

**The Minutes of the meeting of the Lothian & Borders Branch of
The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association
Held in Bellsquarry Hall, Livingston
On Sunday 28th October 2012**

Present:

J. Hughes, Chairman	Linlithgow
A. Dalziel, Vice Chair	Lothian & Borders Police
A. Hazzard, Secretary	Bo'ness
W. Dalziel, Trophy Convenor	Lothian & Borders Police
P. Hazzard Minute Secretary	Bo'ness
B. McMorran	Glencorse
V. McMorran	Glencorse
W. McCafferty	Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia
M. O'Neill	George Watson's College
I. Simpson	George Watson's Junior
G. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
N. Purves	Torphichen & Bathgate
S. Orr	Royal Scots Dragoon Guards

Apologies: D. Brand, J. Brand, J. Barnes, L.J. Barnes.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The minutes of the meeting of 30th September were approved by Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and Seconded by Lothian & Borders Police.

Matters arising:

Secretary's report:

Emails have been sent to Headquarters advising the date of the branch AGM and also advising the date of the Bo'ness contest has been changed.

We have received an email from Peebles, asking if we could suggest anything which would help to attract more entries to the Peebles contest. John Hughes will speak to Peebles about this.

Notification has been sent to the 2 Branch representatives for this year's PM William Fergusson contest and the Branch will pay the expenses of our representatives as we have done in previous years.

Treasurer's report:

The Books have been closed and accounts have been sent for auditing.

Director's report:

There has been more discussion on the New Educational Policy and more information will be available after the next meeting on the 8th December.

There was some discussion on whether we should have a tent at major championships where officials can go for refreshment in between grades when they have some free time.

There was more discussion on the 2 day Worlds and all the information will be put onto the website and bands will all be notified of the playing format when the entry forms are sent out.

Gradings and transfers have been ratified.

Music Board report:

There has been some discussion with the RSPBA about the new syllabus for the PDQB and whether or not there should be a course for the advance certificate as a stop gap until the new syllabus is decided.

There was some discussion on the format for grade 4 with regards to how many bands would play in the final, it was reported that there would be either a 12 or 16 band final. It was pointed out that if there are over 60 entries then there may be a 20 band final.

The Standing Orders and Steering committee will meet on 10th November 2012.

Trophy Convenor's report: Nothing to report.

Steward's report:

There was a stewards meeting on 13th September. There was some discussion on whether we should have an entrance and separate exit to some arenas at the Worlds or other majors.

It was suggested that we place an advert in the Pipe Band Magazine to recruit more steward.

It was suggested that more co-operation from some individuals to work as a team at the end of the day would help things run more smoothly.

There was some discussion on acquiring new tents for headquarters, if headquarters decide to get more tents then the branch may purchase some at the same time.

Education report:

We will be holding an education course in the Partnership Centre, Bathgate starting on January 6th 2013. The first day will be an assessment day to ensure that everyone is doing the correct course.

The cost of the course will be £80 for branch members and £160 for non-branch members, dis price does not include the cost of the course book or exam fee. Information about the course will be put onto the website as soon as possible.

Indoor Contest:

The date of the indoor contest will be 23rd March 2013 and it will be held at The James Young High School once again. There will be some discussion to ensure that we use the best competition rooms available in the school.

A.O.C.B.

Worlds

It was said that there was a problem at the Worlds this year with some of the security at the park not allowing entry into the park before 8.00am when there were clearly a number of people who had already been admitted at other gates.

It was also asked if there were any problems with people gaining access to the Grade 1 arena, our chairman said that he was not aware of any problems.

There was some discussion on the interpretation of the playing requirement for the World Solo Drumming, where the entry form says that the requirement is a 4 parted tune should the competitor be allowed to play 2 2 parted tunes?

It was also suggested that the Juvenile section 3 may have benefited from being run over 2 heats and a final.

There was also some discussion on the big differences between placings from both adjudicators at some events.

It was suggested that only the 1st 6 places should be published on the website for under 18 year olds at solo contests but the full results should be made available to band secretaries.

Meeting Closed 19.30

Next meeting: Branch AGM at Bellsquarry Hall on Sunday 25th November 2012 at 3.00pm.