

## Changes to instructor handbook (G27)

The RYA sail and motor cruising logbooks will be revised this summer along with corresponding changes to the instructor handbook. Some of the revisions are shown below.

### What courses can I teach?

Taking on board recommendations from the discussion groups at the RYA instructors' conferences, we will now recommend that when teaching at an RYA training centre, instructors teach to the following levels of course:

- RYA Cruising Instructors teach up to Day Skipper practical
- RYA Yachtmaster® Instructors teach up to Coastal Skipper practical
- RYA Yachtmaster® Instructors teach preparation courses for RYA/MCA Coastal Skipper and Yachtmaster® examinations

### Instructor course retakes

We are introducing a system for retakes of instructor courses. If a partial retake is required on any subject, candidates will be able to have two opportunities to pass before having to retake the whole course. There will of course be candidates required to retake the whole

course again after the initial course, if it is thought necessary. Candidates presently in the process of a partial retake will start their two opportunities with immediate effect.

### Updating

Both sail and power instructors must attend an updating course at least every five years to retain their qualification. Cruising instructors can either retake their cruising instructors course at a training centre or attend an RYA-run update. The instructor endorsement can be valid for up to five years, at the discretion of the RYA.

The function of the update is not primarily assessment, but if there is some doubt about your ability to instruct to RYA standards, you may be asked to attend a further reassessment. This is sometimes apparent if you have done little active instruction leading up to the update. Instructors who are likely to upset their crews, or who are unable to

demonstrate sufficient ability, may be failed.

The update will look at the syllabi for practical courses in the logbook and discuss methods of teaching skippers and crews. It will also give the opportunity for all candidates to demonstrate and teach the practical aspects of an RYA course. You will be informed of proposed alterations to the syllabus and the administration of the scheme.

### Course eligibility and retirement

All RYA instructors working commercially require a basic sea survival certificate (RYA or STCW 95 equivalent) and a valid medical fitness certificate (ML5, ENG1 or a medical issued by a national maritime authority).

Due to the arduous nature of practical training afloat, the recommended retirement age is 70. Instructors over 70, wishing to continue will be

required to update every two years. All instructors will update in their 72nd year and then two yearly thereafter.

Potential instructors can attend an instructor course before they are 65. Any RYA cruising instructor can attend a Yachtmaster® instructor course if they are over 65. All existing RYA instructors can attend a power or sail instructor conversion course if they are over 65 years old.

## Amendments to shorebased papers

All amendments to the shorebased papers are posted on the web. Please see the shorebased instructors section of [www.rya.org.uk/WorkingWithUs/instructors/instructorresources](http://www.rya.org.uk/WorkingWithUs/instructors/instructorresources)