

## MYA Scottish District AGM 2005

MINUTE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Scottish District of the Model Yachting Association, held at Royal Tay Yacht Club, Dundee, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2005

### Present

Alistair Law (Chairman)	Buchanness
Richard Rowan (District Councillor & Racing Secretary)	Paisley
David Loomes (Secretary & Treasurer)	Paisley
David Smith	Paisley
Hugh Shields	Greenock
Richard Ennos	Levenhall
Murray Hackney	Brechin
Mel Percival	Brechin
John Milne	Brechin
Jimmy Rodger	Brechin
R McBride	Brechin
Alistair Struthers	Buchanness

- 1 Apologies were received from Iain Dundas, Ian Duncan, Boyd Baird and Ralph Knowles
- 2 Minute Confirmed. The minutes of the 2004 AGM were proposed by J Rodgers, 2nded by D Smith.
- 3 Matters Arising. There were no matters arising from the 2004 minutes.
- 4 Chairman's Report. Alistair Law reported that Peterhead had had some success in getting local schools involved. He also reported that money is available from the Arts council and local councils for the support of traditional crafts. During the discussion that followed, Richard Rowan asked for information to be provided for addition to the district website and for submission to Acquaint.
- 5 District Councillor's Report. Richard Rowan submitted this report in writing, and the text of that report is attached at the end of these minutes. In addition, he reported that the MYA Racing Secretary not performing his function as actively as was desirable had caused problems during the year.
- 6 Treasurer's Report. David Loomes presented the accounts for the year. All the income and expenditure arose from the Boussey Medallion meeting at Castle Semple and a small profit was the result. The accounts are included at the end of these minutes. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Richard Ennos and seconded by Jimmy Rodger.
- 7 Racing Secretary's Report. Richard Rowan submitted a typed report, which is attached at the end of these minutes. He also reported spreadsheets for scoring and ranking lists had been successfully used for both national and Scottish series.

No event results were available for the R6m races since these were not reported to the racing secretary. Richard pointed out that the lack of information about the R6m events could result in support for them being dropped by the district.

The district web site has been very popular with competitors and organisers alike. Alistair Law proposed a special thanks to Richard for the work he has done in this area, putting the Scottish district ahead of the MYA nationally. This was echoed by the meeting.

- 8 Senior Measurer's Report. Since Boyd Baird was unable to be present at the meeting, there was no senior measurers report. Alistair Law mentioned that throughout the year, Boyd had continued to be bombarded with rule interpretations, but at the same time had had difficulty getting answers to technical questions.
- 9 Reports by the Clubs. These are included separately at the end of these minutes.
- 10 Election of District Councillor & Racing Secretary Alistair Law proposed Richard Rowan continue in these posts, seconded by David Smith. There being no other candidates, Richard Rowan remains as District Councillor.
- 11 Election of Officers The committee for 2006 will be Chairman – Alistair Law – proposed H Shields, seconded J Rodgers. Secretary/Treasurer David Loomes – proposed J Rodgers, seconded R Ennos. Senior Measurer Boyd Baird – proposed A Law, seconded A Struthers.
- 12 Program of Racing for 2006 Richard Rowan reported that there were still some events for which dates had not been set and asked that the relevant clubs should decide on the dates within the next week in order to ensure their inclusion in the MYA calendar.

Alistair Law asked that the timing of Scottish events should be standardised. It was agreed that events in the coming year should adopt the MYA SSIs and thus the competitor's briefing will be at 9.45, and the first race starting at 10.00.

Alistair Law commented that in the past year, a number of events had too few people running the event. He commented that at a strong race committee of least 3 people are required to run an event if problems between competitors are to be avoided.

There was a discussion on the possibility of reducing the travellers series to 4 events. This idea was rejected by the meeting in favour of the current arrangement of one event at each club during the season.

It was decided to adopt a handicap system at the Travellers events in order to encourage newcomers to the sport to take part at these events. The

system successfully used by the Brechin club over the last few years will form the basis of the system.

Richard Rowan agreed to publish a statement on the district website regarding the handicapping system and also on the provision of time between races to resolve problems with boats if required by competitors.

