



# South Staffordshire Sailing Club

21 Prospero Close  
Penkridge  
Staffordshire  
ST19 5QU

Beginner's Sailing Courses 2019

Dear Prospective Sailor,

I am pleased to provide you with information about our Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Level One and Two sailing courses to be run in 2019. This letter should be read in conjunction with the course application form.

## **Aim of the Learn to Sail Courses**

The aim of the Level One course is to introduce you to sailing a dinghy, this is followed by the Level Two course which aims to enable beginners to be capable of sailing a small sailing boat safely in light winds. Most importantly, we want you all to have fun while learning.

## **Venue**

The venue is at South Staffordshire Sailing Club, Gailey Lea Lane, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5PT. The club telephone number is 01785 713272. Parking is available at the club via the first gate past the club house.

Light refreshments will be available after the Wednesday evening sessions, and the bar will also be open during the evening.

The club is registered as a Training Establishment with the RYA and has many years' experience in training. Most people who are willing to try are able to succeed and enjoy their time with us.

## **Course Details**

To support your learning through the course, two RYA publications are provided, these are:

- a Dinghy Sailing Logbook - which gives an outline of this and other RYA courses and will provide a record of your sailing experience; and
- a Start Sailing Beginners Handbook - which will supplement the theory taught on the course.

## ***Instructors***

Instruction will be by RYA qualified instructors and successful participants will be awarded certificates which are internationally valid and form a basis for further qualifications. Please note that all our instructors are volunteers and are not paid to provide tuition on our courses.

## ***Course Costs***

The cost for the courses is £230 for non-sailing club members and £115 for sailing club members. This cost includes all course resources, use of the boats and buoyancy aids for the RYA courses.

Please pay via direct bank transfer using the following details so that our treasurer knows what the payment is for:

- Sort Code: 40-10-41 (HSBC)
- Account Number:
- Reference: 20022357 please put "LTS Surname xNo." (e.g. LTS Fleming x2).

You can also pay by cheque if required. If you are using this payment method, please make the cheque payable to S.S.S.C. for the required amount.

### ***Membership***

For those who are not yet members, the course fee includes club membership until the end of the calendar year, when renewals are due. As a member, you will be welcome to join in all club activities, use the clubs facilities and receive our weekly e-mail updates, Good News Friday. Please ensure that you review the club membership form on the website (<http://www.southstaffssailingclub.co.uk/learn-to-sail/learn-to-sail/>) and submit it along with this your Course Application Form. I will sign the Committee Member section.

We very much hope that you will have been inspired to become a regular member of our sailing fraternity, join in with the social events, and will renew your subscription for the following year.

### ***Course Application Form***

Please refer to the Course Application Form for the dates and times of the courses. **Before applying for these courses, please ensure that you can attend all the course dates.** All RYA Level One and RYA Level Two courses must be completed during the calendar year of 2019 and cannot be carried over to 2020. No refunds will be provided if a course is not completed in the calendar year.

As noted above, our instructors are voluntary and therefore we request that your Course Application Form and Membership Form is completed by the Sunday evening prior to the start of your course. This will provide us with enough time to finalise the number of instructors required and mobilise resources accordingly. Please can these forms be emailed to [training@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk](mailto:training@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk) and [membership@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk](mailto:membership@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk).

### ***Boats***

Instruction will be predominantly in a GP14 sailing dinghy, however other classes of dinghy may be used if deemed appropriate. Club boats are only available for use during RYA courses and organised club training.

### ***Clothing***

The course does include some theory but the emphasis is on practical sailing. The practical sailing will be completed on the water and will continue even if conditions are not ideal, for instance if it is raining. You do not need to buy expensive clothing, but you should wear suitable clothing (i.e. thin layers) that will keep you warm and dry. In cold weather, a waterproof jacket would be ideal over a sweater or fleece. Footwear should have soles that will not damage the boat and have reasonable grip; as it will get wet in the boats we advise that you wear old trainers. If it is cold or wet, a woolly hat or baseball type cap will help to keep you warm.

Buoyancy aids (often called lifejackets) are provided by the club for your RYA course and must be worn at all times when in a boat or on a jetty. Buoyancy aids will **not** be provided after the courses or for sailing practice where we encourage you to buy one for yourself. The cost is from about £35.00 and they will last for several years. Advice about what to purchase will be given on the course.

### **Personal requirements / fitness / disability**

Sailing is an activity that requires a reasonable level of fitness but it does not need to be particularly strenuous. It can therefore be enjoyed by the very young and those of a more advanced age. (At this club we have sailors aged from about four to well in the seventies).

This course is aimed at people aged 16yrs and over who are able to climb in and out of a small boat. The club runs training for under 16s as part of our youth training program. For further information, please email [juniors@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk](mailto:juniors@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk).

A health questionnaire is included in your Course Application Form so we can know in advance of any difficulties you may have (for example diabetes or epilepsy). You will be required to sign and date this. If you have any queries please discuss them with me.

As previously stated you will be required to wear a buoyancy aid at all times when in a boat and on the jetties, therefore the ability to swim is not a requirement, however you should be confident in the water. Again, if you have concerns about this please let me know.

### **Cancellations**

We understand that occasionally unexpected events happen which might mean that you have to cancel your place on the course. We will try to be accommodating and provide a full refund. However if notice given is too late to offer your place to someone else, for example within two weeks of the commencement of the course, we may have to retain a proportion to cover our costs

In conclusion, if you have any queries then please contact me via the details below, or come up to the club on a Sunday to see how the club operates. We pride ourselves on a welcoming atmosphere.

I look forward to meeting you on the first day of your course, and I hope that you will enjoy it. If during your course there is a problem/ issue, please don't hesitate to contact myself or your Senior Instructor.

Yours sincerely

Mark Fleming

SSSC Chief Sailing Instructor

Mobile: 07917 355062

E-mail [training@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk](mailto:training@southstaffssailingclub.co.uk)