



World Sailing

# Steering the Course

## Women's Sailing Festival 2025



sport / nature / technology



# Steering the Course 2025

## #AccelerateAction

Join World Sailing in celebrating the 5th Edition of Steering the Course by celebrating the steps towards gender equity.

After the release of Steering the Course, World Sailing's plan to support women in Sailing in 2024, we are now looking to celebrate the actions achieved and the key milestones reached by everyone around the World, joining the International Women's Day theme of #AccelerateAction.

World Sailing will feature a number of key actions and projects that have arisen out of Steering the Course and are encouraging Sailing Clubs, Centres, Member National Authorities, Class Associations, and volunteers to not only celebrate successes, but also sign up to support the event and then to take part in any one of activities suggested.

**You can read more about Steering the Course, World Sailing's plan to support women in Sailing [here](#).**



# What can I do to take part in 2025?

We are encouraging Sailing Clubs, Centres, Member National Authorities, Class Associations and volunteers to sign up to host activities as part of the two key festival times.

To date, 56 countries have participated in or ran activities as part of Steering the Course, and we would love to keep that number growing.

Activities suggestions can be found later on in the booklet, but as part of 2025 we are also encouraging those who take part to celebrate the actions their club, MNA or Class Association has taken to accelerate towards gender equity. This could be through creating more opportunities for women to train as Race Officials, creating new activities in a program to bring in new women members or just by making a more inclusive club.

**Submit your activities as part of the global calendar [here](#).**



**56**   
participating  
countries  
to date



# When will Steering the Course run?

2025 will see two festivals take place. Events can be run in whichever festival suits your calendar best, even both festivals if you like!



**Festival 1 - Friday 23 May – Sunday 1 June 2025**

**Festival 2 - Friday 26 September–Sunday 5 October 2025**

Participants can also choose the best days to suit them, whether it is a weekend or the whole 10 days. If you cannot complete an activity within the chosen dates, do not be put off, the most important part is participation and accelerating action.

World Sailing is also aware that this important action should be a focus of our attention all year round, so we will be working on a year-round communications campaign to increase awareness. We encourage any participants to take part in this initiative too.



# What activities can we run as part of Steering the Course?

We have a range of activity suggestions available but are also encouraging participants to suggest other ideas too.

Any activity that promotes Sailing as a sport or recreational activity to new participants, or invites existing participants to try new roles, is welcome. Clubs and Centres can also incorporate more than one activity.

## **Suggested activities include:**

**Taster Sessions** – fun sessions to get new participants involved in the sport, think across all disciplines in the sport too, to cover Dinghy, Keel, Windsurf and Kite. World Sailing will provide example session plans for different age groups to include games.

**Learn To sail Courses for girls and women.**

**Women's Race Day/Event** – women only race day/event.

**Race Day with female race officials** – where possible use a group of all female race officials or invite new interested females to shadow current race officials. This can be implemented alongside a Women's Race Day.

**Women at the Helm** – can be used as both a training or racing exercise. Women must be helm in all training exercises or for racing for all races.

**Be an Instructor or Coach for the day** – current female youth sailors work with instructors or coaches for the day (possibly even delivering the taster sessions) to see what its like to be coach. This then offers the opportunity to sign post them to future MNA coaching and instructor courses.

**Bring a friend along** – encourage active participations to bring a friend or family member along to try out the sport they love.

**Information sessions** – 20-minute information sessions on volunteering opportunities including shore based regatta assistants, race officials etc.

## **As well as a range of social activities:**

**Inspirational Talks or Questions and Answer Sessions** – get a local sailing star to answer questions and inspire the next generation

**eSailing Challenges** – challenge club members to an eSailing event. This is great if the weather is not in your favour.

**Open Days** – think BBQ, Quiz night, wine tasting – any event to show the community side of the sport.

# Promotion

World Sailing has a smaller number of promotional items available to support running events. These include both digital assets as well as some physical items that can be sent to MNAs for activities.

## Digital Assets include:

- **A Steering the Course Participation Certificate**  
Print this for participants in your activities.
- **Event Posters**  
Download our templates to help promote activities.
- **Joint logos**  
Request a joint logo to use in your promotional activities (include an activity).

## Or apply for a marketing pack which includes:

- **Outdoor banners**  
A 1m x 3m reusable outdoor banner to display at your location.
- **Bibs**  
A set of 10 bibs for participants to wear on the water over their buoyancy aid,
- **Posters**  
5 Steering the Course printed posters to use in your club or give away as prizes.



We can  
help you  
boost your  
event with  
engaging  
promotional  
materials

# More ideas for engagement



## Check your event calendar

if you are hosting an event, is there an opportunity to hold a forum or a discussion on actions to be taken as part of an evening or social program.



## Enhance your coaching knowledge

there are lots of materials online to enhance your knowledge around working with female athletes from beginners to high performance.



## Use Social Media

social media is a great tool for celebrating the stars of your club/centre/organisation



# International Women's Day

8.3.2025

#AccelerateAction

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality.

Each year International Women's Day runs a theme and for 2025 this is #AccelerateAction. **You can find out more about International Women's Day 2025 and the theme here.**

We would love to hear and see how your Sailing Club, Centre, Organisation or Federation is celebrating #AccelerateAction. Any content can be sent to [content@sailing.org](mailto:content@sailing.org) to potentially feature in World Sailing's social media channels.





# Apply for World Sailing Funding

As part of World Sailing's commitment to Steering the Course, you can apply for funded courses for both Instructors and Coaches, as well as Officials. Applications need to be made by using the online forms, and the **application window is open until 28 February 2025**.

The courses aim to inspire organisers to think about long term development and offer a range of opportunities:

- Upskilling officials or coaches to prepare for an upcoming event
- Training new officials or coaches so you can run more events or programs.
- A chance to bring a group together to improve their skills and create a network within your country.

**Please click the links on the right to apply. Applications should be made by those wanting to host a full course, unfortunately applications can't be accepted for individual attendees.**



Instructors /  
Coach Course  
[Apply here](#)

Race Official  
Course  
[Apply here](#)



Steering  
the Course   
Women's Sailing  
Festival

# We're in! What do we do next?

If your Sailing Club, Class Association or Member National Authority would like to take part, start beginning to plan what you would like to do for your event or activity.

Please share your ideas for your event by adding the event to our calendar [here](#).

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If you have any further  
questions please contact  
[catherine.duncan@sailing.org](mailto:catherine.duncan@sailing.org)

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Official Partners

**MUSTO**