



# Professional Sail Training



Modular Fast Track to:

- Day Skipper
- Coastal Skipper
- Yachtmaster Offshore



## Over 35 Years of Quality Tuition





- Ideal for leisure or a career in the marine industry
- Flexible modular system
- 35 years of experience and the best instructors in the industry
- An education not just a ticket
- Quality sea miles not just quantity
- Real skippering time
- Extremely structured programme with constant debriefs
- Personal mentoring from a dedicated Chief Instructor
- A quality yacht maintenance training week
- 15 yachts and shore-side teaching facilities

Have you ever wanted to advance your sailing to the next level in a concentrated burst or have you always wanted to cast off the lines completely and commit to getting from beginner all the way to Yachtmaster Offshore either to begin a career in the industry or purely for pleasure?

Take the entire course over 17 weeks or just one module

- MODULE 1 5 weeks to advanced Day Skipper with yacht maintenance skills and offshore miles
- MODULE 2 5 weeks to Coastal Skipper
- MODULE 3 5 weeks to Yachtmaster Offshore







## Course Overview

Thank you for taking the time to read this brochure. Maybe you are considering a career at sea involving worldwide travel, responsibility and a fantastic quality of life? Maybe you just want to build up your skills prior to fulfilling that lifelong ambition of sailing off into the sunset.

Got a career break or just retired and fancy completing a life changing experience and becoming a competent sailor? Whatever your age, background or motive the Hamble School of Yachting Professional Sail Training (PST) Programme will progress you from limited experience through to the RYA Yachtmaster Offshore qualification with a commercial endorsement.

The RYA Yachtmaster qualification and training programme is recognised internationally as the most reliable testimony of competence for a yacht skipper. Consequently this qualification is widely sought after by those who wish to become professional skippers.

Prior to the advent of the PST course, progress to Yachtmaster Offshore was necessarily a protracted, interrupted undertaking, frequently spread over several years of weekends and holidays fitting around other commitments. Such fragmentation led to inefficiencies and loss of continuity. Lessons are forgotten during the long gaps between training sessions. A student might learn with several different instructors, often from different sailing schools. Such an approach is unacceptable, and impracticable to anyone seeking a Yachtmaster certificate as a professional qualification, particularly in the case of foreign students visiting the UK for this express purpose.

The PST course enables a student to progress smoothly to Yachtmaster Offshore, without interruption, following a fully integrated, "seamless" programme. The intensity and efficiency of such a course is such that students learn faster and learn more. Whereas a PST

graduate should be aware of their (probable) limited sea experience, it is nonetheless likely they will be as competent a yacht skipper as another with more sea-miles who has not benefited from such a focused, intensive training programme.

The Hamble School of Yachting's PST students come from all over the world and we now have regular contact with potential employers who seek our current and past students because they recognise the very high quality of training received. Our Yachtmaster pass rate has never been lower than 98%.

### Modular Structure

Though intended primarily for career Yachtmasters, the PST course is probably the best way to obtain a Yachtmaster Offshore certificate whatever the motive, and so it is increasingly popular with sports and leisure sailors. Students who already have a Day Skipper practical qualification and approximately 700 miles can join at Module 2, the Coastal Skipper Module. Those with a Coastal Skipper Certificate and approximately 1500 miles can join Module 3, the Yachtmaster Module. Students are more than welcome to join for just one Module at a time.

If you are really interested we would be pleased to invite you out sailing with us free of charge to give you a chance to see what we offer and for us to give you advice on your best plan of action. Alternatively if you would rather just come in for a chat please feel free to contact us.

I very much hope you find this prospectus of interest and would encourage you to take the opportunity to talk to myself or one of the team here at Hamble.

*Chris Rushton*

*Principal*



## Why choose the Hamble School of Yachting?

People complete our Professional Sail Training Programme for a wide variety of reasons. Past students have included those wanting a career in the industry, those taking a gap year or a career break or people who have just retired and want a new challenge such as long distance sailing. Whatever your reason the Hamble School of Yachting is your best choice.



