

Scottish District Councillor Report to the April 2020 MYA Council Meeting

Prepared by John Owens (Scottish District Councillor)

Date: 14th April 2020

Scottish District Officers

District Councillor: John Owens (Aberdeen MYC)
District Secretary: Cathy Reid (Buchanness RYC)
District Racing Secretary: Brian Summers (Tayside RSC)
District Senior Measurer: Steve Taylor (Aberdeen MYC)

1. 2020 Sailing and Events Programme

Due to COVID-19 lockdown, no sailing is being undertaken. For the rest of 2020, it is a case of "wait and see" the advice regarding easing lockdown restrictions.

2. MYA's interface and relationship with skippers

- ✓ The forthcoming Council meeting via video conference is warmly welcomed. Hopefully, it will be a useful step forward.

With regard to MYA communication with members, the previously regular issue of email and website communication (specifically regarding MYA news, events and results) has understandably greatly reduced during the COVID-19 lockdown. Perhaps we could do something about this?

- ✓ **Idea:** "Message from Council" - Communication by MYA Council should not be underestimated. Members appreciate understanding what is happening and why: What is Council's vision? What is Council doing? When will it happen?
- ✓ **Idea:** The Newsletter is excellent but the last edition came out sometime ago. The BG Quiz and John Taylor's blog are good initiatives. What about a "Tip of the Week", links to RC and free sailing videos, maintenance projects, etc.?

3. MYA boat measurement / certification policy

Across the MYA Scottish District (which includes Northern Ireland), widespread disquiet was caused by the announcement of the new policy requiring RYA certified measurers for the IOM class. There is a real danger of losing many club measurers. The points raised by clubs, measurers and skippers can be summarised as follows:

△ The current measurement proposal is currently:

- Not considered fit-for-purpose.
- Not aligned with the key aim of promoting and expanding the IOM class.

△ Need for meetings and discussion to gain alignment on the IOM.

- This should be a high priority for MYA Council along with the IOM Class Captain to look deeply into the ramifications for what is a simple class to measure (as opposed to the more complicated classes).
 - The MYA SD DSM has volunteered to help develop a workshop-based approach to IOM measurement that would enhance what we have now.
 - It is recommended that the future system should be:
 - Simple
 - Applied
 - Managed locally
 - Not need sail measurement training from a 3rd party. (MYA should seek delegation of measurement/certification authority from the RYA.)