

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe band Association
Held in the Society Centre, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh on Sunday 29th
March 2009.**

<u>Present:</u>	W.McMorran, President	Glencorse
	J.Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
	A.Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
	A.Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
	L.A.Oubbaith, Tresurer	Linlithgow
	W.Dalziel, Trophy Convenor	Lothian & Borders Police
	P.Starr	Bo'ness
	S.Hazzard	Bo'ness
	V.McMorran	Glencorse
	N.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	I. Simpson	George Watson's College
	R.Fairnie	Prestonpans RBL
	P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
	J.Barnes	Craigmount High school
	L.McLaughlin	Craigmount High School
	D.Brand	Newtongrange

Apologies: J.Brand, A.Cook, C.McLuckie, E.Hanratty, G.Craig.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present. He also announced the death of Tom Colquhoun.

The Minutes of the meeting of 22nd February 2009 were approved by Bo'ness and seconded by Lothian & Borders police.

Matters arising:

A couple of alterations to the previous minutes were approved.
Any other matters arising were dealt with under the relevant reports.

Secretary's report:

A donation of tenor sticks or a gift voucher has been offered by Charlie Archibald for the solo tenor drumming contest at the Branch indoor contest at Peebles.

Gordon Stafford has offered to donate a hide bag, a moisture control system and a set of drone reeds for the Grade 2 contest at the Branch indoor contest.
He has also donated a wooden pipe chanter for the adult solo piping contest.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report. Details are available from the Branch Secretary upon request.

National Council report:

There are to be pre draws for all contests.

If a full compliment of judges is at a minor contest then there must be a full compliment of tents.

Major championships for the years 2010/2011/2012 have been confirmed as Scottish at Dumbarton. British at Annan. European at Belfast, Worlds at Glasgow. Proposals received from Cowal for 2011/2012/2013 are subject to annual reviews.

Stormont Castle will be the location for the 2010/2011/2012 European Championships.

Convenors of various committees have been confirmed.

The qualifying date for the age of competitors in the Willie Ferguson trophy will be 1st November.

Music Board report:

There was no report.

Stewards report:

With a big entry at the forthcoming Branch indoor contest concerns were raised about contests running late with players not ready when called for. It was suggested that contests be prioritised to see if this might help.

At the outdoor contests bands needing to play in their own grade first needs to be worked round.

The Stewards allocation sheets issued from headquarters have still not been received.

Trophy Convenor's report:

The original Willie Ferguson trophy re-appeared at Cumnock. As a new one has been obtained by Headquarters it, the new one, will be engraved with the previous winners and will be the one used.

There is one solo piping and one mini band trophy still not returned. It was agreed to issue fines to the offenders and to mention that until the fines have been paid and the trophies returned the player and the band cannot compete in any RSPBA contest. Letters are to be sent to the player and the band secretaries of the bands concerned. Copies of these letters will be sent to headquarters.

Bathgate Highland Games wish to announce the M&D prize for each grade after announcing the band prizes. They also said that they would like the bands to come on at massed bands in blocks. These issues will be discussed at the Bathgate Highland games draw.

Additional trophies are to be awarded at Bathgate

A.O.C.B.:

There was discussion on the date of the Willie Ferguson trophy. This years contest was to be run as the 2008 contest. It was suggested that this years contest be run as the 2009 contest thus removing the complication of the dates.

Contests run under RSPBA rules will need placings from first to last if two adjudicators are present.

Placings one to ten from contests with only one adjudicator present.

The Branch is to purchase four new tents and four tables.

Volunteers are sought for the Branch indoor contest. Parking in the school will be restricted to officials only. Smoking will not be permitted anywhere within the school grounds. Raffle prizes were asked for.

It was agreed to continue using the Society Centre for the Branch meetings. A block booking for this is to be made.

It was suggested that a donation of £200 be made to the Society Centre for the use of their premises.

PDQB courses may be run from September at level 2 with the exam in December.

The next Branch meeting will be held on Sunday 26th April 2009 in the Society Centre, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh, at 6.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.