



Scotland

Scottish Charity No. SC020022

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Annual Report from the Trustees of Sailability Scotland  
1 December 2015 to 30 November 2016.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This Annual Report has been drawn together by the Trustees of Sailability Scotland with valuable contributions from other Committee Members.

RYA Scotland is a valuable partner and the support they provide is very much appreciated. Our work as a charity is wholly the result of voluntary donations and effort. Without them we would not be able to operate.

It is acknowledged Sailing Groups and Sailing Clubs manage most sailing events in Scotland. This network and individual sailors are the target of our support.

Our sincere thanks go to all those who have supported the work of Sailability Scotland and supported disabled sailing including Mr R Kelly, our independent examiner.

## **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the Charity are:

- To promote the art and skills of boating for all people who have any form of physical, sensory or learning disability to improve their quality of life.
- To co-ordinate the activities of all that join the Association in matters of teaching, coaching, cruising and competition and in respect of the Disability Discrimination Act.
- To encourage local and to promote and arrange National and International competitions.
- To encourage and assist in the setting up of new clubs or groups specifically for disabled sailors and to encourage sailing generally to accept disabled sailors into membership.
- To associate with RYA Sailability in its development work in Scotland, and shall do all of these things in association with RYA Scotland, ISAF and Scottish Disability Sport.

## MANAGEMENT

Sailability Scotland is an unincorporated association governed by its Constitution. The document sets out the management structure of the Charity. It is reviewed periodically and was last revised at the AGM in 2016. Any proposed changes are put to the membership for approval at the AGM or a specially convened Extraordinary General Meeting of members.

Trustees are elected by the membership to serve for a two year term and may be elected to serve a subsequent two years. Following two successive terms in office a two thirds or more majority is required to continue in office. Recruitment of Trustees is by advertisement and nomination by members. They can be appointed by the Executive Committee when a vacancy arises. However, this must be ratified at the next General Meeting.

At the last AGM Derrick Robinson was re-elected as Trustee to start a second of a 2 year appointment and Duncan Greenhalgh started the second year of a two year appointment. Keith Wilson announced his intention to resign as a Trustee. The Committee subsequently filled the position with Stephen Thomas Bate, who will be nominated for confirmation at 2017 AGM.

The Committee has progressed the process to transfer the Charity into an incorporated SCIO Association, working with EVOC and OSCR along this route. At the 2016 AGM there was a small amendment made to the constitution to allow the funds and assets to be transferred to another charity with similar aims. Essentially this gives us to option to transfer the assets back to ourselves in the new form as a SCIO charity. A resolution is prepared for submission to the 2017 AGM to accept the new SCIO Constitution and approve 'Sailability Scotland' to be dissolved; allowing all assets to be transferred to 'Sailability Scotland SCIO'.

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### Finance

Main running costs are restricted to insurance and maintenance, as well as the costs for governance which was funded from unrestricted funds.

In general terms this year has seen us continue to fund specific events from resources.

Income has come from membership fees, lease charges, plus generous anonymous donations.

A net loss of £1500 was incurred during the year. Our total reserves now stand at £10,487. Income continues to be a struggle. The reserves will soon dwindle if we do not receive a cash injection. This can come from a number of ways:

- Reduce overheads which is unlikely
- Increase membership fees (rejected by members at the 2016 AGM).
- Increase membership take-up.
- Fundraising.

Without member support our long-term future is untenable.

Income in 2016 amounted to £1,941 (£3,746 in 2015). The main difference being an insurance claim in 2015 of £1,092 and we are owed £600 from one of our Group Members for lease of Challengers. It is anticipated that this debt will be received in 2017.

Insurance is our main running cost. In 2016 this was £1,485 (£1,384 in 2015). Planned maintenance in 2016 amounted to £1,054 (£1,206 in 2015). This included re-rigging of most of our Challengers. We plan to continue with a planned program of upgrades to some of our Challengers in 2017. This will have to be funded by existing reserves.

We will be applying to OSCR to derestrict the reserved funds.

## **Membership**

There were a total of 2 sailing groups taking group membership during 2016. In addition there were 16 individual members. This is a decrease on the previous year. Membership recruitment and retention continues to be a major initiative of the management.

## **Organised Championship Events**

Scottish Open Challenger Championship took place on Strathclyde Loch with 8 Challengers competing from all over Scotland. Sadly there were no English or Welsh competitors this year.

The Challenger Travellers Series travelled round Scotland with 6 events and 18 competitors in total. There were 10 Gold and 8 Bronze competitors.

These sailing events enable sailors; many with varying levels of disabilities to compete on equal terms with anyone wanting to enter and experience dinghy racing. In the Gold/Silver fleets, once on the water, the sailors are unaided. Bronze fleet sailors must have a buddy on board to assist the main participant to compete.

## **Types of support offered/requested**

Assistance and advice on setting up new Sailability groups in Scotland.

Participating and facilitating at experience days and demonstrations.

We supply boats to enable clubs and centres to provide sailing for people with a disability.

We give specialist advice and supply expertise for running specific regatta/events.

We provide direct financial support for the provision of any form of disabled sailing.

## **Support to Member Groups**

The Charity owns various boats designed specifically or otherwise suitable, for individuals with a disability. The boats are now all in use or in the process of being prepared to be used in the near future. They are distributed around Scotland to enable access to as wide a proportion of the population as possible.

The charity owns fourteen Trimaran Challenger Class dinghies; these are distributed across Scotland. They are used for training, racing and general sailing based at clubs and sailing centres.

The Charity owns three 2.4mR keelboats; these boats are Paralympic class boats and are currently sited at Castle Semple and are undergoing restoration to bring them in to use for the first time in our ownership.

Two National Squib keelboats are owned by the charity. One has been leased to Loch Earn Sailenable. The second is in the process of being transferred to a new site where it will be made available for anyone to use.

## **Media Promotion**

The charity has had a YouTube channel active since 2012. We have to date published 17 videos.

A Facebook page was started after the 2014 AGM and has posted updates regularly throughout the year. The page currently has 124 followers.

Our Website was launched in November 2014 at [www.sailabilityscotland.org.uk](http://www.sailabilityscotland.org.uk) and is also regularly updated throughout the year.

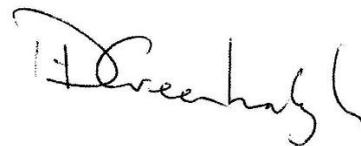
A printed and online newsletter, "Starboard" magazine, is produced on a regular basis and reports are submitted to "Challenger News" and others. The online versions can be found at: <http://www.sailabilityscotland.org.uk/news.html>

## **Development Policy**

The Charity has a Strategic Management Plan designed to guide the trustees and management team in the path of the stated aims and objectives. The initiatives headlined include: Fundraising, funding-related activities, activity organisation, raising disability awareness, and public relations.

The policy is fluid and subject to change as circumstances dictate. In addition, we endeavour to complete an annual review. We have tried to set out measures by which success of the objectives can be assessed.

Signed on behalf of all the Trustees:



Date: 14 February 2017

D. F. Greenhalgh

# **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SAILABILITY SCOTLAND**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30th November 2016 which are set out on the following pages.

## **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The Charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 44 (1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

## **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Kelly  
(Retired) Inspector for Special Investigations, HMRC  
6 Strathord Place,  
Moodiesburn, G69 0NA



Date 23 January 2017