

**MYA Scottish District**  
**2017 AGM – 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2017**  
**Royal Tay Yacht Club, Dundee**  
**Minutes**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish District of the Model Yachting Association, held at Royal Tay Yacht Club, Dundee, on Saturday 28th October 2017.

**Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club</b>
<b>Ian Dundas ***</b>	<b>Aberdeen</b>
John Owens	Aberdeen
Steve Taylor	Aberdeen
<b>David Ross ***</b>	<b>Buchanness</b>
Richard Rowan	Greenock
<b>Sandy Mackay ***</b>	<b>Kinghorn</b>
Mel Percival	Kinghorn
<b>Richard Ennos ***</b>	<b>Levenhall</b>
John Wyllie	Levenhall
John Handley	Levenhall
Nick Cowern	Levenhall
<b>David Smith ***</b>	<b>Paisley</b>
<b>Boyd Baird ***</b>	<b>Tayside</b>
Colin McGinnis	Tayside

**1) Apologies**

Brian Summers, Ali Law,

**2) Confirm Minutes of 2016 AGM**

**Proposed:** Richard Ennos    **Seconded:** Nick Cowern    **Vote:** Unanimous

**3) Reports by SD Committee Officials for 2017 (attached) – as read**

Following submission of the DC report, the MYA Technical Officer has resigned and a number of IRSA Constitution changes have been proposed. There have been gaps in communication between MYA Council and District Councillors. This should be a focus area for the future.

**4) Reports by SD Clubs for 2017 (attached) – as read**

Healthy membership in SD although it is noted that only one Northern Ireland club (Carrickfergus) retains its affiliation with the MYA (and hence SD).

**5) Draft racing programme for 2018 season** (proposed by Richard Ennos)

**Proposed:** Richard Ennos      **Seconded:** David Smith      **Vote:** unanimous

- a) **Karachi Cup** details will be included in a future version (**Action: David Smith**)
- b) **Entry fees:** The point was emphasised that any costs for competitors at an event should be on the basis that **no profits** should be made and:
  - i) only reasonable Club costs to be covered by the entry fee
  - ii) no money should be charged for prizes.
  - iii) NB There is a SD protocol for recovering legitimate costs via the MYA central fund.

**Action:** Karachi Cup arrangements (**David Smith**)

**Action:** Circulate "MYA-SD Expense Claim Template" to Club Secretaries (**John Owens**)

**Action:** **Race Officers**, with guidance from the **SD Racing Secretary**, for official SD events to make clear the entry costs and what is included.

**Action:** The desire for a 2018 SD training event was expressed. (**SD Racing Secretary to coordinate**)

**6) Proposed change to SD Committee structure and associated changes to SD constitution** (presented by Steve Taylor on behalf of SD Committee)

The initial discussion started at the 2016 SD AGM. The MYA is attempting to evolve in how it is managed including the proposed introduction of Class Owner Groups (COG) having more self-organisation and responsibility. Extensive debate followed on the pro's and con's, ramifications for the SD-Constitution.

**Proposed:** Steve Taylor      **Seconded:** Ian Dundas      **Vote:** 9 for, 1 against  
The motion was passed.

**Action: District Committee**

Update the MYA-SD Constitution to reflect the combined Chairman/DC role.

**7) Election of SD Officers for 2018**

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
District Chairman/Councillor	John Owens	Boyd Baird	Nick Cowern
District Secretary/Publicity	Cathy Reid		
District Racing Secretary	Richard Ennos		
District Senior Measurer	Steve Taylor		

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Votes for</b>
District Chairman/Councillor	John Owens	Unanimous
District Secretary/Publicity	Cathy Reid	
District Racing Secretary	Richard Ennos	
District Senior Measurer	Steve Taylor	

A unanimous vote of thanks was passed (accompanied by a round of applause) recognising Richard Rowan and David Smith for their years of dedicated and excellent service to the SD (and the MYA) which has been highly appreciated by fellow SD Committee Members and SD Club.

