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| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | |  | |  | | | Dear RYA Training Centre Principals, Appointment Holders and Instructors  Thank you for your patience whilst we have sought further clarity from government about what RYA Training activity may be able to take place in the coming weeks.  Based on information we have received from government departments we are expecting RYA practical training may take place for all centres in England from 29 March, but is restricted to outdoors only, unless the training is for work or vocational purposes, in which case it is already permitted.  We have received confirmation that all forms of boating are classified as sport, and that training in these boating activities is also classified as organised sport. This includes instructor training. Organised sport is defined as activity 'Organised by a qualified instructor, club, national governing body, company or charity and following sport-specific guidance where appropriate'.  The significance of this is that the limits on the number of people able to gather socially do not apply to organised sport, provided appropriate mitigations are risk assessed, documented and implemented. In this context the guidance from the RYA’s Training Support Site with regards returning to training, and the guidance for mixed household crews must be considered when setting these mitigations. Social distancing requirements remain in place and it is likely that restrictions on numbers will be required to comply with social distancing. When delivering practical training to novices, their lack of experience must be considered, which may lead to measures beyond the return to sailing guidance being put in place.  In assessing risk and developing mitigations you may find this [Mixed Crew Guidance](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fnotifications.rya.org.uk%2F_act%2Flink.php%3FmId%3DAJ934210361982384132442021zzzzz647bb2047ad3d3f5ed9bde54ec9e526b191188c9dee979c3c9dfe6a8fe8532522c%26tId%3D227578236&data=04%7C01%7C%7C7f69a94e67c944e54ab908d8e846d845%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637514738260154666%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2Bwn%2BdOfqkcTz6GJyI8Afvunk9%2Bvo3RtHmSPi8cDEMtY%3D&reserved=0) useful.  From 29 March the only indoor facilities that may be used are toilet facilities. Indoor facilities include below decks and fully enclosed wheelhouses.  Overnight stays away from your home will still be prohibited and travelling should be kept to a minimum, meaning that there may be an impact on your ability to deliver training to those not living locally.  Classroom use will remain restricted from 29 March, so the use of either suitable outdoor teaching or briefing areas, and/or online virtual learning should be considered for theoretical parts of a course. At present it appears classroom use and overnight stays on board will form part of step 3 of the government’s Covid roadmap, which is no earlier than 17 May. We hope to gain further clarity in the coming weeks.  We expect the exceptions to gathering restrictions for vocational or work-based training to remain in any revised legislation, and we will be monitoring this area closely.  This is obviously very good news for our whole network and for boating in general. However, I would urge you all to remember that we still have a key part to play in ensuring that we have appropriate measures in place to mitigate against the spread of Coronavirus and for that reason I would ask that you continue to review the protective measures you have in place and remind all of your staff, volunteers and students of their importance.  These provisions may well be subject to change and we strongly advise you ensure that you review your booking terms and conditions to take account of this. Government guidance on contract cancellations and refunds due to Coronavirus can be found [here](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fnotifications.rya.org.uk%2F_act%2Flink.php%3FmId%3DAJ934210361982384132442021zzzzz647bb2047ad3d3f5ed9bde54ec9e526b191188c9dee979c3c9dfe6a8fe8532522c%26tId%3D227578237&data=04%7C01%7C%7C7f69a94e67c944e54ab908d8e846d845%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637514738260154666%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=MqJi3xLIPmsoH5GhfDMJXQYhI1Sj9y1746BFbhzHJZA%3D&reserved=0).  As always, we will continue to update our Coronavirus guidance pages on the RYA website, accessible via the red button below, and I would ask that you carry on monitoring them frequently for any changes. The information in this note relates to RYA training in England with RYA Training Centres in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland included for information only. RYA Training Centres in the Home Countries should continue to monitor their respective web pages for up to date guidance in their location.  With very best wishes to you all,  **Richard Falk FRIN** Director of Training and Qualifications | | |
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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | *Royal Yachting Association RYA House, Ensign Way, Hamble, Hants, SO31 4YA*  *Company number 00878357* | | |