

MYA Scottish District
2019 AGM – 26th October 2019
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, 26th October 2019.

Present: *** Club voting representative

Name	Club
Steve Taylor ***	Aberdeen
John Owens	Aberdeen
Cathy Reid ***	Buchanness
Ian Davidson ***	Greenock
Richard Rowan	Greenock
Sandy Mackay ***	Kinghorn
Richard Ennos ***	Levenhall
David Smith ***	Paisley
Boyd Baird	Tayside
Brian Summers ***	Tayside
David Williams	Tayside

1) Apologies

David Bowen (Mid Argyll RS), Ian Dundas (Aberdeen), Ali Law (Buchanness), Bill Lees (Ayr Bay), David Ross (Buchanness), and Roy Younger (Carrickfergus).

2) Confirm Minutes of 2018 AGM

Proposed: David Smith **Seconded:** Steve Taylor **Vote:** Unanimous

3) Reports by SD Committee Officials for 2019 (attached) – as read

Re District Councillor’s report: Richard Rowan asked why the Scottish District’s budget, held by the MYA, was never fully spent and he also asked what was spent, by whom and on what?

The Councillor explained the Scottish District process which has been in use since 2016 and is approved by the MYA Treasurer. Financial assistance is proposed via a simple form submitted to the District Committee. The principle is that proposals should be aligned with the objectives of the MYA and the Scottish District.

Action: John Owens to ensure the guidance notes and Request for Expenditure form be placed on the Scottish District’s website.

Action: Cathy Reid to add and item to the 2020 Agenda ‘Review of spending in 2020’
Proposed: John Owens **Seconded:** Brian Summers **Vote:** Unanimous

During the discussion Richard complimented Greenock on the effort put in by their members during the recent Scottish Boat Show, this was seconded by David Smith, who also observed how well the MYA was represented during the three-day event.

4) Reports by SD Clubs for 2019 (attached) – as read

It was noted that the membership for Carrickfergus has increased and that Rhu requires that lifejackets are worn at all times during sailing.

Proposed: Cathy Reid **Seconded:** John Owens **Vote:** Unanimous

5) Draft racing programme for 2020 season

See draft 2020 racing programme below.

Proposed: Steve Taylor **Seconded:** Sandy Mackay **Vote:** Unanimous

Date	Event	Venue	Host club
Sat. 21 st Mar 2020	SD IOM Travellers 1	Ayr Bay	Ayr Bay RYC
Sat. 25 th April 2020	SD IOM Travellers 2	Levenhall	Levenhall RYC
Sat. 16 th May 2020	Scotts of Greenock IOM open meeting	Greenock	Greenock MY & PBC
Sat. 20 th June 2020	RC Laser open meeting	Loch a' Bharain	Mid Argyll RS
Sat. 25 th July 2020	DF95 open meeting	Loch a' Bharain	Mid Argyll RS
Sat. 15 th Aug 2020	IOM Wooden Hull open meeting	Kinghorn Loch	Kinghorn RSC
Sat. 19 th Sept 2020	SD IOM Travellers 3	Forfar Loch	Aberdeen MYC
Sat. 3 rd Oct 2020	SD IOM Wooden Hull Championship	Forfar Loch	Tayside RSC

Action: Brian Summers is organising a training event, perhaps holding a training day on a Saturday and a race day, possibly the Scottish District IOM Championship on the Sunday. He also mentioned that Tayside have a 'Tip of the Day' put forward after each day's sailing which is a useful informal method when memories are still fresh.

The new club formed this year, Mid Argyll RS (MARS), will be hosting two open meetings RC Lasers and DF95s. John Owens encouraged all clubs to support MARS as much as possible. Richard Ennos suggested that members from MARS be invited to continue shadowing race teams during the Travellers events.

Forfar would be willing to hold one of their monthly club meetings as an open event, **Action: Brian Summers** is to contact Buchanness to see if they would be holding an event in August. All clubs are encouraged to co-ordinate training needs, suggestions, dates, etc., with Brian Summers.

6) Election of 2019 Scottish District Committee

The Councillor thanked the current committee members for their support and work over the past year. He then asked if anyone wished to stand for one of the committee posts, no one was proposed. As all of the current committee members indicated that they were happy to continue in post, they were re-elected.