**Hamble School of Yachting is the leading independent sea school in the UK**

The Hamble School of Yachting was established in 1978 and is highly regarded. For over 35 years now the school has been providing quality tuition from its base at Mercury Yacht Harbour on the River Hamble. Our reputation within the industry for the quality of students we produce is second to none and this has certainly given them a head start in securing employment. Past students have gone on to achieve success in many areas of yachting such as delivery skippers, instructors, flotilla skippers and corporate entertainment. One of our ex students has skippered one of the Global Challenge yachts around the world....and won....not bad!!

**Hamble School of Yachting employs the highest calibre instructors**

We employ only the best. Our instructors receive ongoing professional development from the school via a structured programme delivered by the Chief Instructor. Very few schools adopt this policy. This ensures they remain at the highest standard. Our instructors are among some of the most senior in the industry. All our

instructors are handpicked for their ability to communicate, their knowledge and sense of humour!

**Hamble School of Yachting strictly limits the number on each intake**

The school has grown to a point where it can offer a choice of thirteen different yachts on which to sail and a dedicated modern teaching block equipped with the latest computer and audio visual technology. Despite this we remain a small and dedicated team and numbers of students on the PST course are strictly limited to a maximum of nine or ten on each intake. This allows incredibly close supervision and monitoring of your training and enables you to get much more out of that vital contact time with each instructor.

**We have developed the best possible programme over the last 20 years**

The programme is organised in such a way that each week has a dedicated purpose and within those weeks each day has set learning tasks. Students are debriefed after each task and at the end of each week by the instructor and Chief Instructor. This enables us to identify very early on both your strengths and weaknesses and ensure an action plan is put into place to build up your skills.

We do not try to embark you on a ticket collecting exercise for a bewildering array of different courses. Our course is carefully designed to turn out high quality sailors with a good degree of all round seamanship skills. To this end our students spend 76 days of the total 99 days tuition at sea learning the skills of their trade. There really can be no substitute for hands on practical experience.

The weeks spent on practical sailing are carefully divided between mileage building to destinations in the English channel, and "drills and skills" weeks closer to home. Any yachtsman will tell you that pilotage in busy or shallow waters coupled with close quarters boat handling is challenging and plenty of time will be spent here honing your skills.

Getting the balance right between close quarters work and offshore sailing is crucial and we firmly believe we have the right mix here. An all round yachtsman has got to be a good sailor, man manager and able to repair and maintain a complex sailing boat often far out at sea. Our students attend a dedicated Yacht Maintenance training week at a specialist marine training centre. This fully hands on course will equip you to carry out maintenance and repairs in areas such as diesel engines, 12v electrics, GRP repair and construction, plumbing systems and rigging set up and maintenance. Our students complete the MCA/STCW Elementary First Aid and MCA/STCW Personal Survival Techniques (Sea Survival) courses within the PST programme. The MCA/STCW qualifications are highly sought after for candidates looking to work on a larger super yacht. There is an option at the end of a standard PST course to complete the MCA/STCW Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting and MCA/STCW Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities courses which will give you all four elements needed for the MCA/STCW Basic Safety Training week.



A unique feature of our programme is that students during the last module will embark on a twelve day self sail programme during which they will gain approximately 600 miles. This session is an essential part of building the real skippering experience and passages required prior to sitting the exam. Our students stand head and shoulders above others in terms of their



confidence and real experience by the end of the programme.

With Hamble School of Yachting we strive to give you the best possible value for money

As with everything else in life it is true that you get what you pay for. Whilst we are not the cheapest or most expensive around we firmly believe that we offer the highest quality of training and support to be had. We understand that you are investing a large sum of money in your future and you want to be sure it's the best possible training you can buy. We are so committed to ensuring you make the right decision that if you are really interested in embarking on this course then we will invite you out for a weekend of sailing with us free of charge which will give you a real chance to see the team, how we operate and chat to an instructor about

your ambitions. It will also allow us to ensure that the course is right for you. For those with more experience it might be suitable to start at module two or three and we will be able to assess this over the weekend.

