



The Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association – Dundee Perth & Angus Branch

Minutes from Branch Meeting Sunday 4th December 2011 in Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman's welcome:

Paul opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed everyone.

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present:

Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Irene Black, Gillie McNab, Neil Myles, Nigel Kellett, Bruce Cargill, Barbara Stronach, Jim Mills, Ian Campbell, Valerie Russell

Apologies:

Teresa Walker

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Jun-A3	Send a specific message to Pitlochry asking if they would consider adding a RSPBA adjudicated DM contest alongside their existing DM display contest. Again this would make it possible for Drum Majors to take part in the Branch Championship.	Gary	OPEN. As above, no reply
Jun-A4	Report to be sent to Angus Council to show how the grant money given has been spent.	Gary	OPEN. Draft report ready, should be sent some time next week
Jun-A5	Finalise and test the Excel compiling sheets prior to Crieff	Nigel	OPEN. This was done, but action left open until sheets are working for all branch contests including DM's
Jun-A9	Discuss with potential instructors possible dates and format for the suggested Workshop Day	Paul	OPEN. Still on hold, currently under discussion
Jun-A10	Write to all Mini-Bands trophy winners to remind them to return trophies one month prior to the event or bring to the RSPBA AGM	Gary	OPEN. Not due until Feb 2012
Sep-A9	Go ahead and re-plate the damaged Crieff trophy (Mill Hills Cup) as long as existing engraving will still be clearly legible	Paul	OPEN. A new quote has come in, and is more expensive than first thought, so the Committee decided to go with a new shield – with a plaque on the back with the record of previous winners.
Oct-A1	Call Pitlochry Games committee to ask if possible to attend one of their next meetings to discuss options for inclusion of branch bands in future contests	Gary	OPEN. Still waiting for Pitlochry to confirm when.
Oct-A2	Write to Dundee Council to express Branch enthusiasm for re-instituting the Dundee Highland Games, and that the Branch will be happy to support the running of a Pipe Band contest	Gary	CLOSED. Contacted Ashley Bruce (Lord Provost's secretary) No response so far
Oct-A3	Request judges' fees from all Branch contests for 2011. (Strathmore, Crieff & Pitlochry)	Gary	OPEN. Pitlochry is in, Strathmore due shortly, no response so far from Crieff
Oct-A4	Send a message to HQ saying that the Branch is interested in archiving previous and current minutes and news and are they interested in taking these?	Gary	CLOSED. Sent to Ian Embleton, no answer as yet
Oct-A5	Mention to Strathmore Games that their event is not currently included in the provisional list of outdoor contests for 2012 so it would be sensible to let HQ know unless the date gets taken.	Gary	CLOSED. Strathmore are now in the provisional list.
Oct-A6	Email branch bands and ask if they have a preference for the 2-day trial Worlds format: Grade 1 Qualifiers Day 1, Final Day 2, or Grade 1 MSR Day 1, Medley Day 2, or No preference.	Gary	CLOSED. Gary has contacted all bands but only a few have responded.



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Oct-A7	Write to HQ to say if the PDQB education courses are going ahead, we would like to hold one here.	Gary	OPEN. Gary wrote and received a reply with an Excel document listing all the courses etc. To be discussed and reviewed with Bruce.
Oct-A8	Obtain or produce a record of last year's AGM minutes.	Gary	CLOSED. Minutes received.
Oct-A9	Bring up the question of whether Juvenile Side Drumming in the World Solo Drumming can be competed by Grading category, in a similar fashion to the new World Tenor contest.	Paul & Bruce	OPEN. Not addressed at previous meetings, will be brought up again at next meeting.
Oct-A10	Review Tenor contests (and possibly even side drumming) for Branch solos for next year, possibly in line with World Solo intentions	ALL	CLOSED. Discussed below and agreed that it would probably be a good idea, and will mean introducing one more event, + trophy etc.
Oct-A11	Arrange for certificates to be printed	Paul	CLOSED. These were used at Branch solos.
Oct-A12	Produce a template for automatic printing of certificates	Nigel	CLOSED.
Oct-A13	Advise Branch Bands that competitors for Drumming on Pad should not previously have competed with their bands, and that maximum tuning time for piping events is 1 minute for jig and 2 minutes for all other events.	Gary	CLOSED. This seemed to work fine
Oct-A14	Review feasibility of running a new Pipe Band contest in Kinross now that we know the date of 12 th May (to combine the event with the Half Marathon and Feel Good Fair) is a theoretic possibility.	Nigel	OPEN. This is provisionally going ahead, prize-money dependent Nigel to aim to get prize-money confirmed by end January.

