

Summits on the Air

Isle of Man (GD)

Association Reference Manual



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1 Change Control

Date	Version	Details
07-Apr-02	0.1	Initial creation
08-Apr-02	0.2	House style created + various other modifications
12-Apr-02	0.3	Various alterations following discussions
24-May-02	0.4	Final additions made; manual circulated for approval
25-May-02	1.0	First formal release
10-Jul-02	1.1	Minor correction to map and other detail

2 Association Reference Data

Association	Isle of Man (IOM)
Commencement date	01 June 2002
Regions	Isle of Man (GD-xxx)
Summit operation criteria	Operation must be within 25m vertically of the summit.
Band 1, score 1 point	<250m ASL
Band 2, score 2 point	<4000m ASL
Band 3, score 4 point	<5000m ASL
Band 4, score 6 point	<600m ASL
Band 5, score 8 point	>=600m ASL
Band 6, score 10 points	Not allocated
Seasonal bonus	Yes
Bonus rationale	Winter period with high probability of sub-zero temperatures
Min. height for bonus	300m
Bonus period dates	1 December to 15 March inclusive
Association sponsored awards	None
Association Manager	John Butler, GD0NFN [gd0nfn@thersgb.net]

2.1 Programme derivation

The SOTA Programme is currently based on the Marilyn's although other summits may be added later. The Marilyn programme considers the *relative* height of summits compared to their surroundings and defines a minimum of 150m climb from the surrounding columns in order to qualify. This results in 5 summits on the Isle of Man, ranging from 169m in height to 621m.

The Marilyn programme is the work of Alan Dawson. Alan has written a book, "The Relative Hills of Britain", ISBN 1-85284-068-4, published in 1992 by Cicerone Press, Milnthorpe, Cumbria. This book covers the Marilyn's in detail and is invaluable reference material for activators and chasers alike. Full details of how to obtain this book, together with much more information on the Marilyn programme, a discussion group, etc. can be found at Alan Dawson's web site, <http://www.staclee.freeserve.co.uk/>. The Marilyn list, as defined in the above references is currently the definitive list of valid Summits.

2.2 General information

The Isle of Man occupies a central position, not only in the Irish Sea, but also in the British Isles. The Island is some 33 miles (52 kilometres) long from north to south and 13 miles (22 km) wide from east to west at the widest point.

The coastline, which is over 100 miles (160 km) long, encompasses an area of 227 square miles (572 sq. km). Despite its comparatively small size, the Island contains a wide variety of scenery. A range of hills stretch obliquely across the Island, the highest of which is Snaefell

at 2,036 feet (621 metres). Between these hills lie well defined valleys, which provide endless changes of scenery. Around the Island's flat northern plain are long sandy beaches, which contrast markedly with the rocky cliffs and sheltered bays around the rest of the coastline. Over two thirds of the landmass is cultivated, principally the fertile northern and southern plains.

2.3 Rights of way and access issues

The Isle of Man has a comprehensive network of pathways open to the public. There are times throughout the year when roads and public paths are closed to allow for various types of motor sport and other activities. Also during the wintertime the "mountain road" may be closed for weeks at a time due to adverse weather conditions, during these time access to Snaefell may not be possible. Up-to-date information on events, travel and accommodation can be obtained from the Government website www.gov.im (Tourism and Heritage section).

The following public right of way exist:

- Public footpaths (Pedestrians only) Footpaths are marked by dotted lines, red or green, on Ordnance Survey maps and by a solid red line on the IOM map.
- Public Road (Byway, restrictions may apply), these are marked by a broken red line on the IOM map.
- Long Distance Footpaths, these are marked by a continuous blue line on the IOM map.
- Paths within plantations (Courtesy of the landowner), these are marked with a broken yellow line on the IOM map.
- Areas of Public Ramblage, these areas are coloured light green on the IOM map. Manx Nature Conservation Trust areas are generally open to public ramblage, antenna erection may not be permitted in these areas. These areas are coloured light brown on the IOM map.

It is essential to keep to public rights of way at all times. There is no excuse for straying from rights of way, as there are so many of them. Any SOTA operation in which it is shown that the participants failed to keep to paths when appropriate is likely to be disallowed.

All Summits are areas of public ramblage and special permission is not required before activation, the landowner in all cases is the Isle of Man Government. Any access restrictions will be sign posted as taped off as appropriate.

2.4 Maps and navigation

The definitive map for hill walking in The Isle of Man is published by the Department of Local Government and the Environment ("Public Rights of Way and Outdoor Leisure Map") it has a scale of 1:25000 (2.5in to 1 mile). This map is available at stationers and bookshops, or can be ordered (ISBN 0-90486-954-7). The map set consists of two double-sided maps and details all Public Rights of way. All Public Rights of Way are very well sign posted.

OS "Landranger" series of maps (number 95) may also be used but they do not contain all rights of way on the Island.

2.5 Grid reference system used

The Ordnance Survey of Great Britain defines a rectangular grid system, which covers the entire landmass of Britain. This system is used throughout this Association Reference Manual. Typically, the system provides a unique reference to 100m accuracy, though this can be varied if required. Full details of this system can be found at <http://www.ordsvy.gov.uk/>.

2.6 Safety considerations

It is tempting to assume that the Isle of Man Mountains are relatively trivial. Whilst they certainly do not compare with Alpine grandeur, the matter of being on a small Island, together with proximity to the south-westerly weather fronts coming across the Atlantic, means that conditions can be severe, especially in the winter.

Isle of Man Mountains may carry snow, any time from late November through to April. Unfortunately, much of this snow is relatively soft and can be very slippery. At other times it just rains (very heavily)! Good waterproof gear is therefore essential, as is protection for radio equipment. You should **never** venture into the hills and mountains without walking boots and warm clothing.

Mobile phone coverage throughout the Island is very good, but it must be remembered that your mobile phone must be configured to take international calls (international roaming enabled). Manx Telecom operates its own mobile phone service (Pronto) and UK mobile phone services do not work on the Island.

Mountain Rescue is undertaken by the Isle of Man Fire and Rescue Service "Hill search team", supported as required by Civil Defence volunteers who have undertaken specific training in search and rescue. Mountain Rescue services are accessed by contacting the Police by dialling '999'.

2.7 Isle of Man Regions

The Isle of Man Association has a single region, which covers the entire area of the Association. There is therefore no distinction between the Isle of Man as an Association or as a Region. The region only exists for reasons of administrative convenience.

3 Summit Reference Data

3.1 Regional reference – Isle of Man

Association	Isle of Man (IOM)
Region	Isle of Man (GD-xxx)
Region Manager	John Butler GD0NFN
Reference (s)	The Relative Hills of Britain (“The Marilyn Programme”) http://www.staclee.freereserve.co.uk/

3.1.1 Scope

There are many other summits on the Island, which do not fulfil the Marilyn criteria. Consideration will be given to adding these summits to the SOTA list in the near future.

3.1.2 Table of summits

Ref.	Alt (m)	Alt (ft)	Name	Grid ref.	Valid from	Valid to	Score
GD-001	621	2036	Snaefell	SC 397881	01-May-02		8
GD-002	488	1601	Slieau Freoaghane	SC 340883	01-May-02		4
GD-003	483	1586	South Barrule	SC 257759	01-May-02		4
GD-004	230	756	Bradda Hill	SC 193711	01-May-02		1
GD-005	169	554	Mull Hill	SC 189676	01-May-02		1

