



ANAPBA summit X

Winter Storm, Kansas City, MO
January 9–11, 2015

Meeting minutes

Friday, January 09, 2015

Attendees

Jim Sim, John Biggar, Daniel Cole, Rob MacNeil, John Stewart, Wes Sheppard, Duncan MacRae, Ian Embelton, Michael Flight, Greg Gordon, Jeff Mann, Daniel Schneider

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee (hereafter MIAC)

Paula Glendinning, Alex MacIntyre, Geof Niegh, Tom Weithers, Andrew Morrill, Lise Nelson

Welcome

Jeff welcomed everyone and thanked them for making the effort of getting here, and thanked Cliff Davis for making arrangements for our meeting.

Visioning

The executive group and MIAC spent the morning discussing the following topics.

- Questions:
 - What is the greatest need your association has, both administratively and musically?
 - What do we do very well?
 - What needs work?
 - What are the greatest needs for our individual members?
 - What are the strengths of the association that has helped your members?
 - What do you need as administrators and music board to improve?
- And to follow up:
 - How can ANAPBA help?

The MIAC separated to work on their own.

Executive group discussion

- Level playing field.
 - Huge differences when comparing different association solo rules and requirements.
 - To a lesser degree, this is also a band issue. For example, the G2 medley requirement in Maxville—the time requirement is different. Also, there are different requirements to the mini-MSR that most associations are adopting for their G4 bands.
- Getting kids involved in Scottish activities.
 - North American associations have seen a decline in new, young members.
 - RSPBA has seen growth in members of around 25 percent over the last three years.
 - Exams that kids can use in school to get credit, and as well as a certification.

- The association has committed a great deal of resources towards education.
- Promotion has been one of the greatest factors in their success.

Jeff asked that, besides education, what else is a concern in your associations?

- Retention is also a concern.
- Reaching grade 1 is a death sentence.
 - Opportunities to compete diminish as a band moves up in grades.
- Lack of grade 2.
- Losing games. Sponsors are not paying much in travel money.

Action items from discussion

How can ANAPBA help?

- Education

Duncan recommended that, in order for us to collectively implement a plan, we must to meet more often, otherwise there will be nothing to report

Jeff referred the group to bylaws, section 3.02, that the alliance must be meeting at least once a year.

- If you could do anything right now, what would you do?
 - Put an instructor in every (elementary) school.
 - Start a youth band.
 - Strengthen the existing youth bands.
 - Develop well-qualified instructors. (As a note, the RSPBA has a list of instructors, most who are grade 1 or 2 players who have been certified, who they will provide to bands who need some instruction for a day or two, at the expense of the association. Bands need only provide the venue.)
 - Who would put together the criteria?
We could look at what the RSPBA is doing and see what would work, especially the SQA program.
 - Standardizing certification and re-certification programs throughout all the association.
 - Provide development and continuing education for adjudicators.

The MIAC rejoined the group and reported on their discussion.

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee notes

Bruce Cargill, the Convenor of the RSPBA grading committee, and John Wilson, the Convenor of the RSPBA adjudication panel, joined us from Scotland through online conferencing.

Pipe band grading

Bruce Cargill came online first, and we discussed the issues of band grading with him. Bruce began by saying that the RSPBA does not want to be grading bands from other associations, but they will intervene if a band seems to be in the wrong grade.

We asked how we can improve the process of communication among all of the associations. Bruce welcomed the suggestion that each Music Board Chair or Grading Committee Chair email him with their contact information to keep the lines of communication open. His email is: [bruce taigh a ceol@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bruce.taigh.a.ceol@yahoo.co.uk).

We discussed the idea of each association certifying band rosters before they are sent to the RSPBA. Bruce said it would help him if the band rosters would include the last band each member played in, and what grade that band was in.

