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Thank you for booking your RYA Start Yachting Practical Course with the Metropolitan Police Sailing Club.

It will be held on one of the MPSC yachts as indicated in your course confirmation email, along with contact details of your instructor.

Below are your joining instructions and course information. Should you have any further question or enquiries please contact your instructor or the Club line.

Features of Course

This two day practical course is entirely boat based. The first evening provides an informal opportunity to get to know your fellow crew and skipper, usually over a crew meal either onboard or somewhere in the village. You may stay on board that night or set off for short sail that evening.

The course fee includes all on-board food, fuel and mooring fees, along with full wet weather gear, lifejackets and all safety equipment.

Please note that you'll be eating aboard for most of the course and for some overnight stops you may not have marina facilities available. Should you have any dietary requirements or allergies, please let your instructor know as soon as possible.

There is no fixed route, and passage planning based on weather forecasts will form part of the course. You can expect to explore a variety of locations in and around the Solent and experience anchoring up, berthing in a marina and picking up a mooring buoy.



Metropolitan Police Sailing Club Ltd. also trading as 'MPSC'

A company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales No. 5414491

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Part of the RYA syllabus is about learning how to live on board a yacht, therefore you will be expected to pitch in and help with the various crewing duties – including cooking and cleaning, post-course deep clean, stowing sails etc.

Pre Course Knowledge

This course is a starter course and there is no prior sailing knowledge required.

Meeting Venue

MPSC Broadway Base,
Mercury Yacht Harbour, Satchell Lane, Hamble, Hampshire, [SO31 4HQ](#).

Parking

Park is free in the marina car park. Walk along the front of the marina complex then left along a gravel road which brings you to various commercial units.

Directions

From London travel down the M3 to M27. Take the M27 east towards Portsmouth. Come off at Junction 8, following the signpost to Hamble le Rice; turn right at the bottom of the slip and the second exit at the next roundabout.

Follow the road over two mini roundabouts. At the third, after taking the first exit take the first turning left into Satchell Lane. Follow Satchell lane for about a mile and Mercury Yacht Harbour is sign posted on the left adjacent to a caravan park.

Alternatively you can use the A3 from London and take the M27 west towards Southampton.

The Broadway Base is the slipway and blue portacabin complex immediately on your right.

Suggested Kit List

- Clothing should be packed in a soft bag not a suitcase.
- We provide Musto waterproofs together with lifejackets and all necessary safety equipment.
- Plenty of warm clothing. Thermal base layers are recommended with sufficient layers to put on or take off as necessary.
- Deck shoes or similar soft-soled shoes which will give grip and not mark the deck.



- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Towel & toiletries.
- Warm hat and gloves (sailing type are best)
- Sailing wellies (not the garden type). These are available at good chandlers and sailing wear shops and will keep your feet dry throughout the week whereas deck shoes will be difficult to dry out.
- Sunglasses and suncream (think positive!)
- Seasickness tablets if you think you may need them (Stugeron are recommended)
- An exercise book in which to make personal notes etc.
- Your RYA Cruising Logbook (if you have one)
- Lastly, and most importantly, a sense of humour!

Qualification

Successful candidates will be awarded an RYA Start Yachting Certificate

Next Step

Three Day RYA Competent Crew Course

I do hope you enjoy your course and if you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact the MPSC Clubline as above.

If you have any comments about the course you will be debriefed on the last day by our Sailing School Principal, Carol Andrews, or her deputy.

Yours sincerely

Alistair Mills
Rear Commodore Training



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