

Spring Bank Holiday Sailing Week at East Mersea.

Saturday 24th May - Saturday 31st May 2025

If you would like to take up Sailing or improve your existing Sailing skills then consider attending the Sailing Activity Week at East Mersea. We have a team of qualified instructors who will be able to help you. Please apply on the form if you wish to attend, preferably as groups, but individuals can be accommodated as well. The week will suit older Scouts, Guides, Explorer Scouts, Network Scouts and Adults. Scouts or Guides younger than 11 years of age will find the week taxing! The sailing activities during the week will be based on the Dinghy Sailing syllabuses of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA). The appropriate RYA sailing certificate(s) will be presented at the end of the week if the course requirements are completed successfully. The week will also give the opportunity for adult leaders and other volunteers to work towards and gaining their activity permits sailing on B2 classified waters.

The week is preceded by sessions at the 1st Hertford Scout Group Headquarters, Marshgate Drive, Hertford, on **either Saturday 29th March or 26th April** depending upon which course you wish to undertake. These sessions are used to cover some theoretical parts of the RYA syllabi and to ensure that participants undertake the week's activities at the right level for their personal needs. When attending these sessions, participants will need to bring refreshments (lunch) to last them for the day although drinks and biscuits will be available. It is important that everyone should attend these day sessions from 09.30hrs until 16.00hrs.

Those applying for the Instructors Course will need to attend both days. Finishing at 17:00hrs

Those applying to attend the Young Sailors Courses Stages 2, 3 & 4 should plan to attend on Saturday 29th March.

Those applying for all other courses, or if Young Sailors have indicated that they are unable to attend on 29th March, should plan to attend on Saturday 26th April.

Specific programmes for these days will be issued in the joining instructions, which will be sent out during the week after the closing date of 9th March with the acceptance notification.

East Mersea Arrangements

The week's activities start at 08.30hrs on Saturday 24th May (High Tide 10.36hrs.) with some rigging and launching of the boats, (note the launching and recovery time to the water will be 1½ hours either side of high water). The setting up of camps should take into account the timing of the launching. The boats will be taken out of the water at the end of the week on the afternoon of Friday 30th May (High Tide 15.04hrs). Certificates etc. will be distributed after all the boats are recovered and packed away on their respective road trailers.

Each person or group will be responsible for their own camping arrangements. There are two campsites suitable for participants on the courses. The first site is Fen Farm, which is a commercial campsite catering for caravans and groups in tented accommodation, mainly families. The site is owned by Mrs. Lord (Tel 01206 383275). Participants wishing to use this site should make their own arrangements with Mrs. Lord as soon as possible, stating that they are with the Hertfordshire Scouts sailing course. Fen Farm is about 1 mile away from the sailing area. Those camping at Fen Farm are able to cycle to the sailing beach along the sea wall having due regard for walkers.

The second site consists of a field near to the launching ramp and facilities at Ivy Farm. Ralph Spence, the farmer, has developed a farm outbuilding into a toilet and shower facility and there is also fresh water available in the field and rubbish disposal facilities. The field is closer to the sailing area than Fen Farm. Those camping may take cars to the tents at the beginning and end of the week. The farmer can usually accommodate some parked cars in the Farmyard for those who need to go out during the week. Visiting cars will usually be able to park in a temporary compound where Ivy Lane meets the East Mersea road. Every individual or group will have to provide their own camping equipment and be self-supporting. This includes

the appropriate Nights-Away permits being held although groups could make arrangements with other permit holders on the site to ensure Scout Association camping rules are complied with.

