

Northwest Drum Corps Association (NWDCA) Championships

A Short History by Pacific Northwest Drum Corps.com

The NWDCA was formed in the fall of 1965, with the first championship in 1966. The last championship show was somewhere around 1983. The non-profit corporation itself changed its filing status to “inactive” in May of 1983.

From 1966 thru 1971, the NWDCA Champions were determined by the tally of points awarded based on show placement throughout the season. Those with the highest totals in their division (A, B, or C), won that division.

Points awarded per show: 1st place finish = 5 points, 2nd = 4 points, 3rd = 3 points, 4th = 2 points, and 5th = 1 point. See the 1969 Seattle Cascades document (next page) for an illustration of point allocation.

What happened-

This scoring system resulted in the 1968 B-Division having co-champions because the Flamingos & the Hawks had the same point total. This happened again in 1969 when the A-Division had co-champions because the Royal Lancers & Shamrocks also had the same point total. In the 1971 NWDCA Championship Show, the Patriots took first place in A-Division, but were not A-Division champions. The Hawks were A-Division Champions based on their point total for the year.

From 1972 and on, the NWDCA determined its champion based solely on the championship contest, not by cumulative points.

This is an interesting bit of history.

We have some show data, but some of it is missing. Check your old programs and tally sheets!!

Check the “Show Scores” page for more detailed information, or lack thereof. Please contact the webmaster if you have data to share.

For a more detailed NWDCA history, please read the 1973 NWDCA Championships program.

Thank you!!

COMPETITIONS -- 1968 - 69
"CASCADES DRUM & BUGLE CORPS"

Competitions as a "B" Corps			"A" Corps Competition	
1. Salem (Optirama)	4th Place	2 Pts		
2. Seattle	2nd Place	4 pts		
3. V.F.W.			4th Place	2 pts
4. Vancouver	1st Place	5 pts		
5. Portland	1st Place	5 pts		
6. Pasco	1st Place	5 pts		
7. A.M. Legion			3rd Place	3 pts
8. Shamrock	2nd Place	4 pts		
9. Astoria			3rd Place	2 pts
	Total	25 pts	Total	9 pts

*Cascades declared an "A" Corps -- July 26, 1969 by N.W.D.C.A.



Black = B-Division / Red = A-Division

1. Optirama Salem, OR Jan 27, 1969
2. NW Mid-Winter Seattle, WA March 29, 1969
3. WA State VFW Bellingham, WA June 20, 1969
4. "Western DC Comp" Vancouver, WA July 4, 1969
5. "Sound-Off" Portland, OR July 5, 1969
6. Cavalcade of Drums Pasco, WA July 12, 1969
7. WA State AL Yakima, WA July 25, 1969
8. Music in Motion Seattle, WA July 26, 1969
9. Unknown Astoria, OR August 1, 1969

The A-Division shows did not have a B or C-Division, so everyone was clumped into A-Division. That's how this B-Division corps accumulated A-Division points.

1966 thru July 25, 1969, B-Division

July 26, 1969 thru the end of 1971, A-Division

1972 & 1973, B-Division

1974 & on, A-Division

The NWDCA was formed in November of 1965

Date		Show Locations	A-Division Champions	B-Division Champions	C-Division Champions
?	1966	?	?	Hawks, Portland	No C-Division Prior to 1969
Aug 19	1967	White Center (Seattle), WA	?	?	
July 27	1968	Seattle, WA	Shamrocks, Seattle	Hawks/Flamingos - tie	
June 22	1969	Tigard, OR	Royal Lancers/Shamrocks⁶	Flamingos, Salem	Titans, Bremerton
July 3	1970	Portland, OR	Shamrocks, Seattle ¹	Titans, Bremerton ²	Sunsetters, Astoria OR ³
Sept 4	1971	Port Angeles, WA	Hawks, Portland ⁴	Columbians, Tri-City	Drifters, Surrey BC
Sept 2	1972	Spokane, WA	Patriots, Spokane	Black Watch, Auburn	Strutters, Edmonton ALB
Sept 1	1973	Burien, WA	Patriots, Spokane	Seattle Cascades	Escadrille, Salem OR
Aug 24	1974	Great Falls, MT	Patriots, Spokane	Strutters, Edmonton ALB	Calgary Cavaliers, ALB
Aug 29	1975	Portland, OR	Argonauts, Salem OR	?	Highland Regiment, Auburn ⁷
Aug 29	1976	Oregon City, OR	Knight Raiders, CA	Drifters, Surrey BC	?
Aug 26	1977	Surrey, BC	?	Drifters, Surrey BC	?
Aug 22	1978	Great Falls, MT	Seattle Cascades, WA	Kennedy HS, Seattle	Oregon Crusaders, OR
?	1979	?	?	?	?
?	1980	?	?	?	?
?	1981	?	?	?	?
?	1982	?	?	?	?
?	1983 ⁵	Walla Walla, WA	Imperials, Seattle WA	?	?
July 15	1984	Olympia, WA	Argonauts, Salem OR	?	Brassmen, Bellingham WA
?	1985	?	Spartans, Vancouver WA	?	?

FOOTNOTES

- 1) In 1970 only, AKA: Open Class Champions.
- 2) In 1970 only, AKA: A-Class Champions.
- 3) In 1970 only, AKA: Novice Class Champions.
- 4) Patriots won the championship show but the Hawks had the best season record, so were awarded the A-Division Championship.
- 5) May 1983 NWDCA non-profit corporation status was changed to “Inactive”. This show was called the NWDCA Championships but was sponsored by the American Legion.
- 6) Royal Lancers won the show, but tied with the Shamrocks for the overall season record. They served as co-champions.

Text in **RED** has been deduced from period documentation, but needs verification.