

# Fastest time for Matt



IN THE Channel Islands regional heat of the annual RYA Honda Rib Challenge – a powerboat driving competition run across the UK testing the skills of young enthusiasts aged eight to 16 – Guernsey's Matt Le Vasseur, 15, has set the fastest time across the UK this year with a 59 second lap around the course of slalom buoys, including a stop for a 'man overboard' and a reversing test, that took place in Havelet Bay in late June.

It is also an all-time record time for the Channel Islands.

The competition between 21 Guernsey youngsters was hotly contested with Joe Coutanche taking first

**Matthew Le Vasseur pictured heading off for the course in last year's RYA Honda Youth Rib Challenge at the Southampton Boat Show.**

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place in the under-12 age group with a time of 1 minute 27 seconds.

The competition, unique in its effort to train young people to handle powerboats responsibly, has been running for more than 10 years and the Channel Islands heat is organised by Guernsey Yacht Club and kindly supported by Herm Seaway.

Graham Reynolds, a powerboat instructor, who helped to train all of the youngsters over the last three months, said: 'I'm delighted with the progress all the competitors have made and our fantastic Guernsey results. Good luck to both for the final.' Le Vasseur and Coutanche will now both compete at the final in September at the Southampton Boat Show against other regional winners for a chance to win a Rib for the Guernsey Yacht Club.