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## Introduction

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Welcome to the second edition of RYA East Midlands *eNews*. With the start of the new sailing season there are a number of items to let you know about. As ever please get in touch if you have any queries at [nelsonho@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:nelsonho@globalnet.co.uk).



Howard Nelson  
Regional Chair

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## Volvo Champion Club and Coach Funding

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The new tranche of club and coach funding will be available in April. There has been a good uptake from this year's funding but there are still plenty of grants available for clubs that haven't already applied. However time is running out so clubs are urged to contact [Chris.blackburn@rya.org.uk](mailto:Chris.blackburn@rya.org.uk) as soon as possible if they are interested or want to know more.

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## Honda RIB Challenge

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Give your 8-16 year old RIB drivers the chance to show off their skill and control around a pre-set course in the quickest time. The course includes slalom, a 3600 reverse around a buoy and a man overboard manoeuvre.

The 2009 Champions will win a 4.8m Ribcraft RIB with a 50hp

Honda four stroke engine on an Indespension trailer and an Icom 505 VHF radio for their club.

The regional final is being held at Rutland Watersports on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at Whitwell Watersports. Mark Ryder is the regional coordinator.

Mark attended the recent Instructors conference with Honda RIB team and Instructors could have a go. Ian Brett from Hollowell SC was the winner. More information from Mark at [mark@ryder1wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:mark@ryder1wanadoo.co.uk) or <http://www.rya.org.uk/Youth/hondaryayouthrib/Pages/hyr09regfinals.aspx>

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## Regional Commodores Reception

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The annual regional Commodores Reception is set for Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June at Nottingham SC. Invites will be sent out in April to Clubs. Last years event at Girton was well supported and a great time was had by all. I hope to see you there.

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## OnBoard / Club of the Year

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Congratulations to Hollowell SC and Northampton Sea Cadet's who were awarded their OnBoard Club plaques at the recent Instructor's Conference. Hollowell SC and Notts County SC were also runners up in the RYA's Club of the year award. Well done!

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Regional Race Management  
Coordinator

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Hi,

I am your Regional Race Coordinator, East Midlands, my name is **Henry Wright**. I have been about dinghy Sailing a long time, a few years ago I came across a Stalwart of the RYA system, called Gordon Skinner (sadly now dead). Gordon could recognise a helper and sucker at 50 paces, I went from Club Sailor who race officered a bit to Open Meeting and Champs, R.O with Gordon as helper, to National Race Officer then RYA Coordinator.

Then the trouble started, I had to earn my title and with Gordon retiring from sailing I had to find my own way!

So what does a Coordinator do?

As with all modern organizations, the RYA has pages written about my duties, but I work with the Rules Advisers and now Mark Layer Trainers.

I promote the RYA Charter, help Sailing Clubs in the East Midlands with the way they run their Racing, I run Club Race Officer Workshops, arrange and facilitate, Regional Race and National Race Officer Seminars. And for these Regional and National R.O.'s the RYA runs a 2 day conference every 4 years, at 2 yearly intervals in between, I run a meeting where we discuss the current thinking on Race Management. I am to assist the Regional and National Race Officers

at the time of renewal of the qualification.

As Coordinator I am available to every Sailing Club in the East Midlands Region to visit, run the Club Race Officer Workshop (takes about 4 hours). We can together review the way you run racing in your Club, believe me I don't believe in revolutions, I prefer evolution, but the RYA hope all Clubs will move to the standard timings and Sailing Instruction wordings for Open Meetings, so your members are not at a disadvantage when away from home and visitors are familiar with what they find at your Club.

I also arrange a Regional/National Race Officer Seminar once a year somewhere in the Midlands/North West once a year, usually in November, where we have an Internal R.O as speaker.

If you have a major event planned, you can call on me to help with planning, I can perhaps help your RO for the first day by being in the background, I am not there to be critical, I want events to be the best we can all produce, to the satisfaction of duty team and sailors, we are all giving our time so we should be pleased with the result.

I am a volunteer I usually ask a small amount of expenses, to cover travel costs etc.

On another note the RYA is running a huge event in September called Sail For Gold September 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, this event gets bigger year on

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year and requires a huge number of Rescue Boats a crews, could your Club send one of your Ribs with a Crew to this event, you can put your Club Name on the RIB, the Crew get involved at national level at very minimal cost, and have a great week, if interested contact David Campbell James at the RYA. There may not be vacancies this year but might well be next year?

If you or your Club, think I can be of assistance, you can contact me via the RYA (Chris Watts) or you can Phone me Henry Wright on home 01606 45137 or Mobile 07799 478933 or E Mail [www.wrightwally@aol.com](mailto:www.wrightwally@aol.com)

I really hope to hear from you, I can only do my job if help me with access to your Club and your people.

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### **RYA Community Awards – the “MBEs” of our sport**

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Do you know someone who has made an outstanding contribution to our sport? If so why not recognise their contribution by nominating them for an RYA Community Award - the 'MBEs' of our sport.

The RYA Community Awards are given to people who make a real impact on our sport at local, grass roots level.

There are three award categories; Lifetime Commitment and

Outstanding Contribution Youth. Clubs can make one nomination in each category.

For more information on the award categories and to make a nomination [click here](#).

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### **Water Framework**

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This is a piece of legislation that could impact of boating's use of inland and coastal waters (Briefing note is attached. If you'd like further details please contact Nigel Pask–email [occp.em@rya.org.uk](mailto:occp.em@rya.org.uk)