

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of  
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association  
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston  
On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**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
D. Brand	Newtongrange
V. McMorran	Glencorse
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College Juvenile
G. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
N. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
W. McCafferty	Boghall & Bathgate
L.A. Oubbaih Treasurer	Linlithgow

**Apologies:** S. Orr, J. Brand, I. Simpson, J. Barnes and LJ Barnes

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February were approved by George Watson's College and seconded by Craigmount.

It was also recorded that the January minutes were approved by Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia and seconded by Craigmount.

**Matters arising:**

There were no matter arising

**Secretary's report:**

We have received an email from Peebles Highland Games raising a few points with regards to this years contest. The Chairman will respond to this.

**Treasurer's report:**

The treasurer gave her report including details of the Indoor Contest. Details are available from the Secretary on request.

### **Directors report:**

Cowal have submitted a bid to run a Major championship in 2014. This was accompanied by details of the improvements they intend to make to the venue and the event if they were successful in their bid. Other bids have also been requested for the 5<sup>th</sup> Major and the Cowal will be considered on the same basis as any others received. It is hoped that a decision on this event will be made prior to the Worlds this year.

The Director's shared the any relevant information on the intended improvements outlined by Cowal, without giving any detail around the actual bid document. Given the information supplied the general feeling of the Lothian & Borders Branch is that we would not wish to return to having Cowal as a major championship, but it was agreed that it will be a pity to lose the history attached to this contest.

If Cowal do not retain their major status it has been discussed with the Glasgow & West of Scotland Branch that a local contest will continue to be run, and it is expected that it could still known as the Cowal Championship.

The position of the convenors of various committees have been reaffirmed. Consideration is being given to having a meeting between the Music Board and the Adjudicators Management Board.

### **Music Board report:**

No meeting has taken place since the last Branch meeting so nothing to report.

### **Trophy Convenor's report:**

Two bands have been issued fines for failing to return trophies for the indoor event.

Wilma Dalziel is having discussions with Mrs Moir with regards to trophies being donated in memory of her late husband Bobby Moir.

### **Steward's report:**

Thanks were given to the Stewards for their efforts and a particular thanks went to Boghall & Bathgate and Craigmount for their help here and also Christopher Karte.

We may also get a few more Stewards to help at the majors this year

### **Education report:**

There were 10 students sitting this years exam, 4 pipers, 2 tenor drummers and 4 snare drummers.

Thanks was given to M. O'Neill for all his help at the course this year.

### **Indoor Contest:**

M. O'Neill passed on congratulations from the bands on the organisation of this event and praise for the efforts of everyone concerned.

This was a good day which went well with very few problems.

It was brought to our attention that one contestant in the stick & pad had previously played a drum in a contest was an error on the part of the tutor concerned. It will be made clear on the entry form that the stick and pad contest is only open to contestants who have not competed on a drum.

A query with regards to a competitors age was checked and found to be within the rules.

It was said that we could do with more volunteers at the end of the day to put classrooms back to the order they were in the event rooms.

The Chairman intimated that there may be a possibility of getting the assistance from some of the senior pupils at next years event.

Where there are heats and a final to save any confusion details of where and when the qualifiers are to be announced should be put into the programme and sheets posted at an agreed point.

Summary sheets will be emailed out to the bands who did not receive them on the day.

It was intimated that someone had expressed that they were not happy with the adjudicating in the Adult Solo Drumming, however, as no formal complaint has been made then no action can be taken.

The entrance layout this year worked much better than last year and registration went well.

It was suggested that a dedicated person to check the input of the results would be a great advantage.

The Chairman will contact the James Young High School and the St Andrews First Aid thanking them for their excellent help and support at the event.

### **A.O.C.B.**

Dunbar wish to move the competition back into the football park this year. The Chairman will discuss this with the organising committee once the number of band entries is clear.

There has been some discussion on what we can do for "Debut Bands" who may not be registered with the RSPBA. This will be discussed further although there may be some issues trying to accommodate these band under the current rules.

**Next meeting:** Bellsquarry Hall on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 6.00pm.