

2022-23

Annual Report



RYA
NORTHERN
IRELAND

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Chairs report



Susan McKnight
Chair

As Chair of RYA Northern Ireland it gives me great pleasure to present this year's annual report and reflect on the achievements of the sport during the last year.

This has been an exciting year as we have started to look forward as to how we can shape the development of RYA Northern Ireland for the next 5 years. In March we were delighted to launch our new strategy "Navigating the Future". I would like to thank everyone who worked tirelessly in putting this strategy together in order to deliver a new and fresh approach to how we ensure the sustainability and growth of our sport moving into the future yet being mindful of the ever changing demands and challenges of how people participate in boating.

Our vision is to be "An active community on or around the water where everyone has a place".

Around this vision we have set our core values and strategic aims which will help to direct us in developing and supporting the membership.

Alongside the Northern Ireland strategy, the RYA, our overarching governing body, also undertook an extensive review of the sport and have launched a new strategy "Together on Water". This celebrates the passion and benefits of being on the water and the creation of a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. Coupled with the launch of Together on Water, the RYA reviewed the branding of the organisation and have created a new look and feel that is still recognisable but reflects the changing environment and community and the importance and individuality of the home country regions.

Part of the new RYA Northern Ireland strategy is to be passionate and proud of our sport, celebrating achievements and success on and off the water. We were delighted to see the return of our Annual Awards where we had the opportunity to thank and celebrate the achievements of volunteers and sailors on the water. We were also very proud to launch the RYA

Northern Ireland "Hall of Fame", which recognises the importance of celebrating the sport and its heritage in all aspects of boating including cruising, international competition, officiating, volunteering and coaching.

Being ever aware of our changing society and the importance of a safe and inclusive boating environment, in March 23 a piece of research was commissioned into women and girls' participation. This has helped us further understand the challenges and barriers to participation or workforce roles and how the sport for women and girls can be improved.

Safeguarding for all involved in the sport is an area of continuing concern, in order to ensure our continual cognisance of this important area, the RYA have commissioned an independent safeguarding, culture and integrity review across the UK. These are two very important pieces of work for the continuing development of the sport and we welcome the outcome of their reports.

Last September we were delighted to welcome our new CEO Greg Yarnall. Greg has brought with him a wealth of experience, knowledge and passion for sport and he is and will be undoubtedly a great asset to the RYANI team moving forward.

In closing I would like to thank the RYA Northern Ireland staff for the hard work they continue to do to support clubs, training centres, volunteers, coaches, officials, instructors, affiliated members and athletes. With funding secured we are excited to look at expanding and developing the staff team to help with delivering all aspects of the strategy.

I want to conclude by recognising and thanking all the volunteers involved in the RYA Northern Ireland for all their hard work and contribution. Thank you also to the volunteers who run and manage events, races, RYA clubs and training centres across Northern Ireland, your input is invaluable in maintaining the sport for everyone to enjoy, thank you for your continued support.

CEO report



Greg Yarnall
CEO

Having taken up the role of CEO in September 2022, it has been an absolute privilege to lead the organisation and help launch the new strategic plan, **Navigating the Future** in March 2023.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for welcoming me to Northern Ireland and to the sport, whether that being in the club house, at an event or in some cases on your boats. I have had the pleasure of experiencing a range of different volunteer roles since starting, from pulling trailers out of the water, to mark laying and bacon butties on the committee boat. Whilst, I have also had my first taste of racing out in a Sonata and in the River class.

Thank you also to the staff team for their commitment, ideas and hard work that they all put in to develop the sport here in Northern Ireland and to our fantastic Board who like many of those reading this report are all volunteers, giving their time back to this amazing sport.

Last but certainly not least, a huge thanks to all of the clubs, training centres, volunteers, coaches, officials, instructors and participants that make the sport happen on a day to day basis. You inspire so many people to get involved in the sport and we look forward to working with you to see the new strategic plan, **Navigating the Future**, be delivered in the years to come.

As this report covers the period between April 2022 to March 2023, it won't cover the operational delivery of the new **Navigating the Future** strategy for sailing and boating in Northern Ireland but does include the successful launch event held in March.

Navigating the Future Strategic Plan launch

We were delighted to launch the new five-year strategy for sailing and boating in Northern Ireland on a special evening at the **Crowne Plaza in Belfast in March 2023**.

With many clubs in attendance, alongside the RYA CEO, Sara Sutcliffe, Chair, Chris Preston and other stakeholders such as Sport NI, Disability Sport NI and Mary Peters Trust.

