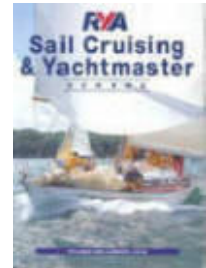


## RYA COMPETENT CREW PRACTICAL SYLLABUS

The following is a copy of the syllabus for the Competent Crew course as detailed in the RYA Sail Cruising & Yachtmaster Scheme Syllabus and Logbook (G15).

To complete the course successfully the instructor must “sign off” all the items of the syllabus. Successful students are presented with a course completion certificate.



The competent crew course introduces the complete beginner to cruising and teaches personal safety, seamanship and helmsmanship to the level required to be a useful member of crew on a cruising yacht.



1. Knowledge of sea terms and parts of a boat, her rigging and sails
  - ❖ Sufficient knowledge to understand orders given concerning the sailing and day-to-day running of the boat.
2. Sail Handling
  - ❖ Bending on, setting, reefing and handling sails.
  - ❖ Use of sheets and halyards and their associate winches.
3. Ropework
  - ❖ Handling ropes, including coiling, stowing, securing to cleats and single and double bollards.
  - ❖ Handling warps.
  - ❖ Ability to tie the following knots and to know their correct use: figure-of-eight, clove hitch, rolling hitch, bowline, round turn and two half hitches, single and double sheet bend, reef knot.
4. Fire precautions and fighting
  - ❖ Awareness of the hazards of fire and the precautions necessary to prevent fire.
  - ❖ Knowledge of the actions to be taken in the event of fire.

## 5. Personal safety equipment

- ❖ Understands and complies with rules for the wearing of safety harnesses, lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids.

## 6. Man overboard

- ❖ Understands the action to be taken to recover a man overboard.

## 7. Emergency equipment

- ❖ Can operate distress flares and knows when they should be used.
- ❖ Understands how to launch and board a liferaft.

## 8. Manners and customs

- ❖ Understands accepted practice with regard to:  
Use of burgees and ensigns, prevention of unnecessary noise or disturbance in harbour including courtesies to other craft berthed
- ❖ Aware of the responsibility of yacht skippers to protect the environment.

## 9. Rules of the road

- ❖ Is able to keep an efficient lookout at sea.

## 10. Dinghies

- ❖ Understands and complies with the loading rules.
- ❖ Is able to handle a dinghy under oars.

## 11. Meteorology

- ❖ Awareness of forecasting services and knowledge of the Beaufort scale.

## 12. Seasickness

- ❖ Working efficiently is unaffected / partially affected / severely affected by seasickness.  
(Delete as applicable)

## 13. Helmsmanship and sailing

- ❖ Understands the basic principles of sailing and can steer and trim sails on all points of sailing.
- ❖ Can steer a compass course, under sail and power.

## 14. General Duties

- ❖ Has carried out general duties satisfactorily on deck and below decks in connection with the general routine of the vessel.