



2020 No: 41

The Home of British  
Drum Corps

# DRUM CORPS UNITED KINGDOM 2020 YEARBOOK



# DCUK Family Tree

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# British Drum Corps - Roll of Honour

## CADET CLASS CHAMPIONS

**1996** Squires  
**1997** Black Knights  
**1998** 6th Hove Scouts  
**1999** Phoenix Guildford  
**2000** 37th Kingswood Cadets  
**2001** Concord  
**2002** Southern Aurora  
**2003** Encore Cadets  
**2004** Black Knights Cadets  
**2005** 37th Kingswood Cadets  
**2006** 37th Kingswood Cadets

## JUNIOR CLASS CHAMPIONS

**1997** Avengers  
**1998** North Star  
**1999** The Statesmen  
**2000** Forgemen  
**2001** 1st Ibstock Scouts  
**2002** Stafford Lancers  
**2003** Concord  
**2004** Senators  
**2005** Staffordshire Knights  
**2006** Staffordshire Knights  
**2009** 6th Hove Scouts B  
**2010** Kidsgrove Scouts Jnrs  
**2011** Kidsgrove Scouts Jnrs  
**2012** Kidsgrove Scouts Jnrs  
**2013** Kidsgrove Scouts Jnrs  
**2014** Thurrock Marching Brass  
**2015** Concord AllStars  
**2016** Concord AllStars  
**2017** Concord AllStars  
**2018** Concord AllStars  
**2019** Thurrock Marching Brass

## A CLASS CHAMPIONS

**1985** Concord  
**1986** Waterlooville  
**1987** Kenilworth Corps D'Elite  
**1988** British Gypsum  
**1989** Caversham Ambassadors  
**1990** No competition

**1991** New Surrey Raiders  
**1992** Valiant  
**1993** Black Knights  
**1994** Saxon Shadows  
**1995** Free Spirit  
**1996** Cadence  
**1997** Poynton Commodores  
**1998** 6th Hove Scouts  
**1999** Guardsmen  
**2000** The Statesmen  
**2001** Forgemen  
**2002** Squires  
**2003** Phoenix Coventry  
**2004** Phoenix Coventry  
**2005** Southern Aurora  
**2006** Concord  
**2009** Staffordshire Knights  
**2010** Cheshire Cadets  
**2011** Revolution Show Corps  
**2012** Beeches  
**2013** Revolution Show Corps  
**2014** Liberty  
**2015** The Pacemakers  
**2016/17** No competition  
**2018** The Pacemakers  
**2019** The Pacemakers

## OPEN CLASS CHAMPIONS

**1980** Dagenham Crusaders  
**1981** Dagenham Crusaders  
**1982** Dagenham Crusaders  
**1983** Green Lancers  
**1984** Imperial Knights  
**1985** Blue Barons  
**1986** Conquest Alliance /  
Dagenham Crusaders  
**1987** DCUK: Conquest Alliance  
BDCF: Concord  
**1988** DCUK: Southern Knights  
BDCF: Concord  
**1989** Blue Eagles  
**1990** Blue Eagles  
**1991** Blue Eagles

**1992** Blue Eagles  
**1993** Senators  
**1994** Blue Eagles  
**1995** Blue Eagles  
**1996** Blue Eagles  
**1997** Senators  
**1998** Sunrisers  
**1999** Cadence  
**2000** Senators  
**2001** Senators  
**2002** Southern Aurora  
**2003** Senators  
**2004** Senators  
**2005** Senators  
**2006** Black Knights  
**2009** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2010** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2011** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2012** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2013** The Company  
**2014** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2015** The Company  
**2016** The Company  
**2017** The Company  
**2018** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2019** Kidsgrove Scouts

## INTERNATIONAL CLASS

**2019** Kidsgrove Scouts

## NATIONAL JUNIOR CLASS

**2007** Black Knights Cadets  
**2008** Kidsgrove Scouts Jrs

## NATIONAL OPEN CLASS

**2007** Poynton Commodores  
**2008** Poynton Commodores

## INTERNATIONAL OPEN CLASS

**2007** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**2008** Senators

Photography: **Mark Neilson**

Design: **RevolutionDesign 07711 500133**

# Welcome

On Behalf of the DCUK and MPAUK management teams welcome to the 2020 Drum Corps United Kingdom Souvenir yearbook.