The new strategy had been shaped by the whole of the Northern Ireland sailing and boating community and we are grateful for the input at various stages of its development. There are four strategic aims where we will be focusing our efforts and time, alongside five strategic foundations that support and underpin the work we do to achieve these strategic aims.



Navigating the Future Strategic Plan launch evening



Getting a taste for racing!



Vision

An active community working together on or around the water, where everyone has a place.

Mission Statement

Supporting communities to create fun and inclusive environments, empowering individuals to develop and succeed through their chosen pathways, all while fostering a love of being on or around the water.

Values

Approachable & supportive

Transparent

Visible

Passionate and proud

Brave and adventurous

Embracing equality

A full version of the strategy can be found [here](#).

The five year strategic plan for sailing, windsurfing and boating in Northern Ireland



RYANI Hall of Fame

On the same evening, we launched the Northern Ireland Sailing Hall of Fame, which was established to celebrate the rich history and achievements of the people involved in sailing and boating in Northern Ireland.

A massive congratulations to our first inductees:

Bill O'Hara OBE

Maeve Bell OBE

Curly Morris OBE

James Nixon

Cruising, environment and stakeholder representation

We continue to lobby and represent the interests of sailing and boating in Northern Ireland and engaged with several stakeholders to ensure that the views of clubs and personal members are shared. Engagement included:

- Representation and lobbying with DAERA and NI Water
- Signing up as partner to Adventure Smart NI
- Engagement with the North Channel Wind project
- Attendance at Sport NI, NI Sports Forum, Disability Sport NI and Outdoor Recreation NI events and stakeholder meetings

Sport NI funding

Following the review of the 2022-23 targets and measures set out with Sport NI, 90% of these were met or exceeded across areas including club development, participation, workforce development and talent and performance pathways.

The bid process for funding for 2023-24 opened in January 2024 and we were successful in receiving the full indicative amount available to us from Sport NI of £245,000. We have since received a £29,500 uplift, taking our total investment for the financial year 2023-24 to £274,000, representing a 45% increase from 2022-23.



Workforce report



Instructor & Coach Development

There were four courses and five pre-entry assessment days in 2022-23 with 50 participants attending, alongside working with a small number of aspiring trainers who may become future Sail Trainers and deliver these courses in the future. Powerboat Instructor courses are being handled by commercial powerboat centres, with 20 new Powerboat Instructor's qualified. Race coaching courses were very busy over the year with four courses and 24 candidates, we also had a coach attend the Race Coach Level 3 course in England.

These new instructors & coaches went straight to work on delivery, including these **3 instructors working at Strangford Sailing Club**, showing that teamwork skills have been key for them, and it's the best summer job in the world!

Instructor development has a much greater impact on the candidates than just being able to deliver RYA schemes (and make an earning over the summer), the skills and qualities that are acquired are wide ranging. One of the most useable is how to deliver presentations and make them engaging! Another benefit is that the RYA Instructor schemes are recognised all over the world. One current example is **James Campbell, of Coleraine Yacht Club**, who is currently chief instructor in the Royal British Virgin Islands Yacht Club.

Race Officials

Robin Gray, NI Race Management Coordinator ran a programme including a Regional Race Officer course in March 2023, qualifying eight new RO's and a Mark laying course with nine participants.

The Regional Race officer course is the first step on the ladder of becoming an official RYA race officer. This two-day course covers all aspects of running an open meeting from writing the Notice of race, through to on the water race management, to producing the results.

We caught up with Regional Race Officer Colin Loughhead who **shared the highlights** of his officiating, and what it's like to Race officer when your son is racing.

A RYA Sail Measurement Course was hosted in January 2023, catering to a dozen attendees. The course came around to help service the new YTC rating system for cruiser racers.

RYA Recognised Training Centres

We maintained our inspections for 2022-23, met with several new principals and welcomed new training centres. There are now 54 RYA RTCs in Northern Ireland, nine of which are theory only.

In support of the Training Schemes, our three Sail Trainers underwent their revalidation, all passing with flying colours. Congratulations to Paul Prentice, Rory Martin & David Nelson as keeping up to date and skills fresh requires hard work. NI Powerboat Trainers still number four, with no Powerboat Trainers course in this year to increase this number. Our Powerboat Trainers are Paul Magee, Charles Stewart, Dawn Hynes and Richard Little, thanks for your work team!

Club and Association meetings

Throughout 2022-23 we met with various clubs and associations on issues ranging from changes in legislation for fast craft to growing Training Centre provision, algae blooms, establishing a new club and club member surveys. A special welcome to our newest affiliated club, Cushendun Boat Club. The total number of affiliated organisations in NI is now 41.

