



Contest Rules & Prizes

- Band representatives must sign in at the registration's tent, located at the assembly point, between **4.00 pm and 10.30 pm**, but to receive an order of play number the full band must also be present. The play number will be allocated in order of coach arrival. **Last registration will be 10.30pm subject to there being no more than 10 bands registered and waiting.**
- UK bands must register in accordance with British National gradings. Foreign bands will be accepted in the relevant section to match their own national grading. Unregistered bands are deemed to be eligible for the championship/open section prizes only.
- Bands must play from the assembly point when instructed by the Bands Marshal and march to Dawson's Field. The band must be available when called, otherwise the stewards may place them at the back of the queue or even withdraw them from the contest. During the march up the bands will be judged for the senior and junior department prizes. There is no restriction on the number of players to be included on the march up.
- Bands must cease playing totally at the appointed 'knock off' sign, so as not to interfere with any band playing in the Contest Arena. This means no beating time either.
- For the 'Quickstep' contest, bands must play a published march (own choice); an unmarked copy of which should be handed to the Contest Marshal on arrival at the arena in Dawson's Field. Percussion instruments must not be used during the 'Quickstep' contest.
- For the 'Quickstep' contest, bands must play within the designated area with not more than 25 players, plus the conductor. Unless it is a junior band, when up to 35 players, plus conductor is permitted. Junior bands with above 35 players who simply want to experience the occasion; can do so on the understanding that they forfeit any right to the section prizes on offer. Junior bands are allowed up to four players over the age of 18 years.
- The championship section prizes are open to all comers, but the other prizes are restricted to bands registered for the relevant section.
- The championship/open section prizes will be awarded to the four bands that score the most overall marks.
- Prizes for the first, second, third, fourth and youth sections will be awarded to the three bands graded highest in their respective categories.
- The three prizes awarded for the Best Local section, refer to bands with registered headquarters within 10 miles of Dawson's Field, Scouthead, which scores the most marks, **but excludes the three Saddleworth Prize Winners.**
- Prizes for the Saddleworth section refers to bands with headquarters in the District of Saddleworth - or bands that are deemed to be Saddleworth bands by the Contest organisers - which score the most marks, **but excludes the three Best Local Prize Winners.**
- The prize for the highest placed overseas band **is awarded as per the central registration.**
- Results will be declared on **Saturday 30th May 2026** and the contestants will be advised either by email or post as soon as possible. A schedule of the results will also appear on the saddleworthwhitfriday.co.uk website as soon as they are available. The adjudicator's decision is final.
- All prizes and trophies will only be given to a bona fide representative of the winning band at the official presentation evening, date and venue to be announced. Trophies to be held for twelve months and then must be returned to the contest organisers.

Scouthead & Austerlands Prizes

Championship/Open	1 st	£1000 & Village Rosebowl
	2 nd	£600 & Wolfendon Cup
	3 rd	£400 & Hope Cup
	4 th	£300 & Crystal Trophy
First Section	1 st	£150 & Fred Mills Cup
	2 nd	£100
	3 rd	£50
Second Section	1 st	£150 & Druggitt Cup
	2 nd	£100
	3 rd	£50
Third Section	1 st	£150 & 'Top It Up' Cup
	2 nd	£100
	3 rd	£50
Fourth Section	1 st	£150 & Paul Ashworth Trophy
	2 nd	£100
	3 rd	£50
Youth Section	1 st	£150 & Dronsfields Cup
	2 nd	£100 & Treble D Shield
	3 rd	£50 & Bronze Award Shield
Best Local	1 st	£150 & Community Cup
	2 nd	£100 & Whitehead's Trophy
	3 rd	£50
Saddleworth	1 st	£150 & Heavy Metal Trophy
	2 nd	£100 & Arthur Cooper Shield
	3 rd	£50 & Ernest Evans Shield
Overseas Band Prize		£100
Senior Department		£50 & Bernard M Murphy Shield
Youth Department		£50 & J B Murphy Shield
First Band To Play		£30
Best Bass Section		£50 & Moorland Sound Trophy
Best Soprano Cornet		£30 & Top Brass Shield
Best Soloist (Other Than Sop)		£30 & Taylee Cup
Best Trombone		£30 & Sliders Trophy

Saddleworth & Oldham Area Prizes

Bands Must Compete at a minimum of six qualifying contests*

Championship/Open	1 st	£2,500
	2 nd	£1,000
	3 rd	£750
Best Local	1 st	£750
	2 nd	£600
	3 rd	£400
Best Youth	1 st	£250

*NB – The Area Prizes shown are as those awarded in previous years and are subject to the availability of funds and in agreement by the Saddleworth & Oldham Band Whit Friday Contests Area Committee.