## **8) Matters arising from the 2016 minutes (all)**

### **a) 2017 Scottish District costs recovered from MYA**

- i) As per agreed protocol via the SD Committee, £65 was requested from the MYA to cover the cost of hiring the Knockburn Loch conference facilities for the SD training day. MYA promptly paid the full amount. - **Closed**

### **b) Efficient running of future SD AGM's - the SD Committee to review the organisation and running of the next AGM.**

- i) A request for AGM Motions was sent out approximately 6 weeks in advance of the AGM. It was accompanied by a template.
- ii) Only one motion was received as attached to the 2017 SD AGM notification.

### **c) The HSE challenges of Castle Semple's lower walkway.**

- i) Ali Law to review with Castle Semple for UK IOM Ranking - **Closed**

### **d) Confusion regarding sail number regulations**

- i) Clarification circulated by Steve Taylor (SD Senior Measurer) - **Closed**

### **e) Attracting new members (Action: SD Committee to develop theme)**

- i) DF65's have been very useful in attracting new members in Buchanness.
- ii) Levenhall also have a DF65 fleet and are discussing with Buchanness to run a joint (open) event.
- iii) MYA move to Class Owners Groups (COGs) may help support this.
- iv) Open days, inter-club events, approaching sailing clubs, etc.
- v) Emphasise the enjoyment aspect.
- vi) When people show interest, how do we follow-up and keep them engaged?
- vii) Coach and support new members, focus on improving & not results.
- viii) Who is our target audience for marketing?
- ix) Do we have MYA marketing material available?

### **f) Alternative sailing venues**

- i) Are there alternative sailing venues in SD? **Action: SD Committee**

### **g) SD website**

- i) Future MYA website policy is unclear.
- ii) Richard Rowan (who runs the SD website) is very challenged for time. Needs purchase of web hosting and maintenance.
- iii) **Action: SD Committee to follow-up with Richard Rowan**

## **SCOTTISH DISTRICT RACING CALENDAR FOR 2018**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>HOST CLUB</b>	<b>VENUE</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>March</b>					
10	IOM TRAVELLERS 1	IOM	ABERDEEN	Forfar Loch	Confirmed
<b>April</b>					
28	SCOTTISH DISTRICT IOM CHAMPIONSHIPS	IOM	LEVENHALL	Castle Semple	Confirmed
<b>May</b>					
19	IOM TRAVELLERS 2	IOM	GREENOCK	Murdieston Dam	Confirmed
<b>June</b>					
16	SCOTTS OF GREENOCK	IOM	GREENOCK	Murdieston Dam	Confirmed
<b>July</b>					
<b>August</b>					
<b>September</b>					
15	SCOTTISH IOM WOODEN BOATS CHAMPIONSHIPS	IOM	KINGHORN	Kinghorn Loch	Confirmed
<b>October</b>					
13	IOM TRAVELLERS 3	IOM	AYR BAY	Irvine	Confirmed
21	SCOTTISH DISTRICT LASER CHAMPIONSHIPS	LASER	AYR BAY	Irvine	Provisional
27	SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM			Royal Tay Yacht Club	Provisional
<b>November</b>					
<b>December</b>					

# **Proposed change to SD Committee structure and associated changes to SD constitution** (presented by Steve Taylor)

## **Sponsoring body: MYA-Scottish District Committee**

(NB This motion is proposed by 4 votes for and 1 against)

### **Motion:**

To combine the role of Chairman and District Councillor within the Scottish District constitution effective November 2017 onwards.