Sailing Arrangements

The sailing activities are based at a point known as Mersea Stone, (map ref: TM 073 154) which is a steeply shelving shingle and shell beach on the River Colne estuary opposite Brightlingsea Creek. The beach allows access to the water at all states of the tide. Sailing will start daily at approximately 09.30 hrs. depending upon each sailing group's arrangements, which should allow enough time for visits to nearby shops if necessary. It is possible that some evening sailing sessions may take place, although the sailing will normally finish at approximately 17.30 hrs. The evenings from this time on will be free to enable everybody to cook their evening meals, dry out, sleep etc. As the whole day will be spent sailing, packed lunches should be planned for eating adjacent to the boats on the beach. It is also most important that plenty of warm clothes are taken each day. A limited number of buoyancy aids will be available; however, it is preferable that you bring your own if you have one, if not please book one beforehand at one of the theory sessions.

The cost of the courses is likely to be £180.00p which will cover the cost of the week for the use of the boats, certificates and course expenses only. The charge for those camping on lvy Farm will be £9.00p per head per night which should be paid to your Group's leader. Please indicate if you wish to camp on Ivy Farm as the overall limit there is 60 people. If a leader is booking for a group of Scouts or Guides please ensure that a form is filled in for every individual wishing to take part in the week. The Course fee should be paid by registration online once you have received a letter of acceptance during the week after March 9th.

It would greatly assist the planning of the week and the courses, if at the time of applying, you could state whether you would be willing to lend or make available any kind of suitable sailing or powered craft for members of the courses to use. We can arrange insurance cover for the craft for the week if boats are not already insured. Additionally it would be useful if you could indicate whether you would be able to help with towing any boats to and from East Mersea.

You will be notified of the final details of the courses approximately a week after the closing date of 9th March. so, if you do not hear anything after applying for a place, do not worry, just take it that you have been accepted. The letter of notification of acceptance will include a link to the County Registration portal so that you can confirm your place and pay online before the Course Theory day that you need to attend. Only if any of the courses are over-subscribed will you be notified about any lack of place allocation.

Please apply for a place early to avoid disappointment!

The various R.Y.A. Dinghy sailing and other courses available to join are described on the separate Course Information sheet.

If you wish to apply for any of the courses, please apply on the application form and send to:

Richard Watson 19 King Edward's Road Ware, Herts. SG12 7EJ

email: richard.watson@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

All applications to be received by Sunday March 9th 2025.



HERTFORDSHIRE SCOUTS Sailing Activities Section



Course Information Sheet for:

- 1. Spring Bank Holiday Sailing Week 24th May 31st May 2025 at East Mersea.
- 2. RYA Sailing Course Information plus other courses including Power boating, VHF / DSC Radio Licence, Development weekends and First Aid
- 1. Mersea Sailing Week 24th May 31st May

Young Sailors Courses (under approximately 14 years) Course Theory Day - Saturday 29th March

Stage 2 Young Sailors Start Sailing Stage 2 (To have completed or being at Stage 1

proficiency is a pre-requirement of this course) - progressing through the week

to Stage 3 where appropriate.

Stage 3 Young Sailors Start Sailing Stage 3 - progressing through the week to Stage 4

where appropriate.

Stage 4 Young Sailors Start Sailing Stage 4 - progressing through the week to Better

Sailing where appropriate.

Adult and Advanced Youth Sailing Courses

Course Theory Day - Saturday 26th April

Start Sailing

This is a full week's course for those over 14 years of age wishing to learn to

sail with little or no previous experience of Sailing.

Improve Racing

This is a full week's course for those over 14 years of age who can sail well (have previously undertaken the Better Sailing Course) and wish to improve

their Racing Skills.

Better Sailing This course provides the basic sailing skills required for individuals to undertake

the Advanced courses to best advantage depending on experience and should be undertaken if little practical sailing experience has taken place since gaining Stages 3, 4 or Start Sailing courses – the duration is dependent upon the sailing skills exhibited and can vary from 2 days to a full week. It is possible, if the appropriate skills are exhibited, for individuals to transfer to one of the advanced courses for the second part of the week if there is space and resources

available.

It is likely that the Better Sailing course will be made up of 2 distinct groups:

1) Those who complete Stage 4 during the first part of the week and want to further their sailing skills in preparation for undertaking an advanced course

in the future.

