

**Scottish Brass Band Association
Area Associations Meeting – 22nd May 2011
Howden Park Centre, Livingston**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present:

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

Apologies:

Jennifer Fox, Steven Gray, Robert McCorkell, Raymond Thomson.

2. Area Reports

Fife (John Todd and Lynsey Paterson)

- Bill Sandell has replaced John Muir as Chair;
- Jayne Allan has resigned as Treasurer;
- The AGM will be held on Sunday 29 May;
- Committee to consist of office-bearers plus delegate from each band;
- The Youth Band has its own committee;
- Hope to introduce a monthly structure to Youth Band rehearsals;
- Infrastructure grant spent on projector, screen and plinth;
- Future plans include a Youth Forum.

Borders (Nicola Douglas and Angela Douglas)

- Workshop in September where band was selected for Perth Championships;
- Party to celebrate Perth victory followed by tour of trophy around individual concerts;
- Youth Committee comprises 2 players from each band (aged c.14-17) to ensure continuity;
- Fundraising is being investigated for the possible purchase of uniforms;
- A successful workshop was held in March, with a potential “D” band in September;
- The Borders Entertainment will be Open Adjudication.

NCBBA (Richard Kidd and Damian Martin)

- Nothing to report from last May until this April;
- There is a new committee;
- This area faces slightly different challenges because of its geographical spread;
- This year’s contest has been cancelled with a view to rebuilding for 2012;
- Progress is being made for solos and ensembles.

Edinburgh (Mark Bell and Julie Sanderson)

- There has been a difficult handover, but a blank slate for progress;
- Support is forthcoming from Midlothian for the Solos on 12 November;
- With over 100 pupils in Midlothian alone, there are geographical difficulties;
- Bands are not involved enough at present.

West of Scotland (Carrie Boax and Brian Deans)

- New office-bearers were elected on 16 May, the first meeting since 2009;
- Some ideas currently under discussion, but funding will be required;
- This is a very large area geographically and in terms in numbers of bands;
- Solos and ensembles will be held on 29 October.

3. General Points

- It would assist SBBA if qualifiers were held before Christmas;
- It was asked if it would be of benefit if SBBA were to bulk buy medals and plaques;
- The creation of “Development Assistants” was mooted, to help the Development Officer drive forward growth in the Areas: this will be discussed with Creative Scotland;
- The SBBA Executive will communicate to the Areas the balance of funding available to them;

4. Consistency of Rules

- Questions were raised about the lack of consistency of rules between Area Qualifiers and Solo/Ensemble Finals:
- Three qualifiers in each section only;
- The Application Form provided by the SBBA Secretary must be used: this will be circulated;
- Concerns were raised over whether a player could be allowed to perform with more than one ensemble at the ensembles event. It has been proposed (and accepted) that, “in each age group, each ensemble may play a maximum of one player who has played in another ensemble within that age group”;
- Forms will be adapted to include the details of players involved in ensembles;
- “Age” is defined “as at 1 January”.

5. Next Meeting

14 August after the Executive Meeting.

Raymond A Thomson, Minute Secretary

5 June 2011