

Scottish District Councillor Report to the September 2020 MYA Council Meeting

Prepared by John Owens (MYA Scottish District Councillor)

Date: 16th August 2020

Scottish District Officers

District Chairman: 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

The MYA Scottish District (MYA SD) includes clubs in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Due to COVID-19 lockdown, no MYA SD events have been undertaken. As lockdown restrictions have begun to ease, some club sailing has started under controlled conditions. For the rest of 2020, it is a case of "wait and see" the government advice regarding easing (or otherwise) of lockdown restrictions.

The recent publication of the "MYA Guidance for the Resumption of Competitive Sailing" is noted. It will take time for Scottish and Northern Ireland clubs to apply it to the specific needs of their individual circumstances under the prevailing Scottish and Northern Ireland government regulations and guidelines which continue to evolve.

2. MYA's interface and relationship with members

- **New race team equipment:** To complement the existing MYA SD race team equipment, several items were purchased with approval of the MYA SD Committee. The MYA funding for these items is gratefully acknowledged.
- MYA Council's use of video conferencing is warmly welcomed and has proved very beneficial for the MYA SD Councillor – no travelling, no travel costs, etc.
- The EGM and the acceptance of the new MYA Constitution are noted.

3. MYA boat measurement / certification policy

Across the MYA Scottish District (which includes Scotland and Northern Ireland), there continues to be widespread disquiet regarding 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.)
- △ **Since the last MYA Council meeting, there has been a lack of communication to members on this matter addressing these concerns.**