Vote: Unanimous

7) Matters arising from the 2018 minutes (all)

a) District Councillor's Report – Addition of a news section to the Scottish District website.

- i) This has been added and NOR's, race reports, etc, are posted there. **Closed**

b) Racing programme - has a list of resources available to clubs holding MYA SD events been posted on the SD website?

- i) **Action: Brian Summers** to put together a list of the physical resources, i.e., radios, banners, etc., and hyperlinks for relevant on-line resources. Input to be provided by John Owens. The revised Guidance version to be posted on the SD website prior to the 2020 MYA-SD Racing Season.

c) Attendance of a RYA race official at an MYA national event in 2019

- i) Richard Ennos approached the RYA for an official to attend the UK IOM Ranking Races to be hosted at Castle Semple in early 2019. No one was available to attend. It was also felt that it was not necessary as their input in relation to the expense involved was not cost effective.
- ii) This sparked a discussion during which it was noted that a number of top MYA skippers never take part in running events and they should be encouraged to do so as their skill and knowledge base would enhance events.
- iii) John Owens noted that discussions have started within the SD committee to update the Race Office Guidance Notes for MYA SD events and will include the race team's requirements pre, during and post event. **Action: Brian Summers**
- iv) Each club should ideally be in a position to host a SD event including providing a suitable Race Team. It was also noted that the MYA contribute to the Race Teams expenses for their events.

Action: Brian Summers to liaise with the MYA to produce a formal guide of what the SD should pay for and how much should be paid.

d) Attracting new members

- i) This is a continuing theme which all clubs should keep in mind and if any good ideas come up they should be shared with the other clubs.
- ii) Brian Summers reported that selling refurbished, second hand boats can be a good way to keep new comers engaged. However, the importance was stressed of ensuring boats were sound and, if necessary, quickly repaired for their novice owners. This also applies to club boats.
- iii) General discussion identified a 'youth selling point' - using a transmitter is an extension of the computer gaming skills and dexterity that many youngsters already have. Buchanness hosted their local Boys Brigade group, with an evening talk by Ali Law and then a sailing event the following morning. It was well received and enjoyed by all of those attending.

e) No new sailing venues

- i) Ayr Bay is currently looking into three possible sites as their water suffered from weed from May to October.

Action: All clubs to keep looking.

f) Castle Semple lower walkway

- i) Due to the requirements for safe access to the site for all types of pedestrian visitors, the option not to use the lower walkway as a control area is only possible should it be flooded. Due to staff and funding shortages the staff are under pressure to keep the site in its current state and cannot meet additional requirements. John Owens noted that in general, UK skippers attending MYA-SD events recognise how well they are run and how good a site Castle Semple is. However, safety at ranking events and the use of Castle Semple in 2021 needs to be kept in mind.

8) Any Other Competent Business

a) Lipton Cup

Hughie Shields (Greenock) has donated the Lipton Cup to the MYA-SD as per the Title Deeds. The Cup is believed to be silver and it has important historic ties to sailing and Sir Thomas Lipton. After a brief description of the above and a discussion of the implications of accepting ownership, John Owens proposed that the principle of the SD accepting ownership of the cup be voted on.

Proposed: John Owens **Seconded:** David Smith **Vote:** 5 for, 2 against motion carried.

John Owens then explained the next steps. First the cup needs to be valued for insurance purposes including (i) replacement value and (ii) historic value. Then, if it is decided to accept ownership of the Lipton Cup, the suggestion is that it become the trophy for the overall winner of the annual SD IOM Travellers series. Therefore, the proposal is that **Action: John Owens** has the cup valued requesting the MYA to pay reasonable associated valuation fees.

Proposed: John Owens **Seconded:** Brian Summers **Vote:** 5 for, 2 abstained, motion carried.

b) Tax

Sandy Mackay reported that Kinghorn had received a self certification tax form, the correct completion of which took considerable time to resolve. If any other club receives such a letter, please contact Sandy and he can guide them through the completion process.

c) Arbitration and its use in resolving protests

i) It was suggested that arbitration be adopted for the SD Travellers series and that the SD SSI 2020 should be updated to include this requirement and guidance notes. In addition, SD clubs should adopt this method of resolving protests in a quick and timely manner.