### **Background/motivation/justification:**

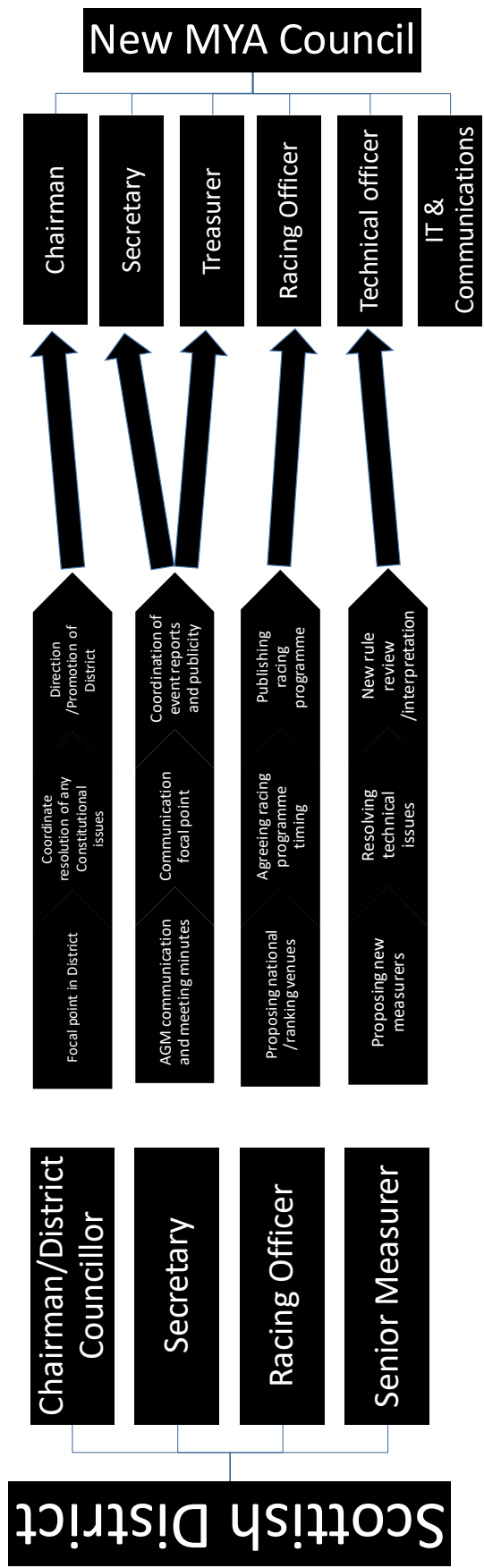
It can be difficult for volunteers to fulfil the demands of the District posts year-on-year. The District Councillor, who will be well versed in current MYA direction and thinking coupled with good knowledge of the Scottish District, could fulfil the role of Chairman as needed. This will contribute to streamlining the organisation to the realities and commitments of our Scottish District members.

Under this proposal the Scottish District committee would have four elected Officers:

1. District Councillor
2. Secretary
3. Racing Secretary
4. Senior Measurer

### **Follow-up actions if passed:**

- 1) Elect new Officers at 2017 Scottish District AGM.
- 2) Change the constitution to reflect the revised role.
  - a) NB Any vote/decision the District Committee needs to make would have to be unanimous or a 3:1 majority. In the event of a "hung vote", there would be no casting vote and a "no change" position would result. This will be reflected in the updated constitution.



## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

I supported the 1st IOM Travellers Event at Levenhall by sailing and the UK IOM Ranking Races at Castle Semple Loch by leading the scoring. I attended the IOM Wooden Boat Championships at Forfar in June, the 2nd IOM Travellers and SD Championships at Kinghorn where I was impressed with the organisation of the event by this new and relatively inexperienced club. Well done Kinghorn! I was part of the Race Team representing Paisley MYC for the 3rd IOM Travellers which had to be run at Greenock because of the weed at Paisley. Many thanks to Greenock for their hospitality. I was unable to attend the training event at Knockburn in April but understand it was well attended.

I again assisted with the running of the Yacht Design/Build/Test Project for 2nd Year Undergraduate Naval Architects at Strathclyde University. I was unable to take any students sailing at Paisley because of the landscaping works going on in Barshaw Park. I anticipate retiring from this activity after the 2017-18 Session.

The profusion of weed across our sailing waters was again a problem this year (and totally devastating at Paisley). Once again, we were deprived of the opportunity of presenting our sport to the public during the summer months and recruiting new members through that route. The Ayr Bay Club, sailing on a very public water, continue to gain members, most of whom appear to have joined because they saw a thriving club in action.

