



AoBBA

the association of
brass band adjudicators

Minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Association of Brass Band Adjudicators

This was held at:

Delta Marriot Hotel, Manchester Airport on Sunday 21st January 2024

1. The meeting started at 10.30am with a welcome from the Chair
2. A minute's silence was held in memory of those within the banding community, especially former AoBBA member Dennis Masters, who have passed away within the last year.
3. Apologies for absence: 23 (The secretary holds the names of those giving apologies, if requested).
4. Membership in attendance at the meeting: (The secretary holds the names of those as listed below, if requested).

Via Zoom: 15

In person: 21

Total: 36

Non replies to AGM invitation: 30

Resignations in the previous year: 8

Total Membership: 89

4. The minutes of the AGM 2023 were agreed as a true record.
5. Annual Reports

5.1 Chairperson – accepted with thanks with no questions arising.

5.2 Secretary – accepted with thanks with no questions arising.

5.3 Treasurer – accepted with thanks; there was one slight amendment to the statement, there has been an extra £30 donation recorded and this will be updated in the next report to the Exec and AGM 2025. Donors were publicly thanked.

5.4 Public Relations Officer – accepted with thanks; there were no questions arising.

5.5 Trainee Adjudicator Programme Leader – accepted with thanks; there were no questions arising.

6. Election of Officers –

Sheona Wade stepped down as Chair after 2 years and was thanked for her leadership in that time. Brett Baker was elected to Chair. The Executive will vote on the appointment of a Vice-Chair at their next meeting.

The remaining officer positions remain the same for 2024 as for 2023.

7. Election of Executive Members – Thanks were given to John Ward and Bob Childs for their time as executive members (Bob having relinquished his position one year into a two year term). With Brett Baker becoming Chair, three positions were available. David Ashworth, Alan Duguid and Stephanie Binns were voted in favour to fill these positions. Sheona will stay on the Executive for one year as ex-officio, as per custom for a retiring Chair. 2025 will also have three positions available. Stan Lippeatt and Helen Douthwaite-Teesdale will have served their two year terms and Sheona will have served her one year ex-officio position.
8. Election of Auditors - Derek Broadbent and Alan Widdop to remain as auditors for 2024.
9. Annual Subscription Review - this was agreed to be kept at £30 for 2025.
10. The motion to change Constitution 3.3 as per attached paperwork was carried. A motion to include this (3.3) in an adaption of 5.7 was carried. The motion to change Constitution 4.2 was not carried. These changes will be specifically highlighted to members.
11. NG informed the membership that Kapitol have decided that smartphones will also be handed in at contests in the same way that mobile phones are. NG will write to Kapitol (Philip Morris) and all secretaries of regional contests to request that even at venues where adjudicators are not asked to speak at the draw, they will hand in devices in front of delegates. A question was raised concerning other internet enabled devices such as tablets. A discussion was held regarding the on-going issue of trust of adjudicators. It was agreed that phones and smart watches are to be put in the safety deposit box as previously described and that as an association, we trust our

membership to be honest and professional and not to have tablets turned on. A further point was made about using tablets for scores instead of paper copies. It was agreed that when that situation arises, an adjudicator will show that internet connection has been disabled and then contest organisers and bands will need to trust us. The issue of non AoBBA members being asked to do the same as above was raised. AoBBA has no responsibility for non AoBBA members though Kapitol have confirmed this will apply to all their adjudicators.

12. A far reaching and wide discussion was held regarding open vs closed adjudication. The merits and disadvantages for both were acknowledged.
13. A motion was carried to set up a forum of a number of organisations to be chaired by BB so that open dialogue between AoBBA, contest organisers, BBCA, the UK Leading Bands Forum and other interested parties can take place. The need to maintain and foster relationships across banding was acknowledged and the hope is that this will continue to improve AoBBA's standing in the banding world. NG will draft paperwork to be discussed at the first Exec meeting before it being publicised.
14. MH announced that collared t-shirts and other items of clothing as requested, with the AoBBA logo, will be available through DA. MH will set up the ordering process asap and further information will be sent to members in due course.

The meeting concluded at 11.40am with CPD starting at 11.50am.