- 13 Any Other Competent Business Hugh Shields asked if anything was being done to promote the creation of new clubs within the district. Richard Rowan suggested that the most likely people to take up the sport were people in their 40s, who perhaps were already involved in full size racing.

There was also some discussion of the difficulty in getting support from councillors who typically feel that money given to hobbies like ours benefits too few people.

Richard Rowan reported that the IOMICA committee had been replaced. He voiced his hopes that the new committee would communicate better with owners, and that opinions of ordinary members would be better reflected. It is also to be hoped that the class rule can be simplified. David Loomes reported that he had been in touch with Ian Duncan who is part of a group R/C Laser sailors from Rhu marina. Ian stated that as many as 18 people are sailing Lasers regularly. Ian indicated that the Rhu sailors are planning on affiliating to the MYA in 2006.

## **District Councillor's Report**

For one reason or another, I have been unable to attend Council this year in person for all but one meeting. However, I don't think that I missed very much by not being there. Hence the short report.

Richard Rowan

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## **Racing Secretary's Report**

The IOM racing programme for the season was successfully completed with all 6 Scottish Travellers events being held. Turnouts were between 8 and 11 boats with 26 skippers having taken part in at least one event. The final results were published on the Scottish web site on 24th September. This year the series was scored using the same method as used for the UK Ranking series. That produced the following overall result:

1. Richard Rowan
2. Alistair Law
3. Ian Dundas
4. David Loomes
5. Boyd Baird
6. Colin Brown

Turnout for the IOM District Championships at Levenhall was 9 boats.

The District hosted the Karachi Cup and Boussy Medallion weekend at Castle Semple on 25th & 26th June - England won the Karachi Cup and Graham Bantock won the Boussy Medallion. 18 boats took part in the Boussy Medallion race.

3 events were scheduled for the R6M class this year. As far as I know these took place but no results or reports were submitted by race organisers.

Entry to Scottish IOM Traveller events this year could be made via a web page on the District web site. This seemed to be popular as quite a number of skippers used it to submit their entry. I was also advised that it was liked by organisers as well. The form will be updated for next season.

I would like to thank all those who helped run District events.

Richard Rowan

## **Reports from the Clubs**

### **Greenock**

Hugh Shields reported that after a poor year, there are some new members for the coming year. The Greenock clubhouse has been derated and the local council has given the toilet and £1000 to the club. Sailing for the 2006 season will be on Saturdays with the scale modellers sailing on Sundays. It is hoped that a new club committee will be able to resolve past conflict between the two groups.

### **Levenhall**

Current membership stands at 23, including one non-sailing and two honorary members. Sandy McArthur has taken over from Sandy McLaren as racing secretary. The club is very grateful for all the work Sandy McLaren has put into organising club racing over many years. The club has been very active, with racing taking place every Saturday throughout the year. Turnout has regularly numbered 10 or 12 yachts for club racing. Three new one metres have been added to the fleet, and another is nearing completion. An electric outboard motor has been purchased for the club's inflatable dinghy, allowing easier course setting and yacht rescue. Treatment of weed by East Lothian Council in 2004 was successful and there has been no reappearance of the problem. The access to the pond has also been repaired.

Over the year, 4 club handicap events and 3 club scratch events have been held. The Scottish District Championships and Scottish Travellers event was successfully hosted on 24<sup>th</sup> September, attracting 9 entrants. A highlight of the year was the celebration attending the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Alex Chalmers on 13<sup>th</sup> August. Alex received personal sail number 90 as a reminder of this very happy event, and this is now to be seen on the sails of his Jazz. A new Alex Chalmers trophy has been inaugurated that will be sailed for in 2006 using a handicapping system based on the age of participants.

### **Brechin**

The Brechin club reported a very successful year, although moving to early Sunday sailing has reduced numbers. Weed problems from previous years did not recur. The club has been told not to use 'Roundup' again at the edges of the lake.

## **Buchanness RYC**

### **Report to Scottish District AGM 08 October 2005**

Buchanness has had another successful year. Membership stands at 22 with three on the periphery and about to join.

This year has seen a considerable improvement in the Fifie side of the club with four new members. This has been largely due to the 'boaties' project which we were involved with last year and these new members have built their own boats and therefore have taken a keen interest in the club.