RYA NI Annual Awards 2022

The awards, which were hosted by Denise Watson and supported by Whitenoise, took place at the Crowne Plaza in Belfast with more than 80 guests.

This was the first year we were able to hold the awards since 2019, due to covid.

RYA Northern Ireland's Chief Operating Officer Greg Yarnall commented: "I was very proud to welcome all the nominees, their nominators and other people from the sport to the Annual awards. It is a fantastic privilege to be recognising some of the great and good of the sport at the 2023 Annual Awards."

Chair of RYA Northern Ireland, Susan McKnight, said: "I am delighted that we were once again able to host the RYANI annual awards. It was great to be able to recognise and celebrate the achievements and commitment all our nominees who have all made such a contribution to our sport.

One of the awards is the RYANI Chair's Award, the Patton Trophy. This award is for a person or persons who are not covered in our other categories but who have gone above and beyond for their dedication to boating.

This year I was delighted to announce the award winner, Graham Chambers from Killyleagh Yacht Club (KYC). Graham has been a member of KYC for over 50 years,

throughout this time he has been an active volunteer in the club not only encouraging new members into the club but also being active in the ongoing development of KYC, as treasurer, senior instructor and RTC principal."

Winners and categories

Chair's Award nomination

Graham Chambers, Killyleagh Yacht Club

Race Official of the year (new for 22-23)

Sheela Lewis, County Antrim Yacht Club

Volunteer of the Year

Sam Rutherford, Holywood Yacht Club

Instructor of the Year

Sarah Cushley, Strangford Lough Yacht Club

Club Race Coach of the year

Cody Halliday, Strangford Lough Yacht Club

Young Powerboater of the Year

Dan Cooke, Strangford Lough Yacht Club

Young Volunteer of the Year

Max Robinson, Strangford Lough Yacht Club

Young Sailor of the year

Bobby Driscoll, Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club

RYA Northern Ireland will be running separate features on the winners over the course of the next month.

RYA Volunteer Awards

Our clubs also nominated members to the RYA National Awards. Congratulations to; Tommy Hutcheson for Lifetime Commitment Award and Debbie Kirkpatrick (nee Hanna), for Outstanding Commitment Award, both from East Antrim Boat Club.

Volunteering

Volunteer stories from our website

Race Coach

David Nelson

Volunteer Story

Margie Crawford

Powerboat Driver

Hannah Blair

Training Captain

Jack Kennedy

SSC - Adult Dinghy Sailing

Club and Participation report

RYA NI Census 2022

Insight and analysis of the boating landscape for Northern Ireland is shown through the club census, demonstrating an ongoing strong level of participation, particularly of those new to water-based activities.

On the other hand, it has also highlighted areas of our community that are less involved. As we look forward with our Strategy, Navigating the Future, we will continue to work with our network and stakeholders to reach, engage and attract as wide an audience as possible.

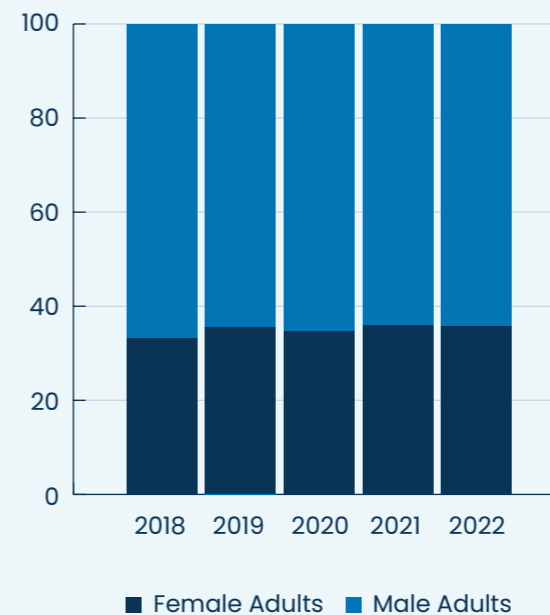
We continue to support RYA affiliated organisations and recognised training centres to deliver Sailability and Onboard projects with the support of Sport NI. These initiatives benefit organisations running projects

that engage with people from lower socio-economic groups, ethnically diverse communities, Disabled people, and people with long term health conditions.

