

PISC MULTI ROLE PATROL BOAT COXSWAINS TRAINING COURSE SYLLABUS

The content of this 2 day course is made up of local procedures and requirements, supplemented by details contained within the RYA G16 publication 'Safety Boat Handbook'. The course is approved and authorized by the PISC Training Officer but is not recognized by any other Organization.

Course Aim:

To introduce the techniques used in PISC Patrol Boats when escorting club dinghies, providing safety cover for racing and training vessels and assisting in race management.

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 Helm Course, or an equivalent course acceptable to the Training Officer.
- b. Hold a valid Coxswain equivalent qualification acceptable to the Training Officer.
- c. Be in possession of a valid Cyprus Department of Merchant Shipping Operators HSSVOL.
- d. Read and sign PISC Patrol Boat 'Standard Operating Procedures'
- e. Attended PISC VHF Training or VHF equivalent qualification acceptable to the Training Officer. (requirements to be issued with the Club Patrol Boat Standard Operating procedures).
- f. Have a minimum of 20 hours of experience on the Club Patrol Boats or equivalent as laid down in the PISC Patrol Boat Helm Qualification Syllabus, and Further Helm Training procedures, and have been assessed by a Club Patrol Boat Instructor as ready to take the Patrol Boat Coxswain Course.

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

- a. Wind speeds no greater than 16 knots.
- b. Wave Heights no greater than 1.5 m.
- c. Sea state – when large waves begin to form with white foam crests.

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

Syllabus for Patrol Boat Coxswain Qualification:

Instructors Brief - Paperwork - Course Objectives

Coxswains Safety Brief

PISC Boat Preparation - Checklist

Responsibilities of a Patrol Boat Coxswain

Trailing and Launching procedures

Local Distress procedures

Local weather conditions and forecasts

Communications Hand Signals

Cold water shock/Hypothermia

First Aid Kit Contents and Use

Helicopter Rescue

Kill chord use

Patrol Boat Handling:

General boat handling as in 'Patrol Boat Handling' in PISC Helm Course Syllabus

Discussion of 'Hooking' Laying and Retrieving Race Marker Buoys – GPS use

Man Overboard Recovery Methods 1, 2 and 3

Towing a dinghy, alongside, herringbone, astern, bow to bow
Casting off a tow
Righting Dinghy from Capsize
Righting Dinghy Full Inversion
Dinghy capsize and inversion - Missing Crew Member - Entrapments
Lee Shore rescue and recovery
Operations in shallow waters
Race Duties
Positioning of Patrol Boat in respect of racing fleet
Coming alongside a dinghy under way
Approaching dinghy or vessel in need of assistance
Patrol Boat Capsize or mechanical failure - discussion
Patrol Boat recovery
PISC shutdown checklist
Returning Patrol Boat to Shed
Final Shutdown Checks
Course Debrief

Note: For many reasons it may not be possible to practice actual parts of the Patrol Boat Handling section during the course days. Verbal briefings may be substituted, and qualification certificates may still be awarded. CPBI will organise when possible courses to enable Patrol Boat Coxswains to practice many of the parts of the Patrol Boat Handling section.