Proposed: Brian Summers **Seconded:** John Owens **Vote:** Unanimous
Action: Brian Summers to contact Darren Ballington to discuss and then prepare documents with hyperlinks to be put on the SD website for using at club level.

d) Car sharing

i) Steve Taylor initiated a discussion on the best way to organise car to and from events. It was decided that the simplest way would be for skippers to email their club secretaries who could then co-ordinate appropriate car sharing arrangements.

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Interface with MYA Council on behalf of the MYA-SD

On behalf of the MYA-SD, I have submitted quarterly reports to MYA Council which have been published on the MYA-SD website (see "[District Committee](#)" tab). In addition, part of the role is to participate in regular "online meetings" to manage matters arising with fellow MYA Council. Finally, there are regular emails and Council forums to keep abreast of matters and ensure the MYA-SD is properly represented. Although I have not personally attended Council meetings, I have met with a number of MYA Council officers on several occasions to discuss matters of interest as well as had numerous telephone conversations.

It is noteworthy that the MYA-SD is well respected for its ability to self-organise. In addition, MYA-SD is a popular host for well organised sailing events. On this point, I would like to recognise Richard Ennos (PRO) and his race team for running the 2019 UK IOM Ranking Races 1 & 2 at Castle Semple in April. The feedback was excellent from the MYA Racing Officer and the GBR IOM Class Captain.

Following raising significant concerns regarding very late delivery of the 2018 MYA Yearbook, the 2019 MYA Handbook was successfully delivered on time. However, database issues came to light regarding Personal Sail Numbers (PSN). On behalf of MYA-SD skippers, these were raised with the new PSN Secretary and were promptly addressed.

It is hoped that during 2019, I have represented you (the MYA affiliated members and Clubs) in a timely manner addressing matters between MYA Council, its officers and yourselves as and when appropriate.

MYA – MYA-SD funding

Against the money the MYA sets aside for Districts, the MYA-SD Committee was approached by Greenock MY&PBC to help towards costs promoting MYA, MYA-SD and Greenock activities and membership at the 2019 Scottish Boat Show. Given this is aligned with MYA objectives, it was agreed to support this initiative and £200 was donated.

MYA-SD website

This year has seen the launch of the revised [MYA Scottish District website](#). The past efforts of Richard Rowan in maintaining access to documents regarding AGM minutes, race results, etc. have been recognised. These resources have been diligently preserved with the input and support of Austin Guerrier (MYA Digital Communications Officer) and David Ross (MYA Scottish District webmaster). My thanks go to all of them for the time and efforts that they contributed in making this non-trivial task such a success.

The new MYA-SD website employs the MYA "corporate branding" and has been "live" for much of 2019. David Ross continues to update the website when material is submitted and checked via the MYA-SD Committee. Thus, NOR's, event reports, results and photos, MYA-SD announcements, etc. are published when available. It is hoped that all skippers in the Scottish District access this excellent resource to keep abreast of news and events and review the useful material to support club and skipper activities.

New MYA-SD club – Mid Argyll Radio Sailing (MARS)

Welcome to [Mid Argyll Radio Sailing](#)!

The club sails DF95's and RC Lasers on [Loch a' Bharain](#) by lock 9 of the Crinan Canal. Sailing takes place on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2 pm. There are toilets nearby and handy car parking is also available. It is hoped that MARS club members will become

actively involved in sailing events with other MYA-SD clubs and progress their skills in radio sailing event organisation.

MYA-SD affiliated members (as of September 2019)

Following a membership decline in recent years, this year, with the addition of MARS and growth of Carrickfergus, the MYA-affiliated membership of the SD has grown to 145.

MYA-SD Club	MYA affiliated members
Aberdeen	5
Ayr	22
Buchanness	13
Carrickfergus	13
Greenock	10
Kinghorn	13
Levenhall	13
Mid Argyll	17
Paisley	9
Rhu	13
Tayside	17
Total:	145

MYA-SD Publicity – attracting new members

A common topic of conversation at MYA Council level, MYA-SD events and MYA-SD AGM's has been declining membership and age distribution. A number of steps have been implemented to try to attract new members. These include a MYA stand at the RYA dinghy show and MYA banners and flags gifted to the different districts (including MYA-SD). In addition, "have a go" events have also been tried at District and Club levels as well as talks to local sailing clubs and other organisations.

