

## **RYA Advanced Powerboat Course Syllabus**

**To teach boat handling, seamanship, pilotage and navigation up to the standards required to drive a planing powerboat safely by day and night in tidal coastal waters with which the candidate may be familiar. Candidates should be competent to the standard of the Intermediate Powerboat Certificate with a thorough knowledge of navigation and chart work to the level of the Day Skipper Shorebased certificate.**

**You are required to hold a first aid certificate and a VHF operator's certificate.**

**Duration:                    2 Days                    Minimum Age:                    17**

### **PRACTICAL**

#### **Preparation for Sea**

**Can:**

- Prepare the powerboat
- Carry out fuel and engine checks
- Stow and secure gear

#### **Boat Handling**

**Knowledge of:**

- Differences for a twin engine vessel

**Understands:**

- Characteristics of various hull forms and propeller configurations
- Action to be taken in rough weather

**Can:**

- Demonstrate a practical understanding and correct use of power trim and trim tabs
- Demonstrate an awareness of the effects of wind and tide when manoeuvring, including:
  - Steering to transits and in buoyed channels
  - Turning in a confined space
  - Berthing in various conditions of wind and tide
  - Picking up and leaving a mooring buoy
  - Demonstrate the use of an appropriate length kill cord at all times

#### **Passage making and responsibility as Skipper**

**Understands:**

- The importance of pre-trip planning
- Planning and making coastal passages, taking into account the relevant navigational hazards, the type of boat and the strengths of the crew.
- Chart plotters and radar , their advantages and limitations

**Can:**

- Organise the navigation, safety and welfare of the crew during a powerboat passage
- Navigate at higher speed using time/distance
- Use electronic navigational equipment for planning and undertaking a passage, including the use of waypoints, routes and XTE, SOG, COG, BTW, DTW

**Pilotage****Can:**

- Carry out pilotage plans and pilotage for entry into or departure from harbour
- Use leading and clearing lines, transits, back bearings and soundings as aids to pilotage
- Use GPS and understand its limitations in pilotage
- Navigate using soundings

**Meteorology****Knowledge of:**

- Terms used in shipping forecasts, including the Beaufort scale and their significance to small craft.

**Understands:**

- Sources of forecast information and interpretation of forecasts including synoptic charts
- The significance of meteorological trends
- Can interpret a Synoptic chart

**Rules of the Road****Can:**

- Apply the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

**Use of Engines****Knowledge of:**

- How to change a propeller
- Propeller diameter and pitch
- Propeller ventilation and cavitations

**Understands:**

- Checks to be made before starting, during running and after stopping for diesel and petrol engines
- Periodic checks on engines and electrical system including spark plugs, water filter and pump impellers
- How to bleed the fuel system (diesel), change filters and pump impellers
- Transmission belts
- Spares to be carried

**Emergency Situations****Understands:**

- Correct action to take in emergency situations

- Fire prevention and fighting
- Hull damage/watertight integrity
- What to do in a medical emergency
- Towing and being towed
- Helicopter rescue procedures
- Use of flares
- Search patterns

**Can:**

- Pick up a man overboard in all available conditions

**Night Cruising**

**Can:**

- Take charge of a powerboat at night, including leaving and entering harbour
- Demonstrate ability at keeping a proper lookout and identifying lit and unlit marks by night.