

Royal Artillery Yacht Club (RAYC)



Rear Commodore (Dinghies)  
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See Distribution

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### **ROYAL ARTILLERY SAIL TRAINING WEEK & REGATTA, AISTC(S), 18-21 MAY 26**

1. **General.** The RA sail training week will be held from 18 – 21 May 26 at the Army Inshore Sail Training Centre (South) [AISTC(S)], Thorney Island. This year the event has moved left in the calendar to help identify potential members of the Army Dinghy squad for subsequent training. The event is open to all serving members of the Regiment. The week consists of an RYA Level 1/Level 2 Start Sailing/Basic Sailing course using Fusion dinghies, culminating in a racing regatta. All students on this course will be automatically entered into the RA Dinghy Regatta as individuals, and will form part of their Unit team and therefore count towards the RA Inter Unit Dinghy Competition. Regiments are also asked to enter a double-handed entry to the Asymmetric Regatta.(either Hartley or Laser/RS2000s). Qualification for the Regatta will be made up of both single and double-handed teams.

2. **Aim.** The aim of the sail training and regatta week are:

- a. To introduce soldiers and officers to dinghy sailing and water sports available within the Gunners and wider Army.
- b. To form the basis of a RA development dinghy squad to feed Gunner and Army-level racing.

3. **RYA Level 1/Level 2 Start Sailing/Basic Sailing course.** Individuals who wish to bid for the RYA Level 1/Level 2 Start Sailing/Basic Sailing course at AISTC(S) are to apply online at the link below. A breakdown of costs per individual is shown below:

- a. £50 course fees.
- b. £10 per night accommodation (sleeping bags required)
- c. [APPLY HERE](#)

4. **RA Dinghy Regatta.**

- a. All Regiments are expected to enter a team for the RA Dinghy Regatta.

- b. Regimental Teams must consist of 2 single-handed entries (incl L1/2 course participants) and 1x double-handed entry.
- c. Double-handers (DH) must be helmed by a min. RYA L2 Dinghy qualified individual (or deemed competent by AISTC staff), crew may be novice, but are encouraged to be loaded from the L1/L2 course. Race-conditions dependent; it is expected that DHs will use asymmetric spinnakers. There are 8 available DHs; entries be on a first-come-first-served basis. Gaps may be met by privately-owed dinghys on presentation of correct insurance to AISTC(S).
- d. Regimental Team [APPLY HERE](#)
5. **Call-Over/Briefing.** Daily briefs will be at 0900hrs throughout at AISTC(S), Thorney Island.
6. **Training Day.** Subject to boat availability, a training day will be available on 20 May 26 that will start at 1000hrs and is intended to allow double-hander crews to hone their sailing and racing skills prior to the RA Regatta. Safety boat cover will be provided along with coaching from one of the top Service sailors who competes internationally. Additional training can be arranged through AISTC(S) prior to the event.
7. **Regatta Race Officer.** Army Sailing Association are requested to provide a Race Officer for the day; this will be supported by AISTC(S) & RAYC personnel as necessary.
8. **Payment.** All payments are to be made to AISTC(S) in line with course booking.
9. **Clothing.** AISTC(S) provide buoyancy aids, wet suits, spray tops and wet boots. A peaked hat and sunglasses are recommended to combat the sun. Sandals and flip flops may not be worn in the boats. Military uniform will not be required during the course.
10. **Travel.** Individuals are to arrange transport to and from AISTC(S) through unit transport procedures.
11. **Accommodation.** Accommodation is bunk bed and mattress therefore sleeping bags will be required. There is no authority to claim for non-military overnight accommodation. Accommodation options are available during the online booking process.
12. **Arrival.** All students are to arrive at AISTC(S) no later than 0800 on Day 1 of the course, for those travelling from distant units, it is encouraged to arrive on Sun evening.
13. **Meals.** Thorney Island messes operate Pay As You Dine (PAYD) facilities. Lunch bookings from the PAYD provider are taken in the mornings and delivered for lunch. There is also a self-catering kitchen at AISTC(S) and a convenience shop nearby.

**Contacts.** Any queries should be addressed to Nik Barnes, Centre Manager, AISTC(S) via email at [nbarnes@britisharmysport.com](mailto:nbarnes@britisharmysport.com).

(Electronically signed)

S N J Deakin  
Maj  
Rear Commodore (Dinghies)  
for Commodore RAYC

Distribution:

Action:

RHQ RA	7 Para RHA	HAC
ARRC JFIB		
HQ 1 DRS	12 Regt RA	100 Regt RA
HQ 3 DRS	14 Regt RA	101 Regt RA
HQ 7 AD Gp	16 Regt RA	103 Regt RA
JE Futures, Army HQ	19 Regt RA	104 Regt RA
King's Troop RHA	26 Regt RA	105 Regt RA
1 RHA	29 (Cdo) Regt RA	106 Regt RA
3 RHA	32 Regt RA	RSA HQ & TCs' Branch
4 Regt RA	47 Regt RA	
5 Regt RA		