm. • Each part is to be played twice through. • 3 Pace Rolls are optional. • Minimum elements to be incorporated are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct holding of the drum sticks • Single stroke beat subdivision • Triplets. • Simple Time Rhythm (Duple). 	As above

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE

MUSIC WRITING: SNARE DRUM

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
1	<p>Write neatly, on the Mono-linear Staff, eight bars of Simple Time (Duple) including the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Strokes, • Double Strokes, • Paradiddles, • the Closed Five-Stroke Roll, • the Closed Nine-Stroke Roll, • Accents, • Dotted Notes,. • Rest <p>Candidate is <u>not</u> required to play the music.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical construction is to be correct (notation, bar lines, grouping). • All nominated movements and notation to be used. 	<p>The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, "<u>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</u>" can be used for examples.</p>

MUSIC WRITING: BASS/TENOR DRUM

No.	SYLLABUS ITEM	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	REFERENCE
1	<p>Write neatly, on the Monolinear Staff, eight bars of Simple Time (Duple) showing a varied selection of movements as covered in the “playing” section of the syllabus, including the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Stroke Beats • Single Stroke Beat Subdivision • Dotted Notes • Rest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical construction is to be correct (notation, bar lines, grouping). • All nominated movements to be used. • Correct rhythm must be played. 	<p>The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, “<u>Structured Learning, Book 1, The Elementary Certificate</u>” can be used for examples.</p>