



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

Minutes from Branch Meeting Sunday 17th April 2011 in Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman:

Paul opened the meeting at 7.25 pm and welcomed everyone.

Present were Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Nigel Kellett, Irene Black, Barbara Stronach, Neil Myles, Bruce Cargill, Gillie McNab, Scott Phillips, Teresa Walker

2. Apologies:

Jim Mills, Isobel MacKay

3. Minutes from last meeting:

- No specific issues.
- Agreed to swap this section with the "Matters Arising" section in future agendas.

Approved: Barbara

Seconded: Bruce

4. Matters Arising:

- Reviewed all outstanding actions from the last meeting as follows:

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Due By	Status *
Feb-A1	Bruce to propose alternate Medley and MSR playing through Championships at next Music Board meeting	Bruce	April	Closed. This will not be happening. Many of the bands like playing the same format as the Worlds at the event leading up to it
Feb-A2	Re: Dec-A1. If this competition goes ahead, the Branch will consider donating a trophy in Rankin McWilliam's memory.	Paul	April	Closed. Still to be officially confirmed, but there will be a Grade 4A MSR competition, and prize money. Trophy decision also agreed at this meeting, see action at end
Feb-A8	Gary to continue to work with Angus council to see if some subsidies can be provided towards the cost of hiring the Academy	Gary	April	Outstanding. Letter back from Angus council requiring clarification on a couple of points. Discussed the draft response back from Gary which he will send this week.
Mar-A1	Mini-Bands: Gary to contact Kath McAndrew for catering during the Mini-Bands event	Gary	April	Closed. Paul confirmed with Kath during the meeting that the catering on the day is in hand. Further discussion in these minutes.
Mar-A2	Mini Bands. Gary to send re-draft of application form to Barbara for review	Gary / Barbara	April	Closed
Mar-A3	Mini Bands. Nigel to print off some entry forms and send to L&B Mini-Bands and take to AD&G Mini-Bands.	Nigel	April	Closed
Mar-A4	Jim to organize a suitable response to Susan Jensen from Canada, looking for information on the old City of Dundee Prize Pipe Band.	Jim / Scott	April	Outstanding. Jim has discussed with band colleagues but hasn't managed to find anything out so far. Scott will also ask if anyone knows anything regarding the CoD Prize Pipe Band.
Mar-A5	Gary to contact local companies in Forfar to ask for anything that can be sold as part of the event catering	Gary	April	Outstanding. Gary has been talking to Strathmore Waters and Strathmore Foods. No answer yet, but should be forthcoming this week.
Mar-A6	Gary to write to all bands to remind them to carry Band registration cards and band prints at all contests, + make them aware of the rule changes (sections 3 & 6)	Gary	April	Closed.
Mar-A7	Gary to send new RSPBA logo to Nigel and Neil for amendment of Entry Form (Nigel) and update of website (Neil)	Gary Nigel Neil	April	Closed. Nigel commented that a high resolution version would be better. Bruce advised this can be lifted off the main website from the RSPBay pages.
Mar-A8	Paul to send compilers sheet to Nigel for potential modification to include Actual Grades when playing up	Paul / Nigel	April	Outstanding. Paul working on this. Irene and Paul to send Excel sheets on to Nigel for review and for pre-filling in the bands now drawn for the Mini-Band and Trios contest.
Mar-A9	Gary to contact all local branch competitions to forward Adjudicator's expenses to HQ.	Gary	April	Outstanding. Mostly done, still waiting for Forfar and Perth replies. Gary to chase for outstanding answers.



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- The Committee agreed to purchase a shield in Rankin's memory for donation to Crieff Highland Games for their new Grade 4A MSR competition and call it the "**Rankin McWilliam Memorial Shield**". Paul to action.
- Fund-raising websites. Neil reported that the websites mentioned at the last meeting have brought in a (very small) amount of money so far for Perth & District. So this is a funding option, but not one that is likely to be of serious use at this stage.
- **Mini-Bands and Trios contest**
 - The Draw was held during the meeting by randomly selecting bands in raffle style, and will now be published onto the Branch and main RSPBA sites. Nigel/Neil to action.
 - Barbara and Irene will do the compiling
 - Gillie will do the door and the raffle
 - Neil will assist with registration and stewarding
 - Paul and Bruce will manage the Main Hall doors with Davie Gibson and another helper (TBC) doing the running and holding behind the hall
 - Trios: Gary (Announcing and running)
 - Catering. Kath McAndrew and her friend will take care of this on the day. Gary will continue to try and get donations of drinks, food etc from local companies, then Paul will organize to purchase anything remaining from a cash and carry outlet, with City of Brechin Band prepared to buy anything left over after the event from the Branch at cost price.
 - Raffle. Gary to write to Branch bands asking if they can each provide one or more prizes for the raffle.