Those who have done little sailing since gaining their Stage 4 and would like to refine their sailing skills before undertaking an Advanced course which could be during the second part of the week if they progress well.

Or

Advanced Courses

Coached sailing to start the week leading to Advanced Seamanship Skills and / or Advanced Day Sailing

Coached sailing to start the week leading to Advanced Sailing with Spinnakers

Coached sailing to start the week leading to Advanced Performance Sailing

Advanced Start and Improve Racing

Catamaran Endorsement Courses - (2 day course or one week). These courses would cover the same syllabus as for dinghies above but using Catamarans, if the craft are available for use – to be determined at the Theory day.

Important Note:

The appropriate R.Y.A. certificates or badges will be awarded at the end of the courses to those who successfully complete them. When applying for a place, please ensure that you enclose details of certificates already gained and your preference for your choice of course(s) in which you wish to participate. If you have no previously gained certificates, please enclose a brief description of your sailing experience to ensure that as far as possible you are placed on the best course to suit your needs. For example, to undertake the Performance Sailing course may not be considered advisable if it is felt by the Instructors that an applicant would not be able to confidently sail the more demanding dinghies. The courses that you will finally undertake will be confirmed at the Theory Day once the Sailing Instructors have determined the experience of every applicant.

Instructor Courses

Dinghy Instructor Course Theory Days Saturday 29th March and Saturday 26th April

A pre-requisite is a First Aid Certificate and a Level 2 Power boat Certificate

Advanced Instructor Endorsement Course – This will be arranged if requested

Potential Instructor This course is aimed at those who wish to undertake the Instructor course in a

subsequent year. (see course description below) - It is not a certificated RYA

course.

RYA Powerboat Level 2 – Sunday 4th May – Monday 5th May

This course will be held at Brightlingsea working from Morgan Marine's Boatyard. Limited overnight accommodation primarily for adults may be available at the North London Youth Sailing Trust's premises. Priority for attendance on this course will be given to those needing the qualification as part of their Instructor qualification. The course will run from 9.30am until 5.00pm each day.

Cost inclusive of Certificate, Handbook and Logbook - £113.00p (does not include accommodation which must be booked separately) (A passport size photograph is required with the application for the certificate)

RYA Safety Boat Course – Saturday 25th October – Sunday 26th October

This course will be held at Brightlingsea working from Morgan Marine's Boatyard. Limited overnight accommodation primarily for adults may be available at the North London Youth Sailing Trust's premises. Priority for attendance on this course will be given to those prepared to help with the East Mersea Sailing Course or provide safety cover at Lochearnhead. The course will run from 9.30am until 4.30pm each day. Pre-requisite is a First Aid certificate and attaining the age of 16.

Cost inclusive of Certificate, Handbook and (Logbook - extra if required) - £134.00p (does not include accommodation which must be booked separately)

Dinghy Instructor – Pre course Sailing Assessment Practice Day – Saturday 3rd May

This practice assessment day will be held at Brightlingsea possibly based at the North London Youth Sailing Trust's premises. The day will run from 9.00am until 5.00pm. It is aimed at those undertaking the Instructor course at East Mersea to ensure that their sailing skills are at the required standard to enable the participant to undertake the Instructor course with confidence in regard to their own personal sailing in suitable weather conditions. It will take the form of a Coaching / Assessment Day. Limited overnight accommodation primarily for adults may be available at the North London Youth Sailing Trust's premises for those wishing to undertake this course and the Powerboating courses.

The cost of the day is included within the Course fee of the Instructors course for those who are undertaking the Instructor training during the Sailing Week 24th May – 31st May.

Potential Instructor Course – Sailing Week 24th May – 31st May

This course will aim to provide a stepping stone for those who are looking forward to becoming a Dinghy Instructor and have either completed the advanced courses or have some sailing experience but have not completed any advanced courses. The course will develop all round personally proficient sailing skills in participants with a particular focus on the standards required to pass the Dinghy Instructor pre-entry assessment. Seamanship, spinnaker and coastal sailing skills will all be coached and should improve over the course of the week using a range of boats to give participants a sound knowledge of what makes a boat sail efficiently and how to handle the various sailing dinghies in different conditions.

