

PERFORMANCE MANAGER:

Fixed term to March 2009

RYANI seek to appoint an enthusiastic and effective person sought to help the RYA Northern Ireland to develop the talents of young sailors in NI, provide advice and assistance to clubs, and support the further development of talented and elite sailors in Olympic and pathway classes.

Applicants must hold an RYA Club Racing Coach or Senior Instructor qualification or equivalent and be able to demonstrate success in having set and achieved targets in coaching young people and in project management.

Starting salary from £23,850 to £26,200 plus a contributory pension scheme. Although initially a fixed term to 31 March 2009, there is a possibility of extension.

Job Description, Person Specification and an application form are available from www.ryani.org.uk or by email at ryani@btconnect.com

Closing date for applications (hard copy only) 4pm on 31 July 2006. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 22 August 2006.

£53 million for Facilities for Northern Ireland's Olympic Sports

Major opportunity for sailing

The Olympic & Paralympic Games in 2012 (The Games) will act as a catalyst for the development of sport in the UK. Northern Ireland intends to capitalise on the Olympics by getting young people into sport at community and international level.

Especially important, as part of the wider Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland, approximately £50 million has been allocated for investment in elite facilities for Olympic sports. This funding is earmarked for support of sports infrastructure projects identified by the Sports Council as 'high priority'.

The first stage of the competition sought expressions of interest for the development in Northern Ireland of an Olympic sized swimming pool. The needs of the other sports will be covered by a separate competition process starting this summer. The intention is to have the elite facilities for Olympic sports in place and operational by 2010.

RYANI Executive has been keen for clubs to have early notice of the opportunity so that they can look for partners among local councils and other organisations and has circulated all club secretaries with what information is already available. You may also find the following website of interest <http://www.sibni.org/olympicscompetition>

HONDA/RYA RIB CHALLENGE SETS NEW RECORD

The Northern Ireland final of the Honda/RYA RIB challenge hosted by Royal Ulster saw eight clubs sending seventeen competitors, an increase on three on last year and exceeded RYANI's target of 7 clubs. Interestingly the competitors included four past Regional winners and two past National winners.

Driving a RIB requires great skill and that is what took fifteen year old David Furney of Ballyholme Yacht Club to the top in the 13 – 16 years age group, likewise 11 year old Emma Sandford from Quoile in the 8 – 12 years division, the first girl in Northern Ireland to win one of the divisions.

The event fairly jazzed up Bangor Harbour with the races against the clock providing excellent viewing. Furney's best time was 1.15.97 with Emma registering 1.50.62. The course was a tight one, which took many competitors unaware; the man overboard in particular was very difficult due to the approach angle and the strong wind.

David Furney has been involved in watersports since an early age and has attained his RYA Powerboat Lever 2 qualification. He also is involved in the Ballyholme Yacht Club safety boat team. This was the third time he has competed in this event.

Emma Sandford has been sailing with her parents since a young age and is an excellent crew in a Squib class day boat. She is interested in Powerboats and hopes to attain her RYA Level 1 or 2 certificates this season. She won the club heat against six other competitors.

All the competitors put in good performances in testing conditions. Seven seconds separated the first three in the 8 – 12 group while in the 12 – 16 group only 2.5 seconds separated the winner from the third placed finisher. And the field included three sets of brothers – Matthew and Frazer Wright and Robert and Christopher McClay of East Down and Drew and Paul Magowan from Quoile.

The UK final is at the Southampton Boat Show in September when a 4.8 m RIBCRAFT with a 50hp Honda Outboard engine on an Indespension Trailer is up for grabs for the club of the winners.

Results

Age 13-16

1 David Furney	BYC	1.15.97
2 Drew Magowan	QYC	1.16.97
3 Pamela Dorman	East Antrim	1.17.63

Age 8-12

1 Emma Sandford	Quoile YC	1.50.62
2 Sophie Murphy	Quoile YC	1.53.16
3 Gary Fekkes	East Antrim BC	1.57.03

RYANI SUPPORTS J24 World Council at Lough Erne

RYANI is giving every encouragement to the J24 class and Lough Erne Yacht Club in recognition of its hosting of the J/24 World Council in early August.

