

Royal Yachting Association Scotland

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**TO: All Affiliated Clubs and Recognised Training
Centres in HMS Area**

31st March 2019

Dear All

HIGHLAND & MORAY SAILING

We are contacting you to ask whether your club/centre would support a revival of Highland & Moray Sailing (HMS).

HMS operated successfully for around 3 years having developed from Gaidhealtachd Sailing; unfortunately, the association began to decline a number of years ago, following a change in chairperson which coincided with key changes at RYA Scotland and the last meeting of the group was held in June 2014. 'HMS Coaching' carried on as the sole activity but even that stopped 2 years ago. HMS has around £1300 in the bank which will be transferred to RYA Scotland (as per the constitution) if the association is deemed to be wound-up but a revival would be possible if this was what clubs & centres would prefer.

RYA Scotland is willing to facilitate a meeting on **Tuesday 30th April** at the **Spectrum Centre, Inverness (IV1 1LS)**, with **tea/coffee at 7pm for a 7.30pm start**, supported by the previous chairperson (Richard Jenner) to discuss whether to revive the organization or to wind-it-up and you are invited to send a representative.

As a reminder, the objectives of HMS from the constitution were:

Mission Statement

2. *The mission of HMS is to develop sailing for all in the Highland Council and Moray Council areas*

Key Objectives

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3. *To promote interest and participation in sailing.*
4. *To promote sailing as an equal opportunities sport available to all.*
5. *To encourage the population of the area to take up sailing.*
6. *To adopt a coordinated approach for the development of sailing with sailing clubs and organizations within the area.*
7. *To assist sailing clubs, organizations and individuals in the area by arranging courses for personal performance improvement and in coach education.*
8. *To promote and support regattas and open events in the area as considered desirable by the hosts.*
9. *To provide a focal point for clubs, organizations and individuals to obtain and exchange information regarding sailing in the area by providing a free-to-use website.*
10. *To assist youth organizations gain access to sailing facilities within the area.*
11. *To facilitate communication between HMS associates and the Royal Yachting Association (RYA).*

Put more simply, HMS facilitated the coming together of clubs to do things collectively that they would struggle to do individually.

However, the above objectives may be too ambitious and there could be a case made for an 'HMS Lite' which would support networking among the Highland & Moray Clubs, provide a website for the publishing of open events, bring training courses to Highland & Moray through clubs sharing places to make them viable and allow a conduit for RYA Scotland to reach-out to a group of clubs & centres together.

We would be very pleased to hear your views on this topic and whether or not you would be interested in attending the meeting on the.....to decide a way ahead. If you are unable to attend in person then any views by email would be more than welcome.

Can you please confirm to RYA Scotland, **no later than Wednesday 24th April**, if your club/centre are able to send a representative to this meeting (or not)?

Kind regards

Liza Linton

Liza Linton

Development Manager

and

Richard Jenner

Richard Jenner

HMS/Chanonry Sailing Club