A somewhat different type of message in the welcome this year given that we as a collective have not been able to participate in the sport and art we all love so much and treasure so dearly.

As you know 2020 has been a difficult and trying year for us all given the worldwide pandemic that has affected so many of our lives in so many ways since the early spring.

If we were to look back to the turn of the year things were much different. There were such high hopes and the excitement for the summer was starting to build with show announcements, corps press releases, news, and rumour and chatter coming out of rehearsal camps. It really was looking that 2020 was going to be another great year for Drum Corps here in the UK.

In one foul swoop everything came crashing down around us and with such speed that we all couldn't quite comprehend how the new normal was going to take shape. And there we are were, groups of people, members, staff, administrators, truck drivers and fans all facing the prospect of a summer filled with nothing.

Well with true Drum Corps aplomb the corps found ways to engage with their members and the fan base 21st century style.

The advent and use of Zoom meant that the Drum Corps Quiz came of age with much a vigour that on many occasions brought out the very essence of strong competition and discussion as to rule clarification, right and wrong answer disputes and referrals to the final arbiter for more controversial than any football VAR system.

DCUK facilitated virtual of DrumLine Battle which gained a great deal of support from the participants and fans far and wide showed that we could still be involved and participate with energy, passion and fun.

Our video tribute to thank the wonderful staff of the NHS for their tireless work which continues to this day was poignant, moving and featured many Drum Majors from our long and proud history collectively showing our appreciation

2020 saw a number of alumni members galvanise their friends and past members into action and produce pass it on Challenges which was inspired by the Blue Eagles initially. A number of group followed and if nothing else

2020 bought a reconnection to many old friends through these virtual performances.

Our Corps were active through the summer via their social media outlets keeping updated with news, fund raising events and performances which we're sure helped you all as it did us get our drum corps fix even if it was not live and in person.

Isolation Brass back in May this year brought together (virtually 😊) many many members of our drum corps community to perform a wonderful piece and bring it the general public via our social media platforms.

We brought you regular news from our now famous orange field marker cones whom have missed this past summer as much as anyone has. Whilst they have tried to escape and get out onto a field on a number of occasions we have managed to get them back into isolation before they could get too far. Don't fret too much for them though as they been in touch with their friends from the DCI orange cone team.

As always our thanks go to the Directors, Staff and Members of the Drum and Bugle Corps for their support for our activity and their commitment to Drum Corps. Thanks also go to all of you, the dedicated fans and supporters who have continued to show your support for the Drum Corps Activity

Our thanks go out to our strategic partners and in particular to John DeNovi from DCI for his and DCI's help, guidance and continuing support for DCUK here in the UK. Also to our European Partners (IMBA, DMG, German Open, Rastede and the EDCJA) with whom we have been communicating and sharing best practice with throughout the year

So that's about a wrap from the 2020 DCUK Season (or non-season), The Board and administrators have been at work behind the scenes throughout the pandemic in conjunction with the corps to ensure we all got through it battered, bruised but certainly not broken.

## So, what about 2021 and beyond?

Well, let us assure you all that we will do everything in our power to ensure that this great activity we love so much will continue to give to its members what it has done for the last 40+ years - Covid or no Covid,

Thank you each and everyone one of you and we look forward to welcoming back to a Drum Corps field as soon as we possibly can.

# 2019 Championships







# 2019 Championships



# 2019 Championships

## Results

### JUNIOR CLASS

1	<b>Thurrock Marching Brass</b>	<b>72.45</b>
2	<b>Concord AllStars</b>	<b>70.80</b>

**High Guard:** Thurrock Marching Brass • **High Percussion:** Thurrock Marching Brass • **High Brass:** Thurrock Marching Brass • **High Visual:** Thurrock Marching Brass • **High Music:** Thurrock Marching Brass • **High Effect:** Thurrock Marching Brass

### A CLASS

1	<b>The Pacemakers</b>	<b>61.40</b>
2	<b>Liberty</b>	<b>60.05</b>
3	<b>Dynmaic Vibe</b>	<b>52.85</b>

**High Guard:** Liberty **High Percussion:** The Pacemakers  
**High Brass:** Liberty **High Visual:** Liberty **High Music:** The Pacemakers  
**High Effect:** The Pacemakers