A question was asked about the schedule of the RSPBA Grading Committee. Bruce said they meet in September, November, January, April, and then often by email through the summer. He expects a rule change to go through in March to change the deadline for all playing members to appear on a band roster 21 days ahead of a competition. The current rule is 14 days ahead. He also mentioned that the RSPBA requires pipe majors to bring a band roster to each competition.

Tune requirements

We asked Bruce about the RSPBA tune requirements for Grade 4A and 4B bands.

In 2015, 4A will play an MSR: 4 parts of 2/4 March, two 2-parted Strathspeys, and two 2-parted Reels. All tunes played must come from the "RSPBA Prescribed Tune List." (The March may be one 4-parted tune or two 2-parted tunes. Bands may choose Parts 1 and 2 of any of the 4-parted Marches offered on the list.)

In 2016, the 4A rule is proposed to change, adding 4-parted Strathspeys and Reels to the list. The rule would then require an MSR: 4 parts of 2/4 [March](#), 4 parts of Strathspey, and 4 parts of Reel. All tunes played must come from the "RSPBA Prescribed Tune List." (Each tune type may be one 4-parted tune or two 2-parted tunes. Bands may choose Parts 1 and 2 of any of the 4-parted tunes.)

At the Major Championships, Grade 4B plays four 2-parted Marches from the "RSPBA Prescribed Tune List."

The prescribed tunes for 4A and 4B are posted at <http://www.rspba.org/html/prescribedtunes.php>

Consultative adjudication

John Wilson came online and we discussed the ideas of consultative judging for pipe bands. He said the RSPBA is going to have a pilot this season, using consultative adjudication at two of the Major Championships. Each band event usually has two directors from the RSPBA who oversee the contest details. One of them will moderate the discussions of the 4 judges at the end of each band event, to allow the judges to discuss what they heard and how they evaluated the performances before turning in their score sheets.

The MIAC is extremely grateful that both John Wilson and Bruce Cargill took the time to join us, and we feel the conversations were extremely valuable.

Visioning questions

What are the needs of your association?

- 1 Money to allow more programs, especially teaching
- 2 People to do the work
- 3 Training new judges
- 4 Solutions for geographic challenges of large area
- 5 Solutions for border issues between US and Canada

What are the strengths of your association?

- 1 Ontario: organizing large contests
- 2 Midwest: addressing needs of members because the organization is smaller than some of the others
- 3 Alberta: bringing in teachers
- 4 Western US: gathering criteria for grading has improved a great deal

What can we do as an Alliance to help the associations and their members?

- 1 The summit meetings bring energy to take new ideas home. We would like to meet every other year and teleconference on the off years.
- 2 Web sites can be improved to provide more information to the bands, soloists, judges, fans, and committees of invitational contests. Perhaps anapba.org could do more as a model web site.

Meeting adjourned until tomorrow morning.

Saturday, January 10, 2015

Attendees

Jim Sim, John Biggar, Daniel Cole, Rob MacNeil, John Stewart, Wes Sheppard, Duncan MacRae, Ian Embelton, Michael Flight, David Allfrey, Greg Gordon, Jeff Mann, Daniel Schneider

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee

Paula Glendinning, Alex MacIntyre, Geoff Neigh, Tom Weithers, Andrew Morril, Lise Nelson, Liz Tubbs

Order of business

EUSPBA moved that we approve the minutes from summit IX, WUSPBA seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Recommendation 1

There was discussion regarding meeting more often. Jeff recommended that we meet every other year, and that anything in between could be done through other means. There is concern regarding the cost of traveling to summit meetings, and may be a hard sell to some of the associations. Wes suggested that we set a date, and see what kind of progress we make. Jim mentioned that Winter Storm each year would be a good date.

Jeff asked that we tentatively set Winter Storm as the date, and that we would be meeting annually, either electronically or in person.

Recommendation 2

The MIAC will look at the instructor program the RSPBA is using to see what the associations can collectively develop in North America. Ian will have their education director share this with the MIAC.

