

Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association - North of Scotland Branch
Branch Meeting - Saturday 5th March 2016, The Locker Room, Aberdeen

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all those in attendance & expressing his disappointment at a very poor attendance.

Present:

G Gauld
A Skinner
R Cameron
W Barclay
R Niven
L Niven
H Mackay
H Dallas - Granite City Pipes & Drums
C Fraser - Oldmeldrum RBL
D Fraser - Oldmeldrum RBL

1 - Apologies:

J Gibb
Northern Constabulary Community
RAF Lossiemouth
Fraserburgh RBL
Ross & Cromarty
Lathallan Schools
Wick
Ellon
Elgin
Portlethen
Dufftown
Kirkwall City
Dornoch
Towie
Turriff & Dist

2 - Matters arising from previous minutes

Indoors:

- Mixed messages re quartets. Letter sent out to bands resulted in 68 performances for quartets.
- Full Band Indoor Contest: Going ahead with full adjudicators panel. This will be a one year trial. As there is limited space for bands to perform and allow audience to see, the performance formation will be discussed and decided after quartets and bands advised.
- World Adult Solo Drumming Qualifying heat: This can be held in conjunction with normal confined Branch contest, with placings separate from Branch results. There is no minimum number of entries required for this. Proposed that we host a qualifying contest for 2016 and suggest that we could host one alternate years with Dundee, Perth & Angus Branch.

Outdoor Contests:

- Full panel of adjudicators for Banchory and Aberdeen Games. Mintlaw to remain with 2 adjudicators due to costs involved.

3 - Music Board / Board of Directors

No Music Board meeting to report from.

R Niven gave account of previous Directors meeting.

Trial for consultative adjudication going ahead for one more year. Discussion followed expressing concern that adjudicators can “confer” during the contest. On child protection - brief given on CPA offer given to Branches for assistance. R Niven proposed that this help be accepted and invite CPA to Branch meeting. B Grant seconded. Chairman’s view was that HQ develop/publish a policy document specifying what actions we need to take and responsibilities of individual bands. CPA to be used as a useful resource. HQ looking to employ part/time member of staff to concentrate on fund raising. Requested that the Grading Committee formation be explained. A new page to be set up on the RSPBA website for Branch Indoor and Solo contests. European Championships: 2 x trophies to be named in memory of David Urquhart and Ian Widdowson. G Gauld asked if the Branch could sponsor these trophies. A presentation on the Membership/Registration to be given by Vice-Chairman at the AGM.

4 - Education

Dates to be finalised & advised to bands on workshop weekend at the beginning of October. Likely to be held in Gordon Schools, Huntly, with a follow-up in February/March. To offset the costs, funds available from HQ to be applied for.

AOCB

-Website: Construction of the new Branch website in ongoing. A demonstration is to be set up with the Management Group to finalise everything before going “live”
- Discussion followed on procedure for change of rules. President suggested that procedure for AGM proposal not properly set out and reason for change not explained as per Articles of Association. To be queried by Directors at pre AGM meeting.
- As not all members receive hard copy of AGM Paper, a PDF copy should be made available for download from RSPBA website. Chairman asked directors to keep this in mind as great benefit to Branch bands as the single page document posted this year setting out motions was a step in the right direction.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.50pm