

# Isle of Skye Wind Band - Members' Handbook

## Welcome to the Isle of Skye Wind Band

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to The Isle of Skye Wind Band. We hope that you will enjoy being a member of the band.

This handbook has been put together to give you an insight into the background of the band, how it operates and some of the rules we have adopted. These rules have been developed to help the smooth running of the band and ensure that everyone gains full benefit from the limited rehearsal time we have available. Remember, it is your band! If you have any comments or suggestions we would be delighted to hear them.

The Isle of Skye Wind Band is a non-profit making association that aims to further the musical education of members of all ages and abilities through regular rehearsal and performance.

## History

The band was founded in February 2022 by two Skye music teachers, Lynne Anstice Brown and Jacqui Ross, and has members from across the Isle of Skye and beyond. There are no age limits or specific entry restrictions; all you need is enthusiasm and dedication. Our repertoire is diverse and developing all the time, with music ranging from classical to popular. Lynne is our musical director and Jacqui is our 'leader' (principal first clarinet - a bit like the leader in an orchestra). The band also benefits from the support of a number of friends and volunteers who offer support in the management of rehearsals and events.

## Membership

We welcome new members throughout the year. It is preferable that new members can read music, although no formal qualifications or 'grades' are required. If you would like to join the band please get in touch with a member of the committee to arrange to come to a rehearsal to see whether you would be enjoy being part of the band.

In some circumstances it may not be possible to welcome new members. For example, if a particular section of the band is oversubscribed and to admit new members would significantly and adversely affect the balance of the ensemble.

We also welcome non playing members and volunteers to help us with vital tasks such as refreshments during rehearsals.

We welcome younger members, but we ask that those under 18 be accompanied by a responsible adult, or if this is not possible that an emergency contact telephone number be provided.

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Members are expected to pay a modest membership fee to cover band costs. This is currently £5 per month. Membership entitles band members to attend fortnightly rehearsals and to have access to a 'dropbox' containing the music for their instrument so that they can practice their parts between rehearsals.

We ask that members

- attend rehearsals on time and as frequently as possible;
- where possible let a member of the committee know if they will not be able to attend a rehearsal, as this helps the musical director decide what pieces to work on during a rehearsal;
- practice their parts between rehearsals using the copies made available in the relevant 'dropbox';
- do not take the original printed music away from the rehearsal with them, but return music to the appropriate folder at the end of the rehearsal;
- assist in setting out chairs/stands and tidying away again at the end of the rehearsal;
- assist in setting out and clearing away of refreshments;
- respect each other and behave in a friendly and polite way towards each other.

## Rehearsals

Rehearsals take place at Skeabost Memorial Hall, fortnightly, on a Monday evening from 7pm until 9pm.

## Concerts and public performances

The band participates in a number of concerts and public performances throughout the year. It is essential that every member makes the effort to be present at these as substitutes are difficult to find. Any member who is aware that they will not be available for a concert or public performance should give as much notice as possible.

## Committee

The band is managed and administered by a committee of trustees. The roles and responsibilities of the band committee, are set out in the band constitution.

At present, as we are a new organisation and have not yet had our first General Meeting, the committee comprises the following volunteers;

Chair - Jacqui Ross

Secretary - Carol Campbell

Treasurer - Ian Ross

Musical Director - Lynne Anstice Brown

Librarian - Sam Anstice Brown

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The committee will be formally elected at our first Annual General Meeting. If any member wishes to seek election to the committee, this should be done in writing. Should nominations exceed vacancies, an election will be held.

## Communication

We have a Skye Wind Band facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/skyewindband>

Lynne can be contacted on 07966 511714  
Jacqui can be contacted on 07970 565025

*We hope you enjoy being a member of the Isle of Skye Wind Band*