

# Voluntary Student Fund Guidelines

**Please take the time to read and understand this important information.**

## **General Info**

ScotSail does not operate a student fund or 'kitty' on board any of our sailing or powerboat courses or experiences. It is a voluntary formation between customers on-board to cover any additional costs that may arise during the week, which are not covered under the course fee. These costs usually arise because of decisions made by or agreed to by the students on-board – e.g. visiting tourist attractions, travelling to marinas which may levy a small fee to use their services, purchasing extra supplies not included (such as alcoholic beverages or meals eaten ashore at restaurants & bars etc). This is not set-up, administered or otherwise controlled by ScotSail or any of our instructional staff, and we are not responsible for it. This phenomenon is known to ScotSail due to our experience in training groups of unrelated persons on the same vessel, and it is explained in our Terms and Conditions. In response to feedback from our customers, we have created these guidelines to help our customers manage any additional expenditure they may wish to make, during their RYA Training Course / Experience.

- 1) Decide between your group, if you might wish to make stops at facilities or attractions which may levy a small fee to use their services (e.g. distilleries / marinas / moorings / showers / toilets etc), or if you might wish to eat ashore in restaurants or bars together rather than consume the meals and snacks supplied by ScotSail. You should ensure that every person agrees on a course of action, and that no person should feel left out of the decision-making process. If you do not agree with a decision – say so **at the time.** If you do not feel comfortable doing this in a group setting, speak with your Course Instructor privately to make your feelings known.
- 2) Elect a member of your group to handle all voluntary contributions made by you and your group. This person should store all the monies in a safe place, and keep a track of expenditure with receipts. This person should normally be the person taking the most advanced course, or be the eldest person (for the sake of ease). This person will not be a member of ScotSail staff, and ScotSail Staff and Instructors do not contribute.
- 3) The amount you may wish to contribute varies greatly with the number and status of the group, and your own personal choices. Nobody has to contribute, but if it is decided that a Voluntary Student Fund is to be formed, every person should contribute equally and with full consent. As a guide, past groups have contributed between £3.00 and £9.00 per person, per day. Some groups do not form a fund at all, and others may choose to spend more than this. Our RYA Training Courses are also designed as an enjoyable and fun experience, and some groups may choose to eat ashore more often than they do on-board, or undertake other shore-based leisure activities not included in our course fee. In making any decisions, every member of the group should exercise caution, and be sensitive to the fact that not every member of the group may have easy access to additional funds, during the RYA Course / Experience. Your Course-Instructor is not permitted to contribute to this fund under the terms of their employment with ScotSail.

It is customary, however, that should you as a collective group decide to eat ashore at a restaurant or bar, that you should invite your Course-Instructor along to eat with you, as a guest of the group. The group would normally cover the cost of the Course-Instructors **main meal only.** This does not include additional courses or beverages. Our Course-Instructors do not expect any groups of individuals to offer this, however, we have agreements with a number of establishments in our sailing & powerboating areas, that will supply discounted or free meals to ScotSail Course-Instructors when they dine with a group of ScotSail customers at their establishment. This thereby relieves any additional costs to the voluntary student fund, if it is so formed, in covering the costs of your Course-Instructors' main meal. If you wish to eat ashore, your Course-Instructor can usually advise you on which establishments offer a 'Free Instructors Meal' with ScotSail.

- 4) Whilst ScotSail provides all meals, drinks and snacks on-board during course days, you may wish to bring with you or purchase collectively additional supplies which are not included in your course-fee, such as extra snacks, specialist foodstuffs & alcoholic beverages. A voluntary student fund is an effective way to manage such purchases intended for collective consumption.
- 5) Minor accidental loss and/or damage (e.g. dropping a hand-held compass or pair of binoculars overboard, or similar breakages) should be paid for from a voluntary student fund. In this case, the Company will seek such compensation from the group as whole and not the individual, unless we are informed otherwise that a customer wishes to make good such loss or damage individually. This is normally limited to a nominal value of £50.00 Per Customer On-Board, except in cases whereby your group has elected to use an outboard motor for propulsion of a dinghy or tender. Use of an outboard motor may be made available to your group during your course / experience – it's use is entirely at the collective risk of your group and any loss or damage, howsoever caused, will be charged equally to the members of your group. If you do not agree this – please speak with the RYA Centre Principle or your Course Instructor privately, and without delay.