

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 30th April 2017**

J. Hughes, Chairman	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
A. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Hazzard Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
S. Easton	Wallacestone & District
B. Watt	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. Orr	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
M. Binder	Stockbridge
I. Simpson	George Watson's College Juvenilee

Apologies: B. McMorran, V. McMorran, A. Dalziel, W. Dalziel, S. MacDonald, T. Thomson, M. O'Neill, D. Brand

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting 30th April were approved by Stockbridge and Seconded by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Secretary's report:

Preparing everything for the AGM. I have had a letter from Headquarters asking for date and venue for the AGM and another requesting the dates for next years contests and also the Adjudicator requirements for these contests

The entries seem to be a bit slow for some contests but hopefully they will increase as we get nearer to the contest dates.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report and details are available from our secretary by request.

Directors report:

Higher to lower transfers were discussed.

Headquarters insurers have made an offer to cover the repairs to the building following the fire, this has been accepted. A decision to go ahead to refurbish the building has been agreed and the work is planned to start around March 2018 and will take around 6 months to complete. Headquarters are looking to relocate to other premises whilst this work goes on.

There was a discussion on the Adjudicators Training and the adjudicators would prefer to continue with Consultative Adjudication but they would only consult on the musical performance and not the placing of bands.

This cannot be applied to Drum Majors as each adjudicator is judging a different discipline.

Music Board report:

The Music Board will look at the format for contests but this will also be dependent on individual venues.

The lists of prescribed tunes will be clarified, J. Wark will look at this.

World Solo Drumming Adult Semi Finals will have 3 adjudicators and they propose that they will issue critique sheets from the Semi Final but not from the final.

There is a suggestion for a prize for the best Piping performance in the Adult Solo Drumming final. This has not yet been approved by the Board.

Contestants entering Branch qualifying rounds will submit 2 MSR Sets and all venues must have the same entry and playing criteria. The rules have been approved by the Board of Directors and must be adhered to. It is up to the board of directors to decide who competes and what criteria is required and not the adjudicators.

The Adult MSR element must require 2 MSR sets to be submitted in order to be eligible as a World Solo Drumming semi final qualifier.

There was a discussion on Grade 4B and the ability of some bands to follow the 2/4 idiom and also if this could also include some 4/4 marches as this may allow a more musical performance.

There was some discussion on the website and how it is not always easy to find the information required easily. There may be a day of discussion with the relevant persons and also the webmaster.

It is not a requirement that the ensemble adjudicator greets the bands coming on.

The time allowed for each performance in the Grade 4B finals at the British will be extended and this will also apply at Branch Contests where time allows. This will increase the time between bands from 7 to 8 minutes.

Trophies:

All the Dunbar trophies are now in and ready to go. We require a contact for North Berwick trophies.

The Thomas Grotrian presentation will go ahead at the Edinburgh Contest.

Bathgate Highland Games have asked if any of their trophies are in such a bad condition that they need to be renewed.

Edinburgh Contest:

All Grades will play in concert formation on front of the stage with the adjudicators sitting on the stage.

Lord Provost is trying hard to get financial support for this contest and it is looking good.

We may have to pay the parking fees for the coaches at this contest but this is still under discussion.

We have a good number of entries for both the Edinburgh and Burntisland contests.

The Adjudicators Panel Management Board are happy for 2 adjudicators to share a tent when the panel is made up of only 1 piping and 1 drumming adjudicator.

Steward's report:

Stewards Allocation sheets are now out. Work is ongoing to change the method of distribution so everyone will get their information in a more timeous manner.

Education

Outreach program. We hope to have workshops in September & October and hopefully with Outreach in January, this will be free to the bands and we hope to have flyers to distribute at the Edinburgh contest.

There was some discussion on Child Protection and all bands with children are recommended to appoint a child protection officer.

Meeting Closed 19.15
Next Meeting 24th Setember