

**MIDWEST PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION  
AGENDA  
NOVEMBER 1, 2014**

1. Call to order - Jim Sim
2. Roll call – Marty Boyle
3. Minutes of the 2013 AGM
4. Treasurers Report – Marty Boyle
5. Registrar’s Report: Band – Tad Myers
6. Registers Report: Solo – Tom Jewell
7. Chief Steward Report – Keith McDonald
8. Music Board Report – Tom Weithers
9. Education committee – Bentley Wall
10. Vice-Presidents Report – Scott McCawley
11. Presidents Report – Jim Sim
12. Business Items
  - a. Advisory Committee Proposals
    - i. We recommend an increase band dues to 200 for early registration and 250 for late registration. We have not had an increase in dues in several years and with all the programs we have started we need to increase revenue.
    - ii. We recommend an increase in solo due to \$20 to \$25 for regular registration and \$30.
  - b. Membership Proposals
    - i. Submitted by Jayne White Robin Jarrett of the Indianapolis Scottish Society asked me to have the MWPBA board consider extending the competition season to include the Indianapolis Scottish Games, which is usually the 2nd weekend in October. They hope to make

the games grow and ultimately include band competitions. For the games to be successful, it is important that the points earned by the soloists, and bands count towards the Champion Supreme status of the MWPBA.

- ii. Submitted by Bob Ford - Bands are judged by some very competent people. We would love to know what they think of us but can only guess, because we have no idea what they have written on our score sheets. The only way to find out is to find them and ask them to interpret their scribbling. That is not always possible and may make the judge uncomfortable. Bands that I have been with have spent quite a bit of collective time trying to decipher score sheets. One particularly frustrating sheet looked as though the judge wanted us to “Chastise a little umbrella” and that we “Tango & suck”. We could only hope that they were trying to convey a more meaningful message. I understand that they are writing on the go and trying to listen to the performance. I don’t expect much more under the circumstances and I am not proposing to have them complete a penmanship course as part of the judging qualification. But there are a couple potential solutions to this problem; Years ago, Jim Sim judged our drum corps using a tape recorder and commenting during the performance. That is the way DCI does it and it worked pretty well. Today, there are tiny digital recorders that do a great job and the band being judged gets a close-up recording from the judge’s perspective. As long as the judge does not talk as bad as they write, it is a viable option. The recording would be transcribed afterward and given to the band, along with a copy of the recording. Another option is to have a designated person to go over each sheet with every judge and type it into a document like this immediately after the contest, but before the awards. At the speed with which some people can type, this could take less than a minute per sheet. The judge would then sign the legible, printed document. Even if neither one of these are implemented, I hope that another solution is.
- iii. Submitted by Hunter Gullickson Midsection drummer here is defined as someone who plays bass drum or tenor drum. To expand the idea, a person could play pipes in one band and tenor drum in a band of a different grade. A person could play snare

drum in one band and bass drum in a band of a different grade. A person could not play tenor drum in one band and bass drum in a band of a different grade. He recommends the following A. DEFINITIONS Playing Member: A piper, snare drummer or midsection drummer whose name appears on the band roster as submitted to MWPBA Band-Registrar. · Playing members may play a bagpipe, snare drum or midsection drum in one registered band and a different instrument in a registered band of a different grade.

- A playing member of a band may compete only with that band during the competition season (with Registered Instructor exception).
  - At no time shall any player compete with two bands of the same grade.
  - Only one (1) band change will be allowed per person in one competition season (with School Band Member exception).
- iv. Submitted from the Chicago Highlanders – We would like to see a limit placed on the number of upper level players that can be rostered in a Gr 4 band: Specifically, one upper level player (RI) in each/either corps. Considering a minimum number of pipers could, on any given day, be 6, adding in an RI and just one more upper level piper produces a circle with 25% upper level players. The raw numbers do not, however, accurately reflect the difference that these 2 pipers can make. Strategic placement of these players and the confidence they infuse into the circle puts the band at a much greater advantage. A limit would foster a level playing field and produce results that accurately reflect the grade.

When a roster is submitted to the MWPBA in March it could be reviewed on a player by player basis and the band could be re-graded based on that review or denied entry into the grade 4 level until the roster is adjusted. If a band wishes to add an upper level player to their roster during the season, the playe border issues, grading adjustment and symphonic formation r would be denied if the limit has already been reached.

Below is border issues, grading adjustment and symphonic formation an excerpt from the PPBSO:

- v. Submitted from the Chicago Highlanders We would also like to request that rosters be made public.

- c. Discussion items
  - i. Border issues
  - ii. Grading adjustment
  - iii. Symphonic formation

13. Election of Officers – Jim Sim

14. Presentation of Champion Supreme – Jim Sim

15. Announcements

16. Adjournment – Jim Sim