Whilst this matter remains an active area for MYA Council, MYA-SD Clubs are asked to do what they can. In support of this, it is noteworthy that David Ross has taken the initiative to compile an A4 trifold [Scottish District Publicity Flyer](#) that is available via the MYA-SD website "Downloads" tab. Clubs are encouraged to download this and print/photocopy multiple copies for distribution at their club events.

MYA-SD Committee

Behind the scenes, the 2019 MYA-SD Committee (Brian Summers, Steve Taylor and Cathy Reid) with support from our webmaster (David Ross), put in a lot of effort behind the scenes on behalf of the eleven clubs and their members in Scotland and Northern Ireland. I would like to thank them for their time and wise counsel.

John Owens

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

REPORT FROM THE SCOTTISH DISTRICT RACING SECRETARY

During 2019 the Scottish District ran two IOM ranking events over the weekend of 6/7th April at Castle Semple attracting 40 entries from all parts of the UK. Race officer Richard Ennos and his race team split the racing into 3 fleets competing 6 races on each day. Full results can be found on the IOM website.

Three Travellers events were held at Greenock on 9th March, Buchanness on 10th August and Forfar Loch on 5th October with a different winner from each venue. A total of 23 skippers from 7 of the Scottish clubs took part with Ian Dundas from Aberdeen running out the overall winner.

Kinghorn RSC ran an IOM wooden hulled open meeting on the 6th July and the Scottish IOM wooden hull championship on the 14th September. Both events attracted a good entry showing that interest in self built wooded radio yachts is still healthy in the Scottish District.

Members from the Scottish District again gave a good account of themselves in the IOM class at the nation championship at Eastbourne and at national ranking events with Steve Taylor winning ranking event 3 held at Falmouth on the 8th of June.

Our newest club to the district Mid Argyll Radio Sailing held an open meeting on the 24th August for DF95s and Lasers attracting a very creditable 22 skippers from Ayr, Paisley, Rhu, Greenock and Preston as well as their own members.

Brian Summers

MYA-SD 2019 IOM Travellers Series Results

Updated 09-10-2019 by
RPR

MYA No.	Name	Club	Finishing Positions in Event			Ranking Points Scored				Ranking	
			Greenock 09-March-19	Buchanness 10-August-19 SD C'ships	Tayside 05-Oct-19	Greenock 09-March-19	Buchanness 10-August-19 SD C'ships	Tayside 05-Oct-19	Total score	Best 2 Events	POSITION
1180	I Dundas	Aberdeen	1	4	2	100	79	91	270.0	191	1
3388	B Summers	Tayside	2	1	3	90	100	82	272.0	190	2
1200	R Rowan	Greenock	RO	2	4	83	93	73	249.0	176	3
3696	S Teasdale	Kinghorn	3	3	5	80	86	64	230.0	166	4
337	R Ennos	Levenhall	7	5		40	71		111.0	111	5
1600	G Allison	Paisley		8	6		50	55	105.0	105	6
2780	S Taylor	Aberdeen			1			100	100.0	100	7
3615	S Campbell	Kinghorn		7	8		57	36	93.0	93	8
1774	D Stewart	Tayside	8		7	30		45	75.0	75	9
3053	A Mackay	Kinghorn	9	9	9	20	43	27	90.0	70	10
2086	M Worsley	Tayside	4			70			70.0	70	11
1992	I Thomson	Buchanness		6			64		64.0	64	12
2040	R Brown	Levenhall	5			60			60.0	60	13
246	J Owens	Aberdeen	6			50			50.0	50	14
1205	D Smith	Paisley	RO	12		21	21		42.0	42	15
3608	N Slane	Kinghorn	11	10		1	36		37.0	37	16
3524	I Davidson	Buchanness	RO		10	18		18	36.0	36	17
479	S Herridge	Buchanness		11			29		29.0	29	18
3721	A Mackenzie	Buchanness		13	12		14	1	15.0	15	19
1579	C McGinnis	Tayside	10			10			10.0	10	20
2837	C Burrows	Buchanness			11			9	9.0	9	21
1069	B Robertson	Buchanness		14			7		7.0	7	22
1282	J Moir	Buchanness		15			1		1.0	1	23

