



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

Minutes from Branch Meeting No 4 Sunday 5th October 2014 in the Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman's welcome:

Paul opened the meeting at 7.10 pm and welcomed everyone to this, the fourth meeting of the year. Paul voiced congratulations to Branch bands who have had trophies at majors this season, including Carnoustie, Kinross, Arbroath, Brechin, BB's, The Vale Grade 3, MacKenzie NJ and MacKenzie Grade 2

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present:

Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Nigel Kellett, Bruce Cargill, Irene Black, Stewart Findlay

Apologies:

Ian Campbell, Gillie McNab, Jim Mills

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Actions from minutes in 2013

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Sep-A3	Suggest at next Director's Meeting that Jason Lafferty be authorized to publish any Open event summaries along with the regular grades from minor contests. (Band's actual grades would be shown in the same way as when playing up)	Paul	CLOSED. Jason now authorized to do this. Nigel to remind him when posting Loch Leven results next year.
Sep-A5	Investigate recent winners' names and dates of the Open Drumming trophy and arrange to have details added to it.	Gary / Paul	OPEN. (This was the NCR trophy) Trophy now with Paul, now got all dates except 68, 72, 75, 83, 94 and 2000 to 2007. (Plus 2013) Suggestion to now post them onto the website to see if anyone can help.

Actions from 2014 Meeting No 1 / January

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Jan-A2	Try and locate possible options for additional archiving	Gary	CLOSED. Gary has spoken to Dundee Central Library but limited progress so far. Another option is just to put it all with Perth. New action below

Actions from 2014 Meeting No 2 / March

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Mar-A1	Gary to contact Perth Library to give them minutes up to a year from now	Gary	CLOSED. Gary has spoken to Steve Connolly. No problem, happy to take everything we have in paper copy.
Mar-A2	Gary to talk to Creative Scotland about possible funding for October School	Gary	CLOSED. Been in touch with Creative Scotland, waiting for feedback on funding streams. CS asked for copy of RSPBA Child Protection Policy, which wasn't in place at that time.

Actions from 2014 Meeting No 3 / May

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
May-A1	Put contact email address for Alyth Secretary in their band entry on the Branch website	Neil	CLOSED

4. Approval of previous minutes

Approved: Bruce

Seconded: Gary



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5. Correspondence:

- An individual is looking to join a band in Dundee area. Gary replied. Stuart advised that it looks like he will come to see the BB's
- The Youth Pipe Band concert to take place in Dundee on November 8th in Gardyne Theatre. (BB's supporting)
- Culter & District Band have been asking for confirmation of Mini-Bands date, Gary replied
- Lord Selkirk RFM Band from Canada asking for Crieff date next year, Gary replied
- Pipes & Drums of Basel Switzerland asking for Loch Leven competition date, Gary replied
- Correspondence, via HQ, received from Bruno Peek, Pageant Master, to do with Armistice Sunday 11th November 2018. Looking for pipers to play Battle's O'er at 6 am that day at every city around the UK and channel islands. Gary to advise HQ which bands are most local to the cities in our area and leave them to take forward if appropriate.
- Enquiry received from a possible candidate for Branch Drumming Rep to the Music Board, and what the qualification criteria is. Gary to request clarification from HQ
- HQ requesting applications for 2015 dates and adjudicators required. Dates discussed under AOCB below

6. Treasurer's Report:

- Irene presented the accounts, contained in a separate confidential document

7. Music Board Report: (order changed from this meeting forward. Music Board Report will now precede the Director's Report)

- Bruce reported from the last Music Board Meeting on 20th September as follows:
 - Re-gradings, a large list. Only Branch band change was Dundee 6th/8th BB's who went from 3B to 3A,
 - Discussed World Solo Drumming proposal for pre-qualifications. This branch is not in favour of this.
 - Proposed changing World Solo Drumming to a 3 – 5 minute medley instead of jigs and hornpipes. No objections from this Branch.
 - Proposal to go forward to AGM to change registration notification period from 10 (working) days to 42 days (6 weeks). This is to allow Music Board etc to review transfers prior to agreeing them.
 - 2 Day Worlds discussion continues. Paul believes the consensus is to continue with the Friday/Saturday format. All stall-holders to be open both days. One suggestion was for the Grade 1 qualification selections to be drawn on the line on the Friday, and for the band to have to play their alternative sets in the final.
 - NJ proposed rule change to look at splitting NJ into two grades, similar to those of Grades 4B and 4A.
 - Proposal to hold 4B and 4A contests at minors. It was pointed out that it should be possible to request this as a local Branch rule permission from HQ, meaning that Grade 4B bands would be able to compete just in their own grade, playing up to 4A if they wish.

