

# Glossary of Model Yachting Terms

Definitions given in this glossary are simplified versions.

Words in **bold** and *italics* refer to standard definitions given in ISAF Equipment and Racing Rules of Sailing respectively. For full description refer to [www.sailing.org/racingrules.php](http://www.sailing.org/racingrules.php) and [www.sailing.org/equipmentrules.php](http://www.sailing.org/equipmentrules.php)

APPENDIX E	part of ISAF RRS governing radio racing
BATTEN	<b>sail</b> stiffener
BALANCED UNA RIG	areas of single <b>sail</b> balanced either side of a vertical axis
BEAM	the widest section of a hull
BEATING	sailing as close as possible to the wind
BOAT	<b>hull, hull appendages, ballast, rig, sails</b> , all parts used for <i>racing</i>
BOOM	<b>spar</b> attached to <b>foot</b> of <b>sail</b> used to alter sail shape and angle
BOTTLESCREW	adjustable <b>rigging</b> screw used to tension <b>shrouds</b>
BOWSIE	plastic or metal device for adjusting lines
BUTTOCK LINES	vertical sections cut parallel to length centreline of boat
CERTIFICATE	proof of measurement, rule compliance prior to <i>racing</i>
CONTROL AREA	specified area where competitors may walk to control <b>boats</b>
CRIMP	compressed brass ferule used to terminate <b>rigging</b> wires
CUNNINGHAM	device to adjust <b>luff</b> tension on <b>sail</b>
CLEW	rear bottom corner of <b>sail</b>
CLASS ASSOCIATION	body of owners that controls <b>class rules</b> , activities etc
CLUB	key local unit promoting model yachting
DM	each affiliated country is a Division Member of ISAF RSD
DRAUGHT	depth of <b>boat</b> below water surface
ERS	ISAF Equipment Rules of Sailing, defines standard measurement terms
EVENT	number of races sailed within a set racing time
EYELET	metal reinforcement to form sail <b>attachment</b>
FLARE	section that increases in width from water to <b>sheerline</b>
FLEET	all <b>boats</b> entered in an event
FOOT	bottom edge of <b>sail</b>
FREE SAILING	vane steered match racing, with spinnakers downwind
FREEBOARD	height of <b>sheerline</b> above water surface
GOOSENECK	swivel mechanism to attach main <b>boom</b> to <b>mast</b>
GOOSEWINGING	sailing downwind with mainsail and headsail on opposite sides
HALYARD	adjustable line supporting top of <b>sail</b>
HEAT	division of a fleet to get manageable numbers of <b>boats</b> on the water
HEAD	top corner of sail
HEADER	change in wind direction that causes a boat to sail below its heading
HEADSAIL	also known as jib, sail set in front of mast

HMS	MYA's Heat Management System for racing large fleets in heats
HOUNDS	point where shrouds attach to mast
HULL	the shell partly above & below water keeping water out, & all fittings, gear
ICA	International Class Association, world authority for class matters
IOM	International One Metre class
ISAF	International Sailing Federation, world authority for sailing
RSD	Radio Sailing Division of ISAF, world authority for radio sailing
KEEL	a <b>fin</b> with <b>ballast</b> below <b>hull</b> to resist leeway and provide stability
KICKER	device for controlling the <b>leech</b> of a <b>sail</b>
LAUNCHING AREA	specified location for launching <b>boats</b>
LAYLINE	Course a close-hauled boat steers to just pass the windward mark.
LCG	longitudinal centre of gravity of the <b>boat</b>
LEEWARD	side of a <b>boat</b> away from the wind
LEECH	back edge of <b>sail</b>
LEECH LINE	adjustable line at leech to set shape of back of <b>sail</b>
LIFT	change in wind direction that allows a <b>boat</b> to sail above its heading
LINE BIAS	angle that start line differs from square to wind direction
LOA	length overall
LCB	longitudinal centre of buoyancy
LWL	load waterline length
LUFF	front edge of <b>sail</b>
MAINSAIL	<b>sail</b> set on and behind <b>mast</b>
MYA	Model Yachting Association, body of clubs and class associations promoting UK model yacht <i>racing</i>
MNA	Member National Authority of ISAF, RYA is authority for UK big boat sailing
NCA	National Class Association, promotes International Class interests nationally
NOR	Notice of Race, event organiser's descriptions, rules, conditions & facilities
OFFICIAL MEASURER	a person accredited by MYA, recognised by MNA
OLYMPIC COURSE	combination of marks forming sausage and triangle shapes
PERSONAL SAIL NUMBER	number issued by MYA/NCA to a member for use on all his/her <b>sails</b>

PIN END	outer mark of start line relative to the control area
RACE	a sailing competition in a single fleet or in heats
RADIO RACING	<i>racing</i> where the skipper is controlling <b>boat</b> from shore
RADIO SCHEDULE	system for <i>racing</i> small club fleets, 1 or 2 off each race as RO
REGISTRATION	information sent to class registrar for <b>certification</b> of a <b>boat</b>
RHUMBLINE	straight line course between 2 marks.
RIG	combination of <b>spars</b> and <b>sails</b> , ERS definition is just <b>spars, rigging</b> , fittings etc
RO	Race Officer, person in charge of <i>racing</i>
ROCKER	amount of curvature along the underside of <b>hull</b>
RM	Colloquial term for International Radio Marblehead class Ditto for RA, R10R, R36", R6M classes
RRS	ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing governs behaviour, <i>rules</i> for all sailing <b>boats</b>
RUNNING	sailing a course directly downwind
RX	radio receiver
SAIL NUMBER	last 2 digits of registration number or 2 digit personal number
SAIL TWIST	the difference in the chord angles between top and bottom of the <b>sail</b>
SEAM	bonded overlap of <b>sail</b> panels to create 3D shape
SEEDING RACE	first race of an event to divide the fleet into heats
SECTION	cross section of <b>hull</b> taken at right angles to length
SERVO	unit plugged into RX to operate sheeting, rudder etc
SHEERLINE	the line of the junction between hull and deck
SHROUD	wire rigging attached to deck edge to support <b>mast</b>
SPINNAKER	large balloon shaped sail for extra speed downwind
SSI	Standard Sailing Instructions published by MYA to control events
SWING RIG	two sails of balanced areas set on a yard rotating on or about <b>mast</b>
TACK	forward bottom corner of <b>sail</b>
TUMBLEHOME	section that reduces in width at top of <b>hull</b>
TX	radio transmitter
UNA RIG	a single <b>mast</b> and <b>sail</b>
VANE GEAR	wind operated device for steering a selected free sailing course
VANE SCHEDULE	match racing schedule for free sailing
WATERLINES	horizontal sections cut parallel to the water surface
WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSE	marks set to form sausage shape
YARD	horizontal <b>spar</b> supporting <b>sails</b> either side of <b>mast</b>
WINDWARD	side of a <b>boat</b> towards the wind