

TEST VALLEY BRASS

BAND RULES

Adopted by the Committee on 30 March 2011

1. Attendance

1.1 The success of Test Valley Brass is dependent on members' commitment.

Band Practice

1.2 Members must make every effort to attend practices as and when these are called, and should inform the Musical Director in advance if they are unable to attend.

1.3 Members are expected to attend 75% of practices in any twelve month period, unless a member has obtained prior permission from the Musical Director to attend fewer practices.

1.4 If a member is absent from practices for more than two consecutive weeks without permission from the Musical Director, the Band Manager will contact that member for an explanation and to discuss any difficulties that the member may be experiencing.

1.5 Persistent non-attendance at band practice may lead to an individual's membership being terminated.

Engagements

1.6 Members are reminded that when Test Valley Brass accepts an engagement, it contracts to provide a full band for the prescribed fee.

1.7 Members should give the Musical Director or the Band Manager as much notice as possible if the member will not be able to participate in a particular engagement, to allow sufficient time for substitutes to be arranged if necessary.

1.8 Members are expected to participate in 75% of engagements in any twelve month period. Participation below this level may lead to an individual's membership being terminated.

2. Conduct

2.1 The Musical Director (or his or her deputy) is in sole charge during practice and during public performances. Every courtesy is to be shown to him or her and ad-hoc playing and conversation is to be avoided.

2.2 Members should make every effort to be at rehearsals and ready to play five minutes prior to scheduled starting times.

2.3 Members should make every effort to present Test Valley Brass as a well-disciplined and well-rehearsed unit. Deportment on and off stage is required to be of the highest

standard, and members must follow any instructions given by the Musical Director, the Band Manager and/or the Chairman in a concert situation.

3. Instrumentation and Playing Standards

- 3.1 The Musical Director may request any player to play a different part or instrument.
- 3.2 A member may request a change of instrument or part and such requests will be given careful consideration by the Musical Director.
- 3.3 Every member is expected to maintain and enhance his/her own playing standards by appropriate level of home practice.

4. Instrument and Equipment

- 4.1 Test Valley Brass operates an instrument loan scheme under which instruments belonging to Test Valley Brass will be loaned to members for the duration of their membership.
- 4.2 Members who are entrusted with an instrument under the loan scheme must keep it safe, clean (inside as well as outside) and in good condition. Any faults or damage are to be reported immediately to the Band Manager.
- 4.3 The Band Manager may request inspection of a band instrument without notice and may report his or her findings to the Committee. The Committee is entitled to recover from the relevant member the cost of repairing any damage caused while an instrument is on loan to that member, or replacing any instrument that is lost, stolen or damaged beyond repair. It is the member's responsibility to arrange appropriate insurance against loss, theft or damage.
- 4.4 Any instrument or other property belonging to Test Valley Brass must on no account be given, lent or hired to a non-member, unless approved by the Committee.
- 4.5 Members may use Test Valley Brass instruments when playing with other brass bands only with the prior written approval of the Committee.

5. Music

- 5.1 The Musical Director is responsible for the selection of music, although suggestions from members are always welcome.
- 5.2 The Committee may appoint a member as librarian (the "Librarian"), who shall be responsible for the band's music library.
- 5.3 Members may take current music packs home for private practice, but music must be present at all rehearsals and engagements. Other music may be borrowed from the library only with the permission of the Librarian or Band Manager.

5.4 Any damaged or incomplete parts should be brought to the attention of the Librarian or Band Manager.

6. Uniforms

6.1 Test Valley Brass members must wear band uniform at all engagements.

6.2 Band uniform for formal concerts is:

- (a) jacket and tie (supplied by the band);
- (b) white shirt or blouse;
- (c) black trousers or straight black skirt;
- (d) black socks or plain black tights and black shoes.

6.3 Band uniform for other engagements is:

- (a) black T-shirt or white shirt or blouse and tie;
- (b) Test Valley Brass fleece (either purchased by members or loaned by the band);
- (c) black trousers or straight black skirt;
- (d) black socks or plain black tights and black shoes.

6.4 Band uniform for the Test Valley Brass Youth Band is

- (a) tie (supplied by the band);
- (b) white shirt or Test Valley Brass Youth Band polo shirt;
- (c) black trousers or straight black skirt;
- (d) black socks or plain black tights or white socks (girls only) and black shoes.

7. Subscriptions

7.1 The amount of the annual subscription is set at the annual general meeting.

7.2 Subscriptions are payable annually in advance, and must be paid no later than six weeks after the date of the annual general meeting.

7.3 Payment should be made to the Treasurer in cash, by cheque or by internet banking.