



Peterborough Sailability

PERFORMANCE TRAINING MODULE

PTM 03: Challenger ~ Buddy Training



Requirement

There is a requirement to teach new and existing Helpers who may or may not have any prior knowledge of boats or sailing on how the Buddy (Challenger) should operate safely and in a satisfactory manner.

Aim

The aim of this procedure is to provide information and guidance to new and existing Helpers in the rigging, preparation, launching, recovering, de-rigging and storage of the Challenger Trimaran boats.

Objectives

The objective of this procedure is to set out a series of performance parameters which can be used to give the necessary guidance to a Helper so that they can achieve the following:

- a) To be able to rig and prepare a Challenger multi-hull boat satisfactorily prior to launching and when the boat is recovered, to de-rig it prior to storage.
- b) To be able to maneuver the trailer to the slipway, launch the boat fully-crewed and to apply the same techniques to the recovery procedures.
- c) To be able to sail the Challenger in a safe manner.

Method

The method of the achieving the stated aim should be by either:

- a) Completion of a dedicated 'one to one' teaching work session or a series of these sessions, with a qualified Peterborough Sailability Senior or Assistant Instructor.

Or

- b) Completion of 'on-the job-training'. In this case the Helper will be placed in the charge of an experienced member of the Shore Crew (Challenger) over a series of work sessions.

Or

- c) Completion of a combination of a) and b) above.

Note:

This training procedure may be delivered either with the Instructor acting as a Sailor or as a Buddy depending on the actual level of expertise of the student. This is at the prerogative and assessment of the nominated Instructor at the time.

The Challenger Trimaran

Preparing and Rigging

If the Buddy/Student are involved with the initial rigging of the Challenger Trimaran i.e. before a full sailing session, then reference should be made to the appropriate section of the PTM 02 Challenger ~ Shore Crew training document. This contains all the actions and safety precautions necessary for correctly rigging, launching, recovery and de-rigging of the Challenger Trimaran.

When the rigging is complete then a Buddy is to carry out the following Pre-Launch checks:

- Visually check that all rigging operations are complete, taking particular attention to the following:
 - Ensure that the sponson and hull bungs (3 in total) are in place and are secure.
 - Ensure that the mainsheet is free and stored correctly so as not to drag on the ground, and is not 'locked' on the jamming cleat. It should be controlling the sheet and allowing the sail to move freely as the boat is moved onto the slipway by the shore crew.
 - Ensure that the number of the Buddy seat and support bar matches the boat number and that it is fitted securely and does not foul any of the rudder/control lines.
 - Confirm that the Sailor has a personal flotation device (Lifejacket) fitted correctly with the appropriate crutch straps and is comfortably seated in the centre seat.
 - Double check that any of the Sailor's seat securing straps are in place and that the Sailor cannot slip down the boat.
- Complete a full radio check with the Shoremaster – refer to SOP 09 – Radio Procedures, using the sail number of the boat in use as a callsign.

Launching

- Before manoeuvring the boat to the slipway, confirm with a member of the Shore Crew that the boat is ready to launch.
- Take particular care as to the direction of the wind and orientate the booms that it does not swing violently over the Sailor's position and is not allowed to rotate through a full 360 degrees.
- Assist the Shore crew to maneuver the boat to and down the slipway, mounting the buddy seat when appropriate.
- When the appropriate depth of water and ensuring a member of the Shore Crew has control of the boat, part-lower the rudder and centerboard.
- Ensure the mainsheet is free and has full control over the boom. Take particular care to ensure the mainsheet does not foul the rudder at this point.
- Instruct the Shore Crew member to turn the boat into an appropriate direction depending on the wind direction, so that when sailing begins the boat is under sufficient power to move off in a safe direction. Observe the proximity of other boats in the launch area.
- When satisfied that a safe launch is possible, instruct the Shore Crew member to release the boat.
- Confirm with the Shore master that you have successfully launched the boat.

The Challenger Trimaran

Sailing

- Sail the boat in accordance with recognized sailing techniques. Cross refer to PTM 05 Challenger Handbook /Tuning guide, PTM 04 Challenger ~ Asst. Instructor training and the appropriate RYA publications on Dinghy Sailing if required.
- Be observant on the status and well being of the Sailor at all times and if necessary return to shore if the Sailor indicates they are not happy.
- Obey any radio messages as sent by the duty Shoremaster.

Recovery

- When ordered to return to shore by the Shoremaster, confirm by radio that it is clear to do so.
- Sail the boat in a direction (if possible 'lay to' and steer in and out of the wind to keep the boat's speed as low as possible) so as not to approach the slipway too fast to prevent injury to the Shore Crew. If necessary 'go around' and make another slower approach.
- The Shore Crew will position the boat trolley in line with the approaching boat, submerged but visible to incoming buddy or helm - with the rear stanchions above the surface of the water. The boat must be caught before being placed on the trolley.
- When the boat is under the control of one of the Shore Crew, raise the rudder and centerboard to their fully up position.
- Inform the Shore Crew that it is now clear to manoeuvre the coupled hull and trolley into shallower water, ensuring the hull is central on the trolley - and the trolley supports are under the cross beams.
- Dismount the buddy seat when the water is shallow enough.
- Assist the Shore Crew to manoeuvre the trolley up the slipway to the launch/recovery area.
- Beware of the wind direction at all times (this may be different to that experienced on the water). Ensure that the main sheet is not 'locked' in the jamming cleat.
- Ensure that the trolley is positioned and parked so that any violent swinging of the boom can be avoided and so that the full rotation of the boom does not occur. The boom should be placed in a safe and stable direction so that it does not interfere with the removal of the Sailor from the centre seat.

De-rigging

- At the end of the sailing period the boat should be de-rigged in accordance with the procedures laid down in the PTM 02 Shore Crew – Challenger document.
- The Trimaran should be checked for any damage / defects as the boat is being de-rigged. Any defects must be reported and entered into the 'defect book'.