The group will meet again in September to review the progress on the program.

Recommendation 3

That RSPBA and Australia help with the instructor certification program.

Recommendation 4

Update the ANAPBA website.

Proposals to the US/Canada boarder immigration issues facing US highland games

Rob presented this issue. See the attachment for details.



Proposals to Address
US-Canada Border Ir

Central playing registry

One of the things PPBAM is striving to accomplish is fair play. One problem they have is when a player from outside their organization is put on the roster of a band, while still remaining on the roster of an outside association band, for the purpose of unfairly bolstering the bands' competitiveness. Because these changes happen just before competition, games organizers are unable to validate the rosters of bands.

Recommendation 5.1

Create a centralized registry that games organizers can use to clarify rosters.

Rob suggested that each association should have a resolution within their own association to provide solo and band roster information to any of their affiliated associations, upon request. In the long run, all associations must harmonize their roster-transfer rules.

All were in favor to take this proposal back to their associations.

Recommendation 5.2

A player registered with one band may transfer to another band within the period of registration. All transfers must be declared to the registrar within writing at least 21 days prior to the first contest in which that player will compete with the gaining band. Players may transfer only once within the period of registration with the following exception:

A player may transfer to a band due to relocation for education purposes, such as going to college, or military service commitments, and then transfer back to their original band for the remainder of the period of registration.

Value of Competitive Performance Levels (CPLs)

Many associations are using them, but to a different extent. Manitoba had been using them, but stopped this last year due to inconsistencies in their use. Alberta will be removing them.

Recommendation 6

Each association develop score sheets that are congruent across all associations regarding competitive performance levels.

Impact of rule changes across North America

As a point of order, Jim asks that we keep in mind that any rules changes that happen within one association may affect one if not all other associations. Rob suggests that we compile a list of rules that differ for soloists and bands across associations.

Achieving international grading consistency

Recommendation 6

We recommend that grading standards being according to the world grading standard, which may be evaluated by the bands going to the worlds. We strongly encourage bands to compete up as a way to measure their standard level against a higher grade, and that games organizers provide the opportunities for bands to play up. We recommend that the top two bands in each grade from the previous season, who were not upgraded, may compete up a grade with no chance of prize money and no season accumulation of points.

Visitor presentations

The executive group and MIAC heard presentations from Ian Embelton from the RSPBA, Greg Gordon from Pipe Bands Australia, Mike Flight from Scottish Pipe Band Association of South America, and Brigadier David Allfrey from The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Attached are the presentations given by David Allfrey and Michael Flight.



SPBASA presentation
for ANAPBA 2015-01-



Briefing - ANAPBA
(Jan 15) (V2.0).pdf

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee notes

The MIAC joined the group and reported on their meeting.

René Cusson from the BC Pipers' Association Music Board, joined us via "GoToTraining" online conferencing.

Band topics

- 1 René brought up the problems of grading new bands who may not have competed before, or not in many years. Other associations have dealt with this as well, and the options of letting the band decide vs. suggesting a grade for a probationary period were discussed.
- 2 Consistency of grading internationally

A suggestion was made that someone might come up with a standard form to be used for band rosters that could be used to submit band information to RSPBA and other associations.

MIAC recommendation #1

Each Music Board Chair or Grading Committee Chair is encouraged to contact Bruce Cargill. <bruce.taigh.a.ceol@yahoo.co.uk>

- 3 Drumming Instructor Rule

Many associations allow the instructor to play lead. PPBSO requires the drumming instructor to play lead. Discussion of pros and cons, and option of ruling that the instructor may play, but is not allowed to play lead.

MIAC recommendation #2

Change rules so that drumming instructors are not permitted to play lead by 2016 season.

- 4 Discussion of labels for Grades 4 and 5: whether to use 4A and 4B labels. We have no recommendation to change those labels.
- 5 Score sheets

The Music Board representatives who were present compared band score sheets for piping, drumming, and ensemble. The sheets that were present have moved in the direction of removing check boxes and allowing more blank space for judges' comments.