23	Number of entrants in series	Size of Fleet	11	15	12
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RO	Race Official scores average from other events sailed
	Tied ranking positions - resolved in favour of highest number of events sailed, then best finishing position in any of those events

Thanks are due to the following non-participating Race Officials

Event

Greenock - Richard Rowan, David Smith, Ian Davidson, John Mason, Bill Terry, Ken McIntosh

Buchanness - Ali Law, Bill Odger, Cathy Reid, George Wallace

Tayside - Ali Law, Bill Odger, Boyd Baird, Ken McIntosh, Murphy ?, Keith Furnace

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

REPORT FROM STEVE TAYLOR – DISTRICT SENIOR MEASURER

On the technical side not a lot has happened particularly on the IOM front.

The main issue this year is around measurer competence, we are certainly moving to a place where some kind of coaching and hands on instruction is going to be part of the future approval process.

I have been quite vocal on this issue that it must be kept simple, presentation slides a train the trainer methodology rather than swathes of measures travelling across the country to attend specific RYA courses! Additionally I've tried to push the idea of sail maker self-certification although there appears a reluctance to go this route by the sail makers.

The Scottish District is lucky that we don't sail the "A" class, 10R & Marblehead where technically, interpretation and measurement are challenging and where measurement competence has been exposed.

Going forward it will not be a case of recommending a person to be a club measurer and job done, there will have to be some instruction and support to pass on the necessary competences.

From an IOM perspective, I put together some slides not only as a reference, but to help guide the first time measurer through the process. At this point I must congratulate Nick Slane, who went through this process earlier this year together with a hands on measurement of three IOM's at Kinghorn. Having completed this I was then able to get the Technical Officer to sign off on Nick's competence.

The feedback I got from Nick and others has been good in that we do need something that leads you through the process and hopefully the slide pack together with a basic hands on instruction will ensure an accurate and consistent process.

If anyone is interested to become a measure please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Finally as we run into the MYA AGM we will find out the new Technical Officer that will take us forward.

Steve Taylor

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

REPORT FROM ABERDEEN MODEL YACHT CLUB

In 2019 Aberdeen Club has a stable membership of five.

The club is still without a "home water" since leaving Knockburn Loch in 2017. As a result, members travel regularly to sail at the neighbouring clubs of Buchanness and Tayside.

Despite its small size the club is very active with members holding positions in the Scottish District Committee as well as actively participating in District and UK National IOM events. Club member Steve Taylor excelled with his win at the UK IOM Ranking event hosted by West Cornwall.

Construction and racing of wooden IOM boats is popular by all club members.

The club is currently ranked 7th in the UK Club Ranking List for the IOM class.

Ian Dundas

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

AYR BAY RADIO YACHT CLUB

The club has very little to report this year as the Beach Park Pond, Irvine has been full of weed since mid-May until hopefully end of October.

We sailed only Lasers over the winter series and raced most Tuesday's afternoons and Sunday mornings with an average 8 boats racing, but on a good day we had 12 boats racing,

We have found three potential new summer venues which will be discussed at our AGM on Sunday 17th November and one will be selected for 2020 allowing the club to sail all year.

IOM's and DF95's has not been sailed by ABRYC due to lack of interest and Lasers have been found to be more popular.

We plan to hold the IOM Travellers on Saturday 21st March 2020 and the Scottish Laser Championship on Sunday 29th March 2020,

Bill Lees

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

BUCHANNESS RADIO YACHT CLUB

The 2018/19 year for the club has generally remained as was.

We have concentrated on keeping the water and surrounding areas in as good a condition as possible with us always being on the lookout for facilities to improve the overall sailing experience. The new lawn mower provided by John Moir has helped a great deal. To this end, a newly opened café has opened at the golf driving range just down the road which, hopefully, we can support and utilise for general sailing days and more organised events.

As a club we hosted the MYA-SD IOM Travellers 2 in August with a fleet of twelve on the water. Despite variable conditions a good days sailing was had.