### OPEN CLASS

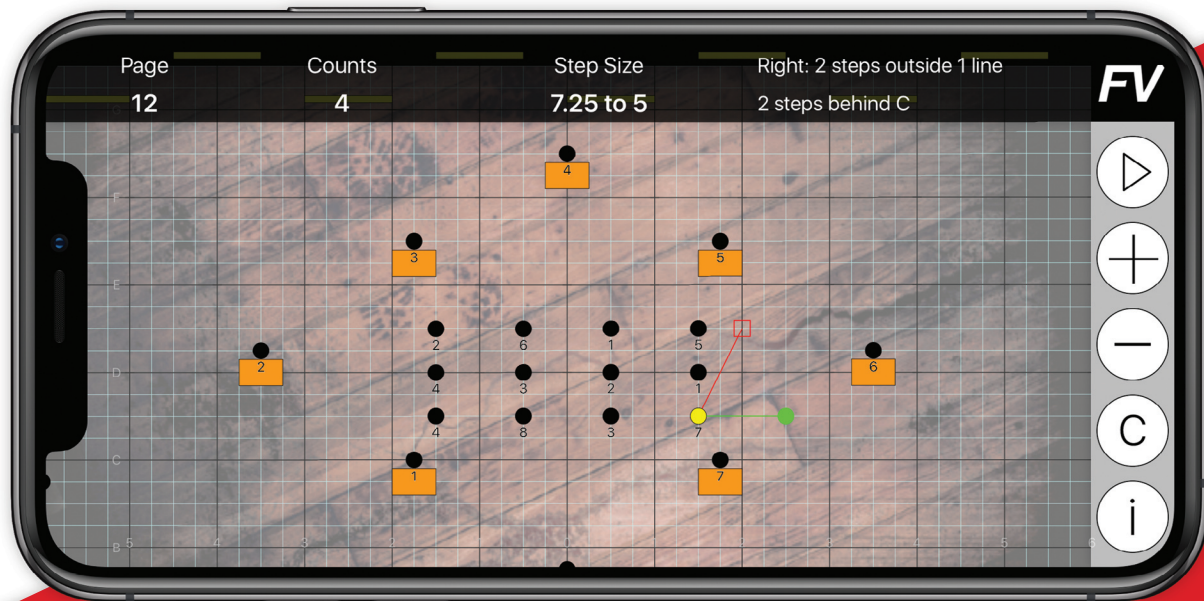
1	<b>Kidsgrove Scouts</b>	<b>87.35</b>
2	<b>Beeches</b>	<b>83.25</b>
3	<b>Starriders</b>	<b>83.00</b>
4	<b>East Coast Elite</b>	<b>73.00</b>
5	<b>Revolution</b>	<b>72.50</b>
6	<b>Vikings</b>	<b>68.50</b>

**High Guard:** Kidsgrove Scouts **High Percussion:** Starriders  
**High Brass:** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**High Visual:** Kidsgrove Scouts **High Music:** Kidsgrove Scouts  
**High Effect:** Kidsgrove Scouts

### INTERNATIONAL CLASS

1	<b>Starriders</b>	<b>83.00</b>
2	<b>Vikings</b>	<b>68.50</b>





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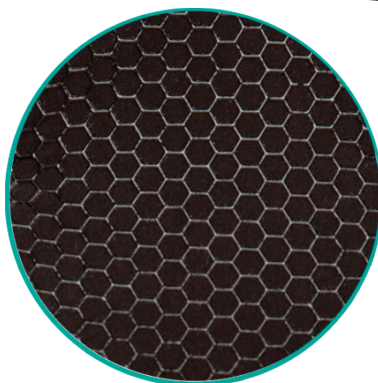
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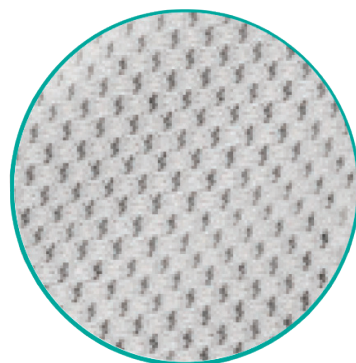
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to the field in 2021,  
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played a part in the  
drum and bugle  
corps activity  
crossing the  
Atlantic to the  
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Blue Eagles  
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The original vehicle for recognising the great work of individuals and their contributions to the UK Drum Corps activity was the DCUK Fellowship, which began in 1985 and since this time 20 people were honoured and they have all since been automatically inducted into the **DCUK Hall of Fame**.