Some associations require bands to submit tunes with entries, and the tunes are printed on the score sheets.

Format: some associations are using single-copy-sheets, and are scanning the sheets before giving the bands the originals.

MIAC recommendation #3

Each association is encouraged to post their band and solo score sheets on their Web sites for the purposes of information for competitors and judges who will be traveling, and to share information among the Music Boards.

6 Band Tune Requirements

We updated the spreadsheet with tune requirements for each band grade level, using the rules that are posted online for the associations who did not have a member present. The tune requirements are very similar across the continent, and much more so than when we started meeting in 1999.

MIAC recommendation #4

The associations that have only one medley required for Grade 1 bands are encouraged to change to two medleys as soon as possible.

MIAC recommendation #5

Associations are encouraged to use the Mini-MSR requirement for Grade 4 bands by the 2016 season as 4 parts of each type of tune, with 2-part tunes permissible.

We discussed the pros and cons of the other requirement for Grade 4 bands being a Quick March Set or a Timed Medley. Many bands enjoy the medley, and we don't want to discourage pipe bands or stifle creativity. The decision to keep the medley as the 2nd option for Grade 4 may have been largely driven by the Grade 4 bands themselves. On the other hand, many Grade 4 bands could use more fundamental work with a Quick March Set. Keeping the QMS would allow bands going to Scotland to compete in Grade 4B to compete at home with their set for Scotland, while bands competing in 4A would be given preparation at home competitions with the Mini-MSR. The progression of learning tunes would be reasonable from Grade 5 to Grade 4 if the rules keep the QMS and add a Mini-MSR; then add a medley in Grade 3. We will revisit this issue at the next summit, after more associations have added the Mini-MSR.

Teaching topic

Certification of piping and drumming instructors

The consensus of the MIAC is that we don't want to get into the area of certification of instructors at this time, but we do want to consider ways that the associations could help their piping and drumming teachers to be encouraged, and to develop their teaching skills. Workshops for instructors can be a good use of association money.

After lunch, we asked Rob MacNeil to give us a brief summary of the forum for instructors that was held by the BC Pipers' Association this past November. They plan to hold the forum annually, and are encouraging feedback in both directions between the teachers and the BCPA. Instructors from successful teaching programs in BC and in Scotland presented ideas and strategies, and teaching methods were discussed. With Rob's permission, the agenda and objectives for the teaching conference were emailed to all of the Music Board Chairs.

Judging certification

We passed out copies of the document titled: "Recommendations for an Adjudicator Certification and Professional Development Program for the Alliance of North American Pipe Band Associations" from January 11, 2003.

The MIAC members felt the criteria and objectives were good goals, and are happy to have this document remain available on the Web site. We have no further recommendations at this time.

Solo tune requirements

We updated the spreadsheets for piping, snare and tenor tune requirements for each association with a Music Board member who was present or online with us. Paula will use the rules that are posted online for the associations who did not have a member present, and will email the completed spreadsheet.

Sunday, January 11, 2014

Attendees

Jim Sim, John Biggar, Daniel Cole, Rob MacNeil, John Stewart, Wes Sheppard, Duncan MacRae, Ian Embelton, Michael Flight, David Allfrey, Greg Gordon, Jeff Mann, Daniel Schneider

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee

Paula Glendinning, Alex MacIntyre, Geoff Neigh, Tom Weithers, Andrew Morrill, Lise Nelson

Financial report

Daniel presented the financial report.

The group discussed concerns regarding being notified, understanding when contributions are due and whether all associations are paying. Over the last four years, the number of associations who have donated have dwindled. With the recommendation to meet more often, donations are critical for APAPBA to operate. The group decided to start on a “clean slate,” and that going forward all associations should contribute in order to participate in the alliance.