I have served as Chairman for a number of years now and believe it is time for a change. I thank the Committee and club members around the District for their enthusiasm for organising and sailing in club, District & National events.

I have enjoyed supporting Club and District events myself as skipper or scorer and will continue to do so, but in an individual capacity. I look forward to handing over to a new Chairman who will take the reins from the 2017 AGM.

**David L. Smith, Chairman**

## 2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

### REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

In the year since the last Scottish District AGM, I have attended in person the 2016 MYA AGM and 1 out of the 2 number 2017 Council meetings held at Birmingham. I took part in a third on-line meeting.

#### SUMMARY OF MYA COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

This year in Council has been a funny year in some ways. Council had a new Chairman, Terry Rensch, who had no previous experience of working in Council and only some experience of MYA administration at District level. So, he had a lot of learning to get under his belt. The changes to Council that were being considered at the of 2016 have not really materialised. Council continues to run more or less the way it always has done. From mid-summer onwards, it was decided to channel flows of information to and from the Districts via the District Councillors. However, at the time of writing this report, the post of District Councillor is vacant in at least four Districts.

It is noted here that the proposed MYA ordinary affiliation membership fee will be increased to £14 for the 2018 season.

#### MYA AGM

The 2017 MYA AGM will be held in Birmingham on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 1:45pm following the MYA Trade Show. Documents related to the AGM may be found in the MYA Knowledge Base at the following url: [https://mya-uk.co.uk/knowledge\\_base/agm-2017-documents/](https://mya-uk.co.uk/knowledge_base/agm-2017-documents/)

#### Scottish District membership (NB Added after the 2017 SD AGM)

<b>Club</b>	<b>28-Oct-14</b>	<b>23-Oct-15</b>	<b>18-Oct-16</b>	<b>27-Oct-17</b>
Aberdeen	11	7	6	5
Ayr Bay	17	19	21	22
Brechin	5	4	5	5
Buchanness	15	17	17	17
Greenock	9	11	15	13
Kinghorn	4	4	4	9
Levenhall	23	19	15	14
Paisley	7	8	9	8
Rhu	14	14	13	13
Tayside	20	19	16	12
<b>Scottish clubs</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>118</b>
Belfast Water Works		5	0	0
Carrickfergus		11	11	11
East Down Yacht Club		3	0	0
Gortin Lake		3	4	0
<b>NI Clubs</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>129</b>

**Richard Rowan, District Councillor**



## 2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

### REPORT FROM THE RACING SECRETARY

Racing events organised by the MYA Scottish District in 2017 were run successfully according to the published calendar with the exception of the Travellers 3 event on 16th September run by Paisley MYC. This was relocated from Barshaw Park and kindly hosted by Greenock MYC at Murdieston Dam. Timing of the events outside the summer period ensured that problems with weed, though not entirely absent, were kept to the bare minimum. During the year the district hosted the IOM National Ranking events 1 and 2 at Castle Semple over the weekend of 1st and 2nd April. An enormous amount of effort was put in by Alistair Law and his team from Buchanness and elsewhere to ensure that this was a very successful event and was able to run smoothly despite Alistair being unable to attend. We thank John Owens for stepping into the PRO role at the last minute and doing an excellent job. Both the MYA Racing Secretary and IOM Class captain sent very appreciative emails after the event. The events run, their locations, numbers of competitors, and event winners are given in the table below:

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>Venue/Club</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of competitors</b>	<b>Event winner</b>
IOM Travellers 1	Levenhall	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	15	Steve Taylor
IOM Travellers 2	Kinghorn RSC	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	17	Ian Dundas
IOM Travellers 3	Paisley at Murdieston Dam	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	8	Richard Rowan
IOM UK National Ranking 1 & 2	Castle Semple/ Buchanness RYC	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2017	36	Brad Gibson Peter Stollery
IOM Wooden Boat Championships	Forfar Loch/ Tayside RSC	6th May 2017	13	Steve Taylor

The overall result of the 2107 Scottish District IOM Travellers series, based on the two best scores, was a win for Ian Dundas (193pts).

