

MYA Scottish District AGM 2009

MINUTE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Scottish District of the Model Yachting Association, held at Royal Tay Yacht Club, Dundee, on Saturday 17th October 2009

Present

Richard Ennos (Chairman)	Levenhall
David Loomes (Secretary)	Paisley
Boyd Baird	Brechin
Ali Law	Buchanness
Ian Dundas	Aberdeen
Brian Robertson	Buchanness
Colin Deakin	Buchanness
Terry Connell	Brechin
Ralph Knowles	Brechin
Richard Rowan	Paisley
Hugh Shields	Greenock

- 1 Apologies were received from Gordon Allison, John Owen, Neil Jardine.
- 2 Minute of 2008 AGM. The minutes of the 2008 AGM were adopted without modification, proposed by Ian Dundas, 2nded by Richard Ennos.
- 3 Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2008 AGM.
- 4 Chairman's Report. Richard Ennos presented a written report to the meeting. A copy of this is attached to these minutes.
- 5 District Councillor's Report. Ian Dundas presented the District Councillors report. A written copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

Additionally, Richard Rowan reported on proposals for IOMICA to affiliate directly to ISAF. Richard recommended that all IOMICA members should read the MYA chairman's reasons for recommending voting against direct affiliation, before voting on this issue.
- 6 Treasurer's Report. Since the post of treasurer no longer exists, there was no treasurer's report.
- 7 Racing Secretary's Report. Ali Law presented the racing secretary's report. This report is attached to the end of these minutes.

Ali also thanked Richard Rowan for his work in keeping the district website up to date with stats and results.

- 8 Senior Measurer's Report. Ralph Knowles' written report is attached to the end of these minutes.
- 9 Reports by the Clubs. These are included separately at the end of these minutes.
- 10 Election of District Councillor Ian Dundas indicated that he was willing to continue in the post of District Councillor, and in the absence of any other nominees, he was duly elected. Proposed by Richard Ennos, 2nded Ali Law.
- 11 Election of Officers The committee for 2009 will be
- Chairman – Richard Ennos – proposed B Baird, seconded I Dundas.
 - Secretary David Loomes – proposed A Law, seconded H Shields
 - Racing Secretary – Ali Law – proposed R Rowan, seconded B Baird
 - Senior Measurer Ralph Knowles – proposed I Dundas, seconded B Baird
 - Publicity Officer Ali Law – proposed Ian Dundas, 2nded R Ennos
- 12 Scottish Model Yachting Association Richard Ennos explained that this is a completely separate entity from the MYA Scottish District.
- 13 Review of Racing Program for season 2009 The problem of handicapping in multi heat races was again the subject of conversation. A number of differing suggestions were made, but in the end it was decided that for multi-heat events, there should be no handicapping. It was also decided that there would be no handicaps at the district championships, even if it were run as a single heat event. Handicaps will however be retained for the travellers series.

Richard Rowan requested that event organisers should contact him to enable web based entry for their events.

- 14 Program of Racing for 2010. Alistair Law presented the proposed calendar for racing during the 2010 season and noted that everyone was avoiding scheduling events during July and August. The proposed calendar was accepted for entry to the MYA yearbook.

Ian Dundas noted that the MYA was promoting the idea of workshops and suggested that we could hold one at Castle Semple. Ian agreed to investigate if a suitable date could be found in June.

Hugh Shields proposed the reintroduction of a Scottish 'A Class' championship and suggested early June would be a good time. Ali Law agreed to add this to the district calendar once the date of the training event had been settled.

Boyd Baird asked if there should be a veterans' event in future.

15 Any Other Competent Business

Ali Law suggested that in future, the notification of the AGM should include an invitation for proposed committee members.

There being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting over.

Scottish District Chairman's Report

The past year has been an active one for the district, with three Travellers series events being organised at Paisley, Levenhall and Buchanness, together with the inaugural Scottish District championships held at Castle Semple. It was very pleasing to see that all of the Travellers events were well supported, with fleets ranging in size from 12 at Buchanness to 23 at Levenhall. The decision to hold the Travellers series events outside the summer holiday period appears to have contributed to these good turnouts, and the problem of weed, which caused the cancellation of the Levenhall event last year, was circumvented at this venue. The reduction in the number of events also meant that experienced race teams could be assembled by the organising clubs, ensuring that those making the effort to travel were rewarded with close but fair competition.

