



## RYA DAY SKIPPER PRACTICAL TIDAL SYLLABUS

The Day Skipper Course is conducted on board a cruising yacht, to teach pilotage, navigation, seamanship and boat handling up to the standard required to skipper a small cruising yacht safely by day in tidal waters with which the student is familiar.

### 1 Preparation for sea

- Is able to prepare a yacht for sea, including engine checks, selection of sails, securing and stowage of all gear on deck and below

### 2 Deck work

- Can reef, shake out reefs and change sails to suit prevailing conditions
- Can prepare an anchor, mooring warps and take charge on deck when mooring alongside, coming to a buoy, anchoring, weighing anchor and slipping from a buoy or an alongside berth

### 3 Navigation

- Is proficient in chartwork and routine navigational duties on passage taking including:
  - Taking and plotting visual fixes
  - Use of electronic navigation equipment for positional fixing
  - Use of waypoints
  - Working up DR and EP
  - Estimating tidal heights and tidal streams
  - Working out course to steer to allow for tidal stream, leeway and drift
  - Knowledge of IALA buoyage
  - Maintenance of navigational records
  - Use of echo sounder and lead line

### 4 Pilotage

- Can prepare and execute a pilotage plan for entry into, or departure from, harbor
- Understands the use of leading and clearing lines
- Use of transits and soundings as aids to pilotage

### 5 Meteorology

- Knows sources of forecast information
- Can interpret shipping forecasts and use a barometer as a forecasting aid

## 6 Rule of the road

- Has a working knowledge of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

## 7 Maintenance and repair work

- Understands and is able to carry out maintenance tasks
- Knows the properties and uses of common synthetic fibre ropes

## 8 Engines

- Knows how to change fuel and water filters, pump impeller and to bleed the fuel system

## 9 Victualling

- Understands how to victual a yacht

## 10 Emergency situations

- Is able to take correct action as skipper for recovery of man overboard
- Understands distress flares and how to use a liferaft
- Can operate a radiotelephone in an emergency and send a distress message
- Understands how to secure a tow
- Understands rescue procedures including helicopter rescue

## 11 Yacht handling under power

- Can bring a boat safely to and from an alongside berth, mooring buoy and anchor under various conditions of wind and tide

## 12 Yacht handling under sail

- Can bring a boat safely to and from a mooring buoy and anchor under various conditions of wind and tide
- Can steer and trim sails effectively on all points of sailing

## 13 Passage making

- Can plan and make a coastal passage, taking account of relevant navigational hazards and limitations imposed by the type of boat and the strength of the crew

## 14 Night cruising

- Has experienced sailing cruising at night, including leaving and entering harbor. Understands the special consideration for pilotage plans, keeping a lookout and identifying marks by night