

CLUB SAILING UPDATE 29.09.2026

The Annual Wash Up was well attended. It was a great meeting with everyone engaging and sharing ideas and feedback. It has produced quite a list for the sailing committee to discuss and consider as the 2027 season is planned. The conversations ranged across the whole gambit of on the water activities. From Cruisers and more coastal racing, through to progressive handicaps, which handicap system to use for Cruisers and Sportsboats, via should Sportsboats and dinghies combine to single classes based upon whether they have an asymmetric spinnaker or not, ending up looking at extending the Wednesday evening series. And then, what about Saturday racing as Squadron 13 want some racing next year, and much more. If you missed the meeting **IT IS NOT TO LATE TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD**. Simply email your thoughts to rearcommodoresailing@rtyc.org or WhatsApp 07976131505. Whilst I am very happy to talk to anyone **please email or WhatsApp** to ensure that I do not accidentally overlook your ideas or thoughts.

On the Water; The Rear Commodore Sailing and his Race Team, plus a mysterious phantom team member, presided over Sunday morning racing. The wet weather held off and whilst the sea was rather 'lumpy' the wind settled on due south for the first race and swung right for the second race necessitating the laying of an inflatable mark (O).



There were just four SB20s racing and I am still amazed at three out of four being over the line at the start but it did at least make individual recall easy. Maybe they were phased by the phantom crew member on the radio. A voice that all recognised but also knew was away on a well-deserved holiday. There are just so many puns I could use but I won't.

The answer was the testing of a clever device produced by the 'microprocessor' group that meet in the club every Tuesday. We were live trialling an automated starting device that even does the radio broadcasts. Once everyone got used to the fact that Sue Penfold was not actually on the committee vessel it was a great success and just needs a small amount of refining. You will see more of the device next season.



Next Session - Saturday morning, 3 October 2026

This includes some racing. Mary Gurine will be out there as committee vessel and Phil Rumbelow will be your race officer.

Half Term Courses: Ian and Duncan have organised level 3/4 dinghy courses for half term week. Places are fill in quickly and might be full by the time this is published. If you are interested please phone the Club (01803 292006)



Keep a close watch out for announcements on the WhatsApp group.

RIB and other TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Club Courses

Our schedule of courses has been updated and is published on the club web site [Training Courses | Royal Torbay Yacht Club](#). There will be more to follow including ones for anyone wanting to help with club race teams for both club and championship events.



The current published courses include:

- First Aid Course Friday 11th December
- PB2 Monday Tuesday 15th 16th March
- First Aid Course Monday 22nd March

RYA Race Management Courses

Apart from the RYA courses we run as an RYA Training Centre, the RYA also run a series of race management courses with venues around the country.

As well as Race Officer Courses, they include ones like mark laying. Even if you do not want to become a full RYA accredited Race Officer or Mark layer attending these will help understand what happens on the committee boat and how racing is run.

Currently there is a Race Officer's course running at Ply Yacht Club on 7 & 8 of November. Full details and link to booking form are here:

<https://www.rya.org.uk/events/rya-regional-race-officer-course-november-2026/>

From the RYA:

This week's pick from the RYA newsletter:

	RYA Yachtmaster of the Year
	Tom Stierle received prestigious award at Southampton International Boat Show
	FIND OUT MORE
Community and camaraderie at the Junior Club Championships	
The inaugural event brought together aspiring young racing sailors.	
FIND OUT MORE	

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Duty Rota Update & Upcoming Schedule

As a reminder, per our updated Sailing Instructions, racing will NOT happen for any class (except IRC and Cruiser) unless a safety boat is on the water. If you cannot make your assigned date, you must arrange your own duty swap via the club WhatsApp groups and notify the Sailing Secretary or Rear Commodore Sailing.

October Duties:

Day	Date	Series	Results	Race Officer	Safety Crew
Sun	04-Oct	AUTUMN - SUN	Tina	Bill Butcher	New Moon 2
Sun	11-Oct	AUTUMN - SUN	Tina	tbc	Cuban Cruise
Sun	18-Oct	AUTUMN - SUN	Alan	Michael Currie	Spaggerwocky
Sun	25-Oct	AUTUMN - SUN	Jan	Bob Penfold	YaYa

- **Safety RIB Reminders:**

- If you are operating the club RIBs, please adhere strictly to these rules:
- There must **always** be both a helm and a crew member on a safety RIB.
- Helms **must** be Club members and hold a valid **RYA PB2** accreditation. Crew must also be Club members.
- Buoyancy aids or life jackets **must** be worn at all times when afloat.
- Check the craft's fuel levels *before* leaving the harbour and upon return. Always replace used tanks with full ones at the end of a duty.
- Notify the sailing committee (Michael Currie / Amy Roberts) of any faults on the ribs by email (rearcommadoresailing@rtyc.org / sailing@rtyc.org)

Reminders:

Our Club - Our Newsletter – Your Articles:

It's been a very busy season for everyone, not just championships. Have you got a story of a cruise, memory of some experience, seen something funny, or involved in some different RTYC club sailing or racing? Then please drop me a little report (with a photo or 2 if you have them) and I would love to include your article/report. Constructive feedback is also welcome. I can be reached on 07976 131505 or email rearcommadoresailing@rtyc.org.

Contact the editor: If you have any questions or feedback about club sailing or this newsletter I can be reached on 07976 131505 or email rearcommadoresailing@rtyc.org.