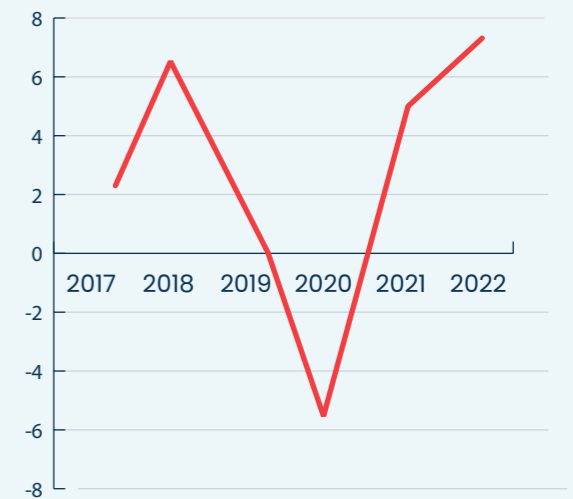
The RYA Census reported that 95% of clubs responded and 86% of clubs gave actual data within the UK. The response rate for Northern Ireland alone was 97% and membership has risen to 9,753 in comparison to 2021 which had a representation of 9,097. Leavers churn for NI in 2022 is lower when compared to the rest of the UK, NI with a 5% churn and the UK just over 10%.

Adult membership for males has increased by 560 and 261 for females. Junior membership shows a decrease of males (565 in 2021 to 517 in 2022) and females (450 in 2021 and 396 in 2022) compared to previous years, however this could be down to the census data no longer tracking family memberships and family members within that category.

Adult Gender by %



% Total Members Growth Year on Year



Affiliated Club Conference 2022

The Affiliated Club Conference took place at Holywood Yacht Club with 45 participants in attendance and a representation of 18 clubs.

The agenda consisted of RYA Census Insights, meet the volunteers, board and staff, strategy update, networking, how to secure funding at your club by S3 Solutions, volunteering sessions and key messages to support club growth.

Key take away points from the discussions were around better engagement with volunteers of all ages, retaining membership, better education piece on what boats to buy and why, new committees each year struggling with volunteer time and development plans.

Additionally, feeling the need to “diversify” club activities and offering something more to attract new members was also discussed. Below is the diagram that shows the variety of club activities across Northern Ireland. The bigger the word the more popular/regular the activity is.

Club Activities



Feedback from the ACC below

Knowledge before ACC	65/100	Rate trainers and volunteers	89/100
Knowledge after ACC	85/100	Meeting expectations	90/100

Clubs Represented at the ACC

Antrim Boat Club, Ballyholme Yacht Club, Ballyronan Boat Club, Carrickfergus Sailing Club, Coleraine Yacht Club, County Antrim Yacht Club, Donaghadee Sailing Club, East Antrim Boat Club, East Down Yacht Club, Foyle Sailability, Lough Neagh Sailing Club, Lough Foyle Yacht Club, Safer Waters, Strangford Lough Yacht Club, Royal Ulster Yacht Club, Belfast Lough Sailability, East Antrim Boat Club and Lough Erne Yacht Club..

RYANI Representation, Volunteers and Board Attendance

Ken Curry	Sailability Coordinator
Robin Gray	Race Management Coordinator
Denis Todd	Regional Rules Advisor
Liz Baker	Development Committee Chair (RYANI Board)
Jill Heron	Member of the Board (RYANI)
Greg Yarnall	CEO
Andrew Baker	Performance Manager
Kate Broderick	Pathways Officer
Mary Martin	Workforce Development Officer
Gayle Logan	Executive Assistant

Read the news article for promoting the event [here](#).



SSC - Adult Dinghy Sailing

Active Clubs Programme

Examples of grants provided by RYA NI.

Belfast Lough Sailability – Race Training Programme

The BLS programme has been running twice per week with coaching sessions for their disabled helms and crew. These sessions included building confidence, honing sailing skills and developing race tactics. This culminated in the NI Sailability Regatta in July 2022 which included participants from BLS, Foyle and Lough Erne Sailability Clubs to identify Team Ulster for the President's Cup, hosted by BLS in August 2022. The BLS training programme also included volunteers who had the opportunity to develop safety boat skills in readiness for the resumption of full open sessions in July 2022. Funding provided from RYANI to support the delivery of this programme, in addition to staff representation and social media publicity of the programme.

Number of sessions	14
Number of participants	28
New members	2
Current members	26
U18 participants	6
Male	18
Female	10

Lough Erne Yacht Club – Sailability sessions

Sailability has been operational at the club for three years, two of which have been severely restricted by Covid. Past sessions have been held on Tuesdays, during times that for most are considered the working or school day. With the RYANI/SPNI funding, LEYC aims to encourage more disabled participants to have a try at sailing as well as develop their sailing ability, creating opportunities for attendees to become more integrated into the activities of the club. Sailors are supported through utilising the fleet of 4 Hansa by having Saturday sessions and evening sessions from May to October.

