

Yacht competent crew course

Katie Webb

Day 1: 2nd August

What I did: We sailed from the UKSA centre to Yarmouth. We used our rope practice to moor up in the port.

What I learned: We learned how to throw lines over cleats on the ports so when we got to one we were confident at throwing. Also we learned how to do an XOX knot over the cleats on the boat to moor up. We went over the health and safety on the boat like what to do in the event of a fire and where the emergency hatches are. We also learned how to properly tie up the boat to the jetty by putting a bowline around the cleat on the port. We learned how to use the winches to control the sails, when to use the winch handle and the basics of tacking and jibing.

Pictures:



Day 2: 3rd August

What I did: We sailed for over three hours to Poole and we performed several tacks and I learned how to safely release and pull in the jib. Also we were taught how to tighten and loosen the main sheet and when to do it.

What I learned: We learned about the Beaufort scale and how the numbers correspond to the wind speed and force. Also we learned about the rules of IRPCS and who has the right of way in different situations. We learned about what different buoys and what they mean.

Pictures:



Day 3: 4th August

What I did: We sailed from Poole to the Beaulieu River. I got to helm the boat out of the harbour and learned how to use the buoys to safely navigate the waters. I had to stay in between the green and red buoys because they indicated the deeper water so we wouldn't get beached. We got to sail really close to The Needles and Hurst castle.

What I learned: We learned how to jibe and how to use the compass to steel a straight course. We practiced flaking the sail and how to check the main components of the boat like the oil and gas.

Pictures:



Day 4: 5th August

What I did: We sailed out of the Beaulieu River to Berthon Lymington Marina where we were able to explore the local area and watch boat repairs going on onshore.

What I learned: I learned about different shapes and lights on boats and what they meant. I learned what other ropes do like how the topping lift stops the boom crashing down into the boat when you lower it.

Pictures:



Day 5: 6th August

What I did: We sailed from the Marina back to the UKSA centre we did tacks and jibs, which had improved since the start. We got to sail past the Cowes week races and got to watch the yachts racing and we went past the dinghies as they were starting the race. I got to helm again.

What I learned: I learned how to make your intentions clear when helming especially when we had to navigate the waters that were being used for the yacht race as we had to avoid collisions.

Pictures:

