



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

Minutes from Branch Meeting No 11 Sunday 12th March 2017 in the Glencarse Village Hall

1. Chairman's welcome:

Paul welcomed all those present and opened the meeting at 7.10pm; new faces welcomed.

2. Presence and Apologies:

Present: Paul McAndrew, Gary Mair, Ali Bryce, Bruce Cargill, Kenny Traill, Andrew Keatings, Gillie McNab, Grant Pirrie, Joyce Pirrie, Andrew Downie, Ian Hughes, Irene Black, Nicola Liddell

Apologies: Jim Mills, Owen Sweeney, Judith Connon (Kinross & District), Jim Clark (Queen Victoria School), Craig Stewart (Dollar Academy), Dawn Waddell (City of St Andrews), Morag McKenzie (Arbroath), Stewart Findlay, Paul Winter

3. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting:

Actions from minutes in December 2015

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Dec-A1	Gary Mair to review wording of potential introduction of rules in line with comments received from Perth & District. OPEN – Draft rules circulated by GM 30.11.16. Discussion to be rolled forward. 12.3.17 update – insufficient time to discuss at previous meeting so rolled forward.	Gary	Paul McAndrew summarised Constitution states rules to be available on website; once adopted this will be available online. Proposed by Bruce Cargill, seconded by Gillie McNab. CLOSED.

Actions from minutes in February 2016

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Feb-A1	Education event – Workshop hosted by Vale of Atholl / venue Craigie HS TBC. Potential education events. All to take back to their own bands to discuss what they want to see. Suggested P/M and L/D event at end of season, followed by event for all levels early next year. 4.12.16 – Paul advised this had been delegated to Fiona McKay; expected to run on a Sunday in February. Dundee venue being considered / need to ensure availability of school (free venue). 6.11.16 Update – Paul in communication now with Fiona McKay about running a workshop. 12.2.17 OPEN. Workshop put back from February to October 2017 (more beneficial) - targeted at players as well as Lead Drummers / PM's for putting sets together. Bruce Cargill referred to new document made available on HQ website which will provide guidance on selecting prescribed tunes.	ALL	CLOSED – may revisit.

Actions from minutes in October 2016

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Oct-A10	Concert formation agreed for 2017 indoor contests. Action Gary Mair to produce visual layout as per outline below to avoid any confusion (to show stage / viewing public in front of adjudicators / semi-circle with drummers behind). 12.2.17 – OPEN	Gary	CLOSED. Visual layout proposal provided by GM and will be circulated to all Branch bands. Board stipulation for every band to play in same formation (PM's in same spot also). Document to be uploaded to website.



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Actions from Interim meeting held on 6th November 2016

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Nov-A1	Branch levy arrears - Nicola to query with Jason if outstanding levy arrears could be automatically added. Branch membership - currently if 3 years have lapsed, and the band does not intend to compete at RSPBA events it is their choice effectively to not pay the branch levy (the band may wish to rejoin at year 4 or 5, and the branch levy for that particular year will apply). If however, a band returns within the 3 years of non-payment; arrears will apply and be backdated accordingly. Approved by Ally Bryce, seconded by Bruce Cargill. 12.2.17 – OPEN. 12.3.17 update – Jason quoted £40/£50 one-off fee for work required. Annual site maintenance bill due March (£180) could be added to this.	Nicola	CLOSED. All in favour of proceeding; go ahead to be given to Jason Lafferty.

Actions from minutes in December 2016

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Dec-AA1	Development of Branch education pack. Vale of Atholl books being used in schools – Gary Mair to approach Gillie McNab to gain access to these. 12.3.17 – GM has emailed F McKay; awaiting response.	Gary Gillie	OPEN
Dec-AA3	Perth Games (13 th August 2017) – awaiting confirmation if event will go ahead as a contest or with guest bands only. Gary Mair to approach new Games Secretary to seek clarification; everyone keen to see this contest remain. 12.2.17 – Paul McAndrew noted the 2018 event due to fall on the day before the Worlds. 12.3.17 – Gary Mair has submitted online enquiry to Games website; awaiting response. Ali Bryce advised of recent meeting outlining proposal to run similar event to last year (without competition but with inclusion of foreign bands) to take place on South Inch.	Gary	OPEN
Dec-AA4	Inclusion of additional column on branch contest spreadsheet to include Major results for comparison exercise. Action Gary Mair to progress spreadsheet update and do a measurement for this year's results.	Gary	OPEN

