

**Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations (ANAPBA)**  
**Second Annual Summit Meeting**

Saturday Morning Session, October 28, 2000, 8:30 am

St. Andrew's Scottish Home

Chicago, Illinois

Present: Jeff Mann, Susan Thornton, Paula Glendinning, Rob MacNeil, Jim Laughton, Paul McCormack, Ray Holmgren, Ian Moir, June Hanley, Jim Bell, Rob Hossack, Reid Maxwell, Al McMullin, Chris Hossack, Elaine Douglas, Bruce Woodley, Roddy MacDonald, Charlie MacDonald, Bob Allen, Iain MacDonald, David Noga, Dale Morton, Carolyn Morton, Greg Gordon, Chuck Jamison, Chuck Crowley, Tyler Kirkham, Lindsey Johnson, John McCray

Susan Thornton asked the committees from last year to report what was accomplished during the past year.

**Web site Committee – Jeff Mann**

Susan Thornton presented the following question from Drew McPheeters (current web site master). What kind of content do you want to offer and what content should be avoided? The web site can be all encompassing, however information should not be duplicated on the individual association web sites.

Jeff Mann then talked about the work that has been done on the web site. Kevin MacHeffner from WUSPBA consented to take a look at the ANAPBA web site. It is possible that Kevin may take Drew's role as web site master. Drew has not had the time to put into the web site that is needed. The following web site is an example of Kevin's work:

[www.mindspring.com/~kmacheff/ANAPBA](http://www.mindspring.com/~kmacheff/ANAPBA). It has been talked about adding a database to the web site as well as the possibility of having an online registration for future summit meetings. It has also been talked about having some kind of online registration for National Championships.

Rob MacNeil stated that the key to the web site is to keep it current and up-to-date.

Ian Moir suggested that an e-mail system should be set up on the web site to enable e-mail to be sent more efficiently and effectively.

Chris Hossack noted that the e-mail system in their association (WUSPBA) has a calendaring program and e-groups. It also will give notices of upcoming events. Since adding these programs to the WUSPBA web site, many more people are using the system.

Jeff Mann also stated that last year it was mentioned that some of the associations within ANAPBA do not have web sites, however with the amount of memory within the ANAPBA web site, it would be possible for those associations to set up a site for their association. Elaine Douglas from Prairie Pipe Band and Paul McCormack from Alberta stated that they do not

currently have web sites. At this time, a proposal was made that Kevin MacHeffner become the new web site master.

Al McMullin stated that any correspondence and suggestions regarding the web site go through Jeff Mann and Rob MacNeil before going to the webmaster. Paula asked that information for newsletter mailings be updated on the web site. Chris Hossack mentioned that they have put their newsletter on the WUSPBA web site and more people seem to be reading it. Also, they have found their web site to be very beneficial and an important tool for them in fund raising. Kevin MacHeffner is the current WUSPBA webmaster.

### **Association Boundaries – Jim Laughton**

The following are the recommendations for changes to the geographical boundaries:

1. States of North Dakota down through West Texas to be encouraged to affiliate with the Midwestern Pipe Band Association.
2. Bands in Idaho, with the exception of Boise Highlanders, which are part of WUSPBA, to be encouraged to affiliate with BC Pipers Association.
3. Bands in Wyoming to be encouraged to affiliate with WUSPBA.
4. Bands in Montana to be encouraged to affiliate with any association close to them (BC Pipers, Alberta, Saskatchewan, WUSPBA).

Ian Moir stated that the reason for setting boundaries is to prevent those people that are not happy with their association to go to another association or to join an association because the fees are less. He also brought up the question of why should bands have to join a certain association? If the same rules and sanctioning applies to every association, then the problem of crossing boundaries would probably go away.

Bruce Woodley also noted that another issue that needs to be looked at is grading.

Reid Maxwell stated that it would probably not be a good idea to split a state between associations. It does not make sense to break a state in half. He thought that the state of Texas should not be split among associations.

June Hanley brought up the issue of bands in their area that compete in other associations.

Paula Glendinning stated that as long as a band joins their home association, they should be able to also join other associations.

Jim Laughton stated that this issue should be sent back to the committee for further discussion.

Paul McCormack made a recommendation that Montana be part of their association.

