

Welsh Sailing/ Hwyllo Cymru Onboard Festival 2025

30th-31st August 2025
Bala Sailing Club– Bala

Dear Clubs, Parents, Coaches and Staff

May I express my thanks to all those who help make this event happen!

Whether you see the racing on the water, see the sailors leave and return from the beach or see them only as names and numbers in the hard working race office we really appreciate the help of so many people to ensure that this is a safe, fun and professionally run event and that all the sailors have fair sailing and take away many happy memories.

I take pleasure in thanking once again all those who now are so experienced in helping run these events, people who have played such a big part in helping us raise the standard of our events both organizationally and more importantly with the activity afloat.

I also welcome, those who are maybe at their first event, or helping out in a new task for the first time, every job no matter how small makes a difference and there will be someone around to ask if you're not sure. We are always looking for avid support, if you would like to help at our events or can offer something please let us know!

Have a great weekend and enjoy the sailing!

Sarah McGovern

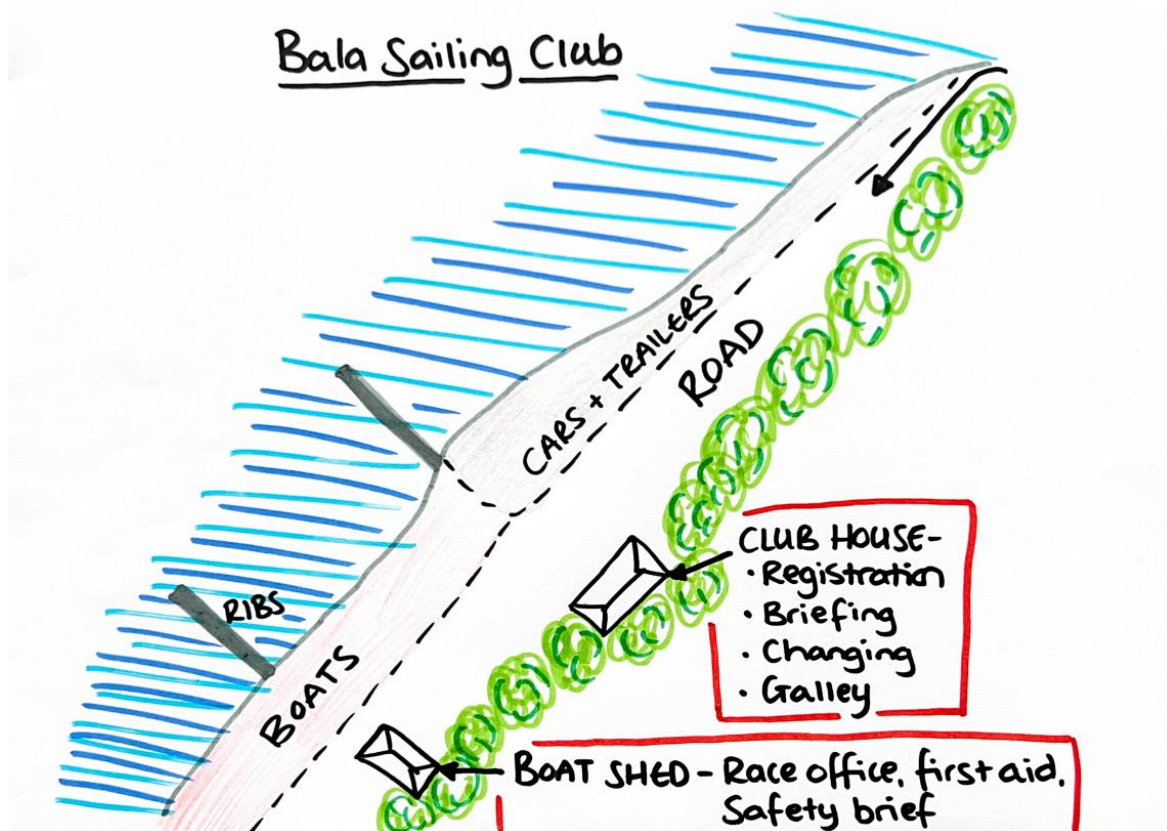
RYA Cymru Wales Performance Manager

Overall Organisational Structure			
RYA Cymru Wales Event Director	Sarah McGovern 07823 338374	Event Co-ordinator	Hatty Morsley 07824 990696
Event Safety Officer	Mark Jones	Bridge	Hatty Morsley

