

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 28 February 2021**

S. Orr RVM, Chairman	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
J. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
L.A. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
S. Starr, Minute Secretary	Peebles Ex-Servicemen's
W. Dalziel	Wallacestone & District
V. McMorran	Glencorse
S. McQuillan, Music Board	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
I. Simpson, Music Board	George Watson's College Novice Juvenile A + B
M. Binder, Social Media	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 & District
C. Reid	Police Scotland Fife
K. Reid	Police Scotland Fife
M. Brown-Scott, Director	Scottish Fire & Rescue
T. Thomson	Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
G. Dyet, Chief Steward	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
L. Moore, Education Rep.	Preston Lodge High School
B. Duncan	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
M. Rieley	Police Scotland Fife

Welcome

The Branch Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the October Meeting Proposed by City of Edinburgh and seconded by Police Scotland Fife

Matters arising:

I Simpson clarified that he was only representing one band as per previous minutes.

An amendment was asked to be made to the January Minutes to show that the branch unanimously supported J. Hughes as their nomination of RSPBA Chairman.

Treasurer's report:

The treasurer gave her report and details are available by request.

S. Orr RVM asked if the standing of assistance to Headquarters was still applicable if required. J. Hughes confirmed that this was the case and that another three branches had also offered assistance. However, at this time this point in time the Headquarters finances are sufficient to see them through.

Secretary's report

There was nothing to report.

Director's report:

As there had not been a meeting since our last update, there was nothing to report.

Steward's Report

Nothing to report

Education Board

The Pipe Band College met a week after the January Branch Meeting, where discussions took place on the proposal of online theory examinations.

The Branch sub-committee met, and had been working on the proposal of a 6-8 week course being held. There will be information being sent out to all Branch Bands within the coming weeks.

J. Hughes suggested that there could be assistance from the branch for low income families, to assist with any exam fees. L.A. Riad confirmed that funds would be available.

The Branch voted unanimously in favour of this.

Music Board Report

The Music Board met on 6th January and the following points were discussed:-

- The Competition Information and Format Guide is now online, all bands should review and ensure they are familiar with this document which will be updated with changes and new content as matters arise.
- The Grade 1 engagement and consultation project continued in February 2021 via online video calls.
- Online draws for all Major Championship and the World Solo Drumming to go online and managed by Marketing & Media.
- The Format Group are also expected to meet w/c 1st March.
- Next Music Board meeting - 6th March.

Trophy Convenor Report

Nothing to report, as we are currently in Lockdown the bands have not been asked to return the trophies.

Contests

Majors

The British and UK Championships have both been cancelled.

There will be a press release issued in relation to the Europeans on 1 March. The remaining two majors are keen for some form of contest to be held.

Branch Contests

Both Bridge of Allan and North Berwick are being kept inform of all developments in relation to the major championships, with these events being run prior to The Worlds.

Dunbar and Innerleithen have both cancelled, with Edinburgh also likely to be cancelled.

M. Binder asked if a Tier System is still in place, would it be likely that any competitions be held. J. Hughes advised that if a Tier System was in place it would be highly unlikely that any contests would progress. J. Hughes confirmed that if the remaining Majors Championships progressed the Branch would be keen to have contests the week prior if it was at all possible.

Headquarters AGM

All bands have been sent a link to the Order Paper and Proxy Form, and the meeting will be held via an interactive online platform.

J. Hughes advised that Branch that he has decided not to stand as Chairperson and to retire from the Board of Directors for the time being. S. Orr RVM thanked John for all his work over the years and confirmed that the Branch would support his decision.

AOCB

With no AOCB, S. Orr RVM closed the meeting.

Meeting Closed 18.29

Next online meeting will be 28 March 2021 at 6.00pm