

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 23rd February 2020**

J. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Wallacestone & District
A. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
P. Hazzard, Minute Secretary	City of Edinburgh
W. Dalziel	Wallacestone & District
V. McMorrان	Glencorse
D. Martin Director	Scottish Fire & Rescue
M.B. Scott	Scottish Fire and Rescue
I. Simpson, Music Board	George Watson's College Novice Juvenile A + B
M. Binder, Magazine Reporter	Royal High
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor	Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
J. McKenna	Scottish Fire & Rescue
M. Watters	Scottish Fire & Rescue
G. Cameron	Camelon and District
Kevin Reid MM	Police Scotland Fife
Christine Reid	Police Scotland Fife
Elizabeth Scott	Scottish Fire and Rescue

Apologies: S. Orr RVM, L.A. Riad, T. Thomson, S. McQuillan, E. Orr

Welcome

As the Branch Chairman was unable to attend due to work commitments, the Branch President took the chair.

Minutes

The Minutes of the January Meeting Proposed by Police Fife Scotland.

Matters arising:

There were no Matters arising.

Secretary's report:

The entries for the indoors are very slow at coming in, a reminder will be sent to bands. There was a question regarding clarification of event 4 - 14 and under solo piping and it was agreed that the correct playing requirements are 4-2-2 which is the same as the corresponding drumming event. It was also confirmed that although under age of 18 a Grade C piper must play in the Adult grade.

Treasurer's report:

The Branch President gave the treasurer's report in her absence, and details are available from our secretary by request.

Directors report:

Thanks were given to Mick O'Neil by the BoD for his service to Music Board over the years.

There are no rule changes proposed for this year's AGM.

The rules regarding taking of alcohol on to the march past will be reinforced to bands prior to this year's contests.

A local contest in another part of the country was rejected as it was on the day of the UK championships at Lurgan.

Any changes to the competition format for majors must be reported the year before coming into practice.

Directors are to remind spectators about photography at the World Solo Drumming.

Branches will be asked for feedback regarding the closeness of Majors.

There was discussion on the cost for hire of headquarters premises.

There was some discussion regarding adjudicators preference criteria for the World Solo Drumming and whether there is any requirement for a rule change, the conversation between adjudicators is not recorded and discussions are ongoing

There was some discussion on the performance start for Novice and Grade 4B bands, whether they should march into the circle playing or take up their position prior to the start of their performance.

There was some discussion on the spread of the dates for major championships and the possibility of a major the week before the worlds. It was said that the logistics or this would be very difficult.

It was also said that the number of entries for minor contests after the Worlds has dropped significantly since the Worlds became the last major of the season.

Music Board Report

There has been no meeting of the MB since the last Branch meeting.

Stewards Report

The allocation for Stewards for the majors has been done but still to be sent out.

The Branch allocations are all out.

Work is ongoing for Adjudicators for majors.

Education

There was some discussion on whether the Branch could run a workshop similar to the workshop organised by Tom Brown for grade 4 and 3 pipers and drummers.

Trophies

Trophies for Champion of Champions are ok.

Contact details were requested for North Berwick.

Burntisland trophies are at the engravers.

World Solo Drumming, require 1 Trophy for and 6 medals.

AOCB

Indoors

Help for preparation of school on the Friday evening has been requested and there was also a request for the donation of raffle prizes.

It was also asked if we could look at the current layout of tables at the entrance as with the current layout many people are walking in without paying and this is difficult to control.

Outdoor Contests.

Dunbar and Edinburgh contests are confirmed.

There was some discussion on visa requirements for E.U. bands, but it is believed that none will be required for 2020.

North Berwick have a problem with people parking on the grass this year everything else is ok and the playing criteria in the entry form will be corrected.

RSPBA HQ Renovation

Headquarters have had a report from OSCR saying that they have done everything as required and this enquiry is now closed.

AOCB

Vi McMorran will be retiring from her position as Compiler and a discussion was held regarding people to fill this post.

There was a discussion on the Branch website and it was asked if we could have this updated and if the branch could appoint someone to do this. In reply it was said that our website is tied in with Headquarters website which means that it would be difficult to allow access to someone else from the branch.

It was asked if the Branch could possibly help towards the cost of a new camera for our Photographer Peter Hazzard as Peter has already lost 2 cameras due to using them in extremely wet weather at contests and he will require another camera for the coming season. This was agreed with the possibility of the Branch and Headquarters both contributing to the cost.

Meeting Closed 19.10pm.

Next meeting will be 26th April at 6pm