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RSPBA North England Branch North West England Section

GM 5th January 2020 at Padgate Community Centre.

Present Officials

- P Brown Section Secretary
- C Eyre Section President, Treasurer & Webmaster
- K Thacker Section Chairman
- T Brown Branch Music Board representative

Bands in attendance: -

- Warrington
- Wirral
- Manchester Phoenix
- City of Manchester Pipe Band

A quorum was present, and the meeting started at 13:00

Opening

The Chairman welcomed all those present to first meeting of 2020, wishing all those present and all the Bands in the Section a Happy New Year.

The AGM Minutes of the 1st December 2019 were circulated and placed on the Section Web Site. The minutes were accepted in full on a:

Proposal by Warrington

Seconded by Wirral

All others were like minded.

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All others were like minded.

Treasurers Report

There has been little movement on the section account given the balance update of £2291.69, the changes have been Levy payments and hall hire.

The purchase of medals for the Indoor contests circa £200 was approved on a proposal from the Competition Secretary
 Seconded by Manchester Phoenix

Directors Report

The association has moved back into 45 Washington Street. Meetings of the Directors and Sub-Committees are now using these facilities.

2020 is the 90th Anniversary of the Association as yet no commemorative initiatives have been tabled.

Articles of Association Review is progressing, the final details to be included in the order paper will be agreed at the Directors Meeting on the 1st February 2020.

Music Board Report

The next MB meeting is scheduled for the 10th January 2020.

The Grade Realignment Project will not be progressing any further based on feedback received from the Branches.

2020 Playing Requirements

Contest Date	Closing Date / Draw	Contest Info Bus Forms	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade Juv	Grade Nov A / 4A	Grade Nov B / 4B
23 May British Championships Paisley	TBC Draw: 11:00 TBC	Awaiting Contest Information	Medley (5-7 mins) (Submit 2)	MSR (Submit 2)	Medley (3-5 mins)	MSR	Prescribed MSR: 1x4-parted March or 2x2-parted Marches 1x4-parted Strathspey or 2x2-parted Strathspey 1x4-parted Reel or 2x2-parted reel All tunes to be from RSPBA list of prescribed tunes.	Prescribed Marches: 4x2-parted Marches All tunes to be from RSPBA list of prescribed tunes.
13 June United Kingdom Championships Lurgan	TBC Draw: 11:00 TBC	Awaiting Contest Information	MSR (Submit 2)	Medley (4-6 mins)	MSR	Medley (3-5 mins)		
27 June European Championships Inverness	TBC Draw: 11:00 TBC	Awaiting Contest Information	Medley (5-7 mins) (Submit 2)	MSR (Submit 2)	Medley (3-5 mins)	MSR		
25 July Scottish Championships Dumbarton	TBC Draw: 11:00 TBC	Awaiting Contest Information	MSR (Submit 2)	Medley (4-6 mins)	MSR	Medley (3-5 mins)		
14 and 15th August World Championships Glasgow	TBC Draw: 11:00 TBC	Awaiting Contest Information	MSR (Submit 2) Medley (5-7 mins Submit 2)	Medley (4-6 mins) Submit 1 MSR (Submit 2)	MSR (Submit 1) Medley (3-5 mins Submit 1)	Medley (3-5 mins)		

2020 NEW Section Competitions / (and workshop).

The events are open to all branches, to increase the viability of the events and vary the competition. Within each section of the open competition, confined section results will also be announced. The entry forms are available on the NWE Website.

Venues continue to be sought, St Josephs, Birkenhead has been booked and will be the assumed venue until an alternative is agreed.

The proposed dates are:

- Saturday 15th February 2020: Solo Piping.
- Saturday 7th March 2020: Trio Piping.
- Saturday 25th April 2020: Solo Drumming, Drum Salute, Quartet Piping and Mini Bands

We have contacted Alvis Kerr for the Solo Piping and Cameron Edgar for the Trio Piping.

The section secretary has written to headquarters, with the dates so these can be put on the RSPBA Web Site, and to request the adjudicators be allocated to our events.

The Competition Secretary is arranging the transport (Rail) for the solo Piping adjudicator.

We have enough Piping and Drumming critique sheets for the events.

Revised entry forms are available on the Web Site.

The workshop discussion moved towards a need for a Full Band contest rather than our current Mini Band Format.

Previous Meeting Summary

A workshop / contest extension centred around obtaining feedback on a full band performance. It was felt getting just a set of critique sheets at the end of a long day might not be that beneficial.

The aim is to check / advise on the bands development, and as such it would be better to get adjudicator(s) to work with the band for a dedicated period. This would need to be worked up on a Band basis where premises (Padgate) could be booked and the costs / time be shared between those Bands wanting to participate. Paul to see if outreach would offset some of the cost, also look if the college "Pipe Band Musicianship" had something to offer.

It was agreed the competition secretary would poll the section bands to see what format they would support. The Section Secretary would also contact the other Branches / Sections to see if they hold an Open Full Band Indoor Contest which our bands could attend.

The hosting of our Solo Drumming and Mini Band Contest is only viable if we get the support of Bands.

From 2019 – still valid

Theresa (theresamacd@hotmail.com) and Chris (chris@eyrewaves.free-online.co.uk) have agreed to support bands training / education needs by passing on skills and knowledge to

teach piping and drumming basic skills, pointing individuals and bands in the right direction prior to going to the next step formal education through Headquarters.

Bands can then request formal training / dedicated time through the "Outreach Programme" and Pipe Band College assigned Instructors, subject to meeting the costs involved.

AOCB

Please bring Raffle prizes to the Solo Piping event – anything gratefully received.

Next Section GM meeting will be on the 23rd February 2020 @ 13:00

Closed @ 13:45

P L Brown
Secretary
NWE Section