

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of  
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association  
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston  
On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Present:**

J. Hughes, Chairman	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
L.A. Hughes, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Craigmount Caledonia
A. Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
B. McMorran	President
P. Hazzard Minute Secretary	Bo'ness
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
W. Dalziel	Craigmount Caledonia
S. Orr	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
V. McMorran	Glencorse
E. Orr	Craigmount Caledonia
I. Simpson	George Watson's College
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College
P. White	City of Edinburgh
M. Rieley	Police Scotland Fife
J. Carson	Kirkcaldy & District
L. Scott	Kirkcaldy & District
D. Flynn	Burnisland & District
W. McCafferty	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia

**Apologies:** E. Whitmore, C. Millar, A. Smith, N. Purves, G. Purves.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were approved by Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia and were seconded by Bo'ness

**Matters arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**Secretary's report:**

We have not had any notification with regards to the timing or the venue of the Willie Fergusson Contest.

**Treasurer's report:**

As per the AGM. Details will be available from the secretary by request.

**Directors report:**

There was a lengthy discussion on band gradings being posted on social media sites before being fully ratified by the board of directors. The best way to handle this information was also discussed.

**Music Board report:**

There was some discussion on Grade 1 bands having problems finding somewhere to tune up near the final tuning area at the worlds as space is getting tighter around that area. It was also asked about the possibility of having more than one final tuning area.

There was a discussion around the bands playing in concert formation at the major championships. This was at the request of the Adjudicator Panel Management Board.

There are still a number of grading appeals and requests being looked at.

There was a pre-meeting discussion on the proposed grade re-aligning.

Clarification was asked for with regards to the disparity of placings at the World Solo Drumming.

**Trophies:**

Brian will hand all Bathgate trophies over to Bathgate Highland Games committee. It was also said that access to the storage unit where the trophies are kept, should be restricted and no access should be granted without the Trophy Convenor being present.

**Steward's report:** As per the AGM report

**Education report:** As per the AGM report

**Outdoor Contests:**

The dates for all contests have been confirmed with the exception of the Innerleithen contest and will be as follows.

Indoors	16 <sup>th</sup> April
Dunbar	14 <sup>th</sup> May
Bathgate	28 <sup>th</sup> May
Burntisland	23 <sup>rd</sup> August
North Berwick	6 <sup>th</sup> August
Peebles	3 <sup>rd</sup> September
Innerleithen	TBC

Our Chairman is having talks with The Lord Provost of Edinburgh with regards to possibly finding the required funding to keep the Edinburgh contest this year.

If successful then another venue would need to be found.

The format of some of our local contests, in particular North Berwick may have to be changed with the split of the Novice Juvenile grade to an A and B Grade. The criteria for Novice A and B grades will be the same as Grade 4A and B.

A total of 90 individual bands were represented at the Branch contest this year.

### **Indoors:**

The Army Cadets are willing to provide volunteers to help with manning the door selling programmes and raffle tickets. They will also have a recruitment stall inside the school on the day.

Based on the feedback from this year's contest and after consultation there will be a full band contest for grades Novice, Juvenile, Grade 2 and Grade 1. And grades 4 and 3 will be mini band contests.

The Adult Solo Drumming will also be a qualifying event for the World Solo Drumming - Adult Semi Final.

If we get a large entry for the Adult Solo Drumming contest we may need to get extra adjudicators for this and event.

### **AOCB:**

The Pipe Majors Wheel of Fortune will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at Danderhall Miners Club, this years line up will include Chris Armstrong, Calum Beaumont, Jonathan Greenlees, Alistair Henderson, Finlay Johnstone, Brian Lamont, Dougie Murray and Angus Nicholson.

Meeting Closed 6.00pm

Next Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January at 6.00pm.