This significant event is a new-style World Council meeting to be held at a venue separate from that of World Championship, and delegates from Japan, Sweden, Italy, Greece, and North and South America have registered. This important meeting signals an international vote of confidence in the class in Northern Ireland.

ON THE WATER

Debbie Hanna finished in the top half of the Laser Radial fleet at Kiel Week, taking 21st in the 42 boat fleet and Russell and Matt McGovern came in at 24th in the 59 strong 49er fleet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

RYANI Youth Championships Sept 2nd & 3rd at Strangford Lough Yacht Club keep watching out on the website for further info.

RYANI AGM Oct 4th @ Royal Ulster Yacht Club, Bangor with a special guest speaker. Nominations for officers and resolutions should be with Lisa Waugh at House of Sport by 23 August.

SHAREPOINT

This month we'll look at an interesting initiative by some sailors from Bangor who do their sailing at Ballyholme and Royal Ulster Yacht Clubs.

The North Down Sailing Academy aims to introduce more people to the sport of sailing. Realising that many prospective sailors just don't have the opportunity to try the sport, the sailors have taken the bull by the horns and set up the Academy. It is based at Ballyholme Yacht Club with the full support of the club and all the facilities which it provides.

The Academy will take the form of a limited company on a 'not for profit' basis, financially independent of both yacht clubs but sharing the Ballyholme site and use of equipment. In the longer term the NDSA is hopeful of obtaining grants to develop a truly impressive sailing venue right in the heart of the Borough of North Down, offering a teaching facility for both children and adults from the wider community and providing a venue for local schools youth and charity groups.

The 2006 summer programme provides qualified sailing instruction and sailing experiences throughout July and August to encourage sailing for all. Six Pico dinghies, which are ideal for learners, have been bought with money raised from sailing courses together with some generous sponsorship, and sufficient wetsuits, spray tops, buoyancy aids and protective helmets to deliver this programme safely.

To date the scheme has attracted 44 people new to sailing.

Further info from Ronnie Harris, Project Manager on 07703 301349

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs can be viewed on www.ryani.org.uk

Safety

Do you own a gas inflated lifejacket? Have you had it serviced recently? Maeve Bell, Chair of the RYA in Northern Ireland, took her three year old lifejacket for a routine service. She was shocked to be told that part of the mechanism had worn a small hole in the jacket and it would probably have only stayed inflated for about five minutes. "Probably the best £10 I have ever spent " said Maeve.

RYA NI Training News

RYANI 2006 RTC inspection programme.

The 2006 RTC inspection is well under way, with approximately 50% of centres having been successfully inspected to date.

Your club's annual inspection is also an opportunity for you to ask for advice and assistance of your inspector on any issues you may have with regards to best practice or changes in policy.

As all principals will be aware it is imperative that an annual inspection is carried out and the RYA looks to the principals to co-operate and assist the inspectors in arranging a suitable date, preferable while on water training is taking place. Your inspector should have been in contact with you to arrange a RTC inspection date.

If you require any advice or assistance with regards to your 2006 RTC inspection please contact Eamon Masterson RYANI Training and Development Manager 02890 383 875.

6 candidates successfully passed their RYA Dinghy Instructors Pre Entry Assessment. The candidates will now take part in a RYA Dinghy Instructors Course to be held at Newtownards Sailing Club from the 24th-28th July 2006 RYA Coach Assessor Kelley Rushton will be running the course.

Please check www.ryani.org.uk for updates on Training and Course information.

SQUAD NEWS

Best wishes to Tiffany Brien RNIYC, Keith McPartland LEYC and Barry McCartin CSBC competing at the moment in the Laser 4.7 World and European Championships in France.

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

Please feel free to send any RYANI related information for inclusion in the next bulletin to Betty Armstrong at mearmstrong@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 028 9146 5372 by Monday 24th July at the latest.

This bulletin is compiled by Regional Communicator Betty Armstrong and produced by Lisa Waugh.