In addition to personal sailing, the course will provide some advanced knowledge of meteorology, navigation, coastal sailing, basic maintenance and boat upkeep and may include a day of sailing away from the main sailing base.

Every sailor will receive personal feedback throughout the course and a personal debrief at its conclusion, including an action plan setting out what will be required to successfully complete the Instructor course within the next year.

The cost of the course will be as stated for the East Mersea Sailing Week - £180.00p

RYA Small Craft First Aid Courses

The courses currently arranged will take place based at the 1st Hertford Scout HQ on:

Sunday 9th February - 9.30am – 5.00pm o Saturday 15th February - 9.30am – 5.00pm

This course satisfies the requirements of the RYA for Instructors to maintain their qualification. It also covers the requirements for many outdoor adventurous activities. Participants will need to bring a packed lunch, other refreshments will be provided. Applications with payment for these courses should be made direct to Ashley Cato, email: ashleyicato@gmail.com, mob: 07904 620436.

Cost – Hertfordshire Scouts Sailing Instructors may wish the cost to be borne by their district or themselves - £50.00p approx. Attendance at this course will also fulfil the new requirements of the Scout 1st Response.

RYA Marine Radio - Short Range Certificate Course and Assessment

Course and Practice Saturday - TBA Assessment Sunday - TBA

A course for anyone who owns a fixed or handheld marine band VHF radio. It will be held at 1st Hertford Scout HQ. The Short Range Certificate is the minimum qualification required by law to control the operation of VHF and VHF Digital Selective Calling (DSC) equipment on any British flagged vessels voluntarily fitted with a radio. This includes both fixed and hand held equipment using International channels. The assessment cannot be undertaken by candidates under 16.

An indication that you wish to undertake this course needs to be made before 19th January as there is an option for online training that has to be undertaken before the assessment day if candidates are unable to attend the Course day. Successful course participants will be issued with a legal certificate to show that they can operate Marine Band VHF radios.

Cost: (approximately)

Online Course - TBA (£49.99)

Face to face tuition - TBA (£30 per person).

Assessment - TBA (£60.00p payable to the RYA in advance of the assessment day)

Applications or enquiries regarding these courses should be made direct to Ashley Cato, email: ashleyicato@gmail.com, mob: 07904 620436

Performance Coaching & Instructor Continuing Development Weekend

The weekend is likely to be 6th & 7th September at Grafham Water Sailing Club.

Grafham Water provides a good sailing area using a variety of boats with the ability to get on and off the water quickly so that interaction can occur between the students and the Coaches. We are therefore able to plan short focussed sessions on the water with appropriate briefing and debriefing of the groups throughout the weekend.

In addition to Instructor's Development sessions, we also provide Coaching for those Scouts and Explorers who have been to Mersea and probably progressed to start the advanced courses but who do not get the chance to have Personal Performance Coaching during the year between Mersea weeks. This weekend should go some way in addressing this need under the guidance of our Advanced Instructors and Racing Coaches.

Full details and costs for this weekend will be distributed later in 2025.







Spring Bank Holiday Sailing Week 24th May – 31st May 2025 at East Mersea.