## We offer you 100% support throughout

We are a small and dedicated team here at Hamble and once you sign up you are guaranteed to become "one of the family". If you need extra help you will get support from the Chief Instructor to ensure you get back on track. We make a commitment that we are always here for you even to the extent of being at the end of a phone 24 hours a day! At the end of the course our students find it very hard to leave the Hamble team so we must be doing something right!

## We are able to further your development after the course

We have very close links with Europe's largest yacht delivery company and have developed a programme which will give you the opportunity to get real industry experience working as a mate on delivery trips around the world which could lead to employment for those reaching the high standards required. This development programme will give you the opportunity to gain thousands of extra sea miles including some ocean experience. All of this will vastly increase your employability. All of our ex students who have the right attitude have been very successful in getting work within the industry with many of them, such as Andy Forbes the Global Challenge winning skipper 2005, going on to reach the very pinnacles of success.

## The sailing ground

The Hamble School of Yachting's Hamble base is convenient for Southampton Water and the Solent, providing sheltered waters where training can continue in almost any weather conditions. In addition the Solent can offer a sample of almost every type of harbour and anchorage giving a rich variety of pilotage exercises.

The Solent is also an excellent base for the distance sailing segments of the programme giving access to either around the Isle of Wight or across the Channel to France and the Channel Islands, and with the Dorset, Devon and Cornish harbours to the West and Sussex and Kent to the East.

With easy access to these sheltered waters combined with cruising grounds in three directions, sailing programmes are rarely constrained by weather and wind direction, so that interesting, varied and challenging sailing can be assured.



Due to the complex nature of the tides, and currents around the Isle of Wight, if you can safely navigate the Solent waters you can navigate anywhere in the world. The Needles Channel on a full spring ebb, with a south westerly force eight is one of the most dangerous places in the world.





## Course Structure General

The PST course is divided into 3 Modules, each of 5 weeks with at least a 7-day break between each Module. The total course spans 17 calendar weeks. This enables a system of short periods of intensive tuition with no time wasted, followed by brief rest periods to permit consolidation and avoid staleness.

Students can start at a later module if they have the requisite experience.

Although this course is intensive, the Hamble School of Yachting's aim is to build a student's confidence as well as his/her knowledge and experience. It is not a competition. If you are not ready to take your exam at the end of the course we will be as accommodating as possible and try to organise additional training.

Each Module comprises a mixture of shore-based theory taught in our

purpose-built, onsite classroom, and practical sailing. It is an important aim of the course to accumulate the sea miles, including skippered passages, necessary for the final Yachtmaster Offshore qualification. Therefore each practical session is ascribed a target mileage. Practical sailing sessions are specifically detailed as dedicated distance sailing weeks or "drill and skills" weeks close to home in the Solent area. It is a very important feature of a course such as this that there is a good mix of both types of sailing. Distance sailing exposes the student to longer passage offshore that will involve watch keeping routines, crossing busy shipping lanes and advanced passage planning. The "drills and skills" weeks will concentrate on short passages involving lots of pilotage exercises in to and out of different harbours coupled with lots of close

quarter handling under sail and power. Time will also be spent on emergency routines, fog navigation, rudderless sailing, spinnaker handling and sail trim. During all these practical sessions skippering skills are developed and the students confidence grows. The student: instructor ratio on board the yachts will be 5:1 or better.

Instructors will hold detailed, personal de-briefing sessions with each student on completion of each exercise and also at the end of the week. Through this system the pace and emphasis of the course can be regulated for each individual student. Your progress will be logged and monitored in the PST workbook that you will receive at the start of the course.



## Module 1 Day Skipper

The aim of this module is to get the student to advanced Day Skipper level complete with a week's worth of offshore sailing and yacht maintenance training. A Day Skipper should be able to take charge of a yacht for short, day passages in familiar waters and fair weather. The emphasis is on boat handling and "line-of-sight" pilotage. The student will be introduced to the basic principles of navigation, chartwork, tides and practical meteorology.

Following a welcome on Sunday evening and a full induction on Monday morning students will spend week 1 completing the RYA Competent Crew

Course which will enable all students to go right back to the basics of crewing and living onboard a yacht along with basic seamanship and sailing skills.



