

Midland District Councillor, Gordon Sears.
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Visit our website www.mya-uk.org.uk

Model Yachting Association

Midland District report to Council Jan 2008.

The 2007 District AGM was hosted by Bournville MY & PBC in their recently refurbished club house, and the attendance was slightly better than previous years.

Thanks were given to Tony Edwards for being District secretary for several years, where upon he officially stood down, to concentrate on his role as vice chairman of MYA.

He did however say he would continue to help whilst a new secretary was found; unfortunately, this was not possible at the meeting and Gordon Sears indicated that he would let all District clubs know we are looking for a candidate.

After the official business the District representatives had a short discussion about the outstanding issue regarding sailing venue risk assessments.

Most Midland venues are not owned or controlled by the model yacht club using the venue, and even fewer have any tenancy agreements. However we do agree that all venues should have a control document featuring such details as: venue address, map reference, post code, site owners contact details, emergency contact phone numbers for the local Doctor, Hospital and NHS direct.

Club member contact details and emergency contacts should be held securely where possible on site or at the very least be made available whilst any event is being held at the club.

Visiting skippers to an open event would be advised to take some form of identification and contact details with them in case of emergency.

Doing a venue risk assessment is much more difficult, as firstly who is qualified to carry this out? and what happens if something changes, or a risk is not properly assessed during the inspection. Who would be liable for this omission?

Whilst we all agree that we should operate in a safe manner at the water it is very difficult to inform skippers let alone any members of the public as to any potential hazard.

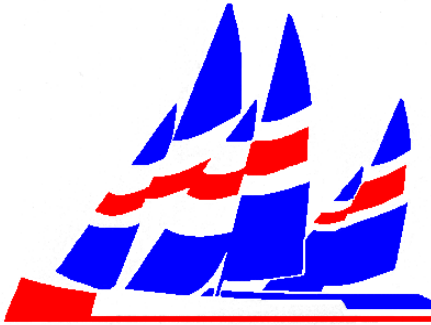
If anyone has a practical procedure that would meet the requirements of a site risk assessment, I would be interested to hear from them.

There is one area that needs urgent attention and that is the recovery of a boat that is out of control, which has either sailed away from the control area or needs the help of a rescue boat.

TWO people should be assigned to this task by the **OOD** in case of a difficulty being encountered in this procedure.

Patron H.R.H. The Prince Phillip Duke Of Edinburgh K.G.

Affiliated to the I.S.A.F: R.S.D., C.C.P.R (Water Recreation Division) & R.Y.A.
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District Publicity.

Getting the 2008 yearbooks out to the clubs earlier this year has been well received, and encouraged the local club treasurers to chase the members for their subs.

I am also please to announce that the MYA Midland District has its own website, thanks in no small part to the tremendous efforts of Mr Laurie Brown. He started by updating the Market Bosworth site and then kept onto me until I provided some content for the district. This was added to information about each club and created into a site styled on the MYA main site, thus keeping the family resemblance.

Thanks for all your work on this Laurie.

He just needs input from all the district clubs to keep it fresh and up to date, stories pictures etc can be sent to the District Councillor for inclusion.

Draycote Sailing club has been in contact to see if the district can put on a sailing display during their club open day. Provisionally the date is June but as, yet it is in the early stages of planning. We have done this previously and hopefully we can build on this to have access to their site in the future. It's a very big piece of water right in the Midlands.

Club Activities.

Manor Park sailing club radio sailing section has been established on a permanent basis after a year's probation. This venue has a raised operating position making it easy to see the complete course albeit with a slightly difficult launching position for the infirm. Host club members were always on hand to help with procedure, however.

There are some local restrictions regarding parking as the site is shared with a large dinghy club and these will be explained to you when entering any event.

We have held two club events as part of a District series and whilst these only attracted a small entry, we had plenty of racing and it was an ideal opportunity to test the venue.

The Burton on Trent club water has had its level restored and we are due to hold a winter series IOM race there on 17th Feb. They have also been sailing Footies so if you have one give them a call and join in.

Bournville, Leicester and Market Bosworth have also been active through the winter with their own events in addition to the IOM winter series.

As for the other District clubs I hopefully will have an update for the next report.

Regards.

Gordon Sears.

MDC.

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