



Promoting Sailing in the Highlands

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PASSAGE PLAN TO DEVELOP GS IN TO THE SAILING DEVELOPMENT GROUP FOR HIGHLAND & MORAY

Situation:

On 6 October 2009, Jane Campbell Morrison representing RYA Scotland briefed a large audience in Inverness on a proposal to form a Sailing Development Group covering both the Highland & Moray areas as part of a wider plan to introduce SDGs across Scotland. The proposal suggested that GS would be the basis for the new Highland & Moray organization which would include all organizations involved in sailing of any discipline. The proposal was well received at the meeting.

Purpose:

The purpose of this 'passage plan' is to propose how to go from 'GS' to 'HMS' (a *provisional name only* for the new organization based on Highland & Moray Sailing). This plan will be put forward for agreement at the 17 Nov GS 'plus' meeting.

Procedural issues:

GS is governed by a constitution which would need amendment by consent of the current representatives in the following areas:

- Name (Gaidhealtachd equates to Highland and arguably does not cover Moray)
- Strap-line (currently 'Promoting Dinghy Sailing in the Highlands' – the intention is to develop or promote all disciplines of sailing in Highland & Moray)
- Definition of the 'area' (currently Highland Council Area – would need to be Highland & Moray Council areas)
- Definition of Members (currently from affiliated clubs – would need to include all sailing organizations (affiliated?) and youth groups such as local units of the Sea Cadets and Sea Scouts)
- Eligibility to be elected as an office bearer (current wording implies 'clubs' – would need to include all member organizations while retaining the limit of not more than one office bearer from any single organization)



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Method to change the constitution...extracted directly:

‘Changes to this constitution can only be made at an AGM, or EGM of GS. Proposed changes must be lodged more than 28 days prior to an AGM in writing with the Secretary who shall intimate the proposal to the members of GS when giving written notice of an AGM. Proposals must have as, proposer and a seconder, members of GS. Alterations to the constitution shall require a majority vote.’

‘An AGM of GS will be held within two months of the end of the financial year of each year. At this meeting, the Secretary and Treasurer shall each submit the statements of the financial and other affairs of GS for the preceding year. The financial year of GS will end on 31st March each year.’

‘A committee meeting, an AGM, or an EGM of GS shall be called by notice in writing by the Secretary to take place no more than 21 days after the meeting is called on such day and at such a time as he thinks fit during the year or within 14 days of receiving notice in writing from a Committee member requesting the calling of a meeting.’

‘The Quorum for any meeting of GS will be 6 members, of which 2 shall be office bearers.’

‘At all meetings of GS, the Chairman will have the casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote. No member will be allowed to vote by proxy, but votes in writing are acceptable.’

Other enabling issues:

- **A change in name will require a change in the web-site name**
- **A change in name will require a change in the bank account name**
- **A new logo will be required**
- **A new list of representatives will be needed to include contact details**
- **The web-site will need to include links to the sites of the expanded membership**
- **A publicity campaign should be launched with the new organization possibly marked with an event (eg some sort of seminar).**



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Way Ahead:

This 'passage plan' is on the agenda for agreement at the 17 Nov meeting. The proposal from the Chairman for discussion is to:

1. Agree that the constitution of GS should be amended at an EGM in the areas highlighted in 'Procedural issues' above.
2. Decide on a name for the new organization.
3. Agree that the office bearers and RYAS rep should provide the wording of a first draft of the new constitution by 1 Dec 09.
4. Agree that all GS & potential 'HMS' members should have until 15 Dec 09 to comment by email on the first draft of the new constitution.
5. Agree that an EGM should be held in Feb 10 for the purpose of adopting the new constitution (a 2nd draft would be circulated with the formal calling notice 14 days in advance of the meeting) and launching the new organization.
6. Decide on whether to hold an event to follow immediately after the EGM.
7. Agree that the office bearers should address the 'Other enabling issues' in parallel with the preparation of the EGM so that the new organization is fully functioning on launch.

Richard M Jenner
Chairman GS
11 Nov 09