

**Traditional Youth Marching Bands Association Annual General Meeting 2010**  
**Band Headquarters, Romford Royal British Legion, Romford, Essex**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Present**

Dave Wood	Chairman/Nationals Organiser
John Saunders	Vice Chair/BFYMBO Rep
Kate McKay	Secretary/Judges Liaison
Julie McKay	Membership Secretary/Northern Rep
Kim Foreman	Treasurer
Andy Downton	Solos Contest/Events/PR
Dale King	Webmaster
Martin Rapley	Committee Member
Ernie Wright	President

Simon Taylor	Alderley District
Emma Simpson	Alderley Distict
Brian Cooper	S.E.O.E. Contest Chairman
Dave Gilby	S.E.O.E. Contest
Andy Kinch	Talbot C.O.D
Mike Baker	Talbot C.O.D
W. Pritlove	Individual Member
T. Crook	Individual Member
Sarah Rapley	17 <sup>th</sup> Tonbridge
Dave Carman	17 <sup>th</sup> Tonbridge
P. Binder	Romford DTC
I. Yeoman	Romford RBL
P. Saunders	Individual Member
Mark Webb	Blazing Brass
Jane Bailey	Grafton District
Joanna Olds	Grafton District
Ron Spence	Surbiton RBL
Teresa Walsh	Haverettes
Jeff Brown	Haverettes
Belinda Lee	Officer

**Apologies**

Mr D. Leach, James Simpson, Ade Evans (Midlands Rep/Kings Norton), Richard Warrington (Thuramston Marching Brass), Paul Wong (Halesowen Scout Band/Halesowen Contest), Bill McKay (Moreton BB/GB Band), Sam Hewitt (Kings Norton), Joanna Nelson (Head of Contesting/Spen Valley S&G Band), Nicola Matthews (Haverettes), Dennis Yarwood (3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme/Davyhulme Contest), Tony Jackson (Rubery Contest), Dave Edge (Redhill COD) and Kim Prentice.

Before the meeting commenced Jim Vaughan from the Federation of Youth Music addressed the meeting about Youth Music and the 2012 Olympics and encouraged everyone to get involved.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the 2009 AGM held at Thuramston Scout HQ, Leicester were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**Matters Arising**

None

### **Chairman's Report**

2009 has been a reasonably quiet year, I suspect due to the current financial climate. In the past when times have been hard we have seen a definite upsurge in bands and their membership levels, however, this does not seem to be happening this time around. However, 2009 has seen the welcome return of some members to the competition field that have been absent over the last few years, hopefully we will see more in 2010.

Membership is roughly on a par with last year, as you will see from the treasurer's report this is something that we as an Association desperately need to address.

Committee Meeting dates are set for the rest of the year and will be published on the website. Any member wishing to attend may do so. That being said, it is always best to check first that the meeting has not been altered. Our aim is to stick to the dates published, however due to the distances that some committee members have to travel we are very conscious that the meeting must be quorate and also must have a minimum amount of content in order not to waste people's time so if we think it is borderline we may well alter the meeting date.

Meeting Minutes will be published on the website in the bandmaster's section, with anything that is not for public consumption being removed.

From a contest point of view 2009 was a below average year from an attendance point of view, again travel costs being the biggest problem, with the attendance at the Nationals being the lowest for some years and I suspect that some of the regional contests were very close to the point of deciding not to run. For some of the bands the decision of whether to enter a contest or not is clearly driven by the possibility of paying out the money to travel only to find that they have no one to compete against, hence the reason in the second half of the year that Martin undertook the review that you have all had the opportunity to participate in, with the result being some proposals for later in the agenda. I would like to thank Martin for his initiative in undertaking the review, without which we would have most likely wasted a year. Whilst on the subject of thanks, I would like to thank Andy Downton for running the solos, his idea of making it standalone being extremely successful. I think even he was surprised to have in excess of 100 entries.

So to 2010, we believe that we now have our house pretty much in order from an administration point of view so we have but one goal, which is to increase membership and that is what we will focus on in the coming year.