Actions from minutes in February 2017

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Feb-A1	World Solo Drumming 2016 costs – following Paul McAndrew's approach to Chief Exec; Gary Mair to write letter to Finance Convener to request financial assistance for this aspect of the November 2016 contest. 12.3.17 – Paul McAndrew confirmed decision at Board meeting of £180/£190 to be reimbursed.	Paul Gary	CLOSED
Feb-A1 (cont'd)	12.3.17 – Paul McAndrew to follow-up payment from Paul Brown.		OPEN



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Feb-A2	Irene Black to advise Gary of costs incurred for solo drumming part only (with intention to try and recoup flight costs etc).	Irene	CLOSED
Feb-A3	Irene Black to confirm amount of cheque anticipated from Paul Brown and advise Paul McAndrew accordingly.	Irene	CLOSED
Feb-A4	Gary Mair to send follow-up email to Jerry Randalls to advise specific Angus bands with members in schools. 12.3.17 – Gary Mair confirmed links to Branch bands were provided; Jerry Randalls has further requested names of children attending Angus-based bands. Due to confidentiality and privacy issues, it was agreed names of bands could be offered but not names of individuals. Gary Mair to confirm Angus Branch bands of McKenzie Caledonian, Carnoustie, Brechin, Arbroath, 6/8 Dundee Boys Brigade, City of Discovery and include Coupar Angus PB, to request if they have children in the band attending Angus schools.	Gary	OPEN.
Feb-A5	Gary Mair to email Jerry Randalls to request more information on format of drumming initiative as well as conversion/success rates. 12.3.17 – Response advised of “18 pupils attending Arbroath PB after school (chanter, pad, tenor). Project started 20.10.16 with a mix of P3-7. A few pupils have shown interest in joining the band but don’t think anyone has joined as yet”. It was further noted lessons are provided on a weekly basis with Joe Fleming.	Gary	CLOSED
Feb-A6	Pitlochry levy not given – action Gary Mair to contact HQ and ascertain contract details. 12.3.17 – Paul McAndrew advised levy was not included in the contract (Branch did not receive a copy of the contract).	Gary	CLOSED
Feb-A7	Queen Victoria School, Dunblane Pipe Band details to be loaded to website.	Gary Nicola	CLOSED
Feb-A8	AGM on 11 th March 2017 – all bands encouraged to vote or vote by proxy if unable to attend in person.	ALL	CLOSED
Feb-A9	2017 Adjudicators – 4 requested for contests (including Dundee and Crieff) however only 2 allocated. Gary Mair to write letter to RSPBA and include copy of original request. It was highlighted that 14 new adjudicators are coming through for this season. Discussion on rule adopted last year for solos whereby adjudicators with connections to competitors are not permitted to judge; query raised on why not in place for Majors.	Gary	CLOSED
Feb-A9 (cont'd)	12.3.17 – Gary Mair has emailed HQ; still to add 2 extra adjudicators for Crieff and Dundee. GM to follow-up in due course.		OPEN
Feb-A10	RSPBA prescribed MAP tunes – reminder new suggestions are welcomed and will be considered by the Music Board for inclusion on the playlist. It was noted prescribed tunes are a guideline and can be customised. Bands can ask to be regraded at any time and don’t have to win a Major before doing so.	All	CLOSED
Feb-A11	Communication to members – info to be distributed to members to include: reminder of change in personnel details to be flagged to HQ, update on list of contests, reminder of fees due, request to submit gallery images for web pages. Issued on 13.2.17.	Gary	CLOSED
Feb-A12	Gary Mair to write to Pat Whelan re. SQA workshops running in DPA branch and establish required format. 12.3 – see education.	Gary	CLOSED



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Feb-A13	Gary Mair to approach Peter Hazzard (phazzard56@gmail.com) to request possibility of reviewing images photographed during last season and uplift relevant Branch shots. 12.3.17 – Gary Mair emailed and has spoken with Peter Hazzard; confirmation received this can be done. Images are split by Majors on website and appear to be numbered – Branch representative can select images required / P Hazzard can liaise with Jason Lafferty. 2-3 hours work for a volunteer to review images.	Gary	OPEN
Feb-A14	Strathmore Quartets – Gary Mair to follow up with Charlie Murray regarding trophies and agree format. 12.3.17 – Charlie Murray has requested if Branch are prepared to assist in provision of trophy/trophies for Quartet competition. Confirmation that trophies are available and decision to source 1 st and 2 nd place awards; action Gary Mair. Paul McAndrew confirmed crit sheets are not required nor breakdown of results – ask adjudicators for placings only. Action Gary Mair to issue additional rules. Agreement for Quartet competition to take place in same area as main band competition.	Gary	OPEN

Further matters arising:

- It was reported the Miniband trophy (for Dundee) is warped and causing issue for engraving; significant risk of breaking if attempt is made to straighten. Action Gary Mair to obtain trophy from Andrew Downie with a view to sourcing unused shield and have prizewinner names transposed on reverse side / or attempt to straighten.

