



RYA Connected Conference 2025

15th November 2025, 9:15am–4:30pm

Lightcliffe Academy, Halifax, HX3 8TL

Time	Session
9:15am	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 Select one forum
11:00am	Sailability: Connect with others in the Sailability community; share your successes, challenges and learning. Develop a collective voice, celebrate the impact of what you do and help Sailability grown in strength and resilience. Shape the insight the RYA collects to tell the Sailability story and develop the support you need
	Club Racing: Connect with others leading on the organisation and delivery of club racing activity; share your successes, challenges and learning.
	OnBoard: Connect with others delivering activity to young people from learn to sail to race training; share your successes, challenges and learning.
	Training: Connect with other Principals, Chief Instructors and training committee members; share your successes, challenges and learning.
	Welfare Officers: Connect with other welfare officers within clubs; share your successes, challenges and learning. Increase your collective voice to celebrate the impact of what you do to keep the Sport safe and help the community grow in strength and resilience.



Time	Learning from Others presentations Select one forum from Session 1 and one from Session 2
1:00pm	Delivering RYA Training flexibly: Delivering RYA courses flexibly to suit your learners and your team.
	Making racing easier with tech and other tools: Exploring the tech, tools and support that makes it easier to run racing.
	Volunteering at Budworth – Recruit & Retain: Hear how Budworth Sailing Club recruit and retain a strong volunteering team, which enables them to annually deliver a successful open day to over 250 participants with a packed adult and youth training programme.
	Developing a volunteer culture with North East & Yorkshire Youth Sailing Association (NEYSSA): Learn how NEYSSA successfully recruit volunteers for key events, such as the 2025 Regional Junior Champs.
	Learning from Accidents & Incidents: Learning from accidents, incidents and near misses over the last year (this presentation runs for the duration of Session 1 and Session 2).
1:30pm	Employing people or using volunteers – pros and cons: Exploring the implications and benefits of employing or contracting staff or using volunteers.
	Creating a strong volunteer culture: Find out how two Class Associations (ILCA and Scorpion) and a Sailability organisation (The Woolverstone Project) have created a strong volunteer culture.
	Developing your Volunteer Senior Instructor Team: Learn how West Kirby Sailing Club developed a team of over 10 Senior Instructors.
	Developing a volunteer culture with North East & Yorkshire Youth Sailing Association (NEYSSA): Learn how NEYSSA successfully recruit volunteers for key events, such as the 2025 Regional Junior Champs.



Time	Afternoon Workshops Select one workshop
2:00pm	Planning for key volunteer roles: 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).
	Protecting your organisation and people – oversight and governance: 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.
	Developing senior and chief instructors: Explore how to create pathways for senior and chief instructors and a culture of support, and consider the levels, characteristics, skills, knowledge and training needed.
	Creating a great volunteer culture: Telling the human story behind volunteer hours, getting the culture right and managing volunteers.
	Enabling women and girls to thrive: How can you create better experiences for women and girls and places where they can thrive in volunteer and leadership roles?