I would like to close with a personal vote of thanks to all members of the committee for their support throughout the year, we have had one or two difficult issues to deal with but in the main we are all singing from the same hymn sheet.

I look forward to a successful 2010.

### **Treasurer's Report**

From a Financial point of view it has not been a fantastic year, whilst the number of members is similar to last year, we have some bands that did not renew by the year-end closure so their renewal has not shown in this year's accounts.

General running costs have been very tightly controlled and are down on last year whilst income has risen slightly which has resulted in a much smaller operating loss than was reported this time last year.

The website operating costs have roughly been offset by Google ads. This income is obviously directly linked to the users of the website browsing the ads, as most of the users are usually the same people then it seems unlikely that we will continue to earn much more income from this source.

This year saw a big change in the National competitions with the solos being run as a standalone contest, taking place all on one day, with the introduction of several new classes of competition. From a financial point of view this proved to be extremely successful, with the contest turning in a profit for the first time ever. As far as the Nationals are concerned we suffered a larger than expected loss, this was due entirely to the reduced number of competing bands and also the reduced number of playing

members in those bands. We were somewhere in the region of 150 less playing members than the previous year and therefore saw a significant reduction in the audience numbers.

Therefore, the challenge for this year is to increase the membership numbers. In general, many of our costs are fixed regardless of the number of members so any amount of new members will have a very positive effect on our finances, if half the member bands could have found one new band to join the Association then we would have been able to delay any proposals to increase subscriptions this year.

With that, I would like to take this opportunity unless there are any questions to propose that this meeting endorse the 2009 accounts as presented.

Julie McKay proposed that the accounts be accepted and this was seconded by Andy Downton and the accounts were therefore accepted as presented.

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

Throughout 2009 I worked hard to get the bands that had left TYMBA to rejoin. By the end of the TYMBA year we had 26 Bands registered and there was only three who didn't return. Before this meeting I checked last year's forms and the majority of those bands stated in writing that they were going to compete. In fact nine of them didn't compete and it has played havoc with the Leagues and bands playing against themselves which is not a good situation to be in. Hopefully one of the proposals will sort this out today.

As of today's date 22 of those bands have re-registered.

Of these Bands 7 are Northern Bands  
5 are Midland Bands  
9 are Southern Bands.

All except one has said they would be competing. I hope after the classes are sorted out, dependant on today's voting that everyone does compete. We should have some brilliant contests if they do.

### **Contest Panel Report**

No report.

### **Regional Reports**

#### **South**

This position is currently vacant so no report.

#### **Midlands**

The member bands of TYMBA in the Midlands were once again out and about performing at engagements throughout the 2009 season.

The first competition in the Midlands area was held on the 28th June at Himley Hall in Staffordshire, hosted by Halesowen Scout Band. The event took place as part of Veterans Day and ended in a grand finale with participating bands playing along with the Band of the Mercian Regiment to an assembled audience of Veterans, dignitaries and the general public. Personally, I received a number of very positive comments from Veterans about the turnout and standard of the bands taking part and one especially comment from an old soldier who had been very moved by the last post being played by so many young people.

The second competition was held on the 07 July hosted by Rubery Youth Marching Band, once again a very successful day. The weather was kind up until the conclusion of the muster when the participating bands got a good soaking whilst making their way back to their coaches.

The Solos competition was held on the 20th September in Walsall. With various bands from the Midlands sending their soloists to take part to see if they could qualify for the national finals.

The TYMBA finals themselves took place in Cannock, Staffordshire on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

## North

Last year there were seven Northern Bands, six of which competed in the Contests.

In October the only Northern Contest took place at Davyhulme. It was a really good weekend with all three aspects to the Contest. Fifteen bands took part over the weekend and I feel we should say thank you to Dennis and his team for a great time.

The six Northern Bands took part at the Nationals with Moreton doing the double, winning on the day and winning the Championship League.