The Scottish District championships, held over two days at Castle Semple, proved to be a major success, thanks in no small measure to the organisational skill and hard work of Alistair Law (race officer) and David Smith (scorer). After obtaining reassurances of support for the event by Scottish skippers, Alistair organised a memorable two days of racing that was facilitated by the willing assistance of the staff at the country park. A most enjoyable social evening at the Bowfield country club gave competitors the opportunity to talk radiosailing in relaxing surroundings, and fully vindicated the decision to hold the event over a full weekend.

Over the course of the last year the Scottish District Racing Secretary, Colin McGinnis, tendered his resignation as a consequence of work commitments. We are very grateful to Colin for all the energy and effort that he put into the post during his tenure, and especially for his canvassing of district opinion with respect to the racing calendar, and the setting up of the successful racing programme for the present year. Following Colin's departure I am very happy to report that Alistair Law took up the reins and has since acted in the capacity of Racing Secretary for the district. Alistair has already put in an enormous amount of work to set up the Scottish District racing programme for next year, coordinating club commitments with those of the MYA. I commend to you the racing programme that he has drawn up for 2010 which retains the format of three Travellers events organised outside the summer holiday period, supplemented by the MYA ranking race for 1 metres that will be held at Castle Semple in April 2010. I will be race officer for the Ranking race, and hope that I can count on the support of other members of the Scottish district to stage an event that retains the high standards that we have set for ourselves.

Before closing I would like to thank all those in the district who have been involved over the last year, in whatever capacity, to ensure the good health of radiosailing clubs in the Scottish district, and the efficient running of the Travellers series and the District championships. The district depends very heavily on the efforts of volunteers who give freely of their time and energy to ensure that others can enjoy competition at a truly national level. My hope in the coming year is that those who have enjoyed this competition, but have not yet been involved in making it possible, will join the pool of volunteers and experience the rewards that come from helping to organise a district event for fellow radiosailors.

Richard Ennos

District Councillor's Report

REPORT TO 2009 AGM FROM MYA SCOTTISH DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

In 2009 I have only been able to attend one MYA council meeting in Birmingham in January but have participated in an electronic council meeting in June and submitted reports to the other meetings in April and September.

I volunteered to help with the MYA Handbook Rewrite. The revised Handbook is currently at the Printers and will be distributed to members ahead of the AGM.

MYA COUNCIL ACTIVITY

Key points that are currently being dealt with by MYA council are;

- Supporting the re-establishment of ISAF-RSD. To be resurrected in November 2009.
- Providing views on the future governing structure for IOMICA to be voted on end October.
- Preparing Centenary Year events for 2011 including gaining agreement to host the IOM World Championships at West Kirby
- Drafting Best Practice Guidelines for HSE and Child Protection Policy
- Development of MYA training workshops
- Publicity at Boat Shows and other exhibitions
- Publishing the Aquaint Magazine
- Development of the MYA website, Members Area and Forum.
- Maintaining the fleet of 6 MYA Micro Magics for publicity
- Preparing the 2010 Racing Calendar, National Championships and Yearbook
- Producing a revised edition of the MYA Handbook

IOMICA VOTE TO DIRECTLY AFFILIATE TO ISAF

Votes must be made by 30th October. (See Richard Rowan's posts on Web/Forum)

MYA AGM

The MYA AGM will be held in Dickens Heath Primary School, Birmingham on Saturday 28th November at 2pm following the MYA Trade Show.

There are a few motions for the AGM which have been sent out to Club Secretaries in particular proposals to change the fee structure. (See below)

2010 MYA PROGRAM

In 2010 the Scottish District are committed to running a Ranking event at Castle Semple in April. In the continued roll out of MYA Workshops it is the turn of the Scottish and the Met & Southern to hold events. This item will be discussed at the Scottish AGM

Ian Dundas Scottish District Councillor

Racing Secretary's report 2009

Midway through the season Colin resigned from the above post and I offered to do the job till the AGM. I would like to thank Colin for all the effort that he put into the post which has brought radio sailing to a higher level in the Scottish district.

The district was responsible for six events:

- 3 Travellers
- 1 district championship (2 days)
- Wooden boats
- Fastnet

Fastnet

The first event – the Fastnet - was at Brechin on the 21st of March and attracted 13 skippers with some sharing yachts after a relaxing and enjoyable sail Ian Dundas and John Owens sailing Ian's wooden built IOM ran out worthy winners. RO Neil Jardine and race team did a great job and handled the regatta in a professional manner.

