www.kinnairdbagpipes.com

923 Emmeline Terrace Saskatoon, SK. Canada S7J 5G7 306-249-2939

sales@kinnairdbagpipes.com

## Piper's Pal Reed Protector

Moisture is critical to the performance of cane reeds. Too much moisture results in mildew formation on the reed, while too little results in loose bindings, open sides, and split cane.

What then is a piper to do? Ideally, you would store your reeds under conditions that maintain enough moisture that they can be restored to playing condition quickly, but not moist enough to result in mildew. This is what the *Piper's Pal* chanter reed storage case is designed to do.

The **Piper's Pal** chanter reed storage case maintains optimum moisture conditions for the storage of cane reeds. If the reeds are too wet, **Piper's Pal** will absorb moisture from the reeds to prevent mildew. If the reeds are too dry, the reeds will absorb moisture from **Piper's Pal**. Dry reeds placed in **Piper's Pal** will be restored to optimum moisture content in about 24 hours, and will remain that way until they are removed.

What are the benefits of storing your reeds under optimum moisture conditions?

- 1. Reeds will always be ready to play.
- 2. Reeds will stabilize quickly and remain stable in the bagpipe.
- 3. New reeds will be played in quicker.
- 4. Mildew and mold on reeds will be minimized.

## Instructions for Use of *Piper's Pal Reed Protector*

*Piper's Pal Reed Protector* consists of a reed protector, 2 screw-on trays, and a sealing rod to isolate the reed from the chanter bore.

To activate the **Piper's Pal**, unscrew the tray with the pink crystals from the reed protector. Add 1/2 measuring tablespoon (7.5 ml) of water to this tray and wait for the water to be absorbed ( $\sim$ 1/2 hour), Once the water is absorbed, screw the tray back onto the reed protector. **Ensure all water is absorbed** or drained before using.

To use the *Piper's Pal Reed Protector*, place the reed protector over the reed in the chanter and tighten the thumbscrew. Insert the sealing rod gently



up through the bottom of the chanter until it is positioned above the finger holes. *Do not force the rod. A light seal is all that is required.* 

If your reed is very wet from playing, dry it off before using the reed protector. Leave the rod out to allow the reed to dry if mould forms.

When playing your pipes always stand the reed protector upright with the foam gasket on a flat surface to minimize moisture loss.

Check the tray with pink crystals for moisture content regularly. Over time you will notice that it tends to dry out as your reed absorbs moisture from the *Piper's Pal*. Just add a little water to the tray and leave standing until the water is absorbed.

**A Recharge Kit is recommended annually**. The Recharge Kit allows replacement of the chemicals in the 2 trays. This ensures that the storage case stays fresh and operates efficiently. Contact your piping supplier for details.