

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 27 March 2022**

J. B. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
LA. Riad	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
S. Orr RVM, Chairman	Royal Scott Dragoon Guards
M. Brown-Scott, Vice Chairman	Scottish Fire and Rescue
P. Hazzard, Secretary	City of Edinburgh
S. Starr, Minute Secretary	Peebles Ex-Servicemen's
S. McQuillan, Music Board	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
I. Simpson	George Watson's College
W. Dalziel	Wallacestone & District
L. Moore, Music Board	Preston Lodge High School
B. Watt, Trophy Officer	Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia
W. Waugh	Camelon & District
J. Gavin	Camelon & District
W. McIntyre	George Heriot School
D. Holbrough	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards

Apologies

G. Dyet, C Reid, K. Reid MM, M. O'Neill, M Binder.

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the September Meeting Proposed by Preston Lodge High School and seconded by City of Edinburgh.

Treasurer's report:

The treasurer's report was presented and details are available by request.

Secretary's report

P. Hazzard advised that the entry for the solos and indoors were comparable with previous years. 140 Solos and 25 band performances.

Director's report:

The RSPBA AGM took place on 12 March 2022 and the following rule changes were accepted: -
Static Start Pilot for N/JB and 4B bands.
Association Meetings (to include Virtual)

The following rule changes failed to be accepted: -

- Pipe Band College

The following was dropped, but on the basis it would be re-visited:-

- Adult Drum Majors – change to Worlds Drum Major Final

The Following directors were re-elected:-

- J. Gibb
- M. McCrindle
- L. Ronaldson
- McGeoch
- M. Brown-Scott

Following the AGM, the board of Directors met and the following was discussed: -

- Website now has Championship entries on fees page for bands and drum majors
- Letter from Alison Burke withdrawing from position. She felt it was not what she expected the role to be. Ian Embelton to continue until a replacement can be found
- Appointments to the Standing Committees was made
- News item for 2022 easement on playing requirements at first major and playing numbers for all majors issued

Music Board Report

S. McQuillan advised that the music board met on 5 March and the following points were discussed:-

Branches that are hosting the new drumming circuit events to ensure that their announcement sheet is updated to reflect the respective championship title, in our case the winner should be announced as the "RSPBA Scottish Solo snare drumming Champion for 2022 is....."

Given the championship circuit is now up and running the 2023 world solo drumming championship for adult snare drummers will be a semi-final and final event only, so no morning qualifier, this has been proposed and accepted by the Music Board and it supports the evolution plan of the event.

The World Solo Drumming Group and the Vice Chairman are due to meet at the end of March to review the format and information guide as related to the drumming events for the inclusion in the guide.

All are reminded that the 2022 Solo drumming events now include a World title for juvenile and adults with six prizes across the respective grades

The Music Board accepted the recommendations from the Format Group

- To modify the draw on the line situation for the first major championship - the British championship, any Grade that requires a draw on the line is modified to the band choosing the respective Medley/MSR of own choice. Tunes to be submitted as normal.
- The number of performers in any given grade for the 2022 major championships is permitted at the same level for the minor competitions.

Format Group continue to work on several workstream projects, this includes the Grade 1 World Pipe Band Championship format which is focusing on;

- How draws are made
- MSR & Medley Format
- Time limits,
- Musical content/ make up and format
- Impact of covid
- Adjudicator positioning and
- Trials related to any changes

The explainer video for the G4B/NJB will be posted on the RSPBA website

The Standards and Grading Group have continued to meet. Any bands affected will receive communication from HQ

Education Report

L. Moore advised the PDQB exam assessments are still on hold. This is a priority to get these moving.

The Branch are keen to get the education moving again towards the end of the season.

Headquarters are once again holding the summer school this year, with the option to attend in person and virtual attendees being looked into.

L. Moore advised that there has still been no response from The Education Officer.

Trophy Convener's Report

Returns still going on. B.Watt advised that NBHG still do not have a Trophy Convenor and that he is assisting with this.

The Trophy has been purchased for the RSPBA Scottish Solo Snare Drumming and this will be called The Tom Brown MBE Trophy.

J. Gavin asked if it would be possible to donate a trophy to St Ronan Piping Society, B. Watt advised that he would need to speak with them direct as they look after their own trophies, and would provide them with details.

AOCB

Indoors.

J. Hughes advised the organization is going well. The Hire of the school has been paid, and James Young High School have given us the hire of the classrooms free of charge. The programmes have also been sent to the printers.

P. Hazzard will print the lunch and snack tickets.

There are no covid specific procedures that need to be implemented in the school.

J. Hughes has advised that the usual Friday set up is required and that as many bodies as possible is required.

LA. Riad asked if there was to be any entry fee or raffle to be sold. It was agreed to only charge for the programmes at a cost of 50p per programme.

It was agreed as previous years to give the janitorial staff £30 each as a gesture of thanks.

Outdoors.

J. Hughes advised that a very successful meeting has taken place with Edinburgh Academy and can confirm that they will sponsor and run the Edinburgh Contest on 19 June. They have confirmed that they are looking to hold the event for two years. A note of thanks for all the pipe band staff at Edinburgh Academy for all the help and support given.

The remainder of the outdoor contests are on track at the moment.

Static Start

The branch can confirm that we will pilot this at the Edinburgh Contest. There is a video due to be published by headquarters explaining this in the near future.

The meeting was closed at 18.45

Next online meeting will be 24 April 2022 at 6pm

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