

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 30 April 2023**

J. B. Hughes, President	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
LA. Riad, Treasurer	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. Brown-Scott, Vice Chairman	Scottish Fire and Rescue
T. Thomson	Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
P. Starr, Trophy Convenor	Penicuik & District
E. Scott	Scottish Fire and Rescue
C. Reid	Police Scotland Fife
K. Reid MM	Police Scotland Fife
M. Reilly	Police Scotland Fife
J Venters	Burntisland and District

Apologies

S. Starr, P. Hazzard, S. Orr RVM, M. O'Neill, D Holbrough, S. McQuillan, M Cameron, G Dyet

Welcome

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the February meeting were Proposed by Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia and Seconded by Penicuik.

Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer gave her report and is available from the Secretary on request.

Still awaiting final invoices for the Indoors.

Secretary's report

The entries are coming in for all of the outdoors, the entries for Dunbar and Innerleithen are now closed.

Director's report:

Championship updates:

Meetings are ongoing with Lurgan and some minor changes have been made to the layout to resolve congestion issues last year.

Meetings are ongoing with Aberdeen and Contacts have now been agreed.

The Board are working on a review of the Affiliate Fees and looking to review certain IT Responsibilities within the Board.

Some clarity is required on the Easement of Band numbers for the 2023 season, and this is being drafted for release this week.

The Pipe band Association of New Zealand have requested a World Solo Drumming event to add to the series. Some clarity is required from the WSD Group.

Information is to be published regarding looking after yourself in extremes of weather to aid bands in case we have another hot day at one of the championships.

One band has now successfully utilised HQ for a band practice.

Music Board Report

The explainer video is now available for the Static start Pilot in Novice B this season. Clarity was provided as to when someone can drop out as the band will now not stop at the start line. The final point where someone can drop out is when the front row of the band crosses the Start Line.

The Branch Contests where the static start will be in place for Novice B Bands are: Dunbar, Innerleithen, and North Berwick.

The other Branch Contests, Edinburgh, BoA, and Peebles have a combined Nov B/G4B contest.

Education

Draft notice to go out next week regarding the Pipe Band Musicianship and Drum Major Workshop scheduled for 30th September & 1st October.

A news item has been put on the website <https://www.rspba-landb.org/>

Stewards Report

The Stewards and compilers are all ready for the coming season.

Trophy Convener's Report

P. Starr confirmed that Dunbar trophies are ready to go. Some bands have asked if they can bring trophies for other Branch contest to Dunbar to hand them in, this has been agreed.

AOCB

Indoors.

Another successful Indoor even was held at the beginning of April with 145 solo performances and 23 full band performances.

Outdoors.

Entries are coming in steadily for all Branch Outdoor Contests. Dunbar, Innerleithen, Edinburgh, and Peebles will be have one arena, with Bridge of Allan and North Berwick having at least two arenas.

The President thanked all present for their ongoing support and wished all Branch bands a successful season.

The meeting closed at 18:45.

Next Meeting will be 24 September 2023 @ 6pm.