5. Correspondence:

- Crieff Pipe Band have requested affiliation documentation. This has been sent, but no further news at this stage.
- Offer of a donation of a CD and book, to be gratefully accepted. Suggested 20 copies would be very nice, one for each band taking part and one or two for the raffle. Gary to action.
- London & South England Branch informed the Branch of Colchester and Isle of Wight competitions. This has been noted but agreed that no further action is necessary as the contests already appear on the RSPBA calendar.
- Sandy Kemlo emailed about the Mary Kemp Memorial trophy – of which he was the first winner. Gary has already replied saying that this trophy is still competed today, but the other Under 21 contest that Sandy also won no longer takes place.
- Gary also informed the two Grade 1 bands that MSR will replace the Medley in their Mini-Bands contest, which suits them both better as this will also be the format at the Scottish Championship.

Treasurers Report:

[Confidential – available in separate document]

6. National Council Report:

- No report, next meeting not due until 7th May

7. Music Board Report:

Bruce reported a few key points as follows:

- 7 new candidates have been approved to go forward for the adjudicator course, as 7 judges are currently on age extension, one of whom will finish next year. Many of these judges will be attached.
- There was a big discussion on the 2 day World's event. No confirmed formats as yet, or even a definite confirmation that the 2 day event will happen for certain, but it looks likely.
- From 2012, Grade 4A Bands will play 2 x March, 2 x Strathspey, 2 x Reel
- Starting this year, after the first championship, Bands can be seeded, so their previous championship placings will affect which qualifier group they enter in later championships through the season – in order to have qualifiers of even quality
- Pipe Band Studies will be operational from Jan 2012. Tutor and assessor training Q4/2011. 16 days in total, split into modules. (Note: PBS is a more advanced course than PDQB previously discussed)
- Oban were promoted recently from Grade 3B to 3A as they have recently signed a number of players from higher grades.
- 20 sets of gradings were completed (many of them non-UK bands) in the first quarter of this year.

8. AOCB:

- Website promotion of band events. All agreed that branch band events can be publicized on the website. Neil to action and then Gary to write to all Bands to let them know this is a useful additional way of promoting their own band events.
- Paul threw in the idea of a branch championship involving all the branch contests, in which at the last contest of the season (Pitlochry) a prize per grade will be awarded to the branch band having scored highest in all branch contests. All agreed that this is a good idea. To be explored for application from next season onwards.



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9. Action Items

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Mar-A9	Gary to contact all local branch competitions to forward Adjudicator's expenses to HQ.	Gary	April	Outstanding. Mostly done, still waiting for Forfar and Perth replies. Gary to chase for outstanding answers.
Apr-A1	Purchase the "Rankin McWilliam Memorial Shield" and donate to Crieff for their new Grade 4A MSR contest.	Paul	August	New
Apr-A2	Post the Mini-Bands and Trios draw onto the main and branch websites	Nigel / Neil	April	New
Apr-A3	Write to accept the offer of a donation of CD/Book to all competing bands at the Mini-Bands contest + copies for raffle	Gary	April	New
Apr-A4	Write to branch bands asking them all to donate one or more raffle prizes for the Mini-Bands and Trios contest	Gary	April	New
Apr-A5	Create a "What's happening – Branch Bands" section on the website, possibly even on the front page, and promote this to all the bands	Neil / Gary	May	New
Apr-A6	Review what is needed to implement the Branch Championship contest from next season onwards	ALL	September	New

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

10. Next meeting:
Sunday 4th September 2011 at 7.00 pm (Note: Please aim to arrive at 6.30)

Paul closed the meeting at 9.40 pm