



RECOGNISED TRAINING CENTRE AGM 2023 REPORT

Highlights:

- Busiest year on record for the RTC
- Biggest instructional team in the last 20 years
- Joined the OnBoard scheme (7th centre in Scotland)
- New Quest dinghy ('Mara') a great success

Formal Training

We provided 6 days of formal adult dinghy training and 15 days of formal junior training. We ran 3 powerboat level 2 courses (6 days) and an RYA safety boat course (2 days). We issued a record 58 RYA certificates (36 dinghy, 22 powerboat).

Instructor Led Informal Training

We scheduled 11 Dolphins sessions and managed to sail on most of them (the last session with 18 juniors on the water was curtailed just in time before a lightning storm with monsoon rain hit). There were 31 sailors registered for Dolphins, 17 male & 14 female. All 10 Improvers sessions were sailed (up to 6 boats & 7 sailors) and 5 race coach led Skills Development sessions for up to 6 sailors.

Instructors

The club now has 5 senior instructors, 4 dinghy instructors, one assistant dinghy instructor, 7 powerboat instructors and 2 race coach level 2s (some instructors hold multiple qualifications). We have recently joined members with instructional qualifications who we hope will join the training team in 2024. RYA Scotland provided a development day for the powerboat instructors (free of charge).

OnBoard

OnBoard is an RYA initiative aimed at 8–18-year-olds. It unlocks a number of useful resources and we have received 2 days of instructor mentoring (free of charge).

Dinghies

Club member Marvin Fullerton kindly donated his Topaz to the club giving us 7 in total. All the Topaz are now at a Uno + standard with the addition of a jib where required making them suitable for junior double-handed sailing. The 6 Tera dinghies continue to be in good demand. Mara, the new Quest dinghy, has proven to be a great success and a massive

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improvement on the Wanderers for training (being sold) with better space allowing for more sailors to be on board and the asymmetric gennaker making the boat a great steppingstone towards a performance boat. The Quest can also be sailed single handed (cat rigged) with good upwind performance, and good tacking performance even in waves, making the boat suitable for the larger and less mobile adult sailor to single hand. We have produced an illustrated rigging guide for the boat.

Looking Ahead

We have developed a one-day club safety officer course which contains the essential practical skills for dinghy rescue found in the RYA safety boat course but also includes modules on the responsibilities and management requirements of being a club SO. The first course will be delivered in 2024.

Richard Jenner has announced he will stand down as the RTC Principal and Chief Instructor Dinghy in September 2024 at the conclusion of the dinghy training season. A continuity plan has been developed and we are hopeful that the RTC will have a bright future.