



# The Pipe Bands' Association of Southern Africa

Minutes of the First Exco Meeting of new Committee

16 January 2023

**Present**

Joshua Hogg  
Malcolm Chadwick  
Rory Bellingan  
Grant Scheffel  
Andy Dippenaar

**Apologies**

Rob Du Toit  
Charles Canning

**Chaired by:** Joshua Hogg

**Minutes:** Grant Scheffel

### 1. Welcome

The Chairman, Joshua Hogg opened the meeting at 18H00 on Zoom. It was mentioned that in-between the meetings members should feel free to keep communicating via email.

### 2. Previous Minutes

Minutes from 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 approved

### 3. Matters arising

#### **SA Hall of Fame**

It was suggested that criteria be established to determine who should appear on the website and how this should be awarded to members in the Pipe Band community for exceptional service either posthumously or while currently in service. Several ideas were raised that possibly nominations are asked for and that a verification and fact check, and history is done on such people. Andy suggested that Dave Rankin, Rory Bellingan or Military Pipes Bands Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/9603112821>) be consulted for history purposes. Joshua suggested that between 1 to 3 people are selected and added a year. Malcolm further suggested that they are announced possibly at gatherings. The idea was raised at Duncan Tee's funeral. Further suggestions were that a criterion, minimum amount of time and mixture of alive and posthumous be used, with leadership positions, and career successes a large part of the decision too.

***Malcolm Chadwick and Rory Bellingan to take on the project and report back***

#### **Central repository to be added**

It was suggested that a Google Drive with shared access be created for the PBASA and paid for annually so that information to be archived can be stored and shared. This would be used for holding membership information and historical information amongst other items. It would also serve to live on after the current committee had exited.

***Grant Scheffel to set this up and report back***

#### **Open format competitions**

Joshua expressed a need in the community to try a new open format competition and push that forward in the 2023 season. Joshua mentioned it will potentially create more excitement and importantly provide younger players with more exposure. It is uncertain why the RSPBA had decided against this format and not to pursue this. Malcolm mentioned that competitions could have the traditional format and as well as open style format – but it was thought due to having to set the drum corps differently a competition is chosen to run with a single format for the entire competition. It was suggested that Pirates be the first trial run of this and there were various discussions as to how many gatherings – possibly three – that this be introduced into. There is also a need to train Judges for this new open format. There were some challenges with space and possibly platforms but it was felt this could be dealt with. It was then settled that 3 gatherings would take part in the pilot project: Pirates Gathering, Pretoria Boys Gathering, and St Benedict's Gathering.

***Joshua Hogg and Angus Nixon to take this forward and report back.***

#### **Education and training for players and judges**

Joshua mentioned that this needed to happen sooner than later in the year. A proposed date of 25<sup>th</sup> February was selected, and this will cover the basics like PDQB, music theory and the other basics.

***Joshua Hogg to take this forward and report back.***

**Mailing lists and communications**

There is a need to have a cloud-based mailing list that can be accessed and updated easily and is held centrally. Mailchimp was discussed as an option to send occasional and newsletter-based communications. Joshua mentioned he wanted to send a personal message out to the members sooner than later. The list has been going for a long time and is added to all the time and hence should be fairly accurate. Rory commented that he will extract the existing list that he has built and clean as needed and send to Grant for import. Costs and effort to be worked out as needed this soon.

**Grant Scheffel and Rory Bellingan to take this forward and report back**

**Website and marketing**

There is currently a discussion underway to redo the existing website and ensure that we are speaking to the entire audience and the correct audience. Andy is coordinating this with the various stakeholders and will in due course report back with a presentation on a new design, branding and way forward. All new website changes to go through Andy to cut down on traffic and confusion. New Committee pages in progress as well.

**Andy Dippenaar will take this forward and report back**

**4. Other Items**

With the meeting drawing to a close the other agenda items were held over for future discussion. These are noted here for continuity only.

- Finance – cost for recording project and overseas adjudication of videos
- 2024 Competitions Gathering Bids
- Grading and Adjudication – Minimum Mid-section discussions and new judges.

**5. Closing**

The meeting was closed at 19h15 by Joshua Hogg and the next meeting date set for 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 @ 18h00.