

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 25th February 2018**

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| J. Hughes, President | Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia |
| L.A. Riad, Treasurer | Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia |
| P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary | City of Edinburgh |
| A. Dalziel, Vice Chairman | Craigmount |
| A. Hazzard, Secretary | City of Edinburgh |
| D. Johnstone | Director |
| B. Watt, Trophy Convenor | Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia |
| M. Binder, Reporter | Stockbridge |
| V. McMorran | Glencorse |
| W. Dalziel | Craigmount |
| T. Thomson | Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia |
| D. Brand | Newtongrange |
| S. Macdonald | Wallacestone & District |
| N. Henderson | Wallacestone & District |
| G. Cameron | Camelon and District |

Apologies: S. Orr, I. Simpson, O. Brownlie, M. O'neill, A. McGlauchlan

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting 28th January were approved by Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia and Seconded by Wallacestone & District.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Unfortunately, our Chairman was unable to attend due to work commitments, so our President took the chair for this meeting.

Secretary's report:

The entries for the indoors have started coming in although slow to start.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report, details available from the secretary by request.

Directors report:

The Directors spent some time looking over and discussing the notices of motion received for this year's AGM. Some motions have not been included in the order paper as the Directors felt they were not in the best interest of the association.

Changes to the World Solo Drumming format are now on the website.

The 12 finalists from last year's contest will not automatically qualify for the semi-final in this year's contest, and each Regional Qualifier will have 4 qualifying places to award.

This year's Summer School will be held from 30th July to 3rd August, with piping and drumming tuition running throughout the week, and drum major tuition running from the Wednesday to Friday.

Music Board

The music board are considering the mix of adjudicators at the contests, and one option being discussed is 2 piping, 2 Drumming and 2 ensemble adjudicators with the drumming and ensemble placing being averaged out to keep the ration the same as it is today. However, there are other options being explored as well. The music board will make their recommendations to the Liaison Group in April.

There was a discussion on the format of the World Championship and there is some support for having the juvenile contest on the Friday and all grade 1 contests being held on the Saturday, this may require a change to the playing criteria.

As per the notices of motion, there is a proposed restructuring of the Education Management Group to become the Pipe Band College. Pat Wheelan will be the convenor of the college and there will be applications invited from the membership for a principal of piping and a principle of drumming.

Stewards Report:

It was said that more help is required from the directors at contests with regards to bands playing late.

Allocations for the Majors have now been done and will be sent out as soon as possible, once all other information has been collated.

Passes have been requested for this year's Branch Stewards.

Headquarters equipment is being moved to the Pentagon Centre which is just across the road from Headquarters. This will allow work to proceed on the building. The move should be completed by 1st April 2018 with re-entry to Headquarters building by the end of March 2019.

Education

With the new restructuring of the Pipe Band College we will have to look at how education will work through this and what the processes are for engaging instructors etc.

Trophies:

There are 4 new trophies for Dunbar.

Some trophies for WLHG may be moved around and any changes will be approved by WLHG.

Indoor Contest:

Require Stewards in the morning and helpers for the contest. Arrangements will be made with the School to print programme.

Entry to contest will be £4.00 with £1.00 concessions. Programmes will be 50p and raffle tickets will be £1.00 per strip.

Outdoor Contests:

Need to clarify if the Branch will need to provide stewards for Inverkeithing which we expect to have 1 ring but is dependent on numbers.

All Branch contests are now online with the exception of the contest info for Innerleithen.

Due to the dates of this year's contests in relation to the Worlds, Bridge of Allan might be a smaller entry, and North Berwick may pick up some additional entries from bands who would normally go to BoA, as this North Berwick is still the Saturday before the worlds.

AOCB:

There was quite a lengthy discussion on the proposals for notices of motion and articles of association for this year's AGM. As a branch, it was agreed which of these would be supported and which would not. Any Proxy votes must be registered with headquarters by 10am on Thursday 8th March.

Meeting Closed 19.00

Next Meeting 25th March