County Antrim Yacht Club – Skills Refresher

As part of ReDiscover Sailing in May, CAYC offered a "Skills Refresher for Club Sailors" each Sunday in May. This was led by the clubs own RYA Instructors from a designated RIB. The skills refresher was an opportunity for club members to rebuild confidence with support from an instructor, such as supporting rigging skills, improving launching and recovery, and picking up boat handling tips on the water. The sessions ran alongside their normal Sunday racing and involved helping sailors around the racecourse. Holding the sessions on Sundays helped integrate members with regular club activity on Sundays (BBQ & bar open from 4pm). The sessions were specifically designed for adults who have completed their Level 1 or 2 courses or have equivalent experience.

Number of sessions	4
Number of participants	4
Male	3
Female	1

Ballyronan Boat Club – Wacky Races

Funding was used to encourage as many people to be visible on the water as possible around the time of their Discover Sailing event. BBC planned a series of weekly race events to coincide with their Discover Sailing promotion. Running weekly racing aims to encourage more outside juniors to join the club and participate as well as supporting the current juniors with upskilled training.

Number of participants	20
U18 participants	18
Male	12
Female	8

Strangford Sailing Club – Adult Sailing and Training for Novices

Funding was directed at encouraging entry level training targeted towards adults, supporting novice learners in a supportive environment, gaining confidence to develop basic skills and start them on their sailing journey. These took place as two hour sailing sessions with the support of two qualified club trainers. Training on navigation charts and marine conditions was an additional part added to support sailing activities.

Number of sessions	8
Number of participants	8
Current members	8
Male	4
Female	4

Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club – Dinghy Development Project

Funding was used to encourage newcomers to try dinghy sailing using the club training boats, as well as provide Rescue Volunteer Training to increase the RNIYC teams skills and capacity. The Club also ran a Discover Sailing Adult Day to support new sailors into the sport and encourage adults to sign up to the evening learn to sail course.

Number of sessions	27
Number of participants	65
New members	12
U18 participants	48
Male	31
Female	34

Newcastle Yacht Club – Adult Development Sessions

NYC created a 6-week dinghy sail training programme broken down into three parts. Weeks 1-3 had an adult focus and weeks 4-6 had a Junior focus. All training took place in Club boats (Visions, Fevas, Lasers, and Toppers). NYC offered 6 spaces on the adult nights (with 2 instructors) and 9 spaces on the Junior nights (with 3 instructors).

Adult		Junior	
Number of sessions	3	Number of sessions	3
Number of participants	7	Number of participants	10
New members	3	New members	6
Male	5	Current members	4
Female	2	U18 participants	10
		Male	5
		Female	5

Read the news article [here](#).

Sailability

Presidents Cup 2022

RYA Sailability has spent 2022-23 rebuilding following the pandemic. The three main Sailability Clubs, Belfast Lough Sailability, Lough Erne Yacht Club and Foyle Sailability have been working hard on developing a strong training and racing programme for their members. With support from RYANI and Sport NI we have allocated funding towards developing the BLS and LEYC race training programme, to support additional coaching / training days for disabled participants. In addition RYANI supported **the Presidents Cup** by providing the RYA rib as a support boat for the event, as well as having Ken Curry, the RYA NI Sailability Coordinator provide event support in the lead up to the event.

Key Stats from Presidents Cup

- 47 Competitors across 25 boats
- 3 Northern Irish Clubs represented.
- Success from Sophie McClenaghan from BLS, Winning best female helm U18.
- Success from Willie J Thompson from BLS winning best male helm.
- Success from John Patrick gaining 1st place in the 2.4mR Irish Nationals (BLS)

RYANI Onboard

RYA Onboard Clubs and Centres continue to grow with over 300 venues throughout the UK. 2022 saw the launch of the updated session cards, which help provide ideas and inspiration to those leading activities for children and young people (U18).

We also delivered a programme of instructor and coach development sessions to highlight the character development and sporting skill that sailing, and windsurfing enables. Looking forward we will continue to work with Onboard venues, instructors and key partners to provide a programme that helps ensure quality and a safe experience for all young who participate in sailing and windsurfing.

Currently in Northern Ireland there are a total of 9 OnBoard Venues, with 5 new venues registered as OnBoard in 2022. Ballyholme Yacht Club, **Donaghadee Sailing Club**, Carlingford Lough Sailing Club, Waverides, Carrickfergus Sailing Club, East Antrim Boat Club, Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club, Strangford Lough Yacht Club and Strangford Sailing Club.