Week 2 is spent ashore completing the VHF/SRC course, the Personal Survival Techniques and the 5 day Day Skipper Theory Course which introduces students to the basics of navigation and

meteorology.

Week 3 involves 7 days of sailing in the Solent area and putting the theory into practice and starting to learn the basics of skippering a yacht.

Week 4 involves a distance sail to France or the West Country exposing students to longer passages, watch keeping and crossing shipping lanes, possibly at night.

The final week involves students completing the seven day Yacht Maintenance course where vital skills will be obtained in fixing and maintaining the yacht.

Period		Activity		Target Miles
Week 1	Mon-Fri	Competent Crew		150
	Sat	STCW Personal Survival Techniques		
	Sun	SRC VHF Radio		
Week 2	Mon-Fri	Day Skipper Theory		
		Weekend Off		
Week 3	Mon-Sun	Day Skipper Practical Sailing		150
Week 4	Mon	Yacht Maintenance	Rigging + Winch servicing	
	Tue		GRP construction and repairs	
	Wed		GRP construction and repairs	
	Thu		Diesel engines	
	Fri		Diesel engines/Plumbing	
	Sat		12v Electrics	
	Sun		Sail repair and maintenance	
Week 5	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail		400
Week 6		7 days off.		
		Total Mileage		700

■ Shorebased

■ Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area

■ Distance Sail

### CERTIFICATES AWARDED

- RYA Competent Crew
- RYA Day Skipper Shorebased
- RYA Day Skipper Practical
- SRC/VHF Radio licence
- Yacht Maintenance Certificate
- MCA/STCW Personal Survival Techniques
- International Certificate of Competence (UK citizens only) Fee applies if not a member of the RYA.



## Module 1

### Yacht Maintenance

This course is run in conjunction with Southampton City College, Marine Skills Centre. The course is an intensive seven day hands-on practical course which will equip each student with the basic faultfinding and problem-solving skills needed by a skipper together with knowledge to carry out routine maintenance tasks such as painting, antifouling, varnishing and GRP repairs.

#### MAIN SUBJECTS COVERED

- Plumbing
- 12 Volt Electrical Systems
- More advanced diesel engine maintenance and winterisation
- Rigging, splicing and whipping
- GRP construction and repair
- Sail repairs
- Winch servicing
- Painting, antifouling and varnishing







## Module 2 Coastal Skipper

The aim is to get the student to an advanced Coastal Skipper level. A Coastal Skipper should have acquired the level of theoretical (shore-based) knowledge necessary for Yachtmaster. They will have progressed beyond Day Skipper mainly in the sense of being capable of planning and skippering extended coastal passages of approximately 20 – 30 miles, using navigational (as opposed to pilotage) techniques, and at night if necessary. A Coastal Skipper should be reasonably competent at boat handling in confined waters under power or sail.

The module starts with the shorebased Coastal /Yachtmaster theory course which takes the student beyond Day Skipper theory level and onto the next level. More emphasis is placed on offshore passage planning, advanced tidal calculations and more in-depth

knowledge of meteorology.

Following this week, week 8,10 and 11 are practical drills and skills sailing weeks in the Solent and the South



Coast area that progressively build and develop the students skippering, close quarters handling and pilotage/ navigation skills. As the weeks progress

more demanding tasks will be covered such as sailing onto pontoons, anchors, mooring buoys, fog navigation, steering loss and the like. There is also a big increase in the amount of night entries and departures from harbours.

Week 9 is another dedicated distance sailing week. More emphasis is placed on the students planning and executing offshore passages as skipper with extensive debriefing from the instructor upon completion.

Towards the end of week 11 there will be an in-house assessment from either the Principal or the Chief Instructor.

Two shorebased weekends see students complete the Weather Course, Elementary First Aid and Radar courses.