I would again like to thank all those race officers and their teams from a wide variety of clubs in the Scottish District, for passing over the opportunity to race in order to provide first class racing for the competitors.

In addition to the racing events listed above a race training event was held at Knockburn Loch on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 organised by Ian Dundas. Ian gave us a morning presentation that was comprehensive, highly informative and greatly appreciated by all those attending. Skippers were then given advice on boat set up, with the help of Robert Brown, Steve Taylor and Alistair Law, before they put the advice they had received into practice on Knockburn Loch. We are very grateful for all the effort put in by Ian and his team in organising this event which will undoubtedly help to raise the standard of racing in the district.

The Scottish District calendar for 2018 is provided. This has been sent to the MYA and will appear in the year book.

**Richard Ennos, Racing Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM THE SENIOR MEASURER**

As with every year it was busy with e-mail! Mainly about rule interpretation documents following the IRSA rule changes from last year for A class, Marbleheads and 10R's, there was also correspondence on introduction of carbon fibre masts to the 36" class and that class seeking measurers opinion. As these are classes we don't sail and I'm not very familiar with, I was only really involved in sense checking what was said/proposed.

On the OIM front very little has taken place apart from:

- Motion to use other scoring systems for class championships other than HMS, strongly rejected however motion went through on world ballot.
- Class rules have been revised to bring them in line with the other IRSA international class rules verbiage, note they are Certificate Control Forms now! But the requirements, although in places reworded, are the same.

On the District front I'd like to thank Terry Allison on his retirement from measuring work over a number years and welcome Ian Dundas, Douglas Thornton & Ian Thomson as new measurers to the IOM class.

Once again at the ranking event at Castle Semple we (as a District, but thank you Ali) put in place a good measuring system to both check weigh keels and hulls to ensure weight compliance.

At the recent UK IOM Nationals, I did get a side comment that "*we are only weighing boats cos you lot started it*" but joking aside, what it did reveal was a number of fins/bulbs were overweight and several all up hull weights were not only under but also over. Read into this what you like but it is important we have stamped accurate test weights and scales and club measurers available to accurately perform these tasks.

I think as a District we are pretty well policed and have the necessary stamped check weights and tank facilities in place to ensure uniformity.

As I said last year, the District has the measurers and check weights, so if you're not sure due to battery change-out or new rig get, your boat re-weighed! Remember digital scales are fine but they can be 10 to 20 grams out when checked with test weights.

That's about it for 2017 wish you all good sailing as we move into 2018

**Steve Taylor, Scottish District Senior Measurer**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM ABERDEEN MODEL YACHT CLUB**

Since moving to Knockburn Sports Loch in 2015 Aberdeen MYC built a very constructive relationship with the owners, management and other users of this facility. In April 2017 AMYC organised the Scottish District Training Day. The excellent conference room facilities and proximity to the loch made for a very successful event.

However, in addition to wind direction limitation (quality sailing required northerly or southerly winds) access to Knockburn was more challenging due to an increase in use by swimmers, dinghy sailors and canoeists. The final straw was a significant increase in Knockburn membership fees. Following consultation with the AMYC membership, it was decided to discontinue sailing at Knockburn. The decision was communicated to the management of Knockburn and a good relationship remains in place.

The original motivation to move to Knockburn was Scottish Water's notification that users were no longer able to access Inchgarth Reservoir. In the light of the Knockburn situation, Scottish Water were approached to see if they would reconsider their previous decision. In summary, they were not willing to change their decision.

Consequently, AMYC members are grateful that our friends at Buchanness and Tayside make us welcome to sail on at their facilities. Membership has remained stable albeit very low. Nevertheless, several of the members are very active having participated in the UK IOM Nationals, UK IOM ranking events, SD IOM Travellers series, SD IOM Championship and SD IOM Wooden Championship.