OB Development Day took place on the 11th March 2023 at South Lakes Leisure Centre. There was a total of 6 participants, coach Tom Purdon from SLYC supported the day in collaboration with Hannah Cockle from RYA and Kate Broderick.

The OB Development Day is specifically to support instructors, volunteers and training principles who are delivering sessions at their club. With the use of implementing their own practical sessions and enabling opportunity for feedback from the other participants and the coaches. We received very good feedback from the onboard development day and have the 2023 OB Day scheduled in at SLYC.

Watch the Onboard development day promotional video!



Onboard development day



Belfast Lough Sailability Club

“ I hope to get more involved with coaching and training this season as I couldn't be on the water last year for various reasons. The club will hopefully use the new techniques to encourage more of our sailors to continue to participate. ”

“ Yes, a very constructive day. It would be great to hold at our Club for our SI and DIs, if we could align them all to one day! ”

“ Great to meet other clubs from around Northern Ireland. ”

Discover Sailing

A total of 9 clubs hosted their discover sailing days from April through to June.

The clubs who ran this event are; Ballyholme Yacht Club, Ballyronan Boat Club, Carrickfergus Sailing Club, County Antrim Yacht Club, East Antrim Boat Club, Lough Neagh Sailing Club, Newtownards Sailing Club, East Down Yacht Club and Waverides.

The Discover Sailing day is a gateway for participants within the local community to try sailing with family and friends. For clubs this is a great event to share with their local community more about the world of sailing. The opportunities sailing can bring to many families and individuals, as well as a chance for clubs to be able to grow membership. All the clubs who ran the Discover Sailing day reported their 2022 event to be successful or very successful.



Clubs	New Members	Signed up for a follow on activity
EABC	4	12
EDYC	8	8
BBC	2	10
WR	8	6
CAYC	12	15
CSC	15	6
EABC	4	17
BYC	15	10

Clubs	Attendance	Volunteers
EABC	23	20
EDYC	10	15
BBC	50	8
WR	30	1
CAYC	46	15
CSC	37	15
EABC	29	41
BYC	100	40

WOW Festival – Scheduled Initially for 2021 and 2022

Cancelled twice due to Covid and Weather

The 2023 (2022) Women on Water festival was hosted by Donaghadee Sailing Club on the 20th May. The event is aimed towards Women aged 18 and over and the activities planned for the day included, Dinghy Sailing, Keelboating, Powerboating, Coastal Rowing, Stand up Paddleboarding and Snorkelling (extra). With all hands on deck from the DSC Committee, RYANI Staff, Instructors and Club Volunteers, the day turned out to be a great success with 46 entries for the day. Many women who were part of the festival enquired to their local clubs or reached out to a variety of clubs about any programmes they could participate in as a follow on.

A big thank you to Kate and team for a fabulous day! Such a great opportunity to try out a vast range of water based activities in a really safe and supportive environment. I had such fun, met loads of new people and took away memories of experiences I never thought I would get the chance to try.



CAYC Skills Refresher

Winter Programme

Affiliated Clubs Conference (HYC)
45 participants

Creating a Club Development Programme
Kate Broderick
6 entries and 2 participants

Increasing Yacht Racing Workshop
Adam Parry RYA
(RYANI – cancelled no entries)

Sail Measure Course
Adam Parry RYA (SLYC)
8 attendees

Adult – Weather Talk by Simon Exley
20 participants (online)

Safeguarding Children and Young People Course
SPNI
14 participants (online)

Junior and Youth Weather Talk
Simon Exley
21 participants (online)

Racing Rules Talk
Chris Lindsay
35 participants (BYC)

Sail GP Talk
Chris Lindsay
10 participants (CAYC)

OB Development Day
SLLC
6 participants

Designated Safeguarding Childrens Officer Course
SPNI
6 participants (online)

Additional Safeguarding Children and Young People Course
SPNI
14 participants (online)

Club of the Year Finalists 2022

Ballyholme Yacht Club and County Antrim Yacht Club were announced as finalists with 10 other clubs from across the UK.

Recognising the outstanding achievement of sailing clubs, the **award** highlights the hard work and dedication that goes into running a successful club.



Ballyronan Boat Club – Wacky Races

Performance report

A Performance review was carried out in March 2022 with the final document concluded in April 2022.

2022 Competition Season and winter training through 2022/23 was a busy time for our performance sailors.

The season took to the water with three National level events in April 2022.

- UK Youth Nationals, Wales
- Irish Sailing Youth Nationals, Ballyholme YC

- Eric Twiname Junior Championships, Rutland Water, ENG

These are key events in a Young Sailors pathway. And form the basis of selection to the World Sailing Youth World Championships.