Traveller 1

The first of the IOM travelers was sailed at Paisley under the control of Gordon Alison and team which ran an excellent regatta on 18th of April with 16 skippers present and after 10 races Richard Rowen showed the fleet how it should be done and won with a point tally of 8 points. Like the Brechin event the Paisley one was well run and skippers were well behaved, most of the time. Paisley put their new facility to good use and we all enjoyed their hospitality.

Wooden boats championship

May the second saw us back at Brechin with the wooden boats regatta under the control of RO Colin Deakin (Buchanness) and race team. This event is well established as a regatta not to be missed. 12 skippers turn out with their pride and joys to do battle with a good number 1 rig breeze and after 18 races the victor was Steve Taylor ,Aberdeen, with 36 points sailing a GB Zig Zag but again the race committee did a great job and we enjoyed the delights of the club house.

Traveller 2

6th June saw the largest turn out to date with 23 skippers entering the regatta at Levenhall under the control of RO Richard Ennos. Choice of rig was the decisive decision. The wind speed was between number 1 rig and at times number 2 rig the regatta was sailed in good humor and in a sportsmanship way. The race committee performed extremely well and this added to the event. Ten races were sailed and Ali Law- Buchanness sailed into the winning slot with 14 point from 10 races

Traveller 3

The Northern clubs organized the third event which was to be sailed in Aberdeen but had to be shifted to Peterhead because of weed. Twelve skippers entered the event with one having a new unmeasured yacht and was allowed to sail but would not appear on the final score sheet. The event was sailed in winds speeds which required a number 2 rig and at times some went to number 3 and at the leeward

mark were met with large waves which made the day interesting. The race committee had one major crisis when the gazebo took off but RO Dundas kept his cool and took it all in his stride. The regatta was sailed in a sportsmanship manner considering the difficult windy conditions and Ali Law managed to keep his boat at the front sailing 13 races and winning with 20 points

Scottish district championship

At Castle Semple on the 11/12 July the district tried a new two day event to find a worthy Scottish district champion. Also included was a social event on the Saturday evening where we would have time to meet up with other skippers and have a better chance to get to know each better and this we did and we did find a worthy champion and we did get to know each other better.

Castle Semple proved yet again to be the correct venue to put on a two day event and yet again the staff were more than helpful which was very gratifying. As with all the other regattas in the district the race team, under RO Ali Law performed well and were up to the task and fit for purpose. The skippers (17 over two days) behaved quite well and we had but one protest as I remember which was of no consequence. The action was hard fought but after two days and 19 races Robert Rooney on 37 point ran out winner ahead of Ian Dundas on 41 points. Well done Robert. I felt that this type of event is worth while repeating in the future as I think all aims being achieved.

To Summaries:

We had 31 skippers take part in the traveler series plus race teams

We had 17 skippers take part in the Championship with three on the bank.

We had 13 in the Fastnet plus race team

We had 12 take part in the wooden boats plus the race team

Not one skipper really dominated the whole of this years sailing with

Fastnet winners Ian Dundas and John Owens

Wooden boats Steve Taylor

Travellers 1 Richard Rowan

Travellers 2 Ali Law

Travellers 3 Ali Law

[Scottish District championship Robert Rooney.](#)

Starting advantages

This year we have trialed the modified starting advantage as decided by the AGM last year and this will be again discussed and find members opinion. It did work out quite well but I think we need to look at them when more than one heat is being run.

Standard sailing instructions

These still need to be brushed up and the next racing secretary will have a little bit of work to do on them

There were other club events all around the district which were all very well supported and I think it is safe to say this year has been very successful.

The only disheartening thing this year has been the spread of the dreaded weed and there just does not seem to be an answer to this problem at this time but we have just to keep looking.

The only outstanding event on the calendar is the R6M district championship which I believe will be sailed for later this month being postponed by the presence of weed at Paisley.

Senior Measurer's Report

MYA Scottish District AGM 17th October 2009
Report from Sen. District Measurer

It is with pleasure that I can report that each Scottish club has at least one or more Club Measurer in post. Many thanks to the volunteers who have shown interest in this vital function.