Member numbers remain about the same with interest in both IOM's and DF65's. The Fifie class remains active but weather conditions over the year has meant fewer sailing nights at the Den Dam

Last winter saw the first time in a long period that the pond froze over but in general the sailing days have not been interrupted though numbers at the waterside do vary depending on the water content in the air!!

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

CARRICKFERGUS MODEL BOAT CLUB

We started the season's events calendar with a Dinner at the Golf Club Restaurant as in previous years with a full turnout in February. The Club has managed to expand to 12 No Members but on most Saturday outings we only manage at most 6 members. The membership races most Saturday's weather permitting in the Harbour.

I am afraid there is not much enthusiasm for traveling to District Events due to Travel costs and the timing of the ferries making for an additional cost of an extra night's stay in most cases.

We have tried to contact other model sailors in Ireland with no response and are at present looking at setting up a Web Site next year in addition to our Facebook.

We organised our yearly regatta in July, in conjunction with the Carrickfergus Sailing Club. 8 members took part with quite a few spectators an enjoyable evening and after with a meal in the Club House. Our late Commodore's Wife presented a wonderful Silver Cup to be competed for on the regatta event. We are hoping to attract new members. We also provided a demonstration at Antrim sailing club in August, again to promote the Club.

Roy Younger

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

GREENOCK MY&PBC

We now have ten members in the Model Yacht Section although on average we usually only get around four or five sailing on a club day.

We hosted the Travellers 1 Series on 9th March 2019 which was won by Ian Dundas. Also the Scotts of Greenock Trophy on 8th May 2019 which was won by John Taylor.

Our biggest problem in hosting races is finding enough members able to help run these competitions due to our membership being so low. Unfortunately age is catching up with many of our members. Without the help of a few members of Paisley Club we would not have been able to run these races. We had the opportunity to host the DF95 National Competition at Largs Marina but were unable to go ahead with this due to lack of personnel as it was to be a sixty boat fleet and held over four days.

To try and attract new members we had a stand at the Flotilla Day at the James Watt Dock Marina on 10th August 2019. We had boats on display and also two sailing in in the dock. Members of the public had the opportunity to try sailing them. We gained two new members from this venture although they have not attended regularly so far.

We are going to have a stand at the Scottish Boat Show at Kip Marina at Inverkip on 11-13th October to try and encourage people to take up sailing model yachts. This is to advertise model yacht clubs all over Scotland, not just our own. To publicise this we have revamped our club website and also have an advertisement about the stand at the boat show on inverclydenow.com which gives information about the club for interested members of the public. We would like to acknowledge of the Scottish District for obtaining part funding from the MYA towards the preparations for the stand at the Boat Show.

Greenock, Paisley and Ayr Clubs were invited by Mid Argyll Club to a friendly race at Lock 9 on the Crinan Canal. DF95s and Lasers were raced and a good day was had by all. We have extended an invitation to MARS to come and have a return day with us at Greenock.

A lot of our members now have DF95s so we sail them on a Tuesday and IOMs on a Sunday.

Ian C Davidson

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

KINGHORN RADIO SAILING CLUB

The Club

The Club continues to make progress although sometimes it seems a bit slow.

Alan Court has joined the committee as Chairman and Nick Slane is now formally approved as a measurer and the member who single handedly ensures the club Facebook page has a life.

Membership of the club has remained the same as last year. Twenty members (fifteen full, four associate, and one social) some members moving on, and being replaced by new faces.

Club finances, indicate a reasonable level of solvency but that has depended upon a sailing levy and it is decided to rationalise this for next year by increasing the membership fees. Following a club house building status report and a more detailed lease agreement the existing rolling lease was extended for a further year with the new Craigenalt owners (2Sky). Club house renovation continues to make progress with a new electric system, storage facility, basic furnishing, and a bit of a front garden tidy. Still more to do.

There has been little activity concerning the loch with the Users Group. The plans to improve to the pier are still in place, and the repair to the sluice which, requires the loch water level to be reduced, is behind schedule due to the excessive water inflow to the loch.

Sailing

Throughout 2019 the loch conditions have been good. The weed has been controlled by cutting (it appears the time of cutting is crucial) thus had little impact on our sailing. Only adverse weather has reduced the number of days sailed. We might be becoming a bit fair weathered sailors.

