



DYS Constitution

Derbyshire Youth Sailing

Updated November 2025

Contents

1. Name	3
2. Aims	3
3. Definitions	3
4. Participants	3
5. Committee.....	3
6. The Affairs of Derbyshire Youth Sailing	5
7. Representative Events	5
8. Safeguarding.....	6
9. Dissolution	6

1. Name

1.1. The name of the organisation shall be Derbyshire Youth Sailing (DYS).

2. Aims

2.1. To facilitate and provide the opportunity for “Youth” in Derbyshire to learn, undertake, compete in and enjoy sailing with due attention to safety.

2.2. To encourage the participation of “Youth” sailors in the organisation and administration of DYS.

3. Definitions

3.1. The term “Youth” refers to individuals under the age of 19 on 31st August of the sailing year.

3.2. The term “Eligible” refers to “Youth” sailors who are members of a Derbyshire Sailing Club or resident in Derbyshire or attending a Derbyshire education establishment.

3.3. The term “Committee” shall consist of the Officers and other elected posts (see section 5).

3.4. The term “DYS Member” refers to an individual who represents an “Eligible” sailor (parent / guardian) or who is a member of the DYS committee, however there is a limit of two “DYS Members” per family.

3.5. The term “Race Series” refers to the annual race events where the overall scores from participating in these events is combined into an overall “Race Series” score. The “Race Series” will be governed by a “Notice of Series” compiled in accordance with RYA guidelines and published each year on the DYS website. Race Series events will be held at the Derbyshire sailing clubs and may also include up to two local inter-county venues.

3.6. The term “Representative Event” refers to events arranged and managed by non-DYS organisations that requires individual or team selection of “Eligible” sailors by the Team Manager.

3.7. The Term “Associated Club” refers to a sailing club whose location is outside Derbyshire, but who has been invited by the DYS “Committee” to participate in the current year’s “Race Series”. Such an invitation must be agreed by the “DYS Members” at the previous AGM and only applies to that year’s “Race Series”. “Associated Clubs” maybe re-invited each year at the appropriate AGM. “Associated Clubs” may hold a DYS “Race Series” event at their club and may nominate a representative who may be invited to attend appropriate “Committee” meetings, by the Chair or Secretary. The representative will not be a “DYS Member”, will not be part of the “Committee” and will not have any voting rights.

4. Participants

4.1. Entry to DYS events including the “Race Series” is for “Youth” sailors who are “Eligible” to take part in accordance with the definitions listed in section 3. “Youth” sailors of an “Associated Club” may enter the DYS “Race Series”. “Youth” sailors who do not meet the eligibility criteria defined in section 3.2 and are not a member of an “Associated Club” can participate in individual DYS “Race Series” events as a guest, subject to prior agreement through event registration, but they may only enter a maximum of three events per series. They will not be entered into the DYS “Race Series”.

5. Committee

- 5.1. The officers will be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. They shall be eligible for re-election provided that nominations are made in the prescribed manner.
- 5.2. Each candidate for election must be a "DYS Member" (or a member of the appropriate club if being elected as a Club Rep) and have a proposer and a seconder. A majority of voting members present at the AGM shall determine the election of officers and other "Committee" members.
- 5.3. The officers of DYS are as follows:

Chairperson - who shall chair all General Meetings and the Annual General Meeting, or in their absence the meeting will elect a chairperson from those present.

Secretary - who shall keep a record of all proceedings and resolutions and have power to deal with all correspondence not within the province of the treasurer, act on behalf of DYS and report such actions to the next General or Annual General Meeting whichever is the sooner.

Treasurer - who shall keep accounts of all monies paid to or by DYS. The current state of any and all accounts will be presented at each General Meeting and full accounts will be presented to the Annual General Meeting. The full accounts should be subjected to an independent examination before being presented at the Annual General meeting.

In addition to the officers, the following committee positions will be elected at the Annual General Meeting:

NSSA Regatta Manager - who will communicate and co-ordinate with the NSSA; advertising, entering, planning and managing the DYS entry for the NSSA Regatta.

