# CLUB SAILING UPDATE 27.10.2026

## Windy Weather

We lost this last weekend's sailing for both Squadron 13 and Club racing. It rather begs the question, are the current high winds Equinoctial Gales? Do they even exist?

Apparently equinoctial gales exist as a historical and colloquial concept or myth, but they are not a scientifically recognised or reliably recurring meteorological phenomenon.

**UK autumn storms form when fast-moving Atlantic low-pressure systems interact with a strong jet stream, allowing storms to deepen rapidly as they approach the British Isles.** The process is well-documented in current UK Met Office analyses, which describe how successive low-pressure systems and rapid cyclogenesis drive the UK's typical wet and windy autumn weather.

So autumn gales are not tied to the equinox just the seasonal changes in the jet stream as the northen hemisphere transitions to cooler weather. Disappointing really, this author rather likes the romantic idea of the myth.

## Currents in Tor Bay

Well we do know they exist and what's more South West Water are going to be monitoring them.

Four seabed-mounted **Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCPs)** are being deployed within Tor Bay.

According the the Harbour Authority, deployment is scheduled to commence from **28 October 2026**, subject to weather conditions, etc. and recovered after 30 November 2026. Their locations are:

| Station | Latitude (N) | Longitude (W) |
|---|---|---|
| ADCP 1 - Inner North | 50.442° | -3.543° |
| ADCP 2 - Outer North | 50.442° | -3.500° |
| ADCP 3 - Outer South | 50.417° | -3.500° |
| ADCP 4 - Inner South | 50.417° | -3.543° |

So, effectvely for the rest of the year we all need to avoid:

- Anchoring, dredging, trawling, potting, or undertaking any seabed-contact activities in the immediate vicinity of the deployment positions.
- Getting anywhere near the vessels engaged in the depoyment or recover operations.

Full details are in the Harbour Masters Notice which can be found at **Deployment of Seabed-Mounted Current Monitoring Equipment in Tor Bay**

The Club Racing and Squadron 13 programmes can be found Here

# CLUB SAILING UPDATE 27.10.2026

## Date for the Diary




As promised **Club Prize Giving** (all welcome whether you raced or not) on **20th November, buy your tickets now**. There will be options to meet any dietry needs either on the menu or by request. Put the date in your diaries and buy your tickets. Menu details to follow in the next week or so as we organise replacement catering arrangements.

Squadron 13 Prize Giving on the 28th November, Squadron member and parents make sure that is in your diaries as well. **Next Session - Saturday morning, 31 October 2026**
Keep a close watch out for announcements on the WhatsApp group.

## SB20 Worlds

I was sent this just after the closing deadline for last week's Sailing Update. As we read this we know that Team Xcellent did not get the result they were hoping for but I am sure they will be back faster and stronger at next year's Worlds which, as you will know, RTYC is hosting. That is my segway into John's report.



*"Hey all,*
*I am writing this from Hyeres in south of France where team XCELLENT have been maxed for training last week in beautiful sunny conditions .*
*The start of the world championships to defend our title was due to start yesterday - no sailing due to high winds today we awoke with government alarms stating not to go near water .. and we are awaiting further instructions and hope to sail soon -weather permitting .*


FR-ALERT: Extreme alert 2m ago
2026-10-20 07:50
Message de la préfecture du Var

En raison des fortes intempéries actuellement en cours sur le département, des inondations et des ruissellements peuvent survenir.

1/ Reportez vos déplacements non essentiels.
2/ Ne descendez pas dans les sous-sols, les passages et les parkings souterrains.
3/ Ne vous engagez pas sur une route inondée.
4/ Éloignez-vous des cours d'eau.

Respectez les consignes des autorités diffusées à la radio, la télévision, les médias sociaux et sur les sites institutionnels.
Soyez vigilants jusqu'à ce que les autorités déclarent la fin de l'alerte.

*We made a presentation last night for the world championships to be held at home in 2027 -was well received by our international friends and it was a great feeling showing our club,harbour and sailing waters to the fleet including-Cuba, Vietnam, Australia and of course our European friends .*
*Signing off from a very wet Hyeres."*

## Coming Soon

As it that season for reviewing both boats and equipment, next week we will be starting a Classified Ad's section for boats and equipment you may want to sell. Certainly, initially this will be a free offering. I know that the first listings will include a Laser Dinghy. If you have anything you want to sell email rearcommodoresailing@rtyc.org with your advert with up to 2 pictures and your contact details.

# CLUB SAILING UPDATE 27.10.2026

## 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
- First Aid Course Monday 8th March
- PB2 Monday Tuesday 15th 16th 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.

**The main link to All RYA courses is here: RYA courses and qualifications | Home | RYA — Royal Yachting Association**

## News from the RYA: This week's pick from the RYA newsletter:




**Insurance: Price vs Protection**

For many boat owners, insurance can feel like another cost to manage alongside mooring fees, maintenance, fuel and storage. When renewal time comes around, it is tempting to focus on one thing above all else – price.

Here's why the cheapest boat insurance can cost more in the long run.

**FIND OUT MORE**

**Eric Twiname Youth and Junior Team Racing Championships**

This year's event delivered adrenaline, resilience and lots of fun!

**FIND OUT MORE**






**Don't miss the Weather and Sailing seminar 2027**

Navigating and forecasting in a technology-denied environment.

**FIND OUT MORE**

The Club Racing and Squadron 13 programmes can be found Here

## 🚨 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/November Duties:**

| Day | Date | Series | Results | Race Officer | Safety Crew |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sun | 1-Nov | WINTER – SUN | Alan | Michael Currie | Bewitched |
| Sun | 8-Nov | WINTER – SUN | Tina | TBC | Europe & K1 (Amy Roberts and Gary Phare) |
| Sun | 15-Nov | WINTER – SUN | Sue | Tony Jaffa | Xcellent |
| Sun | 22-Nov | WINTER – SUN | Tina | Tony Jaffa | Smooth Operator |
| Sun | 29-Nov | WINTER – SUN | Michael Currie | Phil Rumbelow | Hope |

- **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 (rearcommodoresailing@rtyc.org / sailing@rtyc.org)

## Our Club - Our Newsletter – Your Articles:

Who's got something for next week? Perhaps you visited another club and watched their sailing or even joined in.

I know 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, help is available and happy to support anyone with tidying things up, (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 rearcommodoresailing@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 rearcommodoresailing@rtyc.org.