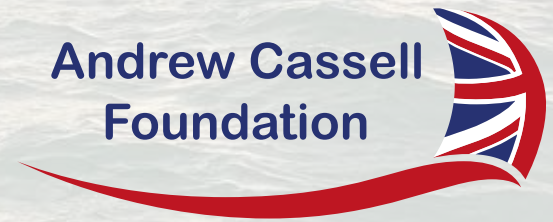


The Andrew Cassell Foundation enables individuals with physical disabilities and impairments to sail competitively on an equal level playing field with and against able bodied sailors, in an inclusive and equal environment in all classes.



[acfsailing.org](http://acfsailing.org)

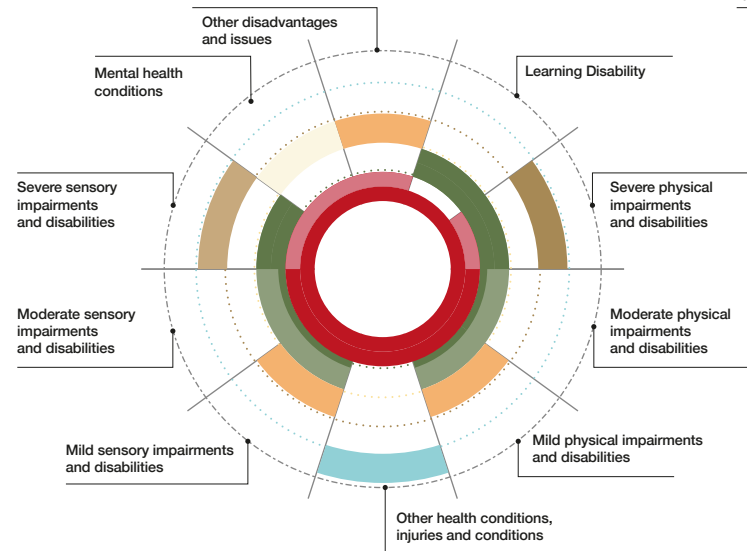
Andrew Cassell  
Foundation



# Independent disabled sailing

The Andrew Cassell Foundation fills a unique niche in the ecosystem of British sailing. We enable people with physical disabilities to develop their sailing skills on level playing field with abled bodied sailors. The Solent provides ready access to friendly racing and this is an ideal space for our sailors to refine new skills and thrive through achievement.

## Disabled access to sailing by charity sector



Organisation is fully able to fully support and cater for Sailors within this area

Organisation has some routine support Sailors in this area but cannot a full service or programme

Organisation is able to partially support and cater for Sailors within this area, but aims to be able to fully

- Specialist disability sail training trusts
- Generic Sailability Club
- Specialist high needs disability sailing school
- Good generalist training centre with disabled access
- Andrew Cassell Foundation

**Sailing clubs omitted as providing disabled access to sailing is not usually one of their direct objectives.**

**Those that wish to offer some access usually host a Sailability project**



Math Grier © 2020

- ↑ Organisations and charities introduce people to sailing in different ways, for different purposes and support their progression to different levels. The Andrew Cassell Foundation is unique in supporting the entire pathway of sailor generation from first enquiry to being an entirely independent disabled sailor.
- ← An Andrew Cassell Foundation Sonar keelboat in action in the Solent with Spinally injured, Deaf, and Visually impaired crew.