Team Manager – who will organise and select teams for "Representative Events".

Safeguarding Lead – who will be the designated Safeguarding Lead for DYS and is also responsible for ensuring the DYS safeguarding policy is appropriate, up to date and published.

Website Manager – who will be responsible for operating, updating and maintaining the DYS website.

Club Representatives – who will be responsible for arranging the planning, organising and safe running of the event at their club. They will also be responsible for communication between DYS and their club members.

In addition to these specified committee positions, up to four general committee members maybe elected.

General Committee – who will provide assistance to the other committee members in carrying out their duties, provide the committee with more views and input from the DYS Members and allow members to experience the committee before committing to more specified roles in future years.

In addition to the above duties, officers and "Committee" members will all take some part in organising the following activities:

- **Training** – various training events will be organised by the “Committee” and advertised and published on the DYS website. These will usually take place at a Derbyshire sailing club and be delivered by either a member(s) of the “Committee” or an RYA qualified instructor.
- **Funding** – identify opportunities for grants and sponsorship and submit applications accordingly.
- **Events** – organising the events programme, which may include the convening of a sub-committee to take responsibility for the planning, organisation and safe running of a sailing event
- **Results** – collating the results from each of the “Race Series” events provided by the Club Representatives into the Overall Series results in preparation for publishing on the DYS website
- **Social Media** – Managing DYS communications and presence on Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms, as well as reports for organisations such as the RYA and Yachts and Yachting.

6. The Affairs of Derbyshire Youth Sailing

- 6.1. The “Committee” will conduct the affairs of DYS.
- 6.2. A Committee Meeting is empowered to convene a sub-committee to take responsibility for the planning, organisation and running of any sailing event (or other DYS activity) on behalf of DYS.
- 6.3. A General Meeting is empowered to agree membership fees and define membership categories.
- 6.4. At least 14 days’ notice will be given to all “DYS Members” for General Meetings and any resolutions to change the constitution at an Annual General Meeting will also be included with the notice of the Annual General Meeting.
- 6.5. A resolution for a change in the constitution must be received by the Secretary at least 6 weeks before an Annual General Meeting. For a resolution to be adopted at an Annual General Meeting, it must receive the assent of the majority of the committee.
- 6.6. At the Committee Meetings, the “Committee” members each have a single vote for any resolutions proposed. At the General Meetings, the Committee members and “DYS Members” each have a single vote for any resolutions proposed. In the event of a tie the Chairperson will hold the casting vote.
- 6.7. Meetings are to be considered quorate provided that at least three elected posts are present.
- 6.8. DYS will be affiliated to:
 - The National School Sailing Association (NSSA)
 - The Royal Yachting Association (RYA)

7. Representative Events

- 7.1. The “Committee” shall agree which events shall qualify as “Representative Events” and shall make suitable arrangements to enter each of these events. The Team Manager will have responsibility for participation, organisation and conduct of the team’s involvement in the event, together with securing support to team members throughout the event (this may be supplemented by additional support from parents and coaches).
- 7.2. All events will be advertised and published on the DYS website. When appropriate and if possible, training will be arranged before an event. When entry to events is limited, “Eligible” sailors will be chosen using the DYS selection policy that is located on DYS website.

8. Safeguarding

- 8.1. It should be noted that the sailing clubs that host the race and training events on behalf of DYS have their own Safeguarding Policy that is in force during these events. The individual club policy and contacts can be found on their websites. That said, it is the policy of DYS to safeguard those taking part in events from physical, sexual or emotional harm. DYS will take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through appropriate procedures and training, those participating in DYS activities do so in a safe environment. We recognise the safety and welfare of all, whatever their age, gender, disability, culture, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, social status or sexual identity and recognise their right to protection from abuse. Further details on the DYS approach to safeguarding can be found on the DYS website.

9. Dissolution

- 9.1. DYS may be dissolved by a Resolution passed by the majority of those present and voting at a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose of which 21 days’ notice shall have been given to all members. Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of DYS, provided that if any property remains following the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the “Members” but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable organisation or institution having aims similar to some or all of those of DYS, as members may determine.