



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM 9th February 2014 at Padgate Community Centre.

A quorum **was NOT** attained within one half hour after the 13:00 (1PM) start time of the meeting {rule 14.1 Five Band Representatives entitled to vote shall form a quorum at Branch Meetings}.

Present Officials

- P Brown Secretary
- J Thomson Chairman
- C Eyre President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- P Brown Director RSPBA
- T Brown Music Board representative

Welcome

Apologies were received from:-

- City of Liverpool

Bands in attendance:-

- Warrington
- Wirral
- Greater Manchester ACF
- Manchester Phoenix

Bands not in attendance:-

- Oldham Scottish
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service -2003
- Scots Guards Association Manchester
- Bolton Caledonia
- Black Thistle
- Chorley
- West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service.
- City of Preston

The Chairman welcomed those attending.

Those attending had a brief discussion over coffee. No Branch matters could be ratified as once again no quorum was available.

- Please review the AGM/GM minutes of the 8th December 2013 and bring any corrections and matters arising to the next meeting on the 30th March 2014.

- The Branch Constitution & Standing Orders needs to be updated to reflect the Company Changes in the RSPBA, and at the same time we may need to review the number of bands that make up the Quorum. Document to be updated and will need to be agreed at the next AGM to take effect.
- Solo Competitions: The branch thanks Chris for his administration and the running of the Solo events. We also thank Oldham Scottish for the venue. The competitions were good events for both Adjudicators and Competitors. There was a complaint over noise (inappropriate heckling) at the venue.
- Finance: The combination of entry fees and raffle income on both days of the Solo events has covered the costs of running the events. Chris also received a donation and a request to name some of the Trophies to be issued at future events.
- The entries for the Trios on the 2nd March look to be respectable and the Adjudicator is lined up and keen to support the day.
- Adrian Dunn has agreed to run a Drum Majors workshop on the 29th March 2014. The day is to be for beginners, how to hold the mace, marching and giving commands. On the day there will be a raffle. Entry is free. Lunch is available for £5. The day is open to all.
- Music Board: Summer School advert will be out soon; 20th to 25th July £160 under 16 and £190 for over 16s; Other branches to host Easter and Autumn events watch the RSPBA web site for details. The MB is also producing a procedures document on the grading applications and appeals process. There is also a proposal to split the Novice grades at major championships. Chris Armstrong has joined the MB. Proposal to limit registrations of a band has moved to be considering limiting the max size of a band that can cross the line.
- The Midlands Branch Indoor Mini Bands 23th March 2014.
- Directors Update: Investigations are ongoing into how to distribute the digitised training material (RSPBA Manuals). Note paper copies still available for purchase. The subject of registration is being discussed; band vs individual; tracking individual movements; picture ID cards etc. Just an open review of what is required and how best to implement. Standing Orders: Only one Competition Format – pipes down at the line to be optional: Expand the Adjudicators Panel representation on the Management Board; Include the Education Officers remit in the Music Board; the remainder are tidy up rules. Full details will be in the Order Papers issued to the Band Secretaries.
- AOCB 1) Advertisement of equipment for sale; can be placed on branch and RSPBA web sites. 2) Bathgate due to bridges; can bands tune up after crossing the bridge or is playing up to the line allowed (Director to progress)
- We are waiting for formal allocation of the adjudicators for the competitions. Paul and Theresa will organise the travel arrangements for the Mini Bands with the Adjudicators. Drum Salute - possible prize fund to encourage entries.
- Trophies to be returned; Chris advised we have enough trophies and medals.
- Trios 2nd March at Oldham, judge is Harry Stephenson
- Quartets, Mini Bands and Drum Salute 12th April at Birkenhead - judges David Clarke and David Brown

Next Meeting 30th March 2014 @ 13:00

Closed @ 14:30.

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Branch