

**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 29th February 2010**

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

Apologies:

J.Brand, J.Barnes, C.McLuckie, P.Starr.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 31st January 2010 were approved by Newtongrange and seconded by George Watson's College.

Matters arising:

There have been problems with the dates of the Branch meetings not appearing on the Branch web site.

Headquarters is to write to the Royal Regiment of Scotland advising them of their suspension.

There were a couple of changes to be made to the last minutes.

Secretary's report:

A cheque was received from headquarters of a refund from North Berwick expenses.

Entry forms are ready to be posted on the Branch website.

Treasurer's report:

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

National Council report:

The English championships were discussed.

Overseas adjudicators have apologies for mistakes made in 2008.

There was a proposal from the North of Scotland Branch to raise the maximum age for Novice Juvenile and Juvenile band members to 21. This is to be put forward to the RSPBA AGM.

All re-gradings were approved.

There will be an increase in the prize money at all the major championships.

All grades, except grade 1, will have the same prize money.

Tents tested by RSPBA were rejected. New ones are being sought.

The Music Board minutes were approved.

A PDQB presentation was presented to the meeting.

There will be no Drum Major adjudicator's course this year.

The BBC in Northern Ireland are to record the European Championships.

The RSPBA are looking at standardising the cost of adjudicators.

John Hughes is to be Chairman of the Standing Orders and Steering Committee for one year.

Branch members are asked to register for comments on the Worlds Development Group.

The RSPBA are looking at the cost of putting early World recordings onto CDs from cassette tapes.

Music Board report:

The re gradings have been approved.

Some appeals are pending.

Trophy Convenors report:

Currently there is no grade 1 mini band competition at the Branch indoor contest although there are trophies for this competition. After some discussion it was proposed by Glencorse and seconded by Bo'ness that a grade 1 mini band competition be held at the forthcoming Branch indoor contest. A vote was successful and the grade 1 mini band competition will go ahead this year. The entry forms will now be amended to include grade 1.

Steward's report:

All the stewards have their allocation sheets for the Branch competitions.

They are still awaiting allocations for the major championships from headquarters. These are hoped to be available by the RSPBA AGM

Education report:

All the names of the students have been forwarded to headquarters.

A venue for the exams has been found. This will be George Watson's College.

Catering for the adjudicators was discussed.

The exam date is 28th march 2010.

Indoor contest:

All the adjudicators are in place.

There are, as yet, no entries for the Willie Ferguson Trophy.

Craigmount High School is doing the catering.

John Hughes has arranged for the Red Cross to be present.

Still awaiting replies from hopeful sponsors.

A.O.C.B.:

It was agreed to continue using The Society Centre for Branch meetings.

John Hughes met with East Lothian Council and Dunbar Community Council to discuss the Dunbar contest. Funding was agreed and the contest will now go ahead. However there is a change of venue. The contest will be held in Hallhill. This park is close to what was the old Countess Park and close to the town centre. It is hoped that by having the contest close to the town centre that the traditional parade up the street will be revived.

East Lothian Council are to put up a trophy for the grade 4 MSR.

Changes to the entry for and programme will be made accordingly.

Innerleithen and Melrose have agreed to hold a grade 4 MSR contest. Awaiting confirmation on this from North Berwick.

John Hughes is to contact Jim Campbell re the cost of the exams.

The Branch decided to leave them at £10 and £15.

The Branch printer needs a new roller. Costs of replacing the printer are to be looked into.

George Watson's College are hosting their annual solo and mini band contest within the college on Sunday 7th March 2010.

Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia are holding a concert at Howden hall, Livingston on 18th April 2010.

The date of the next meeting is Sunday 28th March in Bellsquarry Hall at 6.00 pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.