4. Approval of previous minutes:

Approved: Neil

Seconded: Irene

5. Correspondence:

- Email from Wilma Graham saying that Fife are trying to get the Fife Branch up and running again. Fife will be having an AGM on 11th December at 1.00 pm at CISWO Halls in Glenrothes.
- Letter received from Alasdair Aitken OBE saying he had enjoyed the branch solos at Kinross.

6. Treasurers Report:

[figures confidential – available in a separate document]

7. National Council Report:

Paul reported as follows:

- Directors not attending Board of Directors meetings will be automatically removed by Company's House
- Big debate on the Adjudicator's Panels Management Board. Minutes will now be sent that include action points only.
- Requested that the Convenors of Music Board and Management Panels attend NC meetings
- 3 notes of interest have been submitted for a Major from 2014: Bathgate, Dunbartonshire, and Ingleston. Worlds and Cowal are already allocated. Cowal is staying in Dunoon at least for the next 2 years, and the Worlds will be in Glasgow.
- Judges travelling expenses up to 35p per mile, meals up to £16
- Branch Levy will be 5% from 2012 onwards
- Summer workshops should be going ahead from next year
- GWOS put proposal forward for not standing at ease, meaning pipes have to go down between arriving at the line and starting the performance



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- Drumming dual registration, NI wish to keep it as a local rule
- Suggestion of capping bands at a maximum number of players registered. (Small discussion in the Branch but no clear feeling one way or the other)
- Trial post of Education Officer – interviews will be carried out in January
- Board of Directors still actively seeking re-alignment with the PDQB and asking for a summit meeting
- RSPBA would like Branch bank statements to be included with balance sheets from now on
- Paul brought up membership cards and also whether anything was being done for the Jubilee year

8. Music Board Report:

Bruce reported as follows:

- Lots of similar info to the National Council report
- Various grading changes:
 - Pride of Murray appealed to stay in Grade 3, upheld
 - George Watson's College wanted to keep Novice Juvenile Band, and moved a number of their Novice players to Juvenile players accordingly
 - Kintyre Schools registered a new NJ
 - Tamlaght O'Crilly requested downgrade to 4A from 3B
 - Bothwell Castle requested grading, they will receive a grading visit shortly
 - Troon Blackrock requested upgrading to Grade 3B
 - Aughinroan requested downgrading to 3B

9. AOCB:

- **Review of Branch Solos**
 - Compilers would rather listen to the jig at the end of the day rather than the Tenor contest
 - Need to add another tenor contest, so we will have Novice Tenor contest, and two under 18 contests, according to grades
 - Compilers didn't get a full updated Master List of players for start of each event
 - Name of Hall/Arena to go out on each event
 - Number of prizes for each event to be agreed beforehand and judges advised
 - Not having numbers was helpful
 - Separate raffle ticket seller would have been good
 - Drama studio was full of empty cans etc, also Drama studio wasn't fully soundproofed from main stage
 - There was a numbering fault on the program.
 - Whole event was too hot – Nigel to review with Campus
 - Overall, though, it was agreed that the Campus is still an excellent venue, but as the cost of it is rising it is important to look around as it was run at a bigger loss than last year
- **Photo Albums.** Barbara handed over albums of branch trophies to Gary. Suggest offering a set to the RSPBA Historic Group
- **Website update.** Neil handed out printouts of site statistics. Over 4,000 unique visitors this year
- **Solo Drumming trophy from Solos.** This trophy has no space left for names, and some of the plaques around the bottom are coming off. Paul will review if possible to fix the plaques and add a secondary base to the bottom.
- **David Murray Memorial Pipe Band.** This new Novice Juvenile band is in the process of being formed.
- **Absent committee members.** One or two committee members have attended few, if any meetings this year, but remain in position as the committee was voted back in on block at the AGM. We will write and ask if they wish to serve this year.



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10. Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Due By	Status *
Dec-A1	Ask all local bands to write in to express support for re-introducing a Highland Games and Pipe Band contest	Gary	Jan 12	New
Dec-A2	Attempt to confirm prize money for Kinross contest by end January	Nigel	Jan 12	New
Dec-A3	Review PDQB course options with a view to holding one in the Branch	Bruce Gary	Jan 12	New
Dec-A4	Mention to the Campus the few points for improvement, and also to ask for a price for next year	Nigel	Jan 12	New
Dec-A5	Offer a set of the trophy photos to the RSPBA Historic Group	Gary	Jan 12	New
Dec-A6	Review if possible to add a secondary base to the Solo Drumming trophy which is now completely full of names	Paul	Jan 12	New
Dec-A7	Write to committee members not present and ask if they still wish to serve on the committee	Gary	Jan 12	New

* Status should be "New", "Open", "Closed" or "Cancelled"

11. Next meeting:

Sunday 5th February 2012, 6.45 pm for 7.00 pm start