Number of NI Sailors competing:

UK Youth Nationals:	9
IS Youth Nationals:	54
Eric Twiname:	9

RYA UK Youth Nationals 2022

Eric Twiname Regatta 2022

29er

Team	Club	Place
Lauren McDowell / Erin McIlwaine*	RNIYC / NYC	11 th

ILCA 6 - Ladies

Ellen Barbour	CAYC	3 rd
Zoe Whitford	EABC	7 th
Kelly Patterson	EABC	18 th

ILCA 6 - Men

Tom Coulter	EABC	17 th
Lucas Nixon	BYC/DSC	31 st
Daniel Corbett	EABC	40 th
Matthew McClernon	EABC	49 th

ILCA 4

Team	Club	Place
Daniel Palmer	BYC	4 th
Lucy Ives	CLYC	47 th
Callum Jackson	CYC	48 th

TOPPER

Bobby Driscoll	BYC / RNIYC	5 th
Autumn Halliday	SLYC / BYC / EDYC	27 th
Cormac Byrne	BYC	30 th
Emily McAfee	BYC	42 nd
Isabelle Nixon	BYC	45 th
Hugo Boyd	BYC	59 th
Tom Driscoll	BYC	70 th

Irish Sailing Youth Nationals

- Bobby Driscoll 1st Topper
- Emily McAfee 2nd Topper

7 NI Boats in top 10

*2nd F/F (all Female crew)

Youth Performance Programme

17 Toppers were selected and 18 ILCAs for the 22/23 YPP. The Youth Performance Programme continues to provide the scheduled coaching.

Performance Academy

The role of Performance Lifestyle & Campaign Services was filled by Phillip Johnston. This role was established to support sailors at various stages from Academy, Transition and Elite level.

It has been positively received allowing us to archive more time with Academy Sailors and increase the amount of programme workshops we have run including nutrition, anti-doping, goal setting and campaign planning.

Future on water sessions for academy athletes are being investigated. These may involve specific coaches being brought in or camps abroad where necessary.

Academy Members 2022-23:

- Ellen Barbour, CAYC (ILCA 6)
- Tom Coulter, CYC/EABC (ILCA 6)
- Lucas Nixon, BYC/DSC (ILCA 6)
- Hannah Dadley-Young, BYC (ILCA 5)
- Zoe Whitford, EABC (ILCA 5)
- Lewis Thompson, DSC (ILCA 6)
- Lauren McDowell, RNIYC (29er)
- Erin McIlwaine, NSC (29er)

There have also been several dates for Open training to engage with clubs and Classes not directly supported by our Performance Pathway.

A focus of 2023 will be on Coach Development to enable us to further the support we offer clubs and classes and increase the level of our top youth athletes, giving clubs the 'tools' to better run their own club-led programmes.

Valencia New Year Training Camp

From the 27th of December through the new year until the 3rd of January Andrew Baker and top Coach Chris Penny took a selection of four sailors to Sail Coach base Valencia to combine forces with multiple sailing nations forming an international training camp, including some of our NI sailors already on site with Irish Sailing.

The camp was a great success, and we plan to make it an annual event to help bridge the gap for many of our sailors who are on the edge of this level of commitment and travel.

Celtic Cup

The 2023 Celtic Cup was unfortunately cancelled. In its stead we ran multi squad training weekend for Toppers & ILCA.

Youth Championships 2022

Unfortunately, due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth the Youth Championships had to be cancelled. There were 120 entries.



Sailors on National Squad Programmes

Irish Sailing

6 NI Sailors were on the Irish Junior National Squad, all from our Youth Performance Programme

- 2 NI Sailors on ILCA 4 Squad.
- 3 Sailors on Irish Academy (Highest level before Senior Olympic team).
- Erin McIlwaine now campaigning as the Solo Irish 49FX Team.
- Irish Sailing have relaunched their Junior National Squad Programmes. This originally ceased in 2016.
- Of the 12 toppers selected 7 are NI Sailors, all from our Youth Performance Programme.
- We Also have 2 sailors the ILCA 4 Squad.

Funding

Sport NI Awards

Athlete Awards Letter of offer received with the indicative amount of £10k total. £2,000 for each Athlete on the awards.

- Dan McGaughey
- Erin McIlwaine
- Ellen Barbour
- Tom Coulter
- Lauren McDowell

Lauren is no longer sailing as part of our programmes and her amount was reallocated to Bobby Driscoll & Daniel Palmer to acknowledge their credible performances in junior and aid with a smooth transition into youth classes. (ILCA 6)

Mary Peter Trust Awards

8 Applicants / 4 Awarded:

- Tom Coulter £500
- Ellen Barbour £500
- Erin McIlwaine £1000
- Lauren McDowell £500

Tom Coulter was also awarded £1000 from the Make It Happen awards following an application and interview process.

