

RWYC standard Operating Procedures for Training (2019)

The Royal Windermere Yacht Club is a Royal Yachting Association (RYA) recognised teaching establishment. As such it is regularly inspected to ensure that courses are managed by suitably qualified staff, following the relevant national syllabus, using appropriate equipment with adequate safety back up.

The Training Officer as RYA principal will be responsible to RWYC and will also be responsible for fulfilling this code of practice and ensure RYA standards are maintained.

Instructor qualifications

For the purpose of this document the following definitions apply:

Senior Instructor- anyone holding a valid RYA Senior Instructor certificate and valid first aid certificate.

Instructor- anyone holding a valid RYA Instructor certificate and valid first aid certificate.

Assistant Instructor- anyone holding a valid Assistant Instructor certificate issued by the training officer of the RWYC.

On occasion an experienced Instructor may deputise a sailing session as session leader on the approval of a Senior Instructor, skills, depth of experience, attitude and ability to do so.

General sailing and powerboat tuition

Sailing instructor: participant ratios

1:6 with the single handed dinghies

3:2 with double handed dinghies

Powerboat Instructor Participant Ratio

Levels 1 & 2 Ratio 3:1

All others Ratio 6:1 (2 boats)

Group Safety equipment

- Each safety boat is equipped with a first aid kit, throwlines, tow lines etc. In addition a further first aid kit and de-fib are located in the club house foyer area. All as RYA recommendations.
- The craft will be operated by a person who holds RYA Level 2 qualifications.
- Radios should be carried and mobiles if possible.

General information

RWYC- sailing on Windermere- Local conditions

- Wind and weather conditions can and do change very quickly. This applies particularly to the wind, which can vary suddenly in strength and direction. The conditions at the commencement of a sailing session may be very different by the end and equipment and personal safety procedures must take account of this.
- Particularly in the early part of the sailing season, water temperatures are low and risk of hypothermia is significant. Clothing and buoyancy must take account of this.
- Lake Windermere is frequently busy with sailing craft, power boats, rowing boats and the ferry etc. It cannot be assumed that power craft will always give way to sail. Students need to be aware of this.
- There are particular shoal areas south of the ferry and some in other parts of the lake, Instructors should make their students aware of this, and appreciate the position and the depth of these as required.

Equipment

RWYC is committed to providing equipment that is fit for purpose and meets or exceeds any relevant nationally accepted standards. As such all activity is subject to regular inspection, servicing and maintenance.

All sailing dinghies shall be maintained to RYA equipment standards. This will be achieved through regular inspection and maintenance. This includes checking for water ingress into buoyancy tanks. Dinghies will be subject to the standards RYA test if there are any concerns.

Each year dinghies will have an annual overhaul

All powerboats and their equipment will be regularly inspected and maintained. In addition engines will have one major service each year.

Visually check all buoyancy aids annually.

Equipment Inventory for safety boat:

1 paddle	Fire extinguisher
Anchor	Throw line
Exposure bag	Tow line
First Aid Kit	Knife
Hand held radio	Spare kill cord

Boating safety - all dinghies and powerboats

The sailing or operating areas should be clearly defined and known to all that are going afloat.

There should be a simple signal, which should be made known to everyone, for returning to the clubhouse.

The chief instructor (SI for sailing and PI for powerboat courses) will authorise on water activities taking into account the forecast and actual the weather conditions for the planned duration of the session.

Instructor personnel - qualifications and training

The qualifications of all instructional personnel with the responsibility for the safety of students should have their certificates inspected to ensure that they are the appropriate level. They must be in date and supported by a valid First Aid Certificate. All details should be recorded in personnel files.