Standard 'Crown Stamped' weights are available so that measurers can check IOM weights as they fill in the Appendix 3 form which the yacht owner holds for his own reference. These weights are on a 'lend and must return' basis.

There is still dubiety as to whether the full measurement form is to be returned to the yacht owner after registration. This has been proposed and has been doing the rounds of the 'Upper House' for some time. Due to the big increase in the number of registered boats during the last decade, and the hope that this trend will continue, it is felt that the mass of paperwork being generated is too much in bulk terms for the registrars to store.

This year, I as senior measurer, I took it upon myself to spot check yacht weights at the major district event at Castle Semple. Half of the fleet was selected at random for keel weight checks and the other half were weighed all up. Very minor discrepancies were detected in only two keels, just a couple of grams, but there were 4 yachts with 'all up' weight discrepancies. Two were minor, and a coin in the pot covered it, but two others needed a 'pocket full of change' to correct. I know that there is no place on the submitted measurement form for fully rigged weight to be recorded, but there are rules which cover this, and I hope that this was not a blatant attempt to circumvent this. Could club measurers please remember, that during weight measuring, each rig must be individually checked so that the overall weight must always exceed the minimum standard, and should be recorded on 'Appendix 3'.

Ralph Knowles
MYA Scottish District
Sen Measurer

Reports from the Clubs

Greenock

Greenock's membership currently stands at 56, 16 of them sailors. During the summer months, there is sailing activity at the club almost every day, with members sailing IOMs, A-class, R6m and Seawind yachts. During the winter, this activity continues with both IOMs and Seawinds being sailed regularly.

Improvements and repairs to the clubhouse have been supported by the local sports authority.

Inter club events between the Greenock and Paisley clubs have been well supported.

Report from Levenhall Radio Yacht Club

The number of sailing members at Levenhall is currently 30, with four new and active skippers joining within the last year. Typical fleet size on a Saturday is 10 to 12. The fleet continues to improve and diversify with a number of home built and competitive 1 metres being introduced over the winter period. We can now boast the widest ever one metre, designed and sailed by Richard Yemm, which impressed at the Travellers event in June. Over the last year we have been sailing with a starting advantage system and the use of a bye boat in club racing. Starting advantages have been successful in encouraging and retaining new skippers, who in many cases have graduated fairly swiftly to racing off scratch. The use of the bye boat system, which forces all skippers to become involved in enforcement of the rules, is to be recommended not only to ensure fair racing, but also to encourage greater familiarity with the rules.

Over the summer period, July to early September, weed was again a significant problem in the pond. However the scheduling of the Travellers event on 6th June ensured that racing could take place without any restrictions. A total of 23 skippers took part in the Travellers event, which had a two fleet format, and was won by Alistair Law. The other perennial problem at the club, the state of the access road, has continued to be of concern. However the laying down of large amounts of hardcore (suspected to come from the Princes Street tram works) may stabilise the road and become the precursor of a permanent solution to the access problem.

During the course of the year our racing secretary Sandy McArthur tendered his resignation after a number of years in the post. We thank Sandy for all the time and effort he put into organising club events during his time in office. Since Sandy's departure Robert Brown has stepped in to organise racing for a number of club trophies, and we are very grateful to him for giving up his racing time.

The other significant event at the club over the last year has been the building and launching of a club website www.levenhallradioyachtclub.co.uk with the help of Donald Stewart. The web site has been instrumental in attracting new members, but will remain so only as long as we keep it fresh and up to date.

Richard Ennos

Brechin

There has been a very regular attendance at our weekly Wednesday and Sunday sailing days. Average turnout being 8 on Wednesdays and 5 on Sundays. This is evidence of a good core of interest, considering that 3 regulars have offshore or other commitments that take them away from home. We have a 'sailing' membership of 15, with a few others who look in occasionally from other clubs. You know who you are and your visits are very welcome.

This year we had no Travellers event as this was held at Levenhall, but as usual, we hosted the Fastnet race and the Wooden Boats events. The Fastnet was run for the second year with the new format where two boat teams or two helm teams were allowed. Quite a variety of boats were presented. Veteran A, classic RM, R6m and ofcourse the IOMs. The lovely French yacht that had its bottom pinched the previous year was unfortunately left hiding at the back of the shed. The wooden boats event had the usual variety of home builds and was well won by Steve Taylor from Aberdeen. There will no doubt be more lovely boats on the stocks for the coming year.