- Saturday's continues to be our main sailing day but Wednesdays have had some very good turnouts.
- Saturdays we sailed on 40 occasions, about the same as last year, with a max of 11, and min of 4 boats on the water, averaging at 7.4 boats.
- Wednesdays we sailed on 33 days with a max of 9, and a min 3 boats, the average being 5.2
- Our Open day for Woody IOM's was again a success and will continue next year although the format for the event is being looked at by the committee.

We again welcomed the Scottish District Wooden Hull Championship when a fine fleet of 13 beautiful boats was reduced to 9 at the close of day because of the hard sailing at the top end of # 2 rigs. A super days sailing was enjoyed by skippers and admired by spectators. A great advert for wooden boats.

The club has also been pleased to support the 'SD Travellers' events with an average of three skippers competing and hopefully will improve this in 2020.

Sandy Mackay

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

REPORT FROM LEVENHALL RADIO YACHT CLUB

Current membership of the club stands at nineteen with one non-sailing member. Four members of the Royal Forth Yacht Club joined the club and sailed DF65s over the winter period. The club has raced every Saturday when the condition of the pond have permitted with average attendances of five or six skippers. IOMs are sailed on most Saturdays, but the last Saturday of each month is reserved for DF65s. Lindsay Odie, who has taken over as racing secretary, has completed an entirely home built Alternative while David Northridge has purchased a very fast Lintel from Dave Potter after seeing it perform at the IOM Ranking races.

Racing over the winter months was very good with an occasional interruption due to ice on the pond. However, weed problems appeared in early June and prevented any further serious racing during the summer. Despite being cut in early July the weed was not removed from the pond, and we are still waiting for the weed to clear to allow sailing to resume. This pattern of a lack of racing during the summer months at Levenhall now seems to be fixed, and we will need to adapt to find alternative sailing venues from June to November.

The state of the road leading to Levenhall was very poor over the winter period, but this has now been rectified. Nothing has been heard about the consultation undertaken by East Lothian council on possible development of the pond and the provision of basic facilities.

The club was responsible for running the Scottish District IOM Ranking Races 1 & 2 over the weekend of 6th and 7th April in which thirty nine skippers took part. A successful social event was also organised at the Uplawmoor Hotel on the Saturday evening. The Ranking races were won by Rob Walsh and Peter Stollery.

Richard Ennos

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

MID ARGYLL RADIO SAILING

MARS joined MYA Scottish District earlier this year after we gathered together the mandatory six members.

Scottish Canals agreed to us using Loch a Bharain. To start us off they also agreed to lend us a pontoon that can be used to launch the yachts from.

We now have four Committee members to help manage the new club, John Rushton Treasurer/ Membership Secretary, Alan Sinclair Technical Officer, Laurie Nye Promotional Officer i.e. website, Facebook/ yacht procurement, myself Chairman and Acting Secretary. We still need a Sailing Secretary and Admin Secretary.

We decided it was important to strengthen the pontoon (now done), state our Constitution policy, Data Protection Policy, Health & Safety Policy. These will be advertised on our website after being approved at our AGM.

We now have twenty members, renewal subscription are due out shortly, we expect one or two not to renew. Our target by the end of 2020 is thirty.

We needed to test ourselves to determine our strengths and weaknesses. So we decided to invite Ayr Bay Radio Yacht Club to a friendly Open meeting on 24th August 2019. To our surprise Bill Lees offered and we accepted that Bill organise the Event. We are most grateful for his help.

Brian Summers (MYA-SD Sailing Secretary) suggested we host two events next year. These will be:

20th of June 2020 is the RC Laser National Championship.

25th July 2020 is the DF95 Open TT Meeting

Both dates have been submitted for inclusion in the 2020 MYA Calendar.

An area of deep concern is not having waterside parking for skippers. We have land adjacent to the loch that can be used for this purpose but need permission from Scottish Canals, Forestry Commission and Historic Scotland. The canal is an ancient monument. Letters have been received from MYA, Laser and one of our members who has been making RC model boats for over fifty years. A meeting with Scottish Canals will be mid-October 2019.

May I suggest that once a New Club joins, you issue a book of what is expected from our perspective Committee Officer meets New Club Committee.

