

Model Yachting Association - Scottish District

Minutes of 2003 AGM

MINUTE OF MEETING of the Scottish District of the Model Yachting Association held at the Royal Tay Yacht Club, Dundee on Saturday 25th October 2003.

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| Present: | Neil Graham (Chairman) | Paisley MYC |
| | Richard Rowan (District Councillor & Racing Secretary) | Paisley MYC |
| | David Loomes (Secretary/Treasurer) | Paisley MYC. |
| | James Bisset | Aberdeen MYC |
| | A.R. Law | Buchanness MYC |
| | M Hackney | Brechin Castle |
| | J Knowles | Brechin Castle |
| | R Knowles | Brechin Castle |
| | J. Rodger | Brechin Castle |
| | H Shields | Greenock |
| | B Baird | Brechin Castle |
| | G Cuthbert | Brechin Castle |

1. Apologies Rev. Milton, David Smith, Iain Dundas.
2. Club representatives Buchanness - Alistair Law, Brechin Castle Centre - Murray Hackney, Paisley - David Loomes, Greenock - Hugh Shields. No representatives were present from Levenhall.
3. Minute confirmed The Minute of the Meeting of the Scottish District held on 20th October 2002 was confirmed, proposed by B. Baird, seconded A. Law.
4. Matters arising from the Minute There were no matters arising from the minute.
5. Chairman's Report Neil Graham offered congratulations to all those involved in the running of the 6m Nationals at Castle Semple. In particular he highlighted the work done by the race officer and his team on the day.
6. District Councillors Report Richard Rowan reported that the MYA had applied to run the UK National Class Association for IOMICA, but that he was unaware of whether or not the offer had been accepted. He also reported that the MYA had set up a new organisational structure but that so far this is not delivering the expected benefits. The technical secretary's job appears to be doing well, but other areas – such as the updating of the 1m ranking list and the preparation of the racing calendar for the coming year, appear not to be going so well.

Richard also reported on the Festival of the Seas exhibition and thanked all those who had given their time and provided models to ensure the success of the event.
7. Treasurer's Report David Loomes reported that in the past year, the district had not handled any funds. He also reported that in future, the MYA council requires that districts submit budgets for any expenditure they are planning in the coming year. It was decided that a budget proposal should be made to allow a promotional effort to be made at at least two public events during the year. The 'Tall Ships' race and the annual Kip Marina open day were seen as likely candidates.
8. Racing Secretary's Report Richard Rowan presented the results of the 1m Travellers series and reported that the racing was well supported and generally enjoyed by all participants. 6m event entries were however down on previous years, and the planned RC Laser event had had to be abandoned due to a lack of entries.

Highlight of the year was the R6M Nationals run at Castle Semple. Although the entry was a somewhat disappointing 13, a large number of races were sailed and ultimately Scottish boats finished in positions 2 though 6. Special thanks were made to Alistair Law and his race team for running this excellent event.

- 9 District Senior Measurers Report Boyd Baird reported that the work of the MYA technical committee appears well co-ordinated and results in around 50-60 e-mails/month, concerning all aspects of measuring the various yacht classes supported by the MYA. Documentation for the various classes is being collated and efforts to resolve outstanding technical problems are proceeding well.

Boyd also reported that he now has possession of the district check weights together with a cradle and scales suitable for measuring IOM boats. He expressed concern for his lack of understanding of the measuring process for R6M boats, but A Law noted that this is the responsibility of the 6MOA which performs its own accreditation of measurers for that class.

R Rowan proposed that event measurement be carried out at the IOM ranking event scheduled for 2004. A Law noted that carrying out full measurement on 40 boats arriving at 9.30am is impractical. After some discussion, it was proposed that measuring at the ranking event should be restricted to keel weights only.

10. Reports by Clubs

Paisley David Loomes reported that Barshaw Park had been mercifully free from weed this year. Placing straw bales in the pond much earlier in the year may well have helped, but it was also noticed that much lower rainfall in the early spring meant that the pond water was much cloudier and this was probably the major factor in inhibiting the return of the previous year's weed problem.

David also reported that membership of the club was fairly static, with most new interest being in the IOM class although enthusiasm still exists for the R6M class.

Brechin Murray Hackney expressed concern at new building work extending the facilities at Brechin Castle. It is hoped that this will not interfere with the wind at this site. Membership of the club is steady with 12 boats in the water – mostly IOM - being a regular occurrence. The Brechin club spent £250 this year on chemicals to clear the weed from the pond. Whilst successful at removing the weed, it was felt that this then subsequently encouraged the growth of algae later in the season.

Buchanness Alistair Law reported that a successful year with more new members coming into the club. He reported that the club had been involved with an exhibition at the local heritage centre and expressed a belief that this was largely responsible for the increased public interest. There is an application from Aberdeen University for a grant to set up a project to build traditional 'Fifies' and that it looks as though the club will be involved in this if it goes ahead.

Greenock Hugh Shields reported that due to work on the dam at Greenock, no sailing had been possible during the year. He reported that the work is now almost complete, and the site should be sailable again shortly. The new island that has been created is well clear of the sailing area, and a new launching jetty is being built by the council. The club has applied for a grant to buy new equipment for the clubhouse, and hopes that a full program of racing can be held in 2004.

Aberdeen Alistair Law reported that the Aberdeen club is also attracting new members. He also reported that the Aberdeen site is frequently used jointly by the Buchanness and Brechin clubs.

Levenhall No report.

- 11 Motions A motion to amend the district constitution was presented by R Rowan. The motion dealt with altering the structure of the district committee, dropping the post of Vice Chairman and adding the District Councillor and District Senior Measurer to the committee. The motion was proposed by B Baird and seconded by M Hackney. The amended constitution was then adopted unanimously.

12. Election of Officers The following officers were elected for the 2003/2004 year:

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|---------------------|---------------|
| Chairman | Alistair Law |
| Secretary/Treasurer | David Loomes |
| Racing Secretary | Richard Rowan |
| District Councillor | Richard Rowan |

13. Racing Programme 2004 The draft of the 2004 calendar was considered by the meeting. Richard Rowan agreed to contact Castle Semple about the scheduled IOM ranking event.

14. The future of the Scottish District, membership development and associated topics

Some discussion took place about the recently announced MYA organisational changes, and concern was expressed about the apparent disappearance of the districts. The feeling of the meeting was that the Scottish District wishes to continue to exist within the MYA, as it feels it has contributed significantly to the development of the MYA in the past and can continue to do so in the future.

Concern was also expressed about the failure of the MYA to resolve the issues of IOMICA after 2 years.

15. The Scottish District web site Richard Rowan advised that his sponsorship of the web site would terminate very shortly. However, he had been in touch with David Rose who had agreed that it should be amalgamated with the main MYA web site. Richard expressed concern that the size of the current web pages might be unacceptably large when merged with the MYA site. The meeting was agreed that they would like to keep the site as is, and if it was too large to be kept inside the MYA site, then the District would have to consider financing the site by some form of levy.

18. Any Other Competent Business

No other issues were raised at the meeting

The meeting closed at 13:20 with a vote of thanks to the chair.