

Model Engineering Association of New Zealand Incorporated.

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MEANZ UPDATE June, 2024 (No 2.)

Te Paerewa

Te Paerewa is the accreditation program that was the topic of the recently circulated meeting invite and minutes. This involves MEANZ having an external audit by IANZ (International Accreditation NZ) under the Te Paerewa program. This has been developed to be less onerous than what is required for an accredited inspection body. By being part of this program it gives MEANZ a level of oversight and will help to give credibility to our model engineering club operations.

IANZ has offered that we can have the first year of this program free if we take it on now. At a meeting held on the 28th of May the majority of clubs agreed for the MEANZ executive to join the Te Paerewa recognition program.

NZ Boiler code development

A NZ boiler code is being drafted that will align with the New Zealand regulation framework. Once a notice has been published in the NZ Gazette of its acceptance, it will be able to be used. Currently the code is well underway with its first draft. This code is being written and reviewed by a team of representatives from around the model engineering clubs.

Things to know:

- If you are building a boiler to the AMBSC codes, your boiler will be acceptable under the NZ boiler code. Please continue to follow the AMBSC process, keep your records and get your design reviewed with your club boiler inspector.
- For existing boiler owners, the new code will have clear definitions of responsibilities and inspection, repair and modification requirements.
- Duplex - No attempt is being made to include the design and inspection of duplex boilers in the first issue of this code. If you wish to design a duplex boiler for operation

at a model engineering club or event, please use a New Zealand industry accepted boiler code and follow the design verification, fabrication and ongoing inspection requirements as you would for a commercial boiler.

- Design verification - The boiler code is being written with the intent that design verification for boilers that are (50L or less and 700kPa or less), can be done by a competent person, rather than a commercial design verifier.

ADR certificates

To ensure that your ADR expiry date is what you have agreed with your club auditor, please ensure that this is clearly written on the Form 2a. For example: if you had your audit on the first weekend of June, ensure that the expiry date inspection: 30 June 2026 is listed on the form. This will give suitable time for you to get your next ADR inspection in the first weekend of June 2026. Please get your audit done and moderated in good time so that WorkSafe staff have 4 weeks from your Amusement Device application to process your certificate.

Driving Age

The minimum age of drivers for public operation at a MEANZ affiliated club is defined by each club's rules. This will be based on, or more stringent than the MEANZ minimum age. The current MEANZ rule is. "Fully licensed drivers must be at least 16 years old. Drivers may tow paying public provided they are directly supervised by a fully licensed driver." In the event of something going wrong, the supervisor is to be able to intervene, stop the train and take control of any situation or accident.

This will be tidied up in the next issue of the MOPs (MEANZ Operating Procedures). If clubs wish to get together for an online meeting to discuss this topic prior to the BGM. Please contact your MEANZ rep and we will arrange a meeting.

Some history on this topic is:

2006 BGM - Agreed Age was 15 years old.

2012 BGM - It was suggested to reduce age to 15. Agreed outcome was: With public passengers, ages 15 years or less must be supervised by a licensed driver.

Small children in front of the driver is not allowed.

2014 MEANZ Manual of Operating Procedures - Recommended minimum age for full licenced driver carrying passengers is given as 16 years old.

2020 BGM - It was suggested to reduce age to 14. Remit was lost, the age to carry passengers without supervision remains at 15.

2023 Worksafe meeting - The drivers age was discussed and Worksafe indicated that they might be happy with a young person such as a smart 8+ year old under direct supervision

(supervisor within reach of the controls). This was for the clubs to all think about but has not yet been included in any MEANZ policy or procedure.

Safety incidents

Recently there have been a few accidents at clubs. Two of these have involved turntables.

- A club member's finger has been cut off after being caught between the turntable and stationary rails.
- A leg was fractured when the club member fell as they stepped into the recess where the elevating turntable normally resides.

Now is a good time to reflect on the controls your club has in place for turntables and traversers. Where possible any identified hazards are to be eliminated. Where this is not practicable isolating and minimising the hazards is to be carried out.

Incorporated Societies Act

The MEANZ Constitution is currently under review following the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and Incorporated Societies Regulations 2023 coming in to force. Sean Heenan has reviewed the current constitution and the new requirements for modern society rules. A draft copy has been circulated to the Executive Members for review before being circulated amongst the membership for ratification, addition or modification at the upcoming BGM.

North Island MEANZ Rep Report.

Greetings all, I trust that you have all had a successful start to the year, it won't be long before the weather packs in over winter. Hopefully this provides time for those 'works in progress' that are ready to be shown at the upcoming convention.

In the last while I have managed to get to running days at Manukau (Home Club), Thames, Hamilton, Napier and Keirunga Park and it is pleasing to see the involvement across many of those clubs of young or simply 'new' members. While the average age of a club is not necessarily the metric of its success, it was good to see an enthusiastic and more importantly engaged group of new members, particularly at Keirunga Park who have a 'Youth Board' which has representation on the committee. Through my travels I have also called in to Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Featherston, Kapiti, Auckland and Tauranga clubs on non-operating days. New Plymouth has undertaken the big task of mitigating their tunnel risk and remediating old and deteriorated raised track profiling. I have also managed to squeeze in a trip to Nelson and Christchurch clubs toward the end of last year, and credit where it is due, both Nelson and Halswell have seen massive project work with their respective track extension/replacements.

