

**The minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of  
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association  
Held in The Society Centre, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh  
On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

<u>Present:</u>	W.McMorran, President	Glencorse
	J.Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
	A.Dalziel, Vice Chairman	Lothian & Borders Police
	A.Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
	LA Oubbaithe, Treasurer	Linlithgow
	W.Dalziel, Trophy Convenor	Lothian & Borders Police
	D.Brand, Minute Secretary	Newtongrange
	N.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	G.Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
	S.Hazzard	Newtongrange
	P.Hazzard	Bo'ness
	P.Starr	Newtongrange
	W.McIntyre	George Heriots School
	I. Simpson	George Watson's College

Apologies:

J.Brand, C.McLuckie

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were approved by Newtongrange and seconded by Glencorse.

Matters arising:

Nothing has been heard from the Royal highland Centre. They are to be invited to North Berwick and a Major championship.

Peebles High School has been confirmed as the venue for the Branch indoor contest.

Secretary's report:

A list of Branch bands not having paid their affiliation fees to the RSPBA was read out. Some bands have since paid their fees since the publication of the list. Those who have not are to be contacted by the Branch secretary.

An email was received from Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia re the change in secretary.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report. Details are available from the Branch secretary upon request.

Headquarters have asked for two bank statements. John Hughes is to take them through at the next National Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

#### National Council report:

Some championship trophies are to be replaced.

There was a delay in receiving the minutes from the Music Board.

The playing requirements for 2010 were agreed. Details are on the RSPBA web site.

Merchandising is to be done by a company called B.I.G. for the next two years.

The competition list was approved.

All majors except the Worlds will start not earlier than 10.30 am.

Changed to the company by guarantee are to be ready for the RSPBA AGM.

A tenor and bass contest is to be held in the week of the Worlds. No venue has been selected yet.

The Music Board are to discuss the rules governing a tenor and bass contest as none exist.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch and Stirling Branch have requested to run the Bridge of Allan competition.

#### Music Board report:

A questionnaire for grade one bands is to be sent to all UK grade one bands.

Dual registration of leading drummers was discussed.

Grading appeals were read out. Those concerning L&B Branch are Linlithgow & District to stay at grade two. A new band, Stockbridge, is graded grade 4B. Bo'ness higher to lower transfers agreed. All these changes are subject to ratification by the National Council. Standards group do grading now.

The PDQB drumming representative is Arthur Cook.

13 PDQB students have passed their exams. 13 have passed their instructors course.

#### Trophy Convector's report:

George Watson's College won 54 trophies and Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia won 44 trophies in the 2009 season.

It was agreed that The Royal Regiment of Scotland should pay their fine for late return of trophies as other bands have been fined for such an offence.

Wilma Dalziel is to write again to The Royal Regiment of Scotland. John Hughes is to speak to the Executive Officer on this matter at the next national Council meeting and ask that a formal letter be sent. Under RSPBA rules bands are suspended from playing until fines have been paid.

#### Steward's report:

The death of Jim Martin was announced. Jim was a member of Ayr, Dumfries and Galloway Branch.

New tents demonstrated at the last steward's meeting were deemed unsuitable for use by the RSPBA. New tents are now being sought.

There will be only one ring at Innerleithen.

Education report:

There are five piping and four drumming students. The course started on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and will run until the exams on 28<sup>th</sup> March. A venue for the exams is to be sought.

Income from the course is approximately £1400. Expenditure is approximately £1300. This is a rough estimate as the cost of venues and books have not been included.

A.O.C.B.:

John Hughes is to speak to North Berwick to discuss their contest.

Ann Hazzard is to speak to Peebles to discuss their contest.

The branch is working closely with East Lothian Council and the Royal British Legion to try and secure the Dunbar contest for this year.

Indoor contest:

West Lothian Highland Games, St Ronan's Piping Society, North Berwick and Peebles are all eager to sponsor grades at the Branch indoor contest.

Ann Hazzard is to approach Abla.

Alex Dalziel is to approach Bannatines and T&G Brown.

Jamie Barnes had agreed previously to approach Kilberry.

John Hughes is to approach Shepherds and McCallums.

John Hughes will see to first aid cover.

Craigmount High School have agreed to do the catering.

W.McMorran is to arrange the adjudicators.

Peter Hazzard asked for the entry forms to be checked prior to them being printed.

The date of the next meeting is Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in The Society Centre, 60 The Pleasance, Edinburgh at 6.00 PM.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.