**John Owens, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM AYR BAY RADIO YACHT CLUB**

Ayr Bay has 25 members, most of whom sail Lasers, with about half also sailing IOMs. On Sunday mornings we sail Lasers, with Tuesday afternoons being mainly IOMs. About five members also own RMs, but these are not raced regularly.

The winter featured our regular Laser Frostbite series which ran through to the end of March with average attendance of around 10-12 boats and on two occasions 22 boats! From then until June the Lasers continued with fewer entrants (several members also own grown-up boats) but the summer series petered out in June due to weed.

Gordon Neil resigned as Secretary in April and the club want to pay tribute to his tireless work over many years. His recent efforts in nagging the local council to patching up the walkways last year and all his effort and enthusiasm has built the Club into what is now. His duties were shared between the Commodore and the Treasurer up to the AGM. Gordon Allison was elected as Secretary for 2017-2018.

The summer was a bit of a wash-out (or weed out) with no competition possible from early June. In September we cleared much of the pond with wire / rope dragging, which probably sped up the Autumn die-back. The pond is mostly clear now with a few patches still persisting.

The Club successfully held a UK Laser Travellers Trophy in September and have received thank-you mails from the English visitors.

Ayr Bay will continue to support the Scottish District in their efforts to promote and foster radio sailing.

**Gordon Allison, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM BRECHIN CASTLE CENTRE MODEL BOAT CLUB**

This season has continued on a steady and enjoyable basis. There are no trophies or champions, but we do enjoy chasing each other round the marks (in a variety of classes).

Membership has shown a small increase. However, this is not reflected in MYA membership, mainly as insurance cover is reflected elsewhere.

Weed has not been a problem save for a few loose strands, mainly towards the bank. We have continued with the dye treatment and hope to maintain that.

**Laurie Stewart, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM BUCHANNESS RADIO YACHT CLUB.**

Membership stands at seventeen full and four associate members. Up to last month we had no weed but it has made an appearance around the edges but, fortunately, causes no problems.

**IOMs** are the dominant class and sail most Wednesdays and Saturdays. We have a monthly IOM league event sailing from 10am till around 2.30pm on Saturdays.

On behalf of the Scottish District, the first UK IOM Ranking Event of 2017 was hosted by a Race Team of Buchanness members at Castle Semple Loch. Whilst the planning and running of these events can be a significant burden, the feedback from participating skippers from all over the UK was extremely positive. The Scottish District's reputation for organising great events remains intact!

**DragonForce 65:** we have in the region of thirteen skippers and sail on Wednesdays and have a monthly Saturday league. These continue to be value for money and Rev.6 is really refined with updates to hull shape at deck level and more professional sails.

**Fifies:** These fine yachts sail on Tuesday during the summer months and are very dependent on wind direction as they are not allowed rudders. This year has seen four new yachts being built which shows a continuing commitment to the class.

Not only do we sail but on a social side we usually go for coffee afterwards and have a talk about the highlights of the day.

Point of interest: A company has taken over the golf driving range just a few yards from the reservoir and there will be a cafe included which will hopefully act as a clubhouse and provide appropriate access to toilets.

**Cathy Reid, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM GREENOCK MY & PBC**

We have been very lucky at Greenock with minimal weed in the dam, regular sailing on Tuesdays and Sundays with an average of five boats.

Our only open event was the Scott's of Greenock Trophy in the Spring. This had a fourteen-boat entry with light and variable winds. At the start Richard Rowan, moving marker buoys, managed to get a large fishing hook in his thumb and finished up at Inverclyde Royal Hospital (for major surgery!!!!). After a full day of trying, concentrated racing Richard Ennos finished just ahead of Robert Rooney by one point, followed closely by Gordon Allison. Many thanks must go to the racing team for their efforts.