It is disappointing to report that we, as a hobby, have had a number of serious incidents where members have been maimed or hurt. The most recent was at the Tauranga club, who had an accident that seriously injured a member. While ultimately incidents of any nature should not cause harm to any individual, I commend Tauranga on their response and consideration of the hazard and risk, considering the harm that was caused in this particular case. They followed a process and kept both MEANZ and WorkSafe informed at all stages and have reached a result with how they will progress to minimise, mitigate or eliminate the hazard in future. This sort of paperwork is the last thing that any club or individual wants to have to do, but it is critical that our clubs appropriately report and escalate their hazards, incidents & accidents within their club. Additionally, it is of utmost importance that clubs understand their reporting liability to WS should they have a serious accident. Further guidance on this will come out in due course, as will templated hazard, incident and accident forms for club to use within their health and safety system. For the meantime the 2011 Interpretations and Amendments detail/reference the 'reportable' accidents to Worksafe. Please look out for each other, new members and the public. While new members are still learning 'the ropes' and we are imparting our safety messaging and practices, it is a good time to ourselves reflect on the complacency that long time hobbyists may have in and around club activities and if we ourselves have slipped into bad habits.

Lastly, I recently attended the Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand (FRONZ) conference in Palmerston North. While not strictly 'model engineering' alas more '12 inches to the foot', I am sending a big congratulation to our fellow South Island Rep Donald Ross. Donald Ross and Dunedin Railways won the NZTA Rail & Heritage Safety Award, which aims to encourage and lift rail safety awareness and recognise excellence in rail safety innovation.

South Island MEANZ Rep Report.

Hello from the deep south. With Winter upon us most clubs in my area have scaled back running for a well-earned break, and hopefully a retreat to a well heated workshop.

Over the last few months I have managed to visit my local club Otago Model Engineering Society for the festival week event (unfortunately only for one day due to work commitments), Southland Society of Model Engineers for their very successful Great Little Train Show, and Otago Miniature Road and Rail for a running day.

It is great to see the clubs in the South Island are in good heart with some reasonably major projects being undertaken which include:

- Structural repairs and a new staircase on the historic ex NZR Gore signal box which serves as clubrooms for Gore Model Engineering Club
- Major boundary fence replacement, pond cleaning and replacement of the decorative entrance gate at Southland Society of Model Engineers.

- Development of a 45mm Garden Railway at Otago Miniature Road which extends their ability to cater for those who model in the smallest outdoor scales.
- Track extension and replacement and major building refurbishment work at Nelson Society of Modellers.
- Track extension at Canterbury Society of Model Engineers Halswell

South Island clubs have also offered a great range of events, which judging by reports on social media, have been well supported by club members as fellow model engineers travelling from other clubs

Worksafe Amusement Device audits in the south have gone reasonably smoothly of late, thanks to the efforts of our SI Auditors. Do remember, as mentioned above, to ensure that the ADR expiry date is what you have agreed with your club auditor, and it is clearly written on the form 2a. to maximise the length of your registration.

As mentioned in Sean's North Island report, unfortunately our hobby has experienced a couple of serious harm accidents recently. Please continue to be vigilant around assessing hazards at your facility, and where practicable taking the best measures you can to control these. A useful way of doing this is to devote some time and have a team walk around your site. Involve as wide a range of members as you can in this, as what one of us may have accepted as a normal risk may be spotted as something that could cause serious harm by another, and many heads together may be able to come up with the most effective solution.

Notice of MEANZ Biannual General Meeting 2025.

MEANZ executive are giving notice that the Biannual General Meeting (BGM) will be held at 9am on the Saturday morning the 11th of January 2025 at the Distinction Hotel, 100 Garnett Avenue, Te Rapa, Hamilton.

Any remits or items for General Business to be discussed at the meeting must be in **by the 1st of December, 2024**. If you have nominations for executive positions please send these to the secretary at before the 1st of December, 2024 at meanz.secretary@gmail.com or send to 154 Scott Street, Waverley, Dunedin, 9013 through your MEANZ rep or club secretary.

Nominations must be proposed by one club and 2nd by another. Positions are President, Vice President, North Island Rep, South Island Rep and Secretary/Treasurer.

The agenda for the BGM will be sent out in December to clubs and any remits and general business received will be listed.

Auditors Meeting.

The Auditors Meeting will be held in the signal box on the Sunday morning the 12th of January at 9am.

Steam and Steel 2025.

Steam and Steel 2025 Convention is being hosted by the Hamilton Model Engineers between the 9th and 14th of January.

If you go onto Hamilton Model Engineer's Webpage at <https://www.hme.co.nz/steam-n-steel-2025/> you can find the link for the Facebook page for the Convention.

<https://www.facebook.com/steamnsteel2025/>

You can register through this page or download and fill out the form and email to 2025@gmail.com or post to Bianca Betts, C/O Hamilton Model Engineers, PO Box 5090, Frankton, New Zealand.

Heather Wilson: MEANZ Secretary/Treasurer.

Update June 2024/No 2