With the dredging of Stobswell pond in Dundee, it was felt that Dundee Model Boat Club (not affiliated to MYA) could benefit from a sailing presence again, as they had been a propeller only club for many years. It was hoped that some of the many elderly boats in their boat store might venture out if there was regular sailing. Unfortunately, after dredging, DDC were very tardy in filling the pond to an adequate depth. Then, when the waters did rise due to no weed control, a forest grew as soon as temperatures rose. This has now subsided and we have resumed sailing there again. This will be a good fallback venue when the ice appears at Brechin.

Buchanness RYC

Buchanness Radio Yacht Club Annual report to the Scottish district of the MYA

The Buchanness club regularly has 4 sailors out of a membership of 19. This year the club held a 2 day open event to encourage the public to come along and try model yachting.

The club has been invited to a November modelling show and will be attending to represent model yachting.

The club spent some money in the past year on a good dinghy, and the launching area has been raised to remove the need for 'Wellies'.

The club also hosted the 3rd travellers event of the year, due to weed at Aberdeen. This event was very successful, apart from the club's gazebo which blew away!

Fifes also had a good year, with 6 boats regularly on the water on Tuesday evenings.

The club is involved in teaching Fife building at Aberdeen University and had a stand at the Portsoy vintage yacht show which was visited by the Princess Royal.

Aberdeen

MYA SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM 17th October 2009 REPORT FROM ABERDEEN MODEL YACHT CLUB

Membership of the club in 2009 is 11 (8 affiliated and 3 juniors), up 3 from 2008. All members are IOM sailors with 2 interested in home construction of wooden yachts.

The Aberdeen Club's sailing programme for 2009 followed a similar pattern to the previous year but serious weed growth and low water levels in July meant that sailing stopped and only restarted again in mid October. As a result, Aberdeen skippers travelled to sail at the Buchanness Club. In fact throughout 2009 Aberdeen and Buchanness have enjoyed a combined sailing program as the low turnouts from each club could not sustain a single programme.

Key Points;

- The NE Clubs winter series regatta in Feb had to be cancelled due to persistent ice.
- An Aberdeen team of Owens/Dundas won the Scottish Fastnet with a wooden Stealth.
- Steve Taylor won the Scottish Wooden Boat Championships for the second year with his Zig Zag.
- AMYC hosted the Scottish IOM Travellers 3 in September with the venue changed to Buchanness.
- The annual NE/SW IOM event planned for Inchgarth in September was transferred to Buchanness where the NE Team won back the Quaich Trophy in a very enjoyable team racing event.

2010 Proposed District Sailing Programme

AMYC currently has 3 members that intend to travel and prefer to continue with a 3 race traveller's programme + 2 day Scottish District ranking event.

Training for 2009

AMYC club is willing to assist with the running of an MYA Training Seminar in the summer of 2010 should this be agreed by the other clubs in the District.

AMYC would also support a Racing Rules training day early in the year.

Paisley

Paisley has 17 members who actively sail IOMs, and 12 members sailing R6m yachts.

The beginning of the 2009 season saw Paisley host the first Travellers event in April. Many of the visitors commented on how well organised and how good the hospitality was. The event was won by Richard Rowan and the local newspaper covered the event.

Sailing continued on Wednesdays and Sundays, with members attending in good numbers. Wednesday afternoon has proved particularly popular with 8 to 10 in regular turnout.

At the end of June the pond eventually fell victim to weed, as expected.

Many members travelled to the Greenock club to sail on Sundays, and we would like to thank them for their hospitality throughout the summer.

Unexpectedly, our pond at Paisley became totally weed free at the end of August. We believe the council chemically treated the pond, perhaps due to public concern in the local press. We were thankful regardless. We are hopeful of pond treatment next year.

We launched our own website around this time through which we have had quite a few inquiries from potential new members. We hope to further develop the website in the coming months.

The Windemere plaque 6m event took place on 20/09.2009 and was won by Robert Rooney.

Greenock and Paisley held an interclub IOM event on 27/09/2009 with Gordon Allison winning the individual skipper. Both clubs have agreed to hold regular events throughout the winter months and next season.

Paisley has 6-8 members who have expressed their intentions to attend next year's Trvellers events.

We support the current format of 3 Travellers events and a 2 day district ranking event.

Paisley intend to host a new IOM event next year which will be open to all.

Paisley would support an MYA workshop.