

RYA Competent Crew

Course Syllabus and Outcomes

1. Sea Terms and Parts of a Boat, her Rigging and Sails

- Understands orders given concerning the sailing and day-to-day running of the boat

2. Sail Handling

- Can bend on, set, reef and handle sails
- Can use sheets and halyards and their associated winches

3. Ropework

- Can handle ropes, including coiling, stowing, securing to cleats and single and double bollards
- Can handle warps
- Can tie the following knots and knows their correct use: figure-of eight; clove hitch; bowline; round turn and two half hitches; reef knot; rolling hitch; single and double sheet bend.

4. Safety on board

- Understands fire precautions and fighting
 - What the particular hazards are, and actions to be taken to prevent and in the event of fire.
- Understands on-board alarms, including gas and carbon monoxide

5. Personal Safety Equipment

- Understands how to comply with guidance for the wearing of safety harnesses, life jackets and personal buoyancy aids

6. Man Overboard

- Understands the action to be taken to recover a man overboard
- Understands how cold-water shock can affect a casualty in the water

7. Emergency Equipment

- Understands how to launch and board a life raft
- Understands distress flares and knows when they should be used

8. Manners and Customs

- Understands accepted practice with regard to: use of burgees and ensigns; prevention of unnecessary noise or disturbance in harbour including courtesies to other berthed craft
- Understands the responsibility of the boating community to protect the environment

9. Rules of the Road

- Can keep an efficient lookout at sea

10. Tender Usage

- Understands the loading rules and complies with them
- Understands the use and importance of a kill cord
- Understands safety equipment for tenders
- Can handle a dinghy under oars

11. Meteorology

- Knowledge of The Beaufort Scale
- Understands the forecasting services and where to obtain a forecast

12. Seasickness

- Understands how to reduce the effects of seasickness (e.g. steer, look at the horizon, take anti-seasickness tablets before going afloat)

The Competent Crew course introduces the complete beginner to cruising. You will learn about personal safety, seamanship and helmsmanship to the level required to be a useful member of the crew of a cruising yacht.