Jim Laughton motioned that this issue be tabled and it was seconded by Jeff Mann.

Bruce Woodley recommended that bands not be allowed to join other associations unless they are members of the home association. Jim withdrew his motion for the issue to be tabled.

Al McMullin feels that the boundaries should not be quite so definite for states that are on the boundary line, maybe there should be some sort of buffer zone.

Reid Maxwell stated that Arkansas should be a part of the Midwest because there are no bands in Arkansas that are a part of EUSPBA.

Charlie MacDonald is concerned about the enforcement of the boundaries. He believes that overlap should be allowed.

Bruce withdrew his recommendation. Susan stated that the committee should be broadened because there are many other issues to be looked at. Ian Moir, Charlie MacDonald, Bruce Woodley, and Chris Hossack volunteered to be members on the committee of association boundaries. June stated that each association should send Jim a list of the games that they sanction to enable him to have more detailed information.

### **Education and Certification of Adjudicators – Al McMullin**

Tim Gladden and Ian Whitelaw were members of this committee and they are not here this year. The issue of continuity needs to be addressed because there is going to be turnover within ANAPBA. There has been nothing done on this committee.

Susan stated that following elections of new presidents and association advisors, the issues of ANAPBA should be passed on to the newly elected members.

Al McMullin asked for volunteers for this committee: Bruce Woodley, Bob Allen, Reid Maxwell, and Jim Bell volunteered. Al will continue to chair the committee.

### **Guide Games' Treatment of Judges – Jim Laughton**

The EUSPBA's handbook was used for this committee. Please see the section on judges selection and treatment in the ANAPBA summit handbook.

It is strongly recommended that two piping judges be used for each contest in addition to the one ensemble and one drumming judge. If two piping judges are required, the results should be averaged before adding them to the ensemble and drumming judge's marks for band placement.

The following are changes that should be made to the judges selection and treatment recommendations in the summit handbook.

1. The section “compensating judges” should be stated as follows: “Full day judges are paid an honorarium on the order of \$200 per day, with half day judges paid less. Judges should also be compensated for food, lodging and transportation as necessary.” The last sentence in this section should be deleted and it was also noted that the date should be added.
2. Point #2 on page one of the recommendations should be changed as follows: “If yes, you should follow your associations sanctioning rules regarding the number of band judges.” Everything else under point two should be deleted except for the first and second bullet.
3. The section “on games day” should be changed as follows: The last sentence in the first paragraph should be deleted.
4. Point #7 on page two of the recommendations should be changed as follows: The second bullet should be deleted.
5. Another paragraph should be added to state the following: “Prior to the games, judges should be contacted and sent the rules, contracts, maps, and other vital information.”

Jim asked if the changes made in the judges’ recommendations are acceptable and would work as a contract for judges.

Rob MacNeil stated that every association should have a judging panel.

Iian MacDonald noted that this information should possibly be made into a PDF format and made available on the web site.

It is recommended that this information be distributed to the executive committees for the games next year.

At this point in the meeting, there was a short 5-minute break.

### **Grading Committee – Bob Allen**

Charlie MacDonald went over the handout from the grading committee. It is recommended that a database be set up to help with the grading of bands.

Bob Allen brought up the issue of confidentiality and authorization. Publication of addresses and phone numbers is a big issue regarding confidentiality. If the databases were password protected, this would help to solve the confidentiality problem.

Bob Allen suggested that Kevin MacHeffner and other computer technicians from associations work together to decide what needs to be done for the databases to be brought together.

Again, David Noga brought up the confidentiality issue. How do you get around people that do not want their information published on the web? Again, Bruce Woodley brought up the issue that a password protection will help in solving this issue.

Rob Hossack stated that all is needed is the name, band affiliation, and the grade, the address and phone numbers are not needed. This will also help address the issue of privacy along with password protection.

Susan proposed that for the individual information section, the following information be used: name, state/province, grade, member number, and band affiliation.

There should also be a contact person made available in each association if addresses or phone numbers are needed.

Band information will also be handled in the same manner.

Kevin MacHeffner will need to set up a page for bands to send in their registrations on the web. This will help in getting information entered into the database.

Susan asked who might take responsibility to head the work-up of a database system for members to send in registrations. Ian Moir will work on setting this up with the Midwestern Association.

