



Using WARBL with the EPipes iOS app

EPipes settings

The EPipes iOS app works great with WARBL and just requires a few changes from the default settings in order to play in tune and have full control of the drones. Assuming that you are using the highland pipes/smallpipes WARBL fingering, the Lowest Note setting should be “68”, as shown to the right. Also verify that the drones channel is set to “15” and Chanter Channel is set to “1”, which should be the default. The “Transpose” and “Tuning” settings should be left at “0”.

WARBL Configuration Tool settings

When you choose the GHB/smallpipes fingering chart in the WARBL Configuration Tool, the key should be automatically set to Bb. You can verify this in the dropdown menu next to the fingering chart selection.

To control the drones in EPipes, you can use the settings shown below (be sure to select “Save Settings for Current Instrument” after making any changes). The “Channel” setting should match the Drones Channel setting in EPipes (15 by default). Byte 2 can be any MIDI note number less than 80, so you can leave it at the default setting. “Byte 3” is the volume of the drones from 0-127, but this can also be controlled in EPipes by using the Drone Volume slider.

Be sure to change the “Drone off command” to “Note off” as shown. Now, WARBL will send a “Note On” message to turn the drones on and a “Note off” message to turn the drones off (this is different than when using some other bagpipes apps).

If you select “Use secret button” as shown, you can control the drones by covering the R1 tone hole and clicking button 1 on the back of the WARBL. You can also choose to turn the drones on and off with the chanter or at a selected bag pressure. If you’d like to control the drones with another button action instead, you can select “No drone control” but then assign “Turn drones on/off” to a button action in the “Button Behavior” panel.

Note: EPipes doesn’t respond to MIDI pitchbend messages, so the WARBL “Slide”, “Vibrato”, and “Expression” features won’t have an effect.