4. Approval of previous minutes

CORRECTION – Item Dec-AA3 ref. Perth Games event “due to fall on the day before the Worlds”. This should read due to fall the week before the Worlds” and not day. Note: Worlds event takes place 17th + 18th August 2018. Perth Games are typically 2nd Sunday in August which would make this Saturday 11th August, the week before.

Approved: Bruce Cargill, **Seconded:** Kenny Traill

5. Correspondence:

- Email received from Pat Whelan, Education Officer (RSPBA HQ) regarding sponsorship at this year’s Summer School (31st July to 4th August). Gary Mair confirms 3 Branch candidates are; Piping – Fraser Robson (MacKenzie Caledonian Novice Juvenile) / Snare – Tommi McAndrew (MacKenzie Caledonian Novice Juvenile) / Tenor – Mathew Hunter (6th/8th Dundee Boys Brigade). Entry states candidates should be >10 years; should there be a particularly young winner it was recommended this should be checked out with HQ.
- Annual maintenance invoice received on 24.2.17 from Jason Lafferty, Scotia Web Design. Irene Black has confirmed payment of £200 has been settled.
- Dundee Contest (14th May 2017) – Gary Mair confirmed a meeting had taken place with Sarah Craig, Dundee City Council. GM has emailed the High School of Dundee to request use of grounds for setting off and parking; awaiting response. GM confirms an email has been sent to an electrical company for providing power in City Square; awaiting response. Discussion took place on sourcing tents (with a view to using weights from Council to secure down); Gary Mair to discuss with Alec Dalziel at meeting on 1.4.17. Nicola Liddell to approach Alistair Duthie for potential TA contacts to source larger tents. Paul McAndrew highlighted fencing would be required (not benches) – Ali Bryce to provide contact details of Glenfarg fencing company with a view to sponsorship agreement or nominal fee (Gary Mair who has dimensions of City Square). It was proposed at least 3 stewards are required. Sponsorship - Paul McAndrew advised DD1 business group would be approached (Gary Mair to approach Café also). Farmers market stall holders expected at no fee (normally £250). Underground parking for officials not available; parking expected on grounds of Dundee HS. Action GM to approach Common Good fund to ascertain status (an estimated £2,000 was anticipated to be allocated).



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6. Treasurer's Report:

- Irene presented the accounts, contained in a separate (confidential) document
- It was noted that some Bands have outstanding fees for this year's subs.
- Agreement for no charge on Trio entries; Irene Black to manually refund Carnoustie.

7. Music Board Report: Bruce reported as follows -

- No music board meeting since last Branch meeting.
- New 42 day rule from high to low transfers passed at the RSPBA AGM held on 11.3.17.
- AGM notification also that highest grade played in over last 5 years will be introduced on form (which may alter grading however offers RSPBA full control). New form introduced and home Association will be required to sign off; new adjudicators to sign off also.
- Reiteration of any new music which fits in can be submitted now for review within next 6-8 weeks for 2018.

8. Director's Report: Paul reported as follows -

- Other key rule changes were summarised;
 - Education Management Group – formalised there will now be 2 with facility to get on/off Group.
 - Dual registration (rule change based around schools and issues playing with "same organisation"), Paul McAndrew noted players can't play same band on same day so covered off technically. Registration for members is with your highest grade band; need to be aware of rule when bands playing up in minor contests (disallowed for novice playing up to juvenile).
 - Consultative extension – passed through strongly at AGM; pilot for 1 year (extending thereafter). Further discussion ensued regarding what training/guidance is provided to adjudicators.
- Paul McAndrew highlighted the facility exists for bands to invite assistance/guidance from adjudicators during lead-up to competing season; Jennifer Hutchin (Bridge of Eam), Paul Turner (Burrelton), Jim Semple (Kirriemuir). November period recommended when there is time to act on advice given. Action Paul McAndrew to provide contact details for judges (split by discipline for drumming / piping / ensemble).

Bruce Cargill noted a document is available on HQ website offering guidance to MAP tunes (the document outlines what different tunes do, looking at what note tunes end/begin on). Consideration to be given on circulating to Branch to assist in tune selection for next season.

- AGM – 41 votes available; 12 of them were Branch bands which carried a lot of the weight. Paul McAndrew noted Directors were assigned to new allocations / education specific FAO P McAndrew.

