



RYA Connected Conference 2025

22nd November 2025, 9am–4:30pm

Chantry Academy, Mallard Way, Ipswich, IP2 9LR

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 Select one forum
11:00am	Women on the Water: Connect with affiliates from across the region to discuss Women on Water activity and the wider positive impact on participation
	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.
	Young People: Connect with other young people in key roles within affiliates; share your successes, challenges and learning. Increase your collective voice to celebrate the impact of what you do to keep the sport relevant to young people and help the community grow in strength and resilience.
	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.
	Trying Something New: An opportunity to share and discuss initiatives and activities that are supporting your participants and members to remain engaged and active with your organisation.
	Volunteers: Connect with affiliates from across the region to discuss volunteer recruitment, engagement and support, with the opportunity to share successes and challenges.



Time	Learning from Others presentations Select one forum from Session 1 and one from Session 2
1:00pm	Learning from accidents and incidents: Learning from accidents, incidents and near misses over the last year (this presentation runs for the duration of session 1 and session 2)
	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.
	Developing a self-supporting volunteer culture: Hear how Hunts Sailing Club, one of the first clubs to run Women on Water activity, have developed their participants to be self-supporting, fostering a culture of volunteer engagement and support that has had a broader impact throughout the club.
	Junior participation and engagement: My Blue Pass provides a hugely successful sailing schedule for local children in Manningtree. Hear how they have developed a team of instructors and volunteers, fostered local partnerships and worked with the RYA OnBoard initiative to create a vibrant and successful junior programme.
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.
	Making racing easier with tech and other tools: Exploring the tech, tools and support that makes it easier to run racing.
	Developing a self-supporting volunteer culture: Hear how Hunts Sailing Club, one of the first clubs to run Women on Water activity, have developed their participants to be self-supporting, fostering a culture of volunteer engagement and support that has had a broader impact throughout the club.
	Junior participation and engagement: My Blue Pass provides a hugely successful sailing schedule for local children in Manningtree, hear how they have developed a team of instructors and volunteers, fostered local partnerships and worked with the RYA OnBoard initiative to create a vibrant and successful junior programme



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 female participation: There are fewer women than men participating in boating and sailing activity despite membership splits. Learn about how your organisation can develop a supportive culture and programme that encourages female participation and volunteering, hear about local successes, share ideas and leave knowing how to implement activity that will see your club grow.
	Developing junior and youth participation: Explore ways in which your organisation can implement programmes of engaging activity for young people, share ideas and learn about support opportunities that will help you enhance your offer for young participants.
	Developing your Senior 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.