Recommendation 7

The due date for annual contributions is January 31 of each calendar year.

Income statement

Revenue 2011-2014

Dues	\$4,250.00
Interest	<u>\$184.28</u>
Total income	\$4434.28

Expenses 2011-2014

Administrative	\$262.86
Summit IX	\$2,828.82
Summit X (incomplete)	<u>\$346.20</u>
Total expenses	\$3,437.88

Net income \$996.40

Cash as of December 31, 2010 \$553.67

Cash as of December 31, 2014 \$1550.07

John Biggar motioned to approve the financial report. Duncan seconded. The group unanimously approved the report.

Administration nominations and elections

Chairman

John Stewart moved to nominate Jeff Mann as chairman. John seconded, and Jim moved to close discussion. The group unanimously passed the motion.

Executive secretary and treasurer

Jim moved to nominate Daniel Schneider as executive secretary and treasurer. John Stewart seconded, and Jim moved to close discussion. The group unanimously passed the motion.

Importation and transportation of ivory into the United States

Rob presented the issue. See the attachment for details.



Importation and
transportation of ivor

Recommendation 8

Rob and John (Alberta) will work together to figure out some guidelines regarding transportation of ivory into the United States, and will forward the results to the rest of the group.

Letter of accord

Mike Flight, of the Scottish Pipe Band Associations of South America, together with Jeff Mann, chairman of ANAPBA, signed a letter of accord between his association and ANAPBA, the conditions of which relate to reciprocity of membership, facilitating the verification of membership status, sharing lists of accredited adjudicators, sharing competition rules and regulations, share programs of education, and encouraging the broader interactions of members of the associations.

Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Recommendation 9

Pipe band associations will check with their bands to see who has full-dress uniforms. The association or ANAPBA will send this information back to David Allfrey.

As a note, the Edinburgh Military Tattoo is a month commitment.

Transfers and rosters

The group discussed whether the transfer requirements waiting period in each association applies to a new member who is not, at the time of applying to register for a particular band, a member of another band. Some associations have the waiting period for unattached new members, others do not. Members may try to circumvent transfer rules by removing themselves from one roster, and then having them added to another as a non-attached member.

Recommendation 10

A member must be on a roster for at least 21-days prior to competing.

Music Initiatives Advisory Committee notes

René Cusson from the BC Pipers' Association Music Board, joined us via "GoToTraining" online conferencing.

MIAC recommendation #6

Bands communicating with the RSPBA regarding grading or other issues for trips to Scotland are advised to copy their home associations on all communications so that the home associations may lend support and share information.

MIAC recommendation #7

All associations are encouraged to use performance level ratings on solo score sheets for the purposes of educating the competitors and giving more information to grading committees.

All associations are reminded of the request to post their score sheets online. (See MIAC recommendation #3.)

Geoff Neigh volunteered to spearhead an effort to create a uniform band roster sheet to share with all of the associations to use to provide the information on band members suggested by Bruce Cargill. His intent is to provide a form that can be sent electronically.

Alex MacIntyre requested a discussion on current practices of payment to judges for fees and expenses in each association. Most of the associations present were fairly similar on payment for full-day judges, but there was more of a range of practices for half-day judges.

We briefly reviewed the material currently posted on the ANAPBA web site, and are in agreement with the Mission Statements. We confirmed the idea that has been discussed at each summit, that the Alliance is a liaison group, not an association or an overseeing body. Each person at the meeting felt that they had been energized with new ideas that would be useful in their work in their home associations.

We re-joined the Executive Group for a report of recommendations and closing remarks.

Closing and next meeting

The group will meet again September 13, 2015. The next summit will be at Winter Storm, 2016.

Brief, generic notes from this meeting will be posted to the ANAPBA website, which will be approved by the associations prior to posting. Each association may post to those notes on their own website.

After closing remarks from Jeff Mann, the summit was adjourned until next year.