

Training report 2021 – Lindsey Weatherley – RYA Principal

Again, a big thankyou to all the instructors, who give their time to run the courses and training at the club, and to the many helpers that do the bits in the background that enable us to run the varied courses and events over the year.

As with many things, all the plans made at the beginning of the year were gradually cancelled one by one. And sadly, the clubs training took a huge hit.

However, we did manage to accomplish a few things this year, 4 Instructors attended the RYA Training Day at Rockley Watersports, 3 of our elite Fleet spent a lot of their spare time honing their double handed skills over the last winter leading up to the first lockdown, in preparation for an Instructor course, sadly this did not go ahead, but hopefully will do in the future. 6 members obtained their Powerboat Level 2, and we were able to run some last-minute much asked for Junior and Adult Sail Training – where 18 members took part. And I'm glad to say our Annual RYA inspection went well, even if they couldn't see instruction taking place.

First aid - Again all our courses had to be cancelled – even those we rescheduled, as a temporary measure there is an online update available for instructors, which is valid for a year, we are currently trying this out and will hopefully offer it to those with certificates running out soon. Sadly, not the total solution as there will have to be a fully up to date first aider on site too. I will be looking to run full courses as soon as we can.

Power Boat Practice – Time on the water is important, and many of our Helms did not get a chance to practice their skills last year, please look out for any practice sessions, and if you have not done it yet the In-House Safety Boat Course – This one-day course is additional to the PB level 2 and gives you the extra skills needed to deal with capsized dinghies etc.

Race Officer training - Race Officer is an important duty role, and we would like more members to get involved, without it we cannot run races, please let me know if you would like some training in this role or could help run a course.

In the meantime, you can get involved by having a go, sign up as Assistant Race Officer and get actively involved, shadow a race officer, help at an open. If you are a racer you have many of the skills – Juniors, this could be an opportunity for you to help your club and it could count towards your D of E.

As an **RYA** Affiliated Club and Recognized Training Centre, we have been supported over the last year to restart sailing safely. Personally, I have attended many of the RYA workshops and seminars, and conferences over the last year, there has been some invaluable advice, sources of information and guidance, which has helped us through this challenging time whilst re-energizing us with ideas for the year ahead.

Looking forward to 2021, subject to Covid Restrictions lifting and hopefully successful Vaccines it will mean we will be able to provide some training during the year subject to the availability of Instructors. I would really like to know what members need, so I can prioritize what we provide with the instructors available. Shortly I will be asking you to register an “interested in” on the Members Portal under Club Details – Training Courses

Weekends continue to be difficult to schedule, due to availability of instructors and Opens taking place so if any members are willing to do a mid-week course, evenings, or possibly Fri/Sat for the 2-day course Power Boat Level 2, please let me know.

In the meantime, keep an eye out for training bulletins, Facebook and posters and sign up on the club database as courses become available.