



# The Pipe Bands' Association of Southern Africa

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
held at St Benedict's College  
on Saturday 4 November 2023

## **Present**

Joshua Hogg (Chairman)  
Rory Bellingan (Minutes)  
Malcolm Chadwick  
Robert du Toit  
Adrian Haddow  
Lynne van den Berg

## **Apologies**

Charles Canning  
Kgabe Molepo

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### **1. Welcome**

- The Chairman, Joshua Hogg, opened the meeting at 08h15.

### **2. Minutes of last meeting (2023 AGM)**

- Proposed : Malcolm Chadwick
- Seconded : Robert du Toit

### **3. Matters Arising**

- It was noted that issues arising from the minutes of the last meeting would be dealt with during the course of the meeting.

### **4. Band Responses to 2023 AGM Proposals**

- Bands were asked at the AGM, held on 15 October 2023, to submit written responses to the proposals made at the AGM with respect to rule changes and the gathering season.
- These responses were the basis of the discussion for the implementation/rejection thereof at this meeting.
- It is hereby noted that, in terms of the Constitution of the Pipe Bands' Association of Southern Africa, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to finalise the Contest Rules for the forthcoming season.
- The responses were discussed, and debated, taking into account the references to education, training and international trends.
- The rules affected are summarised below. A complete copy of the Contest Rules is attached to these minutes for completeness.

- Rule Amendments
  - Rules 2.1.1.1, 2.1.1.2, 2.1.1.3, 2.1.1.4, 2.1.1.5. These rules deal with the minimum numbers required in a band in order to compete. The main change here was introducing tenor drummers into the minimum requirements.  
Amendment passed by general consensus. Adrian Haddow requested that it be minuted that he objected to this amendment.
  - Rule 2.2.3. Maximum age for Novice\Juvenile bands.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.2.6. Piping instructor may act as Pipe Major for Grade 4, Juvenile and Novice Juvenile bands.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.1 (a) Grade 2 MSR requirements. Two sets required for Championship gatherings. Draw will take place the night before the Championship gathering and all bands will immediately be informed. The draw will be for Set 1 or Set 2 for the whole grade – not individually drawn per band.  
It was noted that from 2025, bands would be expected to still submit two sets, but one set would comprise only four-parted tunes.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.2 (a) Grade 3 MSR requirements. Bands to play an MSR of four-parted tunes.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.3 (a) Grade 4 March Selection requirements. Compulsory inclusion of a tune in  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{4}{4}$  time signature.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.4 (a) Juvenile MSR requirements. Bands to play an MSR of four-parted tunes selected from the PBASA Prescribed Tune lists.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.5 (a) Novice Juvenile March Selection requirements. Three two-parted tunes in  $\frac{2}{4}$  time signature selected from the PBASA Prescribed Tune lists.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.4.3.5 (b) Novice Juvenile MSR requirements. Bands to play an MSR of two-parted tunes selected from the PBASA Prescribed Tune lists.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.5.5.1 Novice Juvenile bands to start their contests at the halt in the competition circle.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
  - Rule 2.5.5.2 Grade 2 bands to start their Medley contests with an introduction of their own choosing.  
Amendment passed by unanimous consensus.
- Contest Season
  - The meeting unanimously agreed on the following.
    - The 2024 Contest Season will retain the status quo and run from April to July with three Championship contests.
    - The Pirates Gathering will be used as a trial run where each grade will only have one contest offered.
    - A Street March contest will be included in the calendar. More information to follow once the Executive Committee has established a date and a venue.
    - Gathering committees will have to tender for Championship status with effect from the 2025 contest season. Tender documents will be provided by the Executive Committee by 30 November 2023. Gathering committees hoping to host a Championship gathering will have to return these by 31 January

2024. The Executive Committee will then announce the 2025 Championship gatherings by the end of February 2024. Going forward, the intention is to have a plan in place so that the Championship gatherings can be announced at the AGM each year for two years following. Therefore, at the 2024 AGM, the Championship gatherings for 2026 will be announced.

- The 2024 Contest Calendar is as follows.
  - 13/04/2024 : Pirates
  - 27/04/2024 : South Coast (Championship)
  - 18/05/2024 : Jeppe
  - 01/06/2024 : De La Salle (Championship)  
(This date was only confirmed after the meeting but is included here for completeness.)
  - 15/06/2024 : Pretoria Boys
  - 29/06/2024 : Kwazulu Natal
  - 13/07/2024 : St Benedict's (Gauteng Regional Final)
  - 27/07/2024 : Benoni (SA Champs and Final Championship)

#### **5. Next Meeting**

- Saturday 25 November 2023

#### **6. Closing**

- Joshua Hogg thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at 10h30.