We had a 'boaties' project have again this summer with five young lads building and four adults completing their boats and bringing them sailing. We have offered these young lads free membership to the club for next year starting now and hope this brings them into sailing.

One of the adults is now building a 1 metre and one of the lads is sailing the spare club boat - a Widget to great effect - look out for Peter. We are hoping to gain in the long run from the effort being put in to this project by the members of this club. Next summer we envisage running this project again.

The radio side of the club is quite healthy and in conjunction with Aberdeen we run monthly regattas both in Peterhead and Aberdeen. Our average attendance at PD has been six. A hardy group of PD members meet on Wednesday nights to practice. We appreciate the support of our Aberdeen friends and are pleased that PD usually comes up with suitable winds for sailing. The last Invitation weekend was a great success from various points one being that we have I think gained at least one new radio sailor and another young man thinking about it.

Our aims for the next year is to make the regattas more enjoyable for all taking part. This can be gained by better knowledge of the rules, workshops at the waters edge on sail trim, guidance on tactics and regatta management. Of course our own behaviour comes very much into it in the form of fair sailing.

We were sorry to loose stalwart Allan Allsop who moved to England in the late summer. We hope that he has been able to find a club near his new home in Skegness. Best wishes Allan.

Alistair Struthers  
05 October 2005

**Aberdeen**

**Report from Aberdeen**

**With a low membership of 6 and with some of these active in sailing full size yachts over the summer, Aberdeen Club has benefited by running a joint sailing programme with the Buchanness club.**

**Good turnouts were seen in the winter months at the popular North East Clubs Series which had average entries of 10 boats and a total of 21 skippers participating over the 3 events. This was up on the 15 that raced in the previous series.**

**Aberdeen opened the Scottish Travelers series in April and have run a Monthly regatta in the period May to September. Some sailing has been held on Thursday evenings to cater for those unable to make it on the weekends.**

**The main issue for the club is the appearance of extensive weed patches particularly to the west end of the reservoir close to our normal launch area. The weed is also a problem throughout the reservoir at low water level. As this problem is worsening with the reservoir often at low level it will be necessary to meet with Scottish Water to review what can be done for the future.**

**Aberdeen club helped to set up the successful North East Scotland / South West England Invitation event in early October but had to move Day 2 from Inchgarth to Peterhead because of low water and weed.**

## **Paisley**

### Report to District AGM 2005 from Paisley MYC

Paisley's membership has reached 30 of whom about half are active sailors.

Enthusiasm seemed generally high in the early part of the year and has declined somewhat since; the best turnout was probably for the R6m Icebreaker in February!

A total of 14 skippers have participated in the monthly IOM Club Championships races on Sundays and a total of 12 have participated in the equivalent R6m events. Informal sailing has taken place most Wednesdays since about Easter - evenings in June to August and afternoons spring and autumn.

Sailing conditions have generally been good. PMYC put in straw bales early in the year and the Council added some more in late spring. There was a hint of a weed problem in August when strong sunlight and a lower than usual water level induced some 'added resistance' to the One Metres but it did not develop.

The Strathclyde University's event for students' Strathclyde 70 yachts was competitively sailed with about 14 boats participating. The Schools event was not held in 2005 due to uncertainty over its sponsorship. That has been resolved and it will run again in 2006. Some schools new to the competition have already said they will be entering teams.



R6m Icebreaker in full swing!



Model Yacht Association  
Scottish District Accounts 2005

**Income**

Brought forward from 2004    £0.00    £0.00

Boussy Medallion

Entry fees                    £57.00

Total Boussy Medallion                    £57.00

Total    £57.00

**Expenditure**

1st prize (Champagne)                    £11.99  
2nd (toolkit)                                £7.98  
3rd (glasses)                                £7.98  
4th (flask)                                    £4.99  
5th (Ins mug)                                £2.49

£35.43

Note pads                                    £4.99  
Pens    £2.99  
Whiteboard markers                        £3.99  
Rope    £6.00

£17.97

Carried forward to 2006    £53.40

Carried forward to 2006    £3.60

Total    £57.00