Application Form for Sailing Courses during the week

| I wish to apply for the S | Spring Bank Holiday Sailing Week 2025 | |
|---|--|--|
| Name: | | |
| Address: | | |
| | | |
| Post Code: | | |
| i Osi Oodo. | | |
| Date of Birth: | email: | |
| Scout or Guide Group | or Unit: | * * * * * |
| Leader accompanying: | *************************************** | |
| RYA certificates held and previous 12 months experience (continue overleaf) | nd | |
| | | |
| Young Sailors Course | es – Please tick the box to indicate your choice | |
| Stage 2 - prog | ressing to Stage 3 | |
| Stage 3 - prog | ressing to Stage 4 | |
| Stage 4 - prog | ressing to Better Sailing | |
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| Adult and Advanced (| Courses – Please tick the box to indicate your preference | |
| Adult Start Sailing - | (full week course) | |
| Advanced Course 1 | Better Sailing (Level 3) and working towards gaining one of the Advanced Seamanship Skills – (week) | |
| Note: Advanced Cou | urse 1 above must have been undertaken before progressing onto the Cours | ses below |
| Advanced Course 2 | Coached sailing leading to Advanced Seamanship Skills – (week) | |
| Advanced Course 3 | Advanced Seamanship skills and Advanced Day Sailing - (week) | |
| Advanced Course 4 | Coached sailing leading to Advanced Sailing with Spinnakers – (week) | |
| Advanced Course 5 | Coached sailing leading to Advanced Performance Sailing – (week) | |
| Advanced Course 6 | Advanced Start Racing – (week) | |
| Advanced Course 7 | Advanced Improve Racing – (week) | |
| Advanced Course 8 | Advanced Sailing in Catamarans – (week) | |





| Instructor Courses - F | Please tick the box to indicate your choice | |
|---|--|-------------|
| Dinghy Instructor Cou (Requires First Aid qu | ırse ıalification and Level 2 Powerboat to be held) | |
| Potential Instructor C | ourse | |
| Advanced Instructor E | Endorsement Course | |
| Signed by: | | he parent c |
| Send application to: | Richard Watson, 19 King Edward's Road, Ware, Herts. SG12 7EJ email: richard.watson@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk | |

Applications to be received by Sunday March 9th 2025.

| PERSONAL LOG for Previous 24 months | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Date | Type (Class) of Boat | Hours Experience | | Activity & Weather Conditions | | Authorisation | |
| | | Helm | Crew | Type of Course or Activity | Maximum Wind Speed | Centre or Club Instructor Signature | |
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Application Form for Powerboating and other Courses - 2025

| Scouts | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Hertfordshire Sailing Section | |

| I wish to apply for the following courses listed below | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Name: | | | | | |
| Address: | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Post Code: | | | | | |
| Telephone No (home): | Telephone No (mobile): | | | | |
| Date of Birth: | email: | | | | |
| Scout or Guide Group of | or Unit: | | | | |
| Leader accompanying i | if under 18: | | | | |
| RYA certificates held: (continue overleaf if ned | cessary) | * * * * * * * * * | | | |
| Course applying for: | ☑ tick as | required | | | |
| Powerboating | | | | | |
| RYA Level 2 Powerboa | ting Course — Sunday 4 th May — Monday 5 th May | | | | |
| RYA Safety Boat Cours | - Saturday 25 th October – Sunday 26 th October | | | | |
| Accommodation: Individ | duals will have to make their own arrangements or travel on a daily basis | 3 | | | |
| Other dates can be arra | anged for the above courses, if you are interested please tick the box | | | | |
| First Aid (please conta | act Ashley Cato directly) | | | | |
| RYA Small Craft First A | id - Sunday 9 th February | | | | |
| RYA Small Craft First A | id - Saturday 15 th February | | | | |
| Other Courses (please contact Ashley Cato directly) | | | | | |
| Short Range VHF / DSC Online or Course TBA | C Certificate Course & Assessment – (Age 16+) | | | | |
| Dinghy Instructors Cour | rse – Pre-Assessment Practice – Saturday 3 rd May | | | | |
| Performance Coaching Provisional date: | & Instructor Continuing Development Weekend - Saturday 6 th and Sunday 7 th September | | | | |
| Signed by: (for Scouts or Guides under 18, a signature from the parent or guardian is required) | | | | | |
| Send application to: | Richard Watson, 19 King Edward's Road, Ware, Herts. SG12 7EJ | | | | |
| | email: richard.watson@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk | | | | |

Applications to be received at least 4 weeks before the date of each course.