8. Director's Report:

- Paul reported as follows:
 - RSPBA held a Summer School in Glasgow. Suggestion from Board of Directors that branches may want to sponsor individuals from solo contests to attend Summer School. Last year's cost of summer school was £150 per week for individual. This Branch agrees in principle, and decided that this should be for the winners of the Grade 4 level junior contests in piping, side and tenor drumming.
 - Potential new site for RSPBA HQ has been identified. HQ are putting in a bid this week.
 - Bid tenders are going out currently for World Championships for 2016/17/18. Closing date will be February. After that the other majors will be put out to tender.
 - RSPBA conference call facilities being looked at to save time and money at meetings.
 - Child Protection Policy. Draft policy ready, quite small in itself, but bigger implementation document.
 - Feedback from Majors. Key point was Bathgate, no-one particularly happy with the arrangements, especially the access. Bathgate are looking at an alternative site (much larger) using Event Scotland funding to provide metal tracking for buses to park on grass.
 - Potential rule changes:
 - Registration audit trial took place at Dumbarton. Information from that trial to be released onto HQ website
 - Short-life working group set up to look at electronic registrations.



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- From next year it is likely there will be checks at all majors, including disqualification sanctions
- Electronic Registration format. Proposal stage only to bring forward registrations over a 5 year period, starting with new bands first.

9. Website Report:

- None. (No webmaster currently serving on the committee)

10. AOCB:

- Branch AGM appointments. New webmaster needed. New magazine rep potentially.
- Outreach. Good attendance on Sunday 21st September, 35 participants.
 - Some feedback received looking for drumming notes
 - Follow-up course would entail a small charge (no more than £10 per person)
- Branch Solos (15th November)
 - Eric Ward and Lynn Ward for drumming judges, no-one yet for piping.
 - Gary to contact potential piping adjudicators.
 - Gary to look at options for catering by PTA
- Dates for contests in 2015. Provisionally, these are:
 - Mini-bands on Sat 18th April. Unsure because trying not to clash with the Director's meeting or the BB's contest. Adjudicators would be 2 x piping, 1 x drumming
 - Loch Leven Saturday 9th May. 1 x piping, 1 x drumming, 1 x DM
 - BRITISH (Bathgate) Sat 30th May
 - Strathmore Sun 14th June. (day after Belfast)
 - EUROPEANS (Forres) Sat 27th June
 - SCOTTISH (Dumbarton) Sat 25th July
 - Perth Sunday 9th August (before the Worlds)
 - WORLDS Fri 14th and Sat 15th August
 - Crieff Sun 16th Aug: 1 x piping, 1 x drumming, 1 x DM
 - Pitlochry Sat 12th September
 - Branch Solos in 2015 could be Saturday 14th November
- Loch Leven Contest
 - Some bands have asked if possible to change the start time, because it is a long time to wait until prize giving. If we start later it would mean doing the Street March earlier, which would mean Street March would not start with sending the runners off at 1.00 pm. Nigel to consider and respond.
 - Programmes not working particularly well. (i.e. they don't pay for themselves and are a lot of work) Suggestion is to offer sponsorship logos in the competition arena
- Branch Levy. To be changed to a flat fee of £40 for all branch bands.

11. New Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Due By	Status *
Oct-A1	Advise HQ of Branch city band contact details for 2018 Armistice event	Gary	End 2014	New
Oct-A2	Request clarification from HQ of qualification criteria for potential Branch Music Board Drumming Rep	Gary	Nov 14	New
Oct-A3	Contact potential piping adjudicators for Branch Solos	Gary	Nov 14	New
Oct-A4	Contact Craigie High School PTA for possible catering at Solos	Gary	Nov 14	New
Oct-A5	Discuss new advertising format and potential street march change with road runners for Loch Leven contest	Nigel	End 2014	New

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

12. Next Branch Meeting: **Sun 7th December**, 6.30 for 7.00 pm start. Also the AGM will be **Sunday 2nd November**.