9. Education

- Paul McAndrew summarised Outreach programme / SQA qualifications discussed at length during previous education meeting; decision to run full education events for 2017 and outline of programme reiterated. Available for all ages and all abilities. Tenor / Base receive PDQB qualification rather than SQF. Firm commitment this course will go ahead regardless of numbers -
 - Event 1 / Day 1 – PM's, Leading Drummers + tutors; Dundee/Forfar location combined with Northern Branch
 - Event 2 (Saturday/Sunday) – Bring yourself and pupils along; teams will assess levels (venue Lochgelly TBC)
 - Event 3 (4 weeks later) – prelim format (possible crossover venue at Dundee solo competition)
 - Event 4 – final day examsIt was noted RSPBA would cover all costs with exception of venue and final exam cost (estimated at £20pp). Criteria available on PDQB website and full information on dates and locations available within next month. Action Paul McAndrew and Gary Mair to finalise.

10. Media Report:

- **Branch Website:** Nicola Liddell reported as follows -
Jason Lafferty, Scotia Web Design - Future billing noted as September 2017, £70 (12 month SSL renewal) and February 2018 £385 total (24 months domain, 24 months hosting, 12 months maintenance).



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- **RSPBA Magazine:** no update
- **Branch Facebook page:** In Stewart Findlay's absence, an email update was submitted as follows - Branch Facebook page currently has 897 followers and is being used to share band photos, local events and band news. If anyone has anything they would like shared, please email Stewart /share via Facebook.

11. AOCB:

- Paul McAndrew noted serious fire at HQ building.
- Band Secretaries will have facility to check registrations online at the end of this year.
- Gary Mair raised query on 2 versions of logo; Paul McAndrew confirmed both valid (corporate / association).
- Amendment made to visual layout for competition formation; GM to update order (from left to right) of side drummer – tenor – base.
- Irene Black confirmed adjudicators for Minibands (April) as: Tam Brown (piping) / Paul Turner (ensemble) / Lee Innes (Drumming) / Peter Snaddon (Trio).
- Gillie McNab flagged competition entry fee to be changed to show no charge for children. N Liddell to amend.
- Pitlochry MOD (June 2017); entries to be submitted by 31.3.17. Gillie McNab to forward details.
- Strathmore competition; Gary Mair confirmed meeting this week and entry forms to follow thereafter.
- Paul McAndrew highlighted that only a few bands had registered for competitions.

12. New Action Items

Mtg-Act	Action	Owner	Status *
Mar-A1	Dundee Miniband trophy – Gary Mair to obtain from Andrew Downie with a view to sourcing unused shield and have prizewinner names transposed on reverse side / or attempt to straighten.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A2	Dundee Contest (14 th May 2017) summary of actions – High School of Dundee approached re. parking; awaiting response	GM	OPEN
Mar-A3	Email approach made to electrical company; awaiting response.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A4	Sourcing of weights (for tents) from Council; approach to be made.	PMcA	OPEN
Mar-A5	Source of a TA contact from Alistair Duthie (Perth & District PB).	NL	OPEN
Mar-A6	Glenfarg fencing company to be approached re. sponsorship. Ali Bryce to provide contact information.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A7	Stewarding to be arranged.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A8	DD1 sponsorship update and Café to be approached.	PMcA GM	OPEN
Mar-A9	Gary Mair to approach Common Good Fund and ascertain status.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A10	Irene Black to manually refund Carnoustie Trio overpayment.	IB	OPEN
Mar-A11	Provide contact details for judges specific to discipline.	PMcA	OPEN
Mar-A12	Consideration to circulate MAP guidance document to Branch.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A13	Paul McAndrew and Gary Mair to finalise SQA qualifications programme.	PMcA GM	OPEN
Mar-A14	Gary Mair to update competition formation visual layout.	GM	OPEN
Mar-A15	Nicola Liddell to alter competition entry fee for children to go free as per Gillie McNab instruction.	NL	OPEN
Mar-A16	Pitlochry MOD (June 2017); Gillie McNab to forward details.	GMcN	OPEN
Mar-A17	Strathmore competition – Gary Mair to forward entry forms for web.	GM	OPEN

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



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13. Next Branch Meeting Date(s):

Next meeting to take place on 30th April 2017. The next meetings thereafter for 2017 will be held on:

8th October 2017, AGM 5th November 2017 and 3rd December 2017. The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

NOTE

Following the close of the meeting; Paul McAndrew flagged a potential issue with Directors confirming 6 would be present at UK Championships in Belfast (2 in each ring). PMcA noted HQ would look to utilise Association Directors within the Branch as a potential training opportunity. In addition, anyone interested in Stewarding is asked to let Paul McAndrew know. Compilers also required.

UNAPPROVED