Child Protection Officer	Sarah McGovern 07823 338374	Protest Committee Chair	Sam Thomas
PRO	Ken Hull 07939 510586		
Main			
CRO	Ken Hull		
Course Safety Leader (CSL)	Mark Jones		
Training			
CRO	Jo Powell		
Course Safety Leader (CSL)	Catrin Williams		

Event Schedule

09:00	RYA Cymru Wales staff arrive to set up Registration, Race Office, Pop ups and banners
10:00-15:30	Try Winging Sessions
Saturday 30th August 2025	
08.30 – 09.30	Sailor and Volunteer Registration – Main Club House
08.30	Race Management Meeting – Room above the boat shed
09.00	Event Safety Briefing – Room above the boat shed
09.30	Competitors' Welcome – Main Club House
-	Training Fleet Briefing immediately after competitor's welcome.
09.45	Safety Fleet on the water
10.00	Main Fleet launch
10.27	Main Fleet First Warning Signal
12.30	Lunch break ashore
13.30	Estimated back afloat
16.00	Main Fleet estimated back ashore
After Sailing	Diolch Hour, Sail Rail
Sunday 31st August 2025	
09:00	Race Management & Safety Briefing- room above boat shed
09:30	Training Fleet Briefing- Main Club House
10:00	Main Fleet Launch
10:27	Main Fleet First Warning Signal
12:30	Lunch Break Ashore
13:30	Estimated back Afloat
16:00	Estimated Back Ashore
ASAP After Sailing	Prize Giving



Volunteer & Safety Boat Briefing Document

Registration Please pre-register at the link below this is for coaches/volunteers/staff. **Please come to registration between 08:30-09:30 so that we know you have arrived.**

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/RYA2/RYACymruWales2025EventsVolunteerRegistrationForm>

Volunteer Briefing: All volunteers (including shore based) must attend the 9.00am Event Safety Briefing with.

Child Protection Please make yourself aware of the contents of the RYA Child Protection Policy

[RYA Safeguarding and Child Protection Guidelines Jan 2020.pdf \(amazonaws.com\)](#)

Event Child Protection Officer

Sarah McGovern 07823 338374

If you have any concerns regarding a child or an adult's welfare please get in contact with Sarah.

Event Notice Board – All notifications will be posted on the event Official Notice Board which will be located inside the Main Club House.

Event Telegram – Broadcast only used to communicate with all competitors.

<https://t.me/+Q0gV4UnLnyFkMDU0>



Safety Boats

Visiting RIBs –

RIB Drivers- no U18's are permitted to drive a RIB at RYA Cymru Wales events unless under direct supervision of an adult. All RIB drivers must hold a minimum of RYA Powerboat level 2 and will be asked to produce a copy of their certificate. If unable to do so the individual will be asked to sign a declaration that they hold RYA Powerboat level 2.

Launching- Friday 1-5pm, Saturday will be at 9am. On the slipway outside the boat shed.

Trailer Storage – By the boat shed

Overnight Mooring – As directed by Bala SC

Recovery – ASAP after racing

Food, water and sun cream: Please ensure that you have adequate food, water and sun cream! Lunch will be provided, please collect from the safety briefing.

Food, drinks etc. for competitors: Sailors may ask you to carry their food and equipment.

Life Jackets (Buoyancy Aids) and Kill Cords: Please ensure that these are used at all times when on the water.