David Bowen

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

PAISLEY MYC

The key message of this report is virtually the same as last year's - there has been ~~no~~ hardly any sailing at Barshaw Park, Paisley, since early March 2017.

Renfrewshire Council's 2017 landscaping project left the pond full of weed and the banks, inside the new coping, in a poor state of repair when the contractor finished. Despite (or perhaps because of!) approaching councillors to have the pond cleaned up, no effective work has yet been done to return the pond to sailing condition. Although a 'weed boat' visited for two days in July 2018 the effects were largely aesthetic and so much weed remained below the surface that sailing was still impossible. The weed disappeared of its own accord in February 2019 and some club sailing resumed. However as expected the weed had returned by June and sailing was suspended. The weed boat returned in July 2019 and once again removed large quantities of weed but sailing was still impossible.

Our Commodore, Robert Rooney, has been unrelenting in his efforts to recover the situation, engaging in discussion with Councillors, including the Leader of the Council, Council officials, Friends of Barshaw Park and sundry regulators. Other users of the Park have raised their concern over the state of the pond in the pages of the Paisley Daily Express - all, at the time of writing, to no avail.

Our hopes were raised in March when Renfrewshire Council announced that £100,000 had been allocated in the 2019-20 Budget to restore the pond for model yachting. We naively assumed that since a defined pot of money had been identified a firm plan for its spending also existed. The plan continues under development.

During the season Paisley members supported most of the events in the District Calendar. Robert Rooney sailed in IOM events at Greenock (T1 & Scotts) & Kinghorn (Open & Woodies). David Smith sailed in IOM events at Buchanness (T2/SD Championship) & Kinghorn (Woodies) and scored at Castle Semple & Greenock (T1 & Scotts).

The number of members of Paisley MYC remains small, the active number even smaller, and their average age remains high. Despite the lack of visibility in terms of sailing at our home water we recruited two brand new members this year and two visitors from other clubs.

A small group of members visit Greenock to sail IOM's and another small group regularly visited Ayr Bay at Irvine with RC Lasers - until the pond in the Beach Park was rapidly overwhelmed by weed in May.

The Knightswood Model Boat Club who build & sail mainly scale models at Knightswood Pond in Glasgow, just north of the Clyde, were happy to let us sail on Wednesday afternoons. We started sailing IOM's but prompted by one of our new members and developments at Greenock we have moved into DragonFlite 95's. The pond is a not ideal for 'serious' racing but we are enjoying good turn-outs and close racing with the remarkably speedy DF95's.

David L Smith,

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

RHU RADIO LASERS

The club continues to sail in Rhu Marina every Thursday from 1.30 to 3.30 pm, all year round. Membership continues to grow with thirteen Laser owners and average turnouts of six. These usually increase in winter when big boat sailing finishes.

Racing is very informal but still competitive and most members enjoy a coffee and chat in *Cafe Rhu* after racing. Visitors are welcome but should observe our local rule to wear a lifejacket (Fully tested by the Sec. this year!).

Iain Duncan

2019 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM

TAYSIDE RADIO SAILING CLUB

Tayside Radio Sailing Club continues to be base at Forfar Loch enjoying an affiliation arrangement with Forfar Sailing Club which gives access to toilets, changing rooms and gear storage. We lost a few members this year but also added five new ones so numbers are slightly increased at 25.

This year we hosted a Scottish District training day in the spring and MYA-SD IOM Travellers 3 in the autumn. Forfar Sailing Club again opened up their main clubrooms and provided coffee, bacon rolls, soup and cakes throughout the day making a great difference to the overall enjoyment of the event.

We are sailing every Wednesday afternoons and one Saturday per month. In previous years attendance has tended to drop off through the summer months as members pursuing other interests but with our new members the numbers have held up well this year. We did introduce the DragonFlite 95 class over the last couple of years with a thought this simpler boat might appeal to new members but the IOMs continue to be the backbone of the club giving close competitive racing.

The water level in the loch had risen by about 1m in the summer months due to more rain than usual and the waterway to the west becoming overgrown. In the last few weeks however farmers have cleared the Dean Water lowering the level of the loch to less than has been seen for some years. What this will do to weed growth next season remains to be seen.

Tich Summers