

A Yacht Master is a recreational IYT qualification that is obtained by participating on a 14 day prep course - Both Theory and Practical study is taught and examined.

Candidates must satisfy the necessary prerequisites for experience' (mileage) and also have the skills and knowledge to be able to successfully start this course. See below for a synopsis of theory required to complete this course and examined in a practical examination.

The Yacht Master Course syllabus is outlined below. Candidates assumed knowledge for entry to this course is the IYT Bareboat Captain or RYA Day Skipper Certificate.

**IRPCS** The skipper candidates must have a full knowledge of the regulations for preventing collisions at sea before starting this course. There is insufficient time to teach this during the course so students are recommended to preview *The Seaman's Guide to the Rule of the Road*.

## **Theory Syllabus**

**Charts and Chartwork** - Symbols and Abbreviations, Scale, Projection, Latitude and longitude, Datums, Position, Distance Speed, Time and Direction, Dead Reckoning, Estimated Position and Course To Steer.

**The Magnetic Compass** - Variation and Deviation, Position, Position Lines and Position Fixes.

**Tides and Currents** - Causes, Springs and Neaps, Tide tables, Standard and Secondary Ports, Tidal Stream Chartlets, Twelths Rule, Computation of Rates, Use of Almanacs, Height of Tide, Tidal diamonds and Tidal Anomalies

**Buoyage** - IALA system A and System B

**Lights** - Characteristics, Ranges, Rising and Dipping Distances

**Meteorology** - Beaufort Scale, Basic Weather Formation, Weather Patterns in Northern and Southern Hemisphere, Weather Sources, Synoptic Charts, Shipping Forecasts, Electronic weather gathering, Internet sources, Satellite observations, Computer and Electronics, Land and Sea Breezes & Sea Fog

**Rule of the Road** - Sound knowledge of the IRPCS

**Safety at Sea** - Personal Safety, Skippers Pre Departure organisation and checklists, Yacht Safety, Yacht Equipment, Flares, Fire Extinguishers and detectors, VHF Radio, Distress Signals, Liferafts, Helicopter rescue, MOB procedures, SART and EPIRBs, GMDSS, INMARSAT, Stability, Heavy weather sailing and preparation, sea anchors, night rescue, Restricted visibility and Command and Control.

**Pilotage** - Methods of pre planning, Pilots, Almanacs, Harbour regulations and signals, Clearing Lines, Soundings and position lines, Transits and leading marks or lights.

**Passage Planning** - Obligations, Preparation of Charts and notebook for sketches, route planning and use at sea. Strategy, Waypoints and Routes, Use of weather forecast and Pilots. Sources of regulations and information.

**Modern Electronics** - Echo Sounders, GPS, Chart Plotters, Radar, Computer Interface, Monitoring.

**Seamanship** - Pre departure checks, Personal gear, Towing, Reefing, Anchoring, Ropework, harbours and marinas close to work, coming alongside, departures, rafting up, Mediterranean anchoring.

**Engines and Electrics** - The diesel engine, batteries, alternators, and management systems.