### **Solo Recommendations Committee – Al McMullin**

A common music requirement recommendation handout was distributed. The committee met yesterday at 3:00 p.m. and the recommendations distributed are the result of that meeting.

Reid noted that many key people have put their input into the recommended requirements and compromises have been made. Hopes are to implement these recommendations in 2002. Reid motioned that the requirements be passed in each association as soon as possible and it was seconded by Bruce Woodley and Bob Allen.

Bruce noted that there is a concern for the piobaireachd requirements for solo piping. He motioned that grade two piobaireachd be reduced to one submission and grade one be reduced to two submissions to enhance the level of quality of piping in North America.

Reid stated that the standard among associations see reducing the submission as a huge step back.

Roddy MacDonald stated that he firmly believes that the music requirements contained in the handout are effective.

Discussion ensued regarding the piobaireachd requirements for solo piping between several in the group.

Iain MacDonald noted that several in his area do not play piobaireachd. He sees the requirements as a good things, but very difficult in his area. He stated that they would not have very many grade one members that could play three piobaireachd.

Reid Maxwell stated that maybe they should not be in grade one and still believes that the requirements should be left as those recommended.

Roddy MacDonald stated that possibly the grade of soloists should be changed if they cannot submit three piobaireachd.

Paul McCormack stated that Alberta will need to raise to the requirements but thinks it will be better to have a consistent standard across ANAPBA.

The following are changes that should be made to the music requirements recommendation handout:

1. Section number four, “clarifying rules”, letter C, last sentence should be changed as follows:  
“Games sponsors are encouraged to offer as many as possible events lister per grade.”

A vote was taken to take the music requirements forward as a recommendation to each association.

Vote:

All in favor - 7

Opposed - 2 (Prairie Pipe Band Association of Manitoba and WUSPBA)

Abstained - 1 (Atlantic Canada Pipe Band Association)

Therefore, the music recommendations will be taken back to the associations.

### **Distance Learning Committee – Rob MacNeil**

A report of the distance learning committee was distributed. It is recognized that week-to-week, one-on-one instruction is the most effective method for advancement of pipers and drummers. The handout discussed ideas on using current video conferencing technology to permit access to prominent North American instructors by students across the continent for one-on-one, as well as one-to-many instruction. Different kinds of conferencing include web based, telephone and web, and video without the Internet.

For one-to-one conferencing, web based video conferencing is very economical and reasonable. An experiment using this option was conducted in the Vancouver area. You could easily hear and discernment of finger movements was good, however it is not certain how well fast

drumstick movements would be captured. From scratch, a complete hardware and software setup for one-to-one video conferencing would cost between \$1000 and \$1500 per site.

For one-to-many conferencing, the use of non-internet video conferencing is recommended. The main drawback is the price. Specialized video hardware and high speed ISDN phone lines are required. A do-it-yourself video conferencing hardware system would cost between \$4500-\$8000. However, there are public conferencing rooms available where the conference participants simply show up, and all the conferencing needs are provided for a price.

It is recommended that each of the ANAPBA associations invest in one and encourage the setup in their area of many one-to-one video conferencing systems with DSL or cable model capability in the locales of the prominent players/instructors. These systems would be used for two purposes:

1. to encourage prominent players in their area to provide one-on-one instruction via video conferencing to people in areas that can not gain this level of instruction;
2. to provide a system whereby ANAPBA representatives can have mid-term meetings via group conference.

It is also recommended that the following two events (one hour in length) be presented within the next year using TV quality video conferencing. Tickets would be sold to the events to recover the local costs.

1. A recital by a prominent North American player transmitted to one site in each of the 10 ANAPBA associations.
2. A seminar by a prominent player/instructor on a high interest topic.

Ian Moir stated that these recommendation should be taken back to each association to see what can be done to support them.

Ray Holmgren stated that if each association could purchase a camera, it could be rented out to help pay for the initial cost.

Iain MacDonald stated that people seem to want the option to access information at any given time and in a variety of modes.

Rob MacNeil and Iain MacDonald will continue to take this issue forward and work on evolving this issue.

Kim Pelkey, Bob Dunsire, and many others among this group deserve much thanks for all of their work during the year on the distance learning issue.

The morning meeting broke at 12:15 for a lunch break.