



## RYA Connected Conference 2025

**30<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9am–4:30pm**

Oasis Academy, Southampton, SO19 9NA

Time	Session
9:00am	Registration & Networking
9:45am	Welcome & Morning Plenary
10:30am	Refreshments & networking opportunity
11:00am	Power of Community forums Select one option
12:00pm	Lunch Buffet lunch with time to socialise and connect
1:00pm	Learning from Others presentations – Session 1 Select one option
1:30pm	Learning from Others presentations – Session 2 Select one option
2:00pm	Afternoon Workshops Select one option
4:00pm	Final Plenary Connecting to deliver Together on Water
4:30pm	Close

Please note, timings are approximate and subject to change



Time	Power of Community Forums Connect with others in the community; share your successes, challenges and learning. Select one forum
11:00am	<b>Milton Keynes &amp; Buckinghamshire Forum</b>
	<b>Oxfordshire &amp; West Berkshire Forum</b>
	<b>West Hampshire Forum</b>
	<b>Southampton Forum</b>
	<b>Portsmouth &amp; Langstone Harbour Forum</b>
	<b>Chichester Harbour Forum</b>
	<b>Isle of Wight Forum</b>
	<b>Channel Islands Forum</b>
	<b>Sailability</b>

Time	Learning from Others presentations – Session 1 Select one forum from Session 1 and one from Session 2
1:00pm	<b>Delivering RYA Training flexibly:</b> Delivering RYA courses flexibly to suit your learners and your team.
	<b>Making racing easier with tech and other tools:</b> Exploring the tech, tools and support that makes it easier to run racing.
	<b>How Oxford Sailing Club has grown activity and volunteer energy through leaning into their members' motivations:</b> Oxford Sailing Club grew activity and volunteer energy by tapping into member passions. Discover how launching a Wing Foiling section linked motivation to action, sparking vibrant engagement and a stronger sense of ownership.
	<b>Working Together: Integrating paid staff and volunteers at Seaview Yacht Club:</b> Seaview Yacht Club shows how paid staff and volunteers can thrive together. Learn how clear roles and shared purpose create a respectful, high-performing team culture.
	<b>Dealing with complaints:</b> Learn about good practice in dealing with complaints and make sure you can nip issues in the bud.
	<b>Learning from Accidents &amp; Incidents:</b> Learning from accidents, incidents and near misses over the last year (this presentation runs for the duration of Session 1 and Session 2).



Time	Learning from Others presentations – Session 2 Select one forum from Session 1 and one from Session 2
1:30pm	<b>Employing people or using volunteers – pros and cons:</b> Exploring the implications and benefits of employing or contracting staff, or using volunteers.
	<b>Creating a strong volunteer culture:</b> Find out how two Class Associations (ILCA and Scorpion) and a Sailability organisation (The Woolverstone Project) have created a strong volunteer culture.
	<b>Investing in Volunteers: Lessons from the Royal Southern Yacht Club's Volunteer Academy:</b> Royal Southern Yacht Club shares how its Volunteer Academy—open to members and non-members—built a thriving race management team. Learn how investing in people and appointing a Volunteer Coordinator created sustainable, volunteer-led activity.
	<b>Fostering Volunteer Ownership at Netley Sailing Club:</b> Netley Sailing Club empowered its instructor team using high-performing team theory to build a culture of belonging and ownership. Discover how this approach improved volunteer engagement and created a more welcoming experience for all participants.
	<b>Promoting your Sailability offer with #MoreThanSailing:</b> How can we promote our activity for disabled people?

Time	Afternoon Workshops Select one workshop
2:00pm	<b>Planning for key volunteer roles:</b> Identifying the need, role descriptions, mentoring / shadowing; passing the torch; identifying and preparing future leaders - mentoring strategies, leadership pipelines, knowledge transfer, embedding succession into your culture (including competency).
	<b>Protecting your organisation and people – oversight and governance:</b> Reflecting on the activities you run on the water, the people that take part, the duty of care that exists and the liabilities you face - consider the assurance and oversight you need to protect your organisation and people.
	<b>Enabling disabled people to thrive with RYA Training:</b> How can you use RYA training to enable disabled people to learn and develop as sailors, volunteers and leaders?
	<b>Creating a great volunteer culture:</b> Telling the human story behind volunteer hours, getting the culture right and managing volunteers.