

PISC MULTI ROLE PATROL BOAT HELM COURSE SYLLABUS

This is a one day course for applicants who hold a current RYA Powerboat Level 2 qualification

A two day course for all other applicants

The course is approved and authorised by the PISC Training Officer but is not recognised by any other organisation

The syllabus for this course takes key elements from the RYA Powerboat Level 2 Syllabus and the HSSVOL Operators Licence practical test, added to PISC Club requirements.

Course Aim: To teach and assess boat handling and seamanship as Helm in the Club Patrol Boats to a level where the instructor will award a student the PISC Helm Certificate

Pre-requisite: The PISC Patrol Boats and the crew members are there to provide various support functions for the Club dinghy sailors. Crew members are expected to lift and recover amongst other things, anchor, anchor chain and warp (rope) which when combined are heavy and awkward pieces of equipment. In addition in an emergency situation the crew may be expected to recover persons from the water. In itself this is a difficult and exertive procedure. For these reasons, crew members should be fully able and have a reasonably good level of fitness. A Crew Member should be able to swim or be comfortable in the water when wearing a buoyancy aid.

Before undertaking this course students must:

- a. Have successfully completed the PISC Patrol Boat Crew Members, one day course
- b. Hold a RYA Powerboat Level 2 qualification if undertaking the one day course
- c. Hold a Learners or Operators HSSVOL issued by the Cyprus Department of Merchant Shipping

For safety reasons weather limitations for training of the on-water sections of the course is limited to:

- a. Wind speeds no greater than Force 3 (10knots)
- b. Wave heights no greater than 0.9 metres
- c. Sea state – large wavelets with crests starting to break

A risk assessment will be completed by the Shore Training Safety Officer on the day prior to the course commencing.

Syllabus for PISC Helm Qualification

Instructors Brief- Introduction - Paperwork- Course Objectives

Safety Brief – Managing Crew Members and Passengers

Local weather forecasts

Boat Preparation PISC Checklist

Boat Trailing

Operation of Trailer Winch

Boat Launching & Recovery.
Engine Checks and Starting – Kill Chord use
Communication VHF radio
Communication Hand Signals
Cold Water Shock/Hypothermia
Crew Positions and Security
Trim, crew position, engine tilt. Flooding risks when moving astern
Fire fighting
Operating in Restricted Visibility
Importance of Lookout – in water hazards
Local Rules
Basic Rules of the Road for boats
Distress Calls
Reporting Man Overboard
Ropework
Assisting OOD/Race Officer with Race Duties

Patrol Boat Handling

Brain – Steering – Gear
Casualty – Coxswain - Engine
Emergency Stop
Engine use near a person in the water
S Turns U Turns various speeds
Boat handling in restricted space – Pivot points 180 degree turns
MOB Actions - Recovery Methods 1,2,&3
Coming alongside/leaving a dock. Use of springs. Effects of wind
Picking up a Mooring Buoy
Anchoring
Holding off a dock or buoy
Steering a compass course
Control and operation in waves
Patrol Boat Capsize or mechanical failure - discussion
Towing and being towed
Laying & Recovering Course Marks
Recover Patrol Boat, de kit and washdown
Complete Actions as per PISC Checklist
Push Patrol Boat into Shed
Finish securing the Patrol Boat
Course Debrief