

Level 1: Start Powerboating

Aim

To provide a practical introduction to boat handling and safety in powerboats. The course may be conducted in a variety of boat types, both planing and displacement, and the certificate will be endorsed to show the type of boat in which the training took place.

Syllabus

Section A: Practical Boat Handling

Launch & Recovery

Knowledge of:

Considerations to be taken during the launch

The use of a trailer or launching trolley

Considerations to be taken regarding sea conditions and hazard

Construction, width and condition of ramp/slipway

Preparation of boat and crew

Understands:

Personal buoyancy and appropriate clothing

The user of the following equipment: lines, fenders, anchor and arp, bailer, fire extinguisher, pump, paddles or oars, compass, flares, torch, whistle, charts, first aid kit, sharp knife

Considerations to be taken regarding sea conditions and hazard

Construction, width and condition of ramp/slipway

Can:

Perform the following: - fasten to a cleat and stow an anchor

Boat Handling

Knowledge of:

Planing boats: propeller angle and immersion, use of shallow drive

Low speed handling: ahead and astern

Displacement boats: handling ahead and astern, carrying way in neutral

Understands:

How to carry out pre-start checks, including fuel tank and fuel bulb

Steering, controls and windage

Can:

Steer and control boat speed

Start and stop the engine

Demonstrate use of an appropriate length kill cord at all times



Picking up and securing to a mooring buoy

Knowledge of:

Preparation of mooring warps

Use of a boat hook

Method of approach

Crew communication

Making fast

Leaving and coming alongside

Knowledge of:

Wind effect

Approach in tidal stream or current

Understands:

Leaving – ahead or astern

Can:

Demonstrate the use of painter, lines and fenders, attachment to boat, stowage under way

Control speed and angle of approach

Make fast alongside

Section B: Theory

Knowledge of:

Loading and balancing the boat and the effect on handling and performance

Local bylaws and insurance

Understands:

Crew numbers: minimum number in the boat, keeping a look-out

Awareness of other water users including effect of wash

Application of IRPCS. Understands rules 5,6 and conduct around commercial shipping in confined waters

Man Overboard

Understands:

How to stop the boat

Raising the alarm

Prevention

