

RYA Intermediate Powerboat Day Cruising Course – new course

This was a new course for 2004 and is positioned between Level 2 and the Advanced Course. The course is aimed at those powerboaters who wish to expand their cruising horizons by undertaking short coastal passages by day and who want to be better equipped to plan and execute them.

Fundamentally the course breaks down into two areas: Planning a passage paying due regard to all of the factors that need to be considered followed by the execution of the passage.

On day one we will start by looking at many of the subjects you covered in Level 2 like navigation, compass bearings, speed & distance, charts and chart symbols, the use of GPS, meteorology, tides and tidal streams and so on. We will take these onto the next level and pull them all together to plan a passage. Whilst this will take a reasonable percentage of the day we will make sure we get out on the water too and practice some skills in the boats we will be using for the passage. At the end of the day we will ensure that we have checked and prepared the boats in readiness for day two.

We will start promptly on day two and get on our way executing the passage we have planned on day one. The passages we have planned will marry electronic and traditional navigation to show how what many see as two methodologies can actually be one. Whilst out we will look at other aspects of boat handling including rough water handling and man overboard recovery.

Under the Maritime & Coastguard Agency ('MCA') rules Powerboat schools are typically only able to operate up to 3 miles from what is known as their "Nominated Departure Point". Conditions, weather and boat allowing we try to run our Intermediate Course passages between Poole and the Solent.

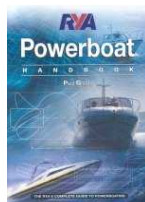
To do this we will operate fully 'coded' vessels which are certified by the MCA for operation "up to 20 miles from a safe haven". We will usually run with two boats which tend to be either Scorpions (we have both an Outboard powered version and a diesel) or we use chartered Ribcrafts. The RYA rules state that if we run two boats we can take three course participants per boat and one Instructor. (1:6 ratio). We will run a 1:3 ratio for the course as we feel there is a benefit to you by having an Instructor on each craft.

To attend the course we require that you are competent to the standard of Level 2 (coastally endorsed) and we strongly recommend that you hold a VHF and First Aid certificate.

If you are keen to do some background reading we recommend the following books:



RYA Navigation Handbook,
Tim Bartlett



RYA Powerboat Handbook,
Paul Glatzel



RYA Weather Handbook,
Chris Tibbs

Please call us on 01202 686666 to discuss any aspect of this course.

*** Whilst we fully intend to run between the Solent & Poole we cannot guarantee that this will occur due to availability of boats, weather conditions etc. Bookings are accepted on this basis.**