Identification flags:

All official boats will carry an identification flag as follows:

- Main Fleet Orange Flags
- Training Fleet Blue Flags

Please return these to the Race Office at the end of the event.

Competitor Launching: A long sound signal/ and appropriate flag will be displayed once the Course Safety Leader and Race Officer are satisfied that there are sufficient safety boats afloat. CSL will confirm with 'Beach Master' when to launch, and confirm when all sailors are launched, and will then establish radio communications with all RIB's. Sailors will be launching in classes so not to block the road to the slipway.

We won't launch sailors until we have cover!

Escorting sailors to and from the race area: No boats will be towed unless instructed by Safety Control. At the end of racing, subject to weather conditions, as the first sailors come across the finishing line, Safety Control may allow them to sail directly to the beach under the supervision of the safety RIB's released from the course.

Retiring Sailors: Sail numbers of retiring sailors and or sailors that have been finished on the Course (W flag) must be reported to the Committee Boat. Retiring sailors returning ashore are asked to inform the Race Office after tallying off.

Emergency Procedure: Please see the RYA Major Youth Event Safety Standard Operating Policy & Procedures [RYA-Youth-Major-Event-Safety-and-Operating-Policy.pdf \(rsfeva.org.uk\)](https://www.rsfeva.org.uk/RYA-Youth-Major-Event-Safety-and-Operating-Policy.pdf)

Emergency collection point: If you need to bring in an injured sailor (or other person), the ambulance collection point is the top of the slipway

First Aid Point– In the Race Office.

Under NO Circumstances should sailors proceed ashore without prior permission of the Course Safety Leader or Race Officer

Capsized boats: In the event of capsize, the nearest available safety boat is asked to attend. This will serve as an indication to other safety boats that the capsize is being dealt with. Please allow the sailor to make every effort to deal with the situation, before stepping in. Once you consider the sailor is in control, move away.

Tape for abandoned boats/boards:

Tape will be given out at the Event safety briefing. If you need to take a sailor(s) off a boat/board and leave it, tie a strip of tape to the transom (rudder fitting) or in the case of a board the toe-straps – then it can be identified that the sailor(s) are safe. Always communicate this to your CSL who will inform Bridge. Abandoned boats/boards can also be collected and tied onto a buoy that will be astern of the Committee Boat until there is time to return them to shore.

Medical information:

All competitors and volunteers have been asked to fill in a medical information sheet. This information will be collected at registration and each CSL and the medic will be given details of sailors with conditions we need to be aware of.

Numbers on the water:

Following registration, final numbers for each fleet will be given to the Fleet Race Officers, CSLs and Beach Master. Once each fleet has launched the Beach Master will confirm to the CSL and RO each fleets number.

Local Hazards / Requirements

Volunteers Lunch - Please pick up your lunch from the Safety briefing. We will **not** be providing plastic bottled water at the event, so we ask you to please make sure you have a reusable water bottle.

Alcohol (responsible drinking) We remind all volunteers that whilst we welcome you to enjoy your evening, we do advise responsible drinking for two reasons

1. We cannot condone any inappropriate behaviour that may be a result of excessive drinking. The emphasis of this event is to provide a good sporting experience for our young sailors. All adults are role models, and we urge you to consider this whilst on the event site in an official capacity (whether paid or voluntary).

2. Consumption of alcohol whilst on the water and responsible for the welfare of children is unacceptable. Likewise, if a person is under the influence due to excessive consumption the night before, they will not be able to make decisions that involve the safety of our sailors. We urge you not to put yourself in this position by moderating your drinking accordingly.

There are a few copies of the RYA Major Youth Event Safety Standard Operating Policy and Procedures in the Race Office should you want to physically read them.

The 'Notice of Race' and 'sailing Instructions' are available on the Welsh Sailing Hub.

[OnBoard Festival | Welsh Sailing](#)

Diolch/Thank You!

For taking the time to read this document, the success of the event is down to the people and the helpers who make it happen!