New candidates for the Hall of Fame are nominated and seconded and discussed by the Hall of Fame assessment team and we are proud to announce that the successful candidate for 2020 is **Michael Blackford**.

Congratulations to Michael and below is an extract from his nomination...

## MICHAEL BLACKFORD

Michael's involvement in Drum Corps dates back to beginning of DCUK where, as a member of the famous Basildon Blue Eagles he had been a member since his early teens.

Michael took a keen interest in the brass section and whilst as a marching member he performed as both a brass player and as Drum Major and progressed to become the Brass Caption Head at the Eagles at the early age of 19 and was able to create outstanding brass sections for two of the most successful Corps in the history of the activity - Dagenham Crusaders & Basildon Blue Eagles.

Michael was asked to take the reigns at the Eagles and became Corps Director in 1993 and guided the Corps to many successful DCUK Championships titles.

During his extensive career the many qualities he has shown include leadership, attention to detail, competitiveness and passion for all things drum corps whilst displaying a genuine desire to help all that reached out to him. This included taking potential future musical arrangers or

designers under his wing to guide and nurture their talents as future leaders of the activity. Whether for his own Corps or for other Corps around the country he would support in arranging and teaching during specially designed camps to assist the teaching staff in constructing a productive rehearsal technique, the designers with arrangements and performance technique with the members. A few corps to mention, but not limited to, were Pioneer Scouts, Somerford Sound, Havering Corps, Staffordshire Knights and the Anchormen.

The level of consistent excellence Michael's Brass Lines achieved at the time, were the benchmark for the DCUK activity. It is not only the level of success - with seven High Caption awards and seven DCUK titles in an eight-year period from 1989 to 1996 - it is the way he conducted himself in a professional manner, whom greatly respected and supported the DCUK philosophy and ensured that his members abided by the same set of values and standards, with respect for all competitors. Michael's highlight of his DCUK career was Blue Eagles 1996 Les Miserables show considered to be one of the best shows in DCUK history for its time.



Drum Corps United Kingdom is proud to induct Michael Blackford into the DCUK Hall of Fame for his outstanding contribution to the artistic and creative arts of the activity over such a substantive period of time.

## DCUK Hall of Fame

**1995** Chris Gibbs  
Russell Malley  
Roger C Steele MBE

**1996** Ivan Balchin  
Bob Hewlett

**1997** Mark Gutteridge

**1998** Glyn Boyington  
Mick Moss

**1999** Veronica Hope

**2000** Keith Mann  
Mike Newman

**2002** Diane Suett  
Alan Thompson  
Ian Lyall

**2004** John Swindells

**2005** Douglas Caldwell

**2012** Nigel Brown  
Rob Swindells

**2017** Joe Fitzpatrick  
John Johnson  
Mark Mayes

**2018** John McNamara

**2019** Eddie Hendle  
Jason Oates

# *Saluting*

## Drum Corps United Kingdom



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from your friends at Drum Corps International.



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# Member Corps

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Dynamic Vibe	Tamworth, Staffordshire	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/ya7son3g">tinyurl.com/ya7son3g</a>
East Coast Elite	Lincolnshire	<a href="http://www.eastcoastelite.org">www.eastcoastelite.org</a>
Kidsgrove Scouts	Kidsgrove, Staffordshire	<a href="http://kidsgrovescouts.org.uk">kidsgrovescouts.org.uk</a>
Revolution Show Corps	Queensbury, West Yorkshire	<a href="http://revolutionshowcorps.org.uk">revolutionshowcorps.org.uk</a>
The Company	Chesterfield, Derbyshire	<a href="http://www.theco.org.uk">www.theco.org.uk</a>
The Pacemakers	St Mary Cray, Kent	<a href="http://www.thepacemakers.co.uk">www.thepacemakers.co.uk</a>
JUNIOR CLASS		
Concord AllStars	Sheffield, South Yorkshire	<a href="http://www.concord.org.uk">www.concord.org.uk</a>
Thurrock Marching Brass	Thurrock, Essex	<a href="http://tmb181010.wixsite.com/tmbweb1">tmb181010.wixsite.com/tmbweb1</a>

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# 2020...

2020 may have seen the competitive season cancelled, many of our Corps and members have been busy taking part in the various virtual contests and performance opportunities.





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2021

2021 Virtual Season announced...  
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