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Visit our website www.mya-uk.org.uk

Model Yachting Association

Midland District Councillors report for 2009 District AGM.

The season started early for some of us this year with a visit to the London Boat Show. A lot of the Midlands skippers attended doing such tasks as stand building, dropping off boats for display, creating District hand outs, manning the stand and helping with the MYA Micro Magic's on the pool, as well as a host of other duties. Thanks to those of you who gave of your time to make the show a great publicity vehicle for Radio Sailing. The end of day exhibitor's race had queues of other stand volunteers for a go to be top dog with the Micro Magic's.

The winter IOM interclub sailing continues to grow and is almost as popular as the MDCS Series. No event was cancelled due to bad weather but we got close.

Then we had the MYA Rules Seminar at Manor Park Sailing Club, no sooner than the agenda had been established than we had to cap the entries at 42 such was the demand.

The structure of the day was a series of lectures based around the new 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing.

Tony Edwards did a well targeted presentation on the changes and what implications it had for the radio sailors. This was augmented by Peter Stollery taking a Q/A session discussing practical on the water changes.

Everyone was treated to a hot 2 course meal, catered by the Manor Park Sailing Club and sponsored by the MYA.

The afternoon was given over to Martin Roberts & Brad Gibson discussing and demonstrating their thoughts when mark rounding. This was followed by various on the water scenarios being ably demonstrated by all the presenters and a few invited skippers.

A most informative day and we received a lot of positive feedback from the attendees.

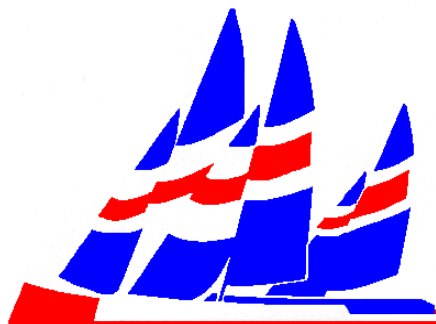
The district was scheduled to run several MYA events this year and Gordon Sears invited all the host club officials to a Race Management Day teach in at Market Bosworth. We had 14 attendees which was a brilliant turn out for such a classroom-based subject. The day was split into two sections; the first was targeted at what a club needs to do to host and run an open race, the second part then built on this bringing race management up to the level of a National Championship.

Each club was provided with a CD containing all the control documentation and the HMS scoring system.

I believe that everyone got something from this teach in and has allowed us to build a pool of race officers and scorers in the district who can run a successful race at club level to the MYA prescribed standard.

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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I don't want this report to be a racing review as they have already been available online for some time. There is however some that need a further mention.

The first was the MYA RM National Championships held over two days at Lincoln Sailing Club. This was the first time the club had hosted such a prestigious race, the District Rats (race assistance team) were invited to assist the club with manning and we provided a course setter, rescue boat operator (Graham Allen) scorer and race management (Gordon Sears) PRO Jeff Hill, leaving the ARO duties to Andy Stevenson.

In the background were several other members of Lincoln RYC, all doing their bit without complaint for the benefit of the competitor's. On behalf of the district many thanks.

Next was the MYA Presidents day at Bournville MY&PBC. This event is targeted at the kit boat sailor with the intention of showing the public about model yachting.

Information was posted on the MYA web site and yearbook, Bournville also put posters in the local model shops, schools and library, and we posted an event notice on the forum.

Whilst the response from the public was limited there was a wide variety of boats represented. A short classroom session on RC installation and rig/sail setting helped those attending get the most from their visit.

This event needs to have its own identity and Keith Coxon (MYA publicity) has indicated that he would like to help take the idea forward with those involved in the organisation of the previous events.

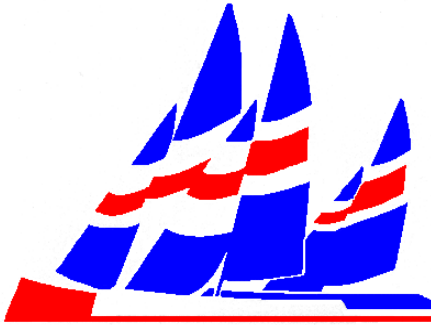
Moving into August, Watermead hosted the RA Veterans National Championship, and once again the club were assisted by the Rats over the weekend. Whilst the entry was fairly small the district interest in the class has grown slightly, some of the new skipper's even taking in a few rounds of the Pracc series.

Watermead also stepped in at short notice to host the Southwest District IOM Ranking Race, which was originally scheduled for Woodspring but due to weed their water was unusable. Unfortunately, there was no other water in their area that could handle the event, so Watermead was asked to help out. Thanks, Watermead.

Whilst on the subject of weed 19 skippers turned up at Burton on Trent for the IOM MDCS 5 only to find that weed had taken over there as well. After a short discussion it was decided to cancel the race and re-schedule it for Manor Park on the day of the District AGM. Most clubs suffer from weed or other restrictions at some time of the year and where possible we do take this into account when setting the calendar.

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One area that has proved to be popular this year has been the posting of Notice of Race on the MYA forum, and online event entry direct to Graham Allen. The details are then passed on to the host club which greatly helps with pre-event planning.

Looking forward to the end of November once again the Midland District will be hosting the MYA AGM and trade show at Dickens Heath. Each year this gets bigger, and it is good to see the normal club members having a chance to see and speak to the MYA representatives. I can assure you they are just like you in that they love their sailing but are also willing to put something back into the sport for the benefit of the majority.

Overall, the activity in the district has been a great success with many contributions from the senior club officials and District representatives who have all worked hard to provide the club members with racing, training, up to date information and ongoing event support.

One final thing the district has its own web site, many entries on the MYA forum and a flicker site for uploading of photos. If you wish to see your club featured on any of these please send a report, photos etc to Graham Allen. I sure he would be most grateful for any input to keep these up to date and relevant and worthy of regular revisiting.

Regards

Gordon Sears.
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23.09.2009

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