

RYA Intermediate Powerboat Course Syllabus

To teach powerboating up to the standard required to complete a short coastal passage by day. Candidates should be competent to the standard of National Powerboat Certificate Level 2. It is strongly recommended that candidates hold a first aid certificate and VHF operator's certificate.

Duration: 2 Days Minimum Age: 16

THEORY (Section A)

Planning a day cruise

Knowledge of:

- Navigation
- True and magnetic bearings
- Bearing and distance
- Chart symbols
- Tidal diamonds and tidal streams
- Use of pilot books
- Position lines
- Use of marina locks (can be covered practically if appropriate)

Understands:

- Latitude and Longitude
- The principles of GPS
- Sources of forecast information and the interpretation of forecasts
- Tidal heights at secondary ports

Can:

- Use a plotting instrument and plot a course to steer (CTS)
- Work out tidal heights for standard ports using a tidal curve
- Interpret Lateral and Cardinal buoyage
- Implement IRPCS, in particular rules 5,7,8,9, 12-19, 23
- Use GPS waypoint navigation and determine XTE, SOG, COG, BTW, DTW
- Use a laminated chart afloat
- Use pilotage to enter an unfamiliar port by day
- Explain how to make a VHF emergency call

PRACTICAL (Section B)

The aim of the practical session is to put into practice the theory detailed above and to complete a passage, which shall include:

Boat Preparation

Understands:

- The importance of protective clothing and safety equipment
- The minimum level of equipment for the boat

- Considerations of equipment required for longer passages
- Correct stowage of equipment

Boat Handling

Knowledge of:

- Effect of waves
- Rougher conditions
- Awareness of other water users
- Mooring stern-to between posts or Med style

Can:

- Demonstrate awareness of wind and tide
- Moore alongside, in a marina berth (where available)
- Demonstrate the use of an appropriate length kill cord at all times

Pilotage

Can:

- Demonstrate a practical application of techniques for pilotage in local waters

Passage Making

Understands:

- The need for pre-planning, including advice in the event of having to return at night

Can:

- Apply the lessons learnt in the theory section and successfully complete a practical passage
- Fix position by traditional and electronic means

Man overboard

Understands:

- Techniques for picking up a man overboard in differing conditions

Can:

- Pick up a man overboard