Period		Activity	Target Miles
Week 7	Mon-Sun	Coastal/Yachtmaster Theory	
Week 8	Mon-Fri	Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
	Sat-Sun	Weekend Off	
Week 9	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail	400
Week 10	Mon-Fri	Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
Week 10	Sat Sun	STCW Elementary First Aid Radar Course	
Week 11	Mon-Fri	Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
	Sat-Sun	Meteorology	
Week 12		Off	
		<b>Total Mileage</b>	<b>850</b>

■ Shorebased ■ Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area ■ Distance Sail

### PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Day Skipper Shorebased Certificate
- Day Skipper Practical Certificate
- SRC/VHF
- At least 700 sea miles under sail, in tidal waters

### CERTIFICATES AWARDED

- RYA/MCA Coastal Skipper/ Yachtmaster Theory
- RYA Coastal Skipper Practical
- RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Coastal Skipper

- Qualification Examination (for those finishing at Module 2)
- MCA/STCW Elementary First Aid
- RYA Radar Course
- Weather Course

## Module 3 Yachtmaster Offshore with Commercial Endorsement

The aim is to get the student to Yachtmaster Offshore level by the end of the third module. A Yachtmaster is essentially a more experienced and more capable Coastal Skipper. He / she should be able to do all those things expected of a Coastal Skipper better, for longer and under more adverse conditions. A Yachtmaster should be capable of extended offshore passages around European waters, by day or night, coping with adverse weather conditions if necessary.

There are two main objectives in Module Three. The first is the accumulation of sea miles through extended offshore sailing and the second is two weeks of intense exam preparation with a Yachtmaster Instructor back here in the local area.

The extended sailing is achieved by means of a 19 day distance sail. The first seven days will be with an instructor with the remaining 12 days

dedicated as a self sail period without an instructor. This sailing experience is crucial in allowing students to gain real offshore skippering experience and the



all important qualifying passages for the final examination. Examiners have

consistently noted that our students are far more confident due to this real life experience. There really is no substitute for real skippering experience at this stage in the course. Each student will take it in turn to skipper several passages of over 60 miles and most courses have so far achieved between 500 and 600 miles in an area covering the English Channel.

Following two days leave students return to start an intensive ten day exam preparation period prior to sitting the Yachtmaster Offshore. This ten day period will take the student right back through all areas of the syllabus and will focus very much on "skills and drills" involving lots of close quarters work under power and sail, night exercises, pilotage and skippering skills. The exam will begin on the Wednesday evening and each student will spend approximately 10-12 hours being examined.

Period		Activity	Target Miles
Week 13	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail with Instructor	300
Week 14	Mon-Sun	Distance Self Sail	
Week 15	Mon-Fri	Distance Self Sail	500
	Sat-Sun	2 Days Off	
Week 16	Mon-Fri	Yacht Master Prep	120
Week 17	Sat-Wed	Yacht Master Prep	120
	Thur-Fri	Yacht Master Exam	
		Total Mileage	1040
		Overall Total	2590

■ Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area   ■ Distance Sail

### PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- RYA Coastal Skipper Certificate
- SRC/VHF
- Sea Survival Certificate/Personal Survival Techniques
- First Aid Certificate/Elementary First Aid
- At least 1500 sea miles under sail, in tidal waters with considerable boat handling and skippering experience

### CERTIFICATES AWARDED

upon successfully passing exam

- RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore with Commercial Endorsement





## Other useful information

### Health

It is important that all students appreciate that the PST course is an intensive program. The practical sessions at sea can be physically arduous and students need to satisfy themselves that they have basic physical fitness. Students who intend to work commercially will need to satisfy themselves that they do not suffer from any medical condition that would preclude them from obtaining their commercial endorsement. See the ML5 medical form in this link.

<https://afmmcanet.mcga.gov.uk/formspublic/MSF4112.pdf>

### Commercial Endorsement

If you wish to work commercially with your Yachtmaster qualification you will need to obtain a commercial endorsement to be added to your ticket. You will need to complete a medical with any UK registered doctor using the ML5 medical form at this link. <https://afmmcanet.mcga.gov.uk/formspublic/MSF4112.pdf>



Please note that the ML5 medical is only valid for presentation to the RYA/MCA for endorsement for three months from the date of issue so for candidates completing all three modules it will be out of date by the end of the course necessitating another visit to the Doctor! We would suggest that for candidates who have any doubts about their general health or possible colour blindness they should definitely have a medical before the course and then another one within three months of the end of the course. It would be a shame to start and then discover something like colour blindness bars you from obtaining the commercial endorsement. Of course those candidates not intending to obtain a commercial endorsement do not require a medical.

