

**Scottish Brass Band Association**  
**Executive Committee Meeting No 5 – 22nd May 2011**  
**Howden Park Centre, Livingston**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The President opened the meeting by welcoming Peter Fraser back to the Committee. In the absence of the Minute Secretary on business, Julie Sanderson kindly agreed to take a note of the meeting, to be later transposed by the Minute Secretary.

**Present:**

George Burt (President), Peter Fraser (Vice President), Tom Allan (Secretary), Alan Edmond (Development Officer), Mark Bell, Carrie Boax, Robert Burns, Brian Deans, Angela Douglas, Nicola Douglas, John Gilmour, Richard Kidd, Damian Martin, Lynsey Paterson, Julie Sanderson, Andrew Smith, John Todd.

**Apologies:**

Jennifer Fox, Steven Gray, Robert McCorkell, Raymond Thomson (Minute Secretary).

**2. Minute of Executive Committee Meeting of 27th March 2011.**

Under Item 8, it was noted that tickets are priced £8/£6: the £5 ticket is only available to Bands if ordered prior to 1<sup>st</sup> November. With this minor alteration, the Minute was accepted as an accurate record, proposed by Brian Deans, and seconded by Andy Smith.

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Development Committee**

The Committee met on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May and will be a think tank for future development of banding. The Committee consists of all office-bearers with Alan McLaren as Convenor, augmented by others as appropriate.

**Re-formatted Rules**

This is on-going.

**Banding Year**

To be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

**External Liaison**

The UK BBA Summit has been postponed as it is encountering some resistance.

**Annual Census**

No update.

**SBBA Office**

No update.

### **Life Membership Criteria**

The office bearers had been advised that, by a possible extension of the Equal Rights Act, the current differences between men and women for eligibility for Life Membership might be open to legal challenge. The 40-year qualification for women had been introduced in the 1960s as a benefit to female players who were then joining bands for the first time and as a consequence had had less time to build up service, and who often had to interrupt playing in their band for child rearing responsibilities. The Committee, though they regretted any suggestion of a legal challenge, felt that the reasons for the difference were less relevant now, and agreed to standardise the age requirements on 50 years. Where a player had been unable to complete the 50 year requirement due to circumstances beyond their control, the Executive Committee would have the power to accept a shorter period, on a case by case basis. It was felt it would be unfair to make the change without notice, and agreed the following criteria would come into force in 12 months time, from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012:

“Life Membership may be awarded for 50 years continuous or cumulative service. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a lesser period because of exceptional circumstances may be considered”.

## **5. Financial Report**

### **Treasurer**

We urgently need a Treasurer. The post requires a few hours work per month. It has been suggested that we investigate engaging someone on a book-keeping basis.

### **Accounts**

The President distributed a brief summary of income and expenditure based on events: this will be updated for distribution to Executive members.

### **Grant Funding**

The President and Development Officer are to meet Creative Scotland with regard to the forthcoming application for Youth Music funding in 2012-2013. They will also push for infrastructure funding. A letter will be sent to Fiona Hyslop (the new Cabinet Minister for Culture) requesting her support for SBBA's ongoing development.

## **6. NYBBS**

Responsibility for the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland will pass to SBBA on 31 May 2011. It was suggested that NYBBS provide a representative to the main SBBA Executive, as well as youth representatives.

## **7. Area Associations**

### **Meeting**

A meeting will be held at the conclusion of the current Executive Meeting. The President and Development Officer are looking at ways to further develop these committees as they are crucial to the development Officer's role. Richard Kidd advised the meeting that the Northern Counties Association now has a full committee, of which he is President.

## **8. Education/Youth**

### **Education Committee**

The Convenor reported that 47 youth bands are due to receive information about the Youth Championships. The proposal on the programme of events was accepted. The Vice President has indicated that the Open Championships cannot commence later than 2.00pm, and the Convenor will enclose a letter explaining the reasons for the timings.

### **Disclosure System**

There are ongoing problems with the PVG form.

### **Youth Development Project**

The Development Officer distributed presented a very full written report, and congratulated all youth bands, especially Mike Robertson and Carnoustie and District Youth Band for achieving first place in the UK Youth Championships. Of special interest was his attendance at this year's European Championships in Montreux as the SBBA Delegate and also as the President of the EBBA Music Commission. This was a lengthy appointment of 10 days which allowed a unique and useful insight into the internal workings of EBBA at this major contest.

## **9. Publicity and Communications**

### **Website**

This will be further developed by the inclusion of a database of bands. Julie Sanderson (the new webmaster) will have discussions with the Vice President. Brian Deans asked if the website could have an Associations Area, and was advised that this was in hand. Bands are to be advised to use links from contacts for emails, and not to use the ....@sbba.org.uk addresses. A meeting with Paul Hindmarsh will be organised to discuss the promotion of banding to the general public..

## **10. Events**

### **West Lothian Festival**

There are no problems, although one band has a potential issue with the final and has requested the use of a medical certificate to cover a possible hospital stay. The use of a 5<sup>th</sup> guest in this circumstance will be permitted. The secretary will communicate this decision to the band concerned. If bands wish to rehearse in the venue on the day, they have been informed that this must be advised by 20<sup>th</sup> May. For clarification, the top six bands (as per the Scottish Grading Table) are invited in December. Richard Kidd questioned the wording of the invitation and this will be discussed with the organising committee.

### **2011 Scottish Open and Scottish Shield**

#### **Scottish Open**

17 bands have been invited to the Scottish Open, and the adjudicators are John Wallace, Bob Childs and Philip Sparke.

#### **Scottish Shield**

16 bands have been invited to the Scottish Shield (top four from each section) in the Bonnar Hall, University of Dundee, on Saturday 3 December. Carrie Boax will be the Contest Controller. It will cost £1000 to hire the hall. Adjudicators have still to be appointed. The Events Committee will look at costings.

### **2012 Scottish Championships**

Adjudicators are being approached. It was noted that credential forms are possibly outdated. Players' tickets will be issued on the day.

### **2014 European Championships**

Fiona Hyslop will be approached for support from the government. It was agreed that the current practice of going to the next available band, in the event that the first or second in the Scottish Championships decline to participate, was not satisfactory. A and a policy regarding Scotland's representation at these Championships will be created.

### **Contest Dates / Events Calendar**

- FCBA will be held on Saturday 8 October in Kirkcaldy.
- WSBA Solo Competition will be held on Saturday 29 October (tbc).

## **11. Registration**

Nothing to report. The new registration system is in progress.

## **12. AOB**

### **Life Membership**

This will be conferred on Ann Ness of Arbroath and John Gilmour of Queensferry.

### **Banding Year**

The possibility of changing the Banding Year will be discussed at the next meeting, following consideration by the development Committee.

### **Perth 2012**

Nomenclature will return to "Scottish Open" and "Scottish Youth Brass Band Championship" instead of "Festival of Brass".

### **AGM**

The keynote speaker will be Iwan Fox of 4bar rest.com

## **13. Dates and Venues of Future Meetings**

26 June, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

14 August, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

2 October, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

22 October, AGM, at the Howden Centre, Livingston

**Raymond A Thomson, Minute Secretary**

**5 June 2011**