



Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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MEANZ Update January 2009

Copy for Secretary (with invoice).

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Financial Report

The end of our financial year was at the end of September and the balance sheet relevant to 2008 is included with this Update. It will be taken that this report is acceptable if there are no objections within 14 days.

I would again point out that your Executive members have given much time and substance in establishing and maintaining our systems, meeting together and with many of the member clubs and with the relevant authorities to establish our position, and our expenses reflect the small number of moderate claims made. So far no calls have been made on our funds to clear legal issues and we hope this will not be required, but it is wise to be prepared for this possibility. The Membership fees for the current year are now due, and the invoice for your club is attached to the Secretary's copy for the attention of your Treasurer.

Position Regarding ADR Registration

In the September 2008 Update we advised that as a result of WPS attitude all clubs may be called on to register and we gave some advice on how this might take place.

Following this various papers have been forwarded to Richard Steel requesting a moratorium on 'unreasonable' clauses that are added to Registrations by the Inspector of Machinery. To date there has been no response and we are still waiting for clarification on such issues, and a WPS statement on what is required of individual Societies and our Association.

We are not pushing any issues at this time as there are a number of open weekends scheduled for the coming months. A hurried response could easily put some activities in jeopardy.

Progress is continuing with our own audits being carried out and since the last Update three more have been completed and others are active in preparation. This action is doing more to promote and maintain safe regimes within our Societies.

Those clubs yet to have their first audit are :- Hamilton, Whakatane, Hawkes Bay, Maidstone, Hutt Valley, Picton, Blenheim, Christchurch LS, Ashburton, Southland.

Injury Accidents

We have been made aware of two accidents involving hospital treatment and by far the worst was the child run over on the miniature railway at Masterton. This railway is not part of our organization being of larger gauge and run by a service group and presumably registered under the ADR. Registration does not make a system accident free. In this incident a young child wandered onto the track and was playing just beyond a tunnel and the train was not able to stop before hitting it. A broken pelvis and severe grazing and bruising required several weeks in hospital.

Motto: Keep speed down to enable you to stop in the distance visible ahead.

The other incident occurred on a raised track, and again involved a child, this one getting a leg between the trolley and the track structure. The exact cause has not been established and discussion is ongoing. More information may be available later but in the meantime raised track operators need to satisfy themselves that their vehicles are safe.

Motto: Provide valances or skirting, on and between trollies, and check that children are sitting safely.

Peter Anderson,

Sec/Treas.

MEANZ

29 January 2009

ADR - Amusement Device Regulations

WPS - Workplace Safety