You will also be required to pass an online assessment known as the PPR (Professional Practices and Responsibilities course). Successful candidates will be able to print off a certificate.

To obtain the endorsement you will need to present the following to



the examiner; PPR certificate, STCW Personal Survival Techniques (or equivalent) certificate, ML5 medical and a completed commercial endorsement form (available from the office) along with a fee for commercial endorsement processing.

### Previous experience

Whereas acceptance for the course does not require any formal sailing qualifications, it is required that students have a minimum of 100 logged, tidal miles. These should ideally have been accumulated within a period reasonably close to the date when the PST course commences.

The reasons for this requirement are:

1. The student will have some idea whether he / she is likely to enjoy sailing and so will enlist of the Course with "eyes open".
2. The Yachtmaster Offshore qualification requires 2,500 logged sea miles. The course is designed to provide this mileage as a minimum, but

a 100 miles pre-course requirement provides an additional "cushion".

The Hamble School of Yachting will be happy to organise these qualifying miles as preparation for a PST course, and this will also provide an opportunity for discussions with the student regarding his / her suitability for the PST course. It

will normally require approximately one week of typical sailing school cruising to accumulate 100 sea miles.

Students who would like to gauge their suitability for the course can enlist on a Hamble School of Yachting training weekend, at the end of which the Instructor will offer a "friendly but honest" assessment.



The school will not charge for this weekend and it will give you an opportunity to see what we have on offer and really gauge exactly what you want from your training.

## Other useful information

### Books and equipment

All books required for the course will be supplied at the start of each module with the G15 Log Book and Competent Crew Course Notes being supplied on registration. However should you already have a G15 log book please bring it with you as it will outline your experience. The purchase of a Bretton Plotter, navigational dividers and drawing instruments is the student's responsibility. We will provide you with a list of additional books which are recommended background reading.

### Clothing

Clothing should be packed in a soft crew-bag (or sports-bag). Each student should bring a sleeping bag, however the school can provide this if you are travelling from afar. The school provides quality wet weather gear however you can of course bring your own. We are able to offer substantial discounts on wet weather gear from manufacturers such as Musto and Gill. Please seek our advice before spending money on this expensive kit. You should bring warm clothing including thermal layers, woolly hat and sailing gloves. You will also need to have a pair of deck shoes and sailing boots. Please feel free to call for advice if you would like more information on any of the above items. The marina has laundry and drying facilities.

### Documents and money

The practical cruising will include trips to France so students should bring a current passport. Non EU students should call the office for advice on visa requirements.

Money will be needed for:

1. No catering is provided on the shorebased courses except for lunches.
2. Mooring and marina fees. The costs for the mooring fees will be met by the School with the exception of the self-sail weeks in Module 3. This cost will be divided between the crew. Students should allow approximately £20 per cruising week. The idea of this is to encourage students into interesting mooring areas such as harbour walls or anchorages rather than expensive marinas!
3. Occasional visits to pubs / restaurants while cruising, are at the crew's discretion. There really is no where to spend money at sea so don't bring too much!
4. Exam fees (see enclosed leaflet for latest prices).

### Accommodation

During shorebased parts of the course accommodation is not available, however we do have a list of local B & B's in the village which is included in this manual. Alternatively there is a holiday park next to the school which offer cabins and caravans for rent which might be suitable for a group of 3 or 4 to share.

### Photographs

You will need 5 passport-sized photos.





## Extra courses available



### MCA/STCW Basic Safety Training Week

This training includes all of the components for you to complete the basic safety training which is now required on many superyachts. Together with your Yachtmaster Offshore certificate for both theory and practical exams and ROC or GOC radio qualification you will be eligible to sit the MCA oral examination for the new Yachtmaster 200 tonnes which is becoming increasingly in demand.

- Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities
- Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting
- Personal Survival Techniques
- Elementary First Aid

The last two courses mentioned are already included within the PST course meaning you would only have to go on and complete the first two which take three days in total.

### RYA Shorebased Ocean Course

This course provides all of the theoretical tuition on ocean passage making and astro navigation needed prior to setting off on an ocean passage as mate or skipper.

### GMDSS Restricted Operators Certificate (ROC)

This course provides the necessary knowledge to pass the ROC Operators Licence which will enable the user to operate communications equipment in sea area A1. The ROC is required to upgrade to a Master of Yachts 200gt (up to 150mn from a safe haven) along with a Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate of Competence, the Basic Safety Training Week and satisfactory completion of MCA oral examination.

### GMDSS General Operators Certificate (GOC)

This course provides the necessary knowledge to pass the GOC Operators Licence which will enable the user to operate communications equipment in sea areas A1, A2, A3 and A4 (worldwide). The GOC is required to upgrade to a Master of Yachts 200gt (unlimited area) along with a Yachtmaster Ocean Certificate of Competence, the MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical Care Onboard Ship, the Basic Safety Training Week and satisfactory completion of MCA oral examination.

### MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical First Aid

This is a four day course covering diagnostics and medical management. This course cannot be undertaken without successful completion of MCA/STCW Elementary First Aid which is included in the PST programme.

### MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical Care On Board Ship

This is a five day course which moves on from the Medical First Aid course in that you will be introduced to the diagnosis, nursing and minor surgical procedures commonly required on a vessel offshore. The course cannot be undertaken without successful completion of the MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical First Aid.

Medical Care On Board Ship is a mandatory requirement for Ocean Yachtmasters operating in Category 1 (over 150 NM from a safe haven) and Category 0 (unrestricted) under the MCA Code of Practice.

## Industry opportunities



The marine industry offers huge opportunities for employment around the world. With a turnover in the UK alone in excess of two billion pounds Yachting is big business! At Hamble School of Yachting we train people from all walks of life to become yacht skippers. Skippering yachts is a unique and rewarding career. As a yacht skipper you have ultimate responsibility for the vessel and everyone aboard. This means being able to turn your hand to many tasks aside from just driving the vessel. If the engine fails you need to be able to identify and solve the problem as there aren't many mechanics 50 miles offshore! If the marine radio stops working you need to be able to sort out the electrical problem and get it operational. Add to this you need to be able to lead and motivate your crew in sometimes adverse conditions you soon get the picture that a yacht skipper needs to be able to draw upon a large number of technical and personal skills. As a skipper the rewards in terms of personal satisfaction are also huge.

There are many avenues available to the newly qualified yacht skipper and many will work in several different areas during the course of their careers. Broadly speaking the industry is split into two sectors, the yacht sector

(that's yachts up to 24metres in length) and the superyacht sector (that's yachts over 24 metres ). Work within the smaller yacht sector can include worldwide yacht deliveries, Corporate entertainment, being a Flotilla Skipper for holiday companies, or even training to become a sailing instructor teaching various courses to students at sea schools such as ours. The common theme is that you will spend time away from home possibly abroad, have the opportunity to sail a varied range of boats and meet a huge variety of people. In the superyacht sector you would start off as a Deckhand and work your way up to Skipper over a period of time. Increasingly the superyacht sector is demanding a certain number of MCA/STCW qualifications. Those qualifications are granted by the MCA as opposed to the RYA. Four basic qualifications are required to obtain the Basic Safety Training required on a superyacht. They are Elementary First Aid, Personal Survival Techniques, Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities and Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting. We include the first two within our standard PST programme. The other two are available as an extra module upon completion of the normal programme. The Basic Safety Training week along with the other required

qualifications also enables you to sit the MCA oral for the Yachtmaster 200 Tonnes qualification, which is becoming increasingly in demand in commercial environments.

