

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 23 February 2025**

L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. Starr, Secretary	Peebles Ex-Servicemen's
I. Simpson	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate
L. Moore, Music Board	Preston Lodge High School
W. Waugh	Camelon & District
J. Gavin	Camelon & District
P. Starr, Chairman	Penicuik & District
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College
G. Dyet	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. McQuillan	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. Brown-Scott	Livingston Caledonia
P. Hazzard	City of Edinburgh
M. Binder	Preston Lodge High School
J. Simpson	Edinburgh Academy
C. Black	Preston Lodge High School

Apologies

S. Orr MVO RVM, M. Reilly, C. Allan, T. Thomson, I. Simpson

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the October Meeting Proposed by People's Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia and seconded by George Watson's College

Treasurer's report:

The treasurer's report was presented and details are available by request.

Secretary's report

S. Starr advised that the indoors entries are now live and is hoping to get the outdoors live on or around 10th of March. The entry forms for these are currently with the promoters for checking.

Director's report

M. Brown-Scott advised that there had not been a meeting since our last meeting.

Music Board Report

Music Board met on the 22nd February. The minutes of the meeting are currently being processed and once ratified a fuller report will be made at our next Branch meeting.

Matter ongoing:

- Solo Piping- this matter was once again discussed in full. The Music Board continues to support Branches using titles, for example, Scottish, British, European, United Kingdom etc albeit with caveats previously recommended by the Format Groups research with Bands. The Music Board have kept this item live on the action list.

- The outcome of the Juvenile survey (Oct 2024- Jan 2025)and the subsequent Playing format on the Friday at the WPBC was once again raised. The Music Board Convenor said she is still awaiting an update on next steps from HQ.
- One of the Directors on the Music Board asked if all Reps could make sure the Format for the WPBC - Grade 2 Bands is made clear and asks **all BANDS to pay particular attention** to the playing requirements for 2025 (RSPBA website refers) and the potential changes in 2026.

For 2025 the Format is;

- **Scenario 1** - If the trigger number is reached (24 bands), The Format will be a Saturday qualifying round playing a Medley Selection (4-6 mins) then a Final round playing MSR (Submit 2) for those bands who qualify.
- **Scenario 2** - If the trigger number is not reached (23 bands or less) -The Format will be two rounds for **all** bands on the Saturday, comprising of round 1- MSR (Submit 2) & round 2 Medley (4-6 mins). This Format may change in 2026. Look out for more information via your Branch Music Board Reps. **The best way to keep up to date is to attend your Branch meetings.**

J. Simpson thanked S. McQuillan for his pursuance on the Juvenile Survey. S. McQuillan has asked the Music Boar Convenor to push Headquarters for a answer on this.

Education Report

L. Moore advised that the Pipe Band College had only met the previous week and that the minutes were still being produced.

Trophies

Thes are slowly coming back for the indoors. The deadline for returning these are 1 March.

The next ones that will be getting asked to return are Peebles, this is to allow for the Highland Games Committee to get any repairs completed. The return date for these will be 12 April.

AOCB

Compiler

S. Starr advised the meeting that unfortunately one of our compilers has resigned from the position. This means that the branch are needing to recruit someone that we can train up for next year.

George Watson's College Invitational Contest

M. O'Neill advised that this event would be taking place on Sunday 2 March at the School should anyone wish to come along.

Bo'ness Fair Day

The Fair Day committee are looking for additional Pipe Bands for this event. The Fair Day is help on Friday 27 June, if any bands are interested in participating to contact M. O'Neill

A vote of thanks was submitted for M. Brown-Scott and P. Starr on the hard work they have done as our Branch Directors.

Next online meeting will be 23 March 2025 via Zoom