

The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
On Sunday 21 September 2025

L.A. Riad, Treasurer
S. Starr, Secretary
I. Simpson
W. Waugh
J. Gavin
P. Starr, Chairman
G. Dyet
S. McQuillan
J. Simpson
S. Grant
C. Allan
M. Cameron
T. Thomson
W. McIntyre

Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
Peebles Ex-Servicemen's
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate
Camelon & District
Camelon & District
Penicuik & District
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
Edinburgh Academy
Preston Lodge High School
Livingston Caledonia
Camelon & District
Peoples Ford Boghall & Bathgate
George Heriot's School

Apologies

S. Orr MVO RVM, M. Reilly, L. Moore, M. O'Neill, M. Brown-Scott, P. Hazzard

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the October Meeting Proposed by People's Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia and seconded by Livingston Caledonia

Treasurer's report:

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

Secretary's report

S. Starr advised that the following contests have the proposed dates:-

Indoors 28 March 2026
Innerleithen 6 June 2026
Bridge of Allan 2 August 2026
Peebles 6 September 2026

Director's report

P. Starr advised that there had not been a meeting since our last meeting.

However the following Major Championships have been confirmed:-

British	30 May 2026	Ingleston
European	27 June 2026	Perth
Scottish	25 July 2026	Dumbarton
The Worlds	14 and 15 August	Glasgow

I. Simpson asked for the dates to be published on headquarters website. P. Starr will raise that at the next meeting.

Music Board Report

Music Board met on the 21st September. The minutes of the meeting are currently being processed and once ratified a fuller report will be made at our next Branch meeting.

Matter ongoing:

- **Gradings:** Extensive work has been completed. Announcements will follow in the usual manner.
- **Format** (several items ongoing since April 2025):
 - WPBC regarding Juvenile, G2 Format, are and G1 (intention to engage with G1 bands on format matters).
 - Updates to **Format Guides** (from April 2025 MB):
 - Solo Drumming Circuit: updates to be actioned.
 - Bands: some clarity points required.
 - Drum Majors: Section 10 requires expansion. Request submitted to BoD for a working group (under SOR 2.19).
 - Liaison with SOR on **dual instruments** – ongoing.
 - **Local Rules:** Branches reminded to send a copy of any local rules to HQ. The Format Group wishes to review for good practice and ensure alignment with National Rules. **Branch Secretary** is requested to forward any local rules if available.
- **From April Branch Meeting – Minimum Player Numbers:**
 - Music Board representatives are asked to seek feedback from Branch Bands on whether the **eased minimum player numbers** currently in use should remain for Championships.

AOCB

Official Expenses

I. Simpson asked for clarification on the 100mile radius if on duty for two consecutive days. This will be taken to the next meeting.

Trigger Lines

It was mentioned that some of the trigger lines were not consistent at all contests. This will be picked up by The Directors and The Chief Steward.

UK Championship

J. Gavin asked if there was a possibility that the UK Championships could be held in Ireland. At this moment there has not been any update on this.

The World Championships

It was asked to be fed back to Headquarters that the location of Arena 8 is not suitable for a contest arena. G. Dyet advised that this will not be in this location moving forward.

Edinburgh Academy would like to thank everyone involved in assisting with the organisation of the juvenile grades on the Friday.

Next online meeting will be 26 October 2026 via Zoom