

## Music Board Recommendations for Video Contests

The EUSPBA recognizes the current need for video contests, and urges competitors to be thoughtful about improving their musical skills and their recording skills. The following are strong suggestions:

Read the EUSPBA tune requirements for each event in your grade before you make your recordings. The judges won't be able to remind you of the rules after you've submitted your videos. (See pages 22 to 30 in the rules document online. [Rules / Policies – Eastern United States Pipe Band Association](#) )

-When stating your competitor number, speak slowly and clearly, standing close enough to the microphone so that you can be understood. It is also allowable to have the competitor number written on something (paper, whiteboard, etc.) within the video field (no text overlay).

-Type your name and contest info in the YouTube title of your video as follows: [Your Name]-[Grade and event]-[Contest], with tune submissions in the description field.

-Align your camera horizontally (landscape) so that it can be watched full screen on a computer monitor.

-Do a test recording to make sure that your hands are on camera and unobstructed in your performance (countermarching would be an exception). Judges would rather watch your hands on your chanter or your drumsticks than get a perfect view of your ceiling.

-Record from far enough away that the sound of your instrument does not get distorted. If you have a small space to record in, try lowering the microphone input levels. Distance helps the drones come through for a more balanced recording.

-Pipers: For 2/4 and 6/8 march performances, marching is strongly recommended unless you absolutely have no space in your recording room. This is for your benefit in the long run. March for a significant part of the tune while staying within range of the camera (Another reason for horizontal video orientation).

-Be respectful of the music and the judge who will be watching your video. Highland Dress is encouraged but not required. Pajamas, beach, or gym attire is discouraged.

-While your final submission video must be an unedited video with no cuts, you are free to make multiple takes to present your best possible performance.

-Performances must be played by memory.