Working on multi million pound superyachts in exotic locations such as the Caribbean and the Mediterranean can be a fantastic way of life and pay is generally very good with good career prospects. However you will need to be prepared to work extremely hard and to have very high personal standards. The basic qualification required for any of these careers is the MCA/RYA Yachtmaster Offshore qualification and this is what students on our 17 week Professional Sail Training course achieve. The qualification involves sitting a ten to twelve hour practical exam which looks at the candidates skippering and boat handling skills under sail and power. The examiner will also check out the candidates knowledge of collision regulations, weather and passage planning. The minimum requirements before sitting the exam are 2500 miles logged under sail, 5 passages of 60 miles or over, two of which must be as skipper, a First Aid at Sea qualification, Sea Survival certificate and a radio licence. Our Professional Sail Training course provides all of this and much more.





## Don't take our word for it ... read what some past students have said



**Will Martin**

PST Course 55 October 2011

I couldn't recommend Hamble School of Yachting enough to anybody looking to learn to

sail. I completed the PST course and at the end obtained my Yachtmaster Offshore certificate. The instructors are all extremely experienced and taught me skills above and beyond what I thought I would achieve. Over the duration of the course they really increased my confidence levels and allowed me to make decisions and learn from my mistakes. The best part was being given the yacht and they say "ok, see you in two weeks". You and the crew get to go explore the amazing waters of the English Channel with no instructor and really consolidate the skills you have been taught. Overall my time at the Hamble was more like a holiday than being at school. Everybody associated with the school from the instructors to the shore staff made the whole experience thoroughly enjoyable.

My aim after completing the course was to obtain a job in the Super Yacht industry which I have been doing now for a little over a year and currently work as 3rd Engineer on M/Y Alfa Nero. I have also completed sail yacht deliveries, explored sailing grounds in the Med and Caribbean and I'm currently planning a trip to sail around Indonesia. Completing the PST course at Hamble really opened up new opportunities for me and I would highly recommend anyone to do the same.



**Nigel Jopling**

PST Course 59 February 2013

I took early retirement last year and finally had the time to get around to getting some sailing

qualifications. I have sailed for several years but only had a VHF licence and having also recently acquired a boat, I wanted to learn practical sailing skills and navigation, radar and sea survival along with anything else that was available to me. I found the course I wanted with the Hamble School of Yachting, who offered a 17 week Professional Sail Training course.

I was a little apprehensive choosing the course, as I didn't want the qualifications for work, but I was assured that the PST course was suited to all, whether the qualifications were wanted for work or for leisure. I signed up for the February to June course and subsequently set sail in a snowstorm early in February with the other students from all over Europe. Having now sailed through the coldest spring on the Solent for 50 years, I and the other students successfully completed the course and gained our Yachtmaster Offshore certificates. I now have the knowledge and confidence to sail anywhere and deal with strong tides and adverse conditions and feel that I will be able to cope when things don't quite go according to plan.

I can thoroughly recommend the PST course to anyone. Age and ability doesn't matter, we had from 21 to 58

and some who had never sailed before. I can also recommend the Hamble School of Yachting to anyone looking for any sort of sailing qualifications, on the water or shorebased or wanted for leisure or work. During my course I found all the staff at the school to be very dedicated and helpful and the instructors to be highly professional and deeply committed to the difficult task of turning me, and the others into proficient sailors and skippers. I wanted a complete package and that is exactly what I got. Many thanks to all at HSY.



**Pauline Errey**

PST Course 54 July 2011

A sabbatical from my corporate job opened up a new world of personal growth that

was addictive & life changing. No limitations were placed on me as a more mature, female student. I was coached, challenged & developed to my full ability by the HSY instructors, whose enthusiasm was infectious. Their adaptability & patience allowed me to learn & enjoy doing so. A vast & never ending array of opportunities were experienced - theory, skills & drills & the adventures of distance sailing. Achievements were celebrated & the odd ugly moment recounted in humour. Now I'm a commercial Skipper & Sailing Instructor. Not what I planned or expected! I hope I can work the same magic on the students I have the pleasure of instructing.