**Hugh Shields, Competition Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM KINGHORN RADIO SAILING CLUB (KRSC)**

Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club have now completed their third year of sailing. We moved our AGM to August to suit the SD & MYA calendar. The club is now pretty much established at Kinghorn Loch and feedback from other loch users is good as we add a really different extra interest. While still sharing loch-side storage/changing with the Kinghorn Sailing Club, we are actively pursuing a facility of our own, and are encouraged by the support from the loch-side owners, Craigencult Farm, and Kinghorn Community Rural Trust.

#### **Membership**

The Club membership has increased to nineteen consisting eleven full members, seven associate members and one non-sailing member. (An increase of one from last year, but significantly an increase of six full members)

#### **Race meetings**

The Club race only IOM yachts on Saturday afternoon's and have this year completed forty meetings with attendances varying from a maximum of eleven to a minimum of three competitors. The average Saturday sailing numbers are similar to last year, with six boats competing at each meeting.

We were very pleased to host the combined Traveller II / IOM Scottish Championship, from which club members gained invaluable experience, along with good local publicity which definitely helped increase our sailing numbers. A club introduction to encourage anyone showing real interested, has been to give them an IOM to sail, take away, treat as their own, until they decide whether this is a sport or them. To date four of the interested persons have progressed to members buying a boat of their own.

#### **Loch sailing conditions**

This year has been a very good year, we have had much less weed than previously seen (is this caused by the increased carp population in the loch?) and sailing has not been disrupted at all. However, the last week in August we put out discretionary weed markers 10 feet from the pier but expect to bring them in this month (September) since the weed is now sufficiently deep not to impede sailing. Again, the Loch Users Group weed cutting machine has not been deployed.

**Sandy Mackay, Secretary**



## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM LEVENHALL RADIO YACHT CLUB**

Club membership currently stands at 16, with a typical fleet of five to seven competing each Saturday afternoon. We recently welcomed a new member, Lindsay Odie, who has built a Goth IOM from scratch including fin, ballast, rudder and sails. Following weed problems in the summer of 2016, sailing resumed in October 2016 after a second round of comprehensive weed cutting by East Lothian council. Sailing continued until early June 2017. Weed was cut again in late June 2017, and sailing was then possible through much of the summer. We thank Sandy Mackay and other members at Kinghorn who welcomed us when sailing was not possible at Levenhall. Work is continuing to draw up plans to develop the pond at Levenhall as a dedicated watersports venue and provide much needed facilities for users, but this is not likely to come to fruition for a number of years.

An important development at the club has been the increase in the prominence given to Dragon Force 65 racing. This is now held on the last Saturday of every month and there is a total fleet of at least 10 yachts and some keen racing. A number of members see great advantages over IOM racing – particularly low cost and a level playing field - and the DF65 is particularly attractive to younger members who do not have the means to purchase competitive IOMs. Three members took part in the DF65 national championships and had a thoroughly enjoyable experience. It is perhaps time to organise some DF65 events within the Scottish District and include these in our calendar.

Recruitment continues to pose a major problem for the club. In order to attract new members Richard Ennos gave an introduction to radio sailing at the Royal Forth Yacht Club which was well attended, and this was followed up with participation at the 'Push out the boat' event where we demonstrated radio sailing in Granton Harbour. We also took along and demonstrated DF65s at the Edinburgh Canal Festival in June. Despite obvious interest at the time these efforts failed to attract new members.

Activities outside Saturday club racing included a lively evening session on racing tactics in March. The club ran the Scottish Travellers 1 event in March, attracting 15 competitors and won by Steve Taylor. Members also assisted at the IOM National Ranking event at Castle Semple in April.

**Richard Ennos, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM PAISLEY MODEL YACHT CLUB**

This could be a very short report; there has been no sailing at Barshaw Park Paisley since early March!

To expand slightly; Renfrewshire Council began a landscaping project to improve drainage in the park and replace the foot path around the pond. This work began promptly, but without formal advance notification to the Club, on Monday 20th March with completion due in early August. In the course of this work the water in the pond was reduced to a very low level. Common sense would suggest that the opportunity to remove weed and assorted vegetation from the bottom and the bank of the pond and treat the bottom to restrict the return of weed would be taken. However, none of this was part of the programme of work and the weed prospered. Despite (or perhaps because of!) approaching councillors and regulators to expedite improvements to the landscaping project and the clean-up of the pond no effective work has yet taken place to return the pond to sailing condition.