Two of the Northern Bands, Spen Valley and Moreton joined with other members of TYMBA Bands to form the National Youth Marching Band. The Band played at the opening of the Birmingham Tattoo in November for the Parade of Standards of the Royal British Legion. They also played in the Finale with the Band of the Coldstream Guards and other bands from around the world.

Five Northern Bands have re-registered this year and I hope they all have a brilliant season.

## Formal Election of Officers

No nominations and everyone was willing to stand.

## Election of Committee Members

David Carman was nominated as Southern Region Representative by Martin Rapley and seconded by Dave Wood and Joanna Nelson. He was voted in unanimously.

## Appointment/Election of President and Vice President

No one was opposed to Ernie Wright being re-elected.

## Motions to propose changes to Constitution, Rules, Contests and Training

Proposal 1 This proposal was withdrawn due to the proposer not being present.

Proposal 3 That notification of all events is sent out by ordinary mail due to not everyone having a computer and email being unreliable. This proposal was not carried with 2 votes for and 19 votes against.

An amendment was proposed that members who wish to receive their correspondence by mail should request it. This amendment was carried with 21 votes for.

Proposal 4 That for 2010 season TYMBA should pay the entry fee for the first contest of any new band. This proposal was not carried with 3 votes for and 18 against.

Proposal 2 That we raise the TYMBA subscriptions by £5.00 per year. This proposal was not carried with 0 votes for, 20 against and 1 abstention.

An amendment was made to make the proposal more clear: Raise the TYMBA Band Subscription by £5.00. The amendment was carried with 20 votes for, 0 against and 1 abstention.

Proposal 5 That the Association adopts 3 competing classes with the consequential proposals of altered performance times of the contest class and a 40%, 40%, 30% split between the classes. This proposal as a whole was not carried with 0 votes for and 21 against.

This proposal was broken down into sections. Firstly, that the Association adopt 3 competing classes.

This was carried with 19 votes, 1 vote against and 1 abstention.

Secondly, that the class names be known as National Class, Championship Class and Contest Class but with the understanding that the Contest Class is suitable for Novice bands. This was carried with 20 votes for and 1 abstention.

Lastly, the performance time of the Contest Class be adjusted to between 7 and 10 minutes. This was carried with 17 votes for, 3 votes against and 1 abstention.

The consequential proposal of the percentages of bands in each class was withdrawn.

Proposal 6 The proposed Constitution changes were withdrawn.

The proposed changes to the membership subscriptions were withdrawn.

Proposed changes to Section Two, Category B rules concerning how new bands are classified plus an amendment to Rule 1.A.ii to read *The band on video must be the **proposed** competing band* was carried with 18 votes for, 1 vote against and 1 abstention.

Proposed changes to Section 5, League Rules concerning promotion and relegation were discussed.

Rule 5.i. was amended to read *Bands who wish to change a class or remain in their class contrary to the Committee's decision must provide a written explanation as to why they feel they need to move or*

*not move.* Rule 5.ii. in the proposal was removed. The proposed rule changes plus the amendments were carried with 18 votes for, 1 vote against and 1 amendment.

#### **AOB**

A judge has asked is there likely to be any uniformity in what they are paid to judge at a contest. It was decided that the judges fee is to be decided by the contest organiser.

A point was raised by Alderley that a Drill judge commented that their band was being judged as soon as they entered the arena. This was discussed at last years AGM and the Drill judge should start judging at the same time as the others. This is covered in Section Two, Category B, Rule 6. It is the responsibility of the contest organiser to make sure their judges are aware of this rule during the judges briefing.

Dale has requested that members give him feedback on the website so that he can improve it. His contact details are: dale@tymba.org.uk or 07944 062 396.

Dave Gilby offered a vote of thanks to Ian and his staff for hosting the AGM and for the refreshments.

#### **Date and Venue of next year's AGM**

Grafton District Scout Band will host the AGM in 2011. The venue is to be confirmed.

Dave declared the meeting closed and wished everyone a safe journey home.