

Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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MEANZ UPDATE

December, 2023.

From the President's desk.

Just a brief note to all MEANZ members to firstly wish you all the very best for the holiday season and for the New Year.

The Executive have been zoom meeting every month to discuss happenings within the hobby and to progress various items including working on updating the MEANZ MAP's and MOP's (an onerous task) and updating/standardising all the documentation to be used by our clubs. All the above will have to be reviewed by an outside agency prior to being sent to the clubs for comment after which they will be finalised and distributed for use by the MEANZ clubs. Standardisation of the many forms and records we are required to use/ maintain will make the job of the MEANZ Safety Auditors much simpler when clubs reapply for their ADR Certificate.

We have also kept up a cordial dialogue with Worksafe NZ on various issues facing the hobby. The re-writing of the Amusement Device Regulations as part of the new Plant and Structures Legislation is currently stalled in the Parliament. This means that the current Pressure Equipment Regulations and Amusement Device Regulations are still to be adhered to under the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Most model boilers (made or tested to the AMBSC codes) don't fit/comply-with the requirements of the Pressure Equipment Regulations. The simplest and beneficial solution requires us to produce a New Zealand specific set of Boiler Codes.

We have made contact with both the President of AALS and the Chair of the AMBSC Committee in Australia and we have reached early agreement in principle to be able to use the AMBSC Codes as the basis for our NZ codes. The NZ Codes will require extra written

articles covering boiler design verification and construction and testing protocols that match with the new and current NZ requirements.

Of particular interest and note to all clubs, is the ongoing need to continue to use, adhere to, and apply all current legislated safety methodologies and MEANZ MOP's to ensure that all clubs operate for their members and the paying public in as safe a manner as is possible.

We note that some clubs have come under more than usual scrutiny from Worksafe due to having "too many" incidents involving derailments, speeding and in some cases continuing with what could be deemed unsafe practices.

Care must be taken by all members to ensure that our hobby is not legislated out of existence by the unwise/ unwelcome actions of a few.

So, we look forward to 2024 with some degree of confidence in the ongoing viability of our hobby.

My very best regards to you all on behalf of the hard working MEANZ Committee.

Rob Wilson
MEANZ President.



Incident learnings

A passenger or passengers came off a ride trolley while moving. This was due to the driver driving the train too fast. This driver was known for driving fast and had been told several times. This incident caused the club a significant amount of otherwise unnecessary grief with Worksafe and the issuance of their amusement device certification.

Now is a good time to ensure that your driving trolleys have the required speedos and consider the behaviour of your drivers. If drivers are persistent in not complying with the rules of your club, more serious action maybe required than just a talking to.

Social Media.

Just a reminder to watch what you put on Social Media and the club webpages.

If Worksafe NZ staff see any unsafe practices on a public running day, you possibly will be asked when you apply for your next audit for your incident and accident reports and other paperwork back several years.

Heather Wilson

MEANZ Secretary/Treasurer December 2023