Our Commodore, Robert Rooney, has been proactive in attempting to clarify the engineering and environmental suitability of the drainage & landscaping project, engaging in discussion with Friends of Barshaw Park, Councillors, including the convener of the Environmental Committee, and regulators such as Scottish Water and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency. Other users of the Park have raised their concern over the apparent mismanagement of the project in the pages of the Paisley Daily Express - all, at the time of writing, to no avail.

The number of members of Paisley MYC remains small, the active number even smaller, and their average age remains high.

We were unable to accommodate the usual group of 2nd year Naval Architecture students from Strathclyde University to sail their Strathclyde 70's because of the closure of the pond during the landscaping work.

During the landscaping and subsequent weed closure a small group of members visited Greenock to sail IOM's and another small group fairly regularly visited Ayr Bay at Irvine with RC Lasers - always providing the other venues were free of weed.

During the season Paisley members supported most of the events in the District Calendar. David Smith sailed in IOM events at Levenhall, Forfar & Kinghorn and scored at Castle Semple & Greenock. Robert Rooney sailed in IOM events at Levenhall & Kinghorn, in the District RM Championships, was Race Officer for Paisley's IOM Travellers at Greenock and won the RC Laser Travellers event at Irvine in September.

We had agreed to host the 3rd IOM Travellers event in mid-September but this was not possible at Paisley due to the weed. With the agreement of the Greenock Club the event was transferred to Murdieston Dam, Greenock, under a Race Team of Paisley members. Many thanks to Greenock for their support and to Hugh Shields for the catering on the day.

**David L Smith,  
Secretary/Treasurer, Paisley Model Yacht Club**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM RHU RADIO LASERS**

Rhu Radio Lasers continue to race RC Lasers every Thursday afternoon from 13.30 to 15.30 in the marina. Our only problem, from time to time, is drifting seaweed.

We have gained one new member this year, but the majority of our thirteen members have not participated in the racing this year with five being a good turnout which is very disappointing. We usually retire to Cafe Rhu at the marina at 15.30.

All visitors are most welcome.

**Iain Duncan, Secretary**

## **2017 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM TAYSIDE RADIO SAILING CLUB**

Tayside Radio Sailing Club is now well established at Forfar Loch with five seasons under our belts. Membership stands steady at a healthy 20 with 2 new members recently and one member upgrading his IOM. Again, participation has been a little disappointing over the summer months with members perusing other interests although the past few weeks has seen the return to good numbers. Our membership continues to be a mix of some who only sail at Forfar Loch, other who also participate in most Scottish IOM events, those who are also members of other radio sailing clubs and some who no longer sail but wish to retain contact.

This year we hosted the Scottish Wooden IOM Championship with Boyd Baird as race officer and the Peterhead race team helping with race organisation and taking care of the scoring, much appreciated. Forfar Sailing Club again provided catering helping to make the day most enjoyable.

We continue to centre our efforts around Wednesday afternoon IOM racing with a total of 14 members taking part in the summer series. We are also holding the first of our Saturday monthly meetings on the 14th October. The plan is to hold the monthly meeting on the second Saturday of each month for IOM and DragonFlite 95 racing along similar lines as our Wednesday meetings. All members of MYA clubs are welcome to join us, meeting at 10.30 for an 11.00 start, finishing at 15.30.

The club purchased a DragonFlite 95 this year as a simple high-performance radio sailing yacht to encourage newcomers and members who did not wish the complication of the IOM class. One member has taken the punch acquiring his own DF95 and is showing great speed downwind in particular.

Weed has been virtually non-existent this summer with our sailing continuing on the water to the south of the clubhouse all season. The past 2 seasons we have relocated to the deeper water of the inlet to the north of the clubhouse which tends to be weed free even in a bad year for weed growth.

**Tich Summers, Club Captain**