

National Powerboat Training Scheme

Intermediate Powerboat Certificate

Objective	<p>The aim of this course is to provide the recreational powerboater with the skills they need to plan and use their boat for general recreation use in fair weather conditions, during daylight hours and in waters with which they are familiar. It includes the typical skills they will need to enjoy longer coastal passages, family daytrips and activities such as swimming from the boat.</p>
Previous knowledge / experience	<p>Participants must hold the Irish Sailing National Powerboat Certificate or an equivalent certificate. It is strongly recommended that participants hold a first aid certificate and the Short Range (SRC) VHF radio operator's certificate.</p>
Types of Boat	<p>The course must be conducted in a planing boat suitable for use in open waters.</p>
Duration	<p>The Recreational Powerboat course must consist of a minimum of 14 hours contact time. However, the length of the course may be extended where it suits participants to take a more relaxed approach to the programme. This course can be combined with the Coastal Navigation for Small Boats course, thus increasing it to 22 hours. Courses may be broken into modules of less than one day (typically 7 hours). However, when doing so individual modules should not be shorter than 2 hours or spread over any greater period than two weeks. Extra time may be needed in order to bring participants back up to speed at the start of each module.</p>
Assessment	<p>Assessment is continuous throughout the course.</p>
Teaching Ratios	<p>4 participants : 1 instructor in one boat 6 participants : 1 instructor in two boats</p>

By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:

Preparation of boat for use	<p>Have prepared a powerboat for use, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuelling the boat • Equipping the boat for its intended use and stowing equipment properly • Conducting pre-departure checks on the boat, engine and controls • Preparing, clothing and equipping the crew or passengers for planned activities
Precision Boat Handling (revision of National Powerboat skills at a higher level)	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaching and leaving a mooring • Leaving and coming alongside a berth or jetty • Anchoring • Turning the powerboat in a confined space • Man overboard, return and recovery

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<p>Precision Boat Handling – New Skills</p>	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold position off of another boat that is underway. • Be able to come alongside another boat while underway. • Impact of trim, balance, trim tabs and angle of outboard/outdrive on boat handling. • Explain how to handle a powerboat safely in rough weather. • Where possible, have demonstrated that you can handle a powerboat in rough weather and awareness of the effect of waves. • Positioning crew and driving to prevent back injury. • Be able to steer a compass course safely and effectively
<p>Mooring, Anchoring and Marina Berths</p>	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and recover the boat from a lee shore. • Anchor stern to a quay wall or marina pontoon. • Approach and leave a marina Berth. • Anchor off a beach and get safely ashore.
<p>Swimming from a boat</p>	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how to manage swimmers from a boat. • Recover swimmers back into the boat. • Identify the hazards associated with swimming from a boat.
<p>Navigation</p>	<p>Have demonstrated that you can ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientate a chart using topographical features, navigation marks and / or a compass. • Identify basic features, including hazards, from a chart. • Identify your position on the chart at a level of precision and accuracy appropriate for a short coastal passage. • Identify distances from the chart and accurately predict expected progress • Describe the effects of compass variation. Describe the causes of compass deviation and how to minimise them. • Use transits to fix position and hold a course. • Plot a course to steer, taking account of the effects of wind & current. <p>Be able to demonstrate the use of the following when traveling to and from a destination ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPS. • Depth sounder. • Steering compass. • Hand bearing compass. • Transits to fix position and hold a course
<p>Passage Planning</p>	<p>Have devised passage / pilotage plans for a coastal passage, by day and in waters with which you are familiar.</p> <p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify where to obtain the information needed to devise a passage plan. • Programme a passage plan into a GPS set. • Predict how much fuel you will need

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Passage Making	<p>Have safely skippered the boat on a coastal passage by day in fair weather in waters with which you are not familiar.</p> <p>Be able to safely and effectively steer a compass course.</p>
Weather	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the effect tides can have on your powerboating activities. • Calculate tidal heights and rates of flow using local tide tables. • Identify where to find tidal information for destination ports
Application of "Rules of the Road"	<p>Have demonstrated the ability to apply the International Rules for the Prevention of Collision at Sea in estuaries and coastal areas by day, including awareness of and courtesy to other water users.</p> <p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the principal day marks used in IALA A buoyage system and describe their significance. • Identify the type, aspect and behaviour of vessels by day from day shapes • Identify the correct navigation lights and day shapes to use on power-boats used. • Use and understand manoeuvring (sound) signals.
Boat Types	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the characteristics you would look for in powerboats used for ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ passage making in open sea, ◦ skiing ◦ angling • Identify what types of boats, engines and drive types would have these characteristics
Incident management / medical emergencies	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how to communicate with other vessels. • Describe how to manage a medical emergency afloat. • Describe how to manage crew and passengers who are seasick.
Care of boats & equipment	<p>Be able to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake basic fault diagnosis on the engines used. • Change a propeller. • Explain how to manually start an engine. <p>Be able to de-rig a powerboat after use and store equipment properly.</p>
Further Training	<p>Be able to identify what further training courses are available and where to find out about them.</p>

Where can you go to do this course?

This course can only be run by an Irish Sailing Training Centre. All Irish Sailing training Centres have all gone through a rigorous accreditation process to ensure that they provide high-quality training in a safe environment. Training centres can be found on coastal and inland waters.

www.sailing.ie/training

What next?

- Safetyboat Certificate
- Advanced Powerboat Certificate
- Coastal Navigation for Small Boats

