

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 27 June 2021**

J. B. Hughes, President
L.A. Riad, Treasurer
P. Hazzard, Secretary
S. Starr, Minute Secretary
S. McQuillan, Music Board
M. Binder, Social Media
B. Watt, Trophy Convenor
W. Dalziel
J. McKenna
M. Cameron
M. O'Neill

Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
City of Edinburgh
Peebles Ex-Servicemen's
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
Royal High
Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
Wallacestone & District
Scottish Fire & Rescue
Camelon & District
Police Scotland Fife

Apologies

M. Brown-Scott, S. Orr RVM, L. Moore, G. Dyet, E. Scott, M. Rieley, K. Reid MM, C. Reid, M. Watters, I. Simpson, V McMorran.

Welcome

As the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were unable to attend, the President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the March Meeting Proposed by City of Edinburgh and seconded by Wallacestone & District.

Treasurer's report:

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

Secretary's report

There was nothing to report.

Director's report:

There had been a news article issued on HQ Website advising guidance on return to practises.

The summer school has been arranged to be ran as an online workshop in July and will be solely for under 18 members.

Steward's Report

There was nothing to report.

Education Group Report

35 – 40 students took part with 19 sitting the final exam who all passed. There was great feedback from participants. Further exams dates will be organised for later in the year.

We are hoping to run courses for the higher levels in September/October.

A vote of thanks, from the Education team, to Mick O'Neill for the support he had provided to Kerr McQuillan on his recent mentorship programme.

Music Board Report

- The Music Board met on the 11th of June
- The mini festival workstream is progressing with a series of short documentaries. The documentaries will be broadcast on the RSPBA official channels where input from the APMB, College, Individuals, Bands and the top 6 solo drummers is currently being planned and scheduled.
- The Music Board have expressed their unanimous dissatisfaction about certain items which appeared within the Board of Directors minute of the 29th May. Specifically, items related to online competitions which contradict previous agreements. Also, the reason that the alternative model for online wasn't used at a particular event. The Music Board feel overlooked and on occasions having their work redirected is causing frustration. As result, clarity of Board of Directors roles and decision-making responsibilities has been sought.
- Standing Orders and Grading have met and would request that any Band which feels they might be requesting re-grading to make contact in the usual way through HQ. Any request for re grading's must be sent and accompanied with an up-to-date band registration form and clearly state the reasons for request. Bands should also note rule 3.28 and if applying for a downgrade that they must be prepared to compete in two further contests in their existing grade prior to decisions being given. However, the more information submitted the better to aid the process the better. Bands are also reminded of the 42-day rule and rule 3.71. All request should be submitted as soon as possible.
- The Music Board have approved a proposal from the World Solo Drumming Group that the Regional Qualifiers now carry a national tile. For example, Scottish, British, European, UK and Intercontinental. The Lothian & Borders Branch who are currently approved to host a regional qualifier are offered the opportunity to host the Scottish title. Going forward the titles can be rotated as can the branches bidding.
- The playing requirements across certain grades are currently being reviewed. This is with a view to increase the requirements in the future.

Trophy Convenor Report

Looking for all trophies to be returned by the end of the year.

Branch Contests

All Branch contests have now been cancelled for the 2021 season. All Promotors are keen to hold contests in 2022. There will need to be funding obtained for Dunbar and Edinburgh. It was suggested that more advertising for the Edinburgh contests is needed, and the President will take this up in his discussions with Edinburgh Council.

Next online meeting will be 26 September 2021 at 6.00pm