

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 29th January 2012**

Present:

W. McMorran, President	Glencorse
J. Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
A. Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
W. Dalziel, Trophy Convenor	Lothian & Borders Police
P. Hazzard Minute Secretary	Bo'ness
S. Orr	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
I. Simpson	George Watsons College
D. Brand	Newtongrange
V. McMorran	Glencorse
N. Hufstetler	Pryde of East Lothian
C. Pryde	Pryde of East Lothian
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College
I. Simpson	George Watson's College Junior
W. McIntyre	George Heriot's School
G. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
N. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate

Apologies:

L A Oubbaih, C. McCluckie, J. Barnes, J. Brand.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 27th November were approved by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and seconded by Newtongrange.

Matters arising:

Peebles Committee have asked if we can look at the problems encountered at last years contest with the PA system and the mix up regarding the two arenas. We can only advise Peebles on the use of the PA System. The arenas will be decided at the contest draw.

Secretary's report:

Innerleithen have requested that the date of their contest be changed to the 16th June. We will ensure that details of this change are posted on the website.

The Melrose contest will go ahead as planned this year but Mr Graham and family will be standing down from organising this event but it is hoped that a new promoter can be found to ensure the future of this event.

Treasurer's report:

In the absence of the Treasurer the Chairman gave the report. Details are available from the Branch Secretary upon request.

National Council report:

Glasgow & west of Scotland have appointed Ian McCaskil as a National Council Representative.

The Word Championships for the years 2013 – 2015 inclusive have been awarded to Glasgow. The bids for all other Major championships have to be submitted by March 2011.

The fees and mileage allowances paid to adjudicators and officials have been increased.

There was some further discussion on holding the Worlds as a 2 day event.

Music Board report:

Branch Regradings

Stockbridge from 4b to 4a
Craigmount High School Juvenile to 3b

2 Day Worlds – the contest will move to a 2 day event in 2013 with the option to review this for 2014 & 2015. The contest will take place over a Saturday and Sunday with Grade 1 being the only bands to compete on both days with the qualifying heats being held on the Saturday and Final on the Sunday.

The details of the qualification and playing criteria will be decided at a later date by the Music Board, but a number of possible options were discussed.

There was a discussion around Grades 3 and 2 being asked to submit both an MSR and a Medley, playing one in the qualifying rounds and the other in the final, but again this will be decided by the Music Board.

It was expected that there would be no effect on the compiling duties.

The placement of bands for heats is being looked at.

Patrick Wheelan has been appointed as Education Officer and he will take up this position from the 1st March 2012.

The Summer School – The Summer School might not take place this year.

Trophy Convenor's report:

Nothing to report

Steward's report:

More Stewards are required at both Branch and National level.

Education report:

We may be able to get the use of Loretto School for education courses. Applications will have to be made in writing.

The duration of the PDQB courses is being looked at following recent experience by other Branches.

Indoor Contest:

This contest will take place on 24th March at the James Young High School, Livingston. The cost for this venue is favourable. The school will run the canteen which will allow the Branch to concentrate on the contest.

J. Hughes and A. Dalziel will visit the school to decide which rooms we would like to use. We will also be required to provide 1st aid cover for this event.

We hope to run a Grade 1 contest at this event.

The band formation for the Juvenile Grade has been brought in line with Grade 3, ie. 6 pipers.

There will be prizes for 1st to 4th in all grades for the Mini Bands with a trophy only for 4th place.

W. McMorran will arrange the Adjudicators for this contest.

A. Hazzard will send a letter of thanks to Peebles High School.

Outdoor Contests:

The date for the Innerleithen contest has changed to the 16th June and the date for the Edinburgh contest has been changed to the 19th August.

Entry forms have been drafted and submitted for proofing. Confirmation of trophies and prize money will be required.

Bathgate and Peebles may be adding a separate Juvenile contest.

A.O.C.B.

It was asked why Lothian & Borders Branch had no entry in the Pipe Band Magazine and it was said that nothing had been submitted to the Magazine Reporter.

Book of Eminence. Information is still being sought for a few entries.

There being no more business the chairman closed the meeting at 7.10pm.

Next meeting: Bellsquarry Hall on Sunday 26th February 2012 at 6.00pm.