



RSPBA North West England Branch

GM on the 14th October 2012 at Padgate Community Centre.

A quorum **was** 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}.

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

Apologies were received from:-
Manchester Phoenix Pipe Band
Chorley Pipe Band

Bands in attendance:-
City of Sheffield Pipe Band
Warrington Pipe Band 2004
Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force Pipe Band
Wirral Pipe Band
Bolton Caledonian Pipe Band
Black Thistle Pipe Band

Details

Please note the dates and locations for the 2013 Major Championships are as follows:

British - May 25th at Bathgate
European - June 29th at Forres
Scottish - July 27th at Dumbarton
Worlds - August 17th/18th at Glasgow
Cowal - August 31st at Dunoon

Ian Embelton
Chief Executive



Welcome

The representatives of the bands in the branch were welcomed by Jeff Thomson, the branch chairman to the General Meeting at Padgate. There was a slight delay while a quorum was achieved.

Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the 9th September 2012 were accepted.
Prop: Warrington Pipe Band.
Sec: Black Thistle Pipe Band
Accepted: Unanimous.

The Branch

We do need active support from the member bands. There are currently 13 bands in the branch, and we need to retain this number to retain branch representation at headquarters.

The AGM is to be held on the 2nd December 2012. A letter has been sent to notify the RSPBA of the venue and date, and asking if the Chairman or the CEO are planning to attend.

The post of Secretary is open for nominations to involve others on the branch committee. The post of Treasurer is due for ratification/renewal this year. All other posts remain filled until the 2013 AGM.

Treasurers Report

No change since last month, the branch funds are currently £2,233.52. A Profit / Loss statement are to be produced and sent to Headquarters before the AGM.

The branch levy to remain £40:00 per band in 2012-13.

Prop: Black Thistle Pipe Band

Sec: Wirral Pipe Band

Accepted: Unanimous.

Directors Report

The first directors meeting after the season took place on the 13th October.

The movement of bands between grades is available on the RSPBA Web Site. The key areas of interest for the branch are Manchester Phoenix have been moved to 4A on standards, but they are believed to have written to request a move to 3B based on transfers from West Midlands Police.

Worlds 2012: Grade 4B are to play and be adjudicated in accordance with MAP. The playing requirements are 4 x 2 parted marches from the approved list, to be played in the heats as well as the final.

Please remember the playing requirements; there is no discretion for playing over / under time. Difficult for officials when events are filmed on video, phones etc. The rules must be applied in equal measure to all.

Please consider any rule changes that you feel need to be proposed before the December Director's meeting.

Music Board

The Education Officer and the Music Board are actively looking at education. The branch decided to request a training day on Grade 4 MAP and MSR, on one of the following dates 25th Nov, 15th Dec, 6th Jan or 13th Jan.

Branches are running various training initiatives. If Bands or Individuals require a PDQB assessment (Piping) contact Theresa. Theresa is currently in contact with the Bolton

Caledonian and Oldham Scottish Pipe Bands who have requested information. Possible exam day in January.

The drumming practical standards for L1 and L2 are high. The workshop last year with Adrian Hoy was an extremely valuable day. It is proposed we explore having another day possibly including Bass and Tenor, as well as Drum Majors.

2013 Branch Competitions.

Bands to come forward with Dates and Venues

1. Looking at a weekend in Feb for the Solo Piping and Solo Drumming (Snare and Tenor). Need to ask if Oldham Scottish Pipe Band could provide the venue again. City of Sheffield Pipe Band also looking at venue availability.
2. Trio Piping on 24 March. The Greater Manchester ACF are to see if we could use the venue used last year at Bury.
3. Minibands /Quartets/ Open Drumming 14th **April 2013** at Birkenhead to avoid the Grand National. The venue has been booked, now confirming the adjudicators.

The bands have no preference on adjudicators but would like different adjudicators at the trios and minibands. Theresa and Chris are to contact several adjudicators.

AOCB

The Bolton band is to be registered as Bolton Caledonian Pipe Band, following a merger of two bands.

The meeting closed at 14:22. Next Meeting 18th November (then the AGM 2nd December 2012).

P L Brown
Minutes Secretary