Notable Points / Results

- The RYANI 49er is now back home in NI and has now been granted to Erin McIlwaine for the 2023 Season to assist with her Transitioning to the 49FX Class. The use of two boats enables her to maintain training both domestically in Ireland and events/training in Europe.
- RYANI ran RS Feva Open Training and is now seeing signs of growth and progress in the future of this class. Also encouraging for double-handed sailing is the interest now in the 29er class with 3 boats in the north.
- Hammy and three of our Performance Coaches attended the RYA Nationwide. Coach Development Weekend in St Georges Park Birmingham 24/25 Sep.
- Strangford Lough Yacht Club has become a Pathway Club – Hammy met with the club on the 4th Oct to discuss 2023 club performance programmes.

We would like to congratulate sailors on some stand out results in 2022-23, where there were several podium finishes in regional and national events.

- Callum Pollard is the 2022 Topper 4.2 World champion
- Bobby Driscoll – 1st Irish Youth Nationals, 1st Irish Nationals, 2nd British Nationals, 2nd World Championships

Topper YPP Results

Name	Club	Southerns	Notherns	IRL Nats	IS Youth Nats	Topper worlds	British Nationals
Autumn Halliday	SLYC	10		6	5	71	15
Bobby Driscoll	BYC	1		1	1	2	2
Chloe Craig	CSC		7	38	41		
Cormac Byrne	SSC/BYC	7	3	5	7	20	9
Emily Macafee	BYC	4	5	11	2	24	25
George Turkington	CYC	35			18		
Henry Nelson	BYC	12		17	17	62	
Hunter Reddy	BYC	37		35	19		
Isabel Nixon	BYC	21			28		72
Joseph Robinson	BYC	14	4	10	6	41	
Katie Brow	BYC	20	8	8	8	43	
Luke Simpson	CAYC	6	1	21	4	22	4
Rory Pollard	CAYC	18	9	22	13	70	
Tom Driscoll	BYC	27		25	25	52	7
Calum Pollard	CAYC	1 (4.2)	1 (4.2)			1	
Hugo Boyd	BYC	2 (4.2)	4 (4.2)	5 (4.2)	22 (Full Rig)		8

ILCA 6 YPP Squad Results

Name	Class	Club	Munsters	Connaghts	Leinsters	Ulsters	Irish Nats	RYA Youth Nats	IS Youth Nats	ILCA 4 Worlds	U21 worlds	European Champs
Charlie O'Malley	ILCA 6	BYC		24	28	5	26		25			
Charlotte Eadie	ILCA 6	BYC/ DSC			15	9	20		16			
Dan Sheriff	ILCA 6	BYC							28			
Daniel Corbett	ILCA 6	CAYC				6		40				
Ellen Barbour	ILCA 6	CAYC/ EABC						3	Too OLD		68	
Joshua McGregor	ILCA 6	BYC			9	7	11					
Lewis Thompson	ILCA 6	BYC			11	4	12		10			
Lucas Nixon	ILCA 6	BYC/ DSC				2		31	Too OLD			
Matthew Loughlin	ILCA 6	CYC			23	15			33			
Matthew McClernon	ILCA 6	EABC/ CSC						49	15			
Tom Coulter	ILCA 6	EABC		4	6		5	17	20*			158
Callum Jackson	ILCA 4	CYC/ EABC	14	13	35 Radial	8 Radial			23			
Daniel Palmer	ILCA 4	BYC	3	2		4			2	198		
Hannah Dadley-Young	ILCA 4	BYC			1	1	1					
Lucy Ives	ILCA 4	CLYC		9		6			8			
Sam Kelly	ILCA 4	EDYC	17		22 Radial	14 Radial	21 Radial		14			
Toby Hughes	ILCA 4	RNIYC/ BYC				7						
Zoe Whitford	ILCA 4	EABC					25 Radial	7 ILCA 6	17 ILCA 6			

Tom Coulter won the ILCA Ireland end-of-season event on 24/25 Sep 2022

*missed a day

Youth Performance Programme Activities ran through the winter for both Junior (Topper) and Youth (ILCA) following Selections last October. **A big thank you** to the Topper and ILCA coaches for the 22-23 season, Lucy Kane, Luke McIlwaine, Barry McCartin, Chris Penney and James Farrell.

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