



Wednesday, April 30, 2008

RYA Community Awards nomination deadline

The final deadline for nominations for the RYA Community Awards is Monday 12 May - don't miss your opportunity to recognise an individual you feel has made a real impact on sailing and boating at grassroots level.

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<http://www.rya.org.uk/WorkingWithUs/volunteers/communityawards2008>

National Windsurfing Week

National Windsurfing Week begins on Saturday 3 May, and there are events planned throughout the South West. For example, South West Windsurfing is celebrating with a Mega Weekend hosted by SW Lakes Trust at Roadford Lake over the three-day bank holiday weekend and Seasports in Teignmouth will be hosting special celebrity events.

>> <http://www.nationalwindsurfingweek.org/?cat=96>



RYA applauds decision to revisit 2012 sailing events

The RYA has welcomed the International Sailing Federation's move to reconsider the slate of sailing events for the 2012 Olympic Games. ISAF has agreed to re-open the discussion surrounding the sailing events for 2012 at its mid-year conference at Qingdao, China, in May.

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http://www.rya.org.uk/NewsAndEvents/newsroom/news/rya_isaf_midyear08.htm



Ben and Stevie to launch OnBoard at Exe SC

Stevie and Ben will be taking time out of their busy training schedule to return to their home club and introduce sailing to youngsters from Exmouth Community College, the West of England School for young people with little or no sight and the Exeter Royal Academy for Deaf Education.



OnBoard is the RYA scheme that gives children from all backgrounds the opportunity to try sailing and windsurfing, with the aim of getting as many 'hooked' on the sports as possible. Exe Sailing Club is only the second club in the South West to sign up to OnBoard outside the catchment area of an OnBoard Development Officer, but Centre Principal Rick Newcombe is working hard to put the scheme into place: "The aim is to make sailing accessible to all, and we are already running Sailability sessions for youngsters as well as the OnBoard ones. Next year, we hope to integrate the two, and ensure that those of all abilities have the opportunity to develop their sailing skills."

The club will be inviting representatives from the local community to watch this very special sailing event, after which Ben and Stevie will also be making the official RYA presentation of an OnBoard plaque before returning to their Olympic training.

Ben, Stevie and fellow Olympic hopeful, Joe Glanfield, all started out at Exe Sailing Club, where the strategy is to encourage beginners through OnBoard and then develop their fun, enjoyment and sailing skill through racing opportunities. It is accredited as a RYA Volvo Champion Club, and is the first club in the South West to take advantage of a Sport England Clubs & Coaches grant to fund a new Club Professional, Rosie Sands. Rosie will be providing long-term stability to the club's planning process, and she will work closely with volunteers to provide continuity and sustainability for the club's race training – and more Exmouth champions in the future!

For more information about the launch, contact Rick Newcombe on 07966 320193.

SW clubs host OnBoard festivals

The event, which follows on from a very successful festival last year, will include six different activities – sailing, windsurfing, climbing, a raft race, surf skis and problem solving – and the fun will begin at 1.30pm.

To prepare for the big day, the students, from years 8 to 10, have already been participating in a five-week RYA OnBoard programme of after-school windsurfing and sailing training at Siblyback Lake.

Participants must all achieve a stage one award prior to the event, so the pressure is on! OnBoard is the RYA scheme that gives children from all backgrounds the opportunity to try sailing and windsurfing, with the aim of getting as many 'hooked' on the sports as possible.



On the day teams of six will compete in the raft racing and the surf ski events, and they will need to

display their skills on the lake in a relay style event.

In the sailing and windsurfing events the youngsters will be put through their paces under the watchful eye of the staff from South West Lakes Trust. They will need to demonstrate their skills as they cross the lake. James Platts, Bodmin Area Manager - South West Lakes Trust said "We're impressed with the way all the young people taking part have worked hard on their skills and fitness to qualify for these events. It's great to see so much enthusiasm, and everyone enjoying themselves in healthy competition at Siblyback Lake."

The climbing event promises to be exciting, as teams of four from each school are put to the test on a mobile climbing wall to discover the climbing champion for 2008.

The final event will involve teams of eight from each school in a problem solving exercise on the banks of the lake.

Medals will be presented to each winning team at the end of the day.

The five schools involved are:

- Callington Community Sports College
- Liskeard Community College
- Torpoint Community College
- Looe Community College
- Saltash Community College

For more information about the event, contact Rob Francis, Competition Manager, Callington School Sports Partnership on 07813 198692/01579 386120.

For more information about OnBoard sailing and windsurfing opportunities in the area contact Stuart Jones, RYA OnBoard Development Officer on 07917 407771.

SW Honda Youth RIB at Royal Torbay Yacht Club

The regional final of the Honda Youth RIB challenge will take place at the Royal Torbay Yacht Club on Saturday 24 May - during a Honda Powerboat weekend of racing. The course will be set just outside Haldon Pier, which means that both the pier and the balcony at Living Coasts will form excellent vantage points for spectators. If your club is running local heats and will be entering contenders, please contact organiser Bill Butcher on 01803 298197 or wjbutcher07@btinternet.com



>> <http://www.rya.org.uk/Youth/hondaryayouthrib/hyrguidelines.htm>

Courses available now

Don't forget to check the SW pages of the RYA website for details of RYA courses on offer around the region. New dates are added frequently, and there are still a few spaces left on May courses.



>> <http://www.rya.org.uk/Regions/southwest/courses.htm>

RYA TV investigates facilities to tackle antifouling and recycling issues

Part of the enjoyment of getting out on the water is the natural beauty



of the sea, so ensuring we don't damage this environment is at the heart of many boaters. Two key environmental concerns that seem to be bugging boat owners most are; the use of antifouling and the lack of comprehensive recycling facilities shore side. So, the latest episode of RYA TV sets out to discover what facilities are being developed to tackle these issues.

>> http://www.yachtingtv.co.uk/rya_current_episode.htm

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