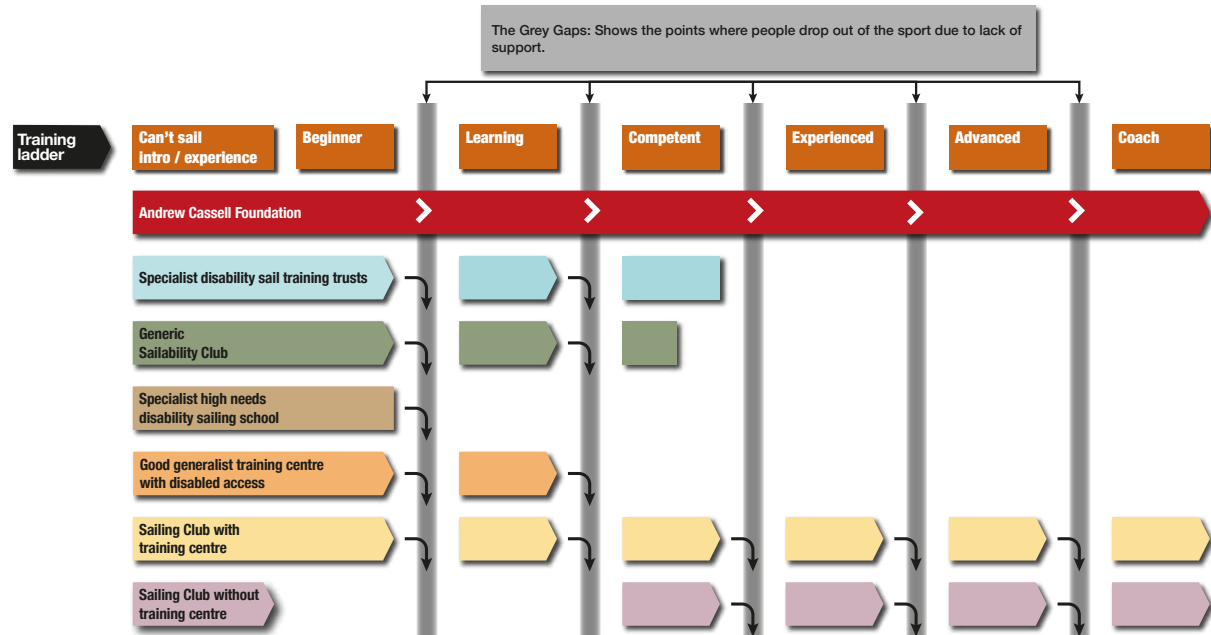
# All disabled sailing is good

Every organisation getting disabled people on the water is doing valuable and positive work. The Andrew Cassell Foundation isn't in competition with any other charity in the sector.

Our offer is unique: We are the only organisation in the UK that offers a pathway for disabled sailors to progress out of disabled specific sailing activity and into whatever discipline of the broader sailing world they choose. Many of our sailors' rehabilitation journeys take massive steps forward with us and this gives them a new opportunity for direction, employment and a secure future.



## Training progression for disabled sailors

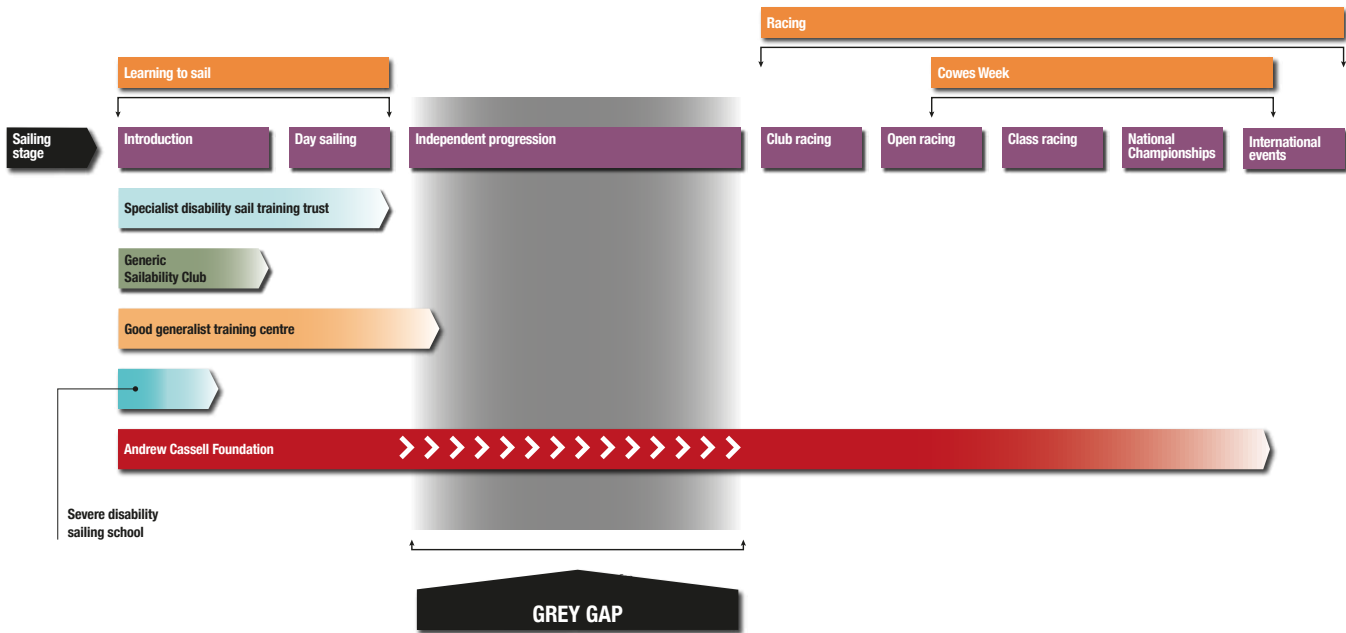


- ↑ Progression on the training ladder is complex for disabled sailors because of the difficulty of independent development. Many specialist providers of disabled access to sailing also only offer development to a certain level. The consequence is that there is massive attrition of disabled sailors though what we call the 'grey gaps'.
- ← Missing limbs no barrier to keeping a Sonar straight on during recovery.
- Checking and packing a spinnaker on return from training.



Matt Grier ©2020

## Individual taking up independent sailing with a disability



← Independent progression into more serious sailing is particularly difficult for disabled sailors. The Andrew Cassell Foundation helps overcome the grey gap where sailors are lost to the sport.

## Surviving the grey gap

Proportionally participating in sailing is likely to consume more of disabled people's income than that of their abled bodied peers. That cost differential is greatly increased by the mundane costs of disability, e.g. arranging access to accommodation with suitable bathroom facilities, purchasing boat access equipment usable with their disability and the elevated costs of wheelchair accessible vehicles (which often cannot tow a boat because of the way they have been converted).

The Andrew Cassell Foundation helps disabled sailors grow in confidence and to reach a standard of competence from which they can become skilled and valued members of sailing clubs and class associations.

→ One of the Foundation Sonar keelboats reaching west down the Solent during training.

