



## Format of the Contest

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### **Band requirements...**

- A brass band will consist of up to 30 brass and 4 percussion instrumentalist.
- A band may supplement this number with six additional people, who can be used as say, dancers, actors, or other performance aids.
- There are no registration requirements of players within a band.
- A band can borrow players from any other brass band, however it is expected that a band uphold the spirit of 'friendly banding' and not overly laden their band with experienced higher class players from other bands. This activity will be frowned upon and be taken into account within the adjudication of the contest.
- The contest is 'open' in style which means that there is no reference to brass band grading or sections.

### **Bands will be expected to...**

- Present to the general public a Christmas Concert which is innovative, capturing of the mind, maybe incorporate some form of theatrical production, projected images, sound effects, lights effects, be attention grabbing, new and refreshing.
- On the contest stage present a Christmas musical and theatrical extravaganza, which will be timed and of a duration 25 minutes.
- One (1) point will be deducted from a band's overall mark for every minute a band's program overruns the 20 minute allotted time period. A bands performance will be timed from the first note of playing to the last note of playing.
- It is expected that a bands Christmas programme will have a 'wow' factor suitable to impress the lay public who are non brass band 'savvy'. It is the ethos of the contest to promote brass bands and innovative brass music playing to the general public.
- Be ready to present their Christmas performance at an allotted time within the Brass Christmas Cracker event arena, located at Magna Science Adventure Centre, Rotherham.

### **Contest Adjudication.**

The Brass Christmas Cracker contest will be adjudicated by three persons

- One person will be eminent and accomplished in the field of brass bands and the 'art' of brass band contest adjudication.
  - The second person will be eminent in the field of original/contemporary theatrical performance production and execution.
  - The third person will be an accomplished musician/actor, someone who has experience of both facets of the contest.
  - Since the contest is 'open' in a brass band 'section' sense, the weighting of marks for a performance will be as follows...
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- Technicality and accuracy of brass performance 35% of the overall mark
  - Theatrical performance, originality, innovation, content and execution 65% of the overall mark

## **Prizes**

Prize monies will be...

- 1<sup>st</sup> £1200
- 2<sup>nd</sup> £800
- 3<sup>rd</sup> £600
- 4<sup>th</sup> £400

## **Draw/Order of Play**

There will be no official 'draw' for the order of play for the Brass Christmas Cracker contest. Bands will be asked when they would prefer to play within the time schedule of the contest. Performance time 'slots' will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. Performance slots will be open for allocation on the 1st October 2014.

## **Further notes about the event are...**

- We would like bands to perform in any suitable uniform to suit their Christmas performance.
- Seating will be provided on stage as well as music stands if required.
- A standard set of percussion equipment will be provided on stage which will be set in the same position thorough out the day. However, if a band requires any further percussion items please contact the contest controller, Robert Brown (see contact details below).
- A seating plan/layout for a band should be submitted to the contest controller prior to the contest so that seating can be arranged by stewards before a band performs.
- Copies of the pieces of music to be judged should be brought on the day of the contest and handed to the contest stewards who will pass this to the contest adjudicator
- Disabled person provisions will be catered for both on the stage and in the surrounding environment.

## **Contest Controller**

Robert E. Brown

Brasstonbury Promotions

Telephone Home:	01709 739228	8 Oak Grove,
Telephone Mobile:	07976250624	Thurcroft,
Email:	robert.brown@brasstonbury.com	Rotherham,
		South Yorkshire
		S66 9EZ

# Brass Christmas Cracker 2014

## Band/Contest Entry Form

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**To be completed and returned to...**

Dr. R. E. Brown  
Brasstonbury Promotions  
8 Oak Grove,  
Thurcroft,  
Rotherham,  
South Yorkshire  
S66 9EZ

**Email...**

robert.brown@brasstonbury.com  
£50.00

**How to pay...**

Cheque payments should be made payable to Take us 2 the Magic  
Stirling BACS payments and credits transfers payments should be sent to our  
bankers, Barclays Bank, Sort Code, 207592 Account Number 23256006

**Name of Band** .....

**Band Secretary** .....

**Address** .....  
.....  
.....

**Telephone** .....

**Email** .....

**Website** .....

**Contest /Band Section** .....

**Signed** .....

**Position** .....

**Date** .....