



Landelijke Bond voor Waterrecreatie Beoefening VZW
Member of the European Boating Association E.B.A.
Vertegenwoordigd bij Promotie Binnenvaart en Toerevaren



LBWB-MY FLASH 05

Dear members, clubs and friends,
This Flash edition contains 4 subjects.

Waterway tourism 2008.

To hand over to the waterway authorities a list of minor problems and issues, we asked in our previous flash 4 for your input and you can add issues by mailing us before end of next week.

The goal is to obtain repairs or small works that can help the safety and comfort. We look especially for the smaller repairs or missing issues not requiring large infrastructural works. By mail, we will feed you with an update of progress.

Examples are: confusing situations, unclear situations, hindering issues, dangerous situations, problematic operating hours, missing items for proper mooring, broken items on infrastructures, problematic signalisations.

Please make sure that each issue is well detailed and the location precisely specified. For problems at sea we require GPS coordinates. You may also provide us with a picture of the situation. Ask your friends as well to report the problems they have noticed. The better we are informed the better we can map the problems.

European Boating Association E.B.A.

More than 16 years ago Belgium retired from the European scene. After 3 long years of hesitation, LBWB-MY finally decided to put Belgium again on the European map by submitting their application for membership to the European Boating association (EBA). This decision fits in the reorganisation roll out of LBWB-MY.

During the E.B.A. conference held in Dubrovnik, only one of four applications for membership was accepted: the LBWB-MY one. We could put a couple of our concerns on the table and consequently, one action point has been set up. The action point foresees to detail the European differences in the VHF radio regulations for pleasure craft.

LBWB-MY's feels that it is not right that big differences in legislation exists between neighbouring countries, this only leads to unnecessary discussion, confusion, problems and in some cases even to dangerous situations.

Secretariaat: Ovide Decrolylaan 102 9600 Ronse Adm. Zetel: Ronsen Heerweg 50 9700 Oudenaarde

Tel./fax: (32) 055 -21 . 05 . 95 of 055 - 49 . 71 . 03 GSM: (32) 0475 - 28 . 05 . 01 of 0475 - 41 . 28 . 82

E-Mail: info@lbwb.be Website: www.lbwb.be

Ondernemingsnr: 865.501.009

Belgian requirement for a second VHF

LBWB-MY wrote a letter to the office of Minister Schouppe to protest against the new regulation that requires a second VHF radio for pleasure craft longer than 7 meters on inland waterways.

According to our contacts with the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), European Boating Association (E.B.A.) and the European Confederation of Nautical Industries (E.C.N.I.), it appears that there is no European legislation in the pipeline to generalise such a regulation for pleasure craft.

Given the fact that there is no plan to generalise over Europe this legislation, our point of view is that the Belgian regulation has to be dropped. As foreign boat owners are not obliged to equip their boats with one VHF radio there exists a risk for confusion on the water thus creating potential dangerous situations.

Forum on recreational boating.

On 10 December LBWB-MY will participate in a forum on recreational boating.

This forum is organised by NAUTIBEL and the Belgian Boat Show in the context of the policy note from Minister Schouppe.

5 workgroups will cover the following points:

- The equipment of pleasure craft
- Boating licenses
- Registration of pleasure craft
- Shipping regulation
- Federal policy of pleasure craft boating

We will participate in different workgroups. If you think you have any useful information as input on one of these workgroups, please feel free to contact our secretariat.

With kind regards

The LBWB-MOTORYACHTING board

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