



Peterborough Sailability

PERFORMANCE TRAINING MODULE

PTM 09: Safety Boat ~ Operator Training



Requirement

There is a requirement to familiarize new and existing Helpers who have the necessary qualifications (refer to SOP 06 for the specific qualifications needed) on how the Safety Boat Operator 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 Safety Boat.

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 the Safety 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 and to apply the same techniques to the recovery procedures.

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 who should also have the qualifications laid down in SOP 06.
- Or
- b) Completion of 'on-the job-training'. In this case the Helper will be placed in the charge of an qualified Safety Boat Operator over a series of work sessions.
- Or
- c) Completion of a combination of a) and b) above.

Preparing and Rigging the Safety Boat.

The following actions should be completed to prepare and rig the Safety Boat:

- Before launching, check both the hull and engine prop shaft for damage.
- Check there is sufficient fuel in the tank. Be sure to top up the fuel tank before launching to reduce the risk of causing water pollution of the lake. **See SOP 01 Petrol Storage & Safety**
- Before launching, check the drainage bung is fitted.
- Check the boat to ensure all safety equipment is present:
 - Tow Lines.
 - Paddle.
 - Anchor - This must be secured to the boat.
 - Sealed First Aid Kit.
 - Black Flag.
 - Spare Kill Cord.
- Remove the engine cover and check the oil level and refit cover and check this is secure.

Launching

The following actions should be completed to launch the Safety Boat:

- At least two launch crew with **personal flotation devices** are required to launch the Safety Boat.
- Reverse the Safety Boat trailer into the water.
- Float the Safety Boat from trailer and secure to the pontoon.
- Prime the fuel, fit the kill cord around your leg and pull out the choke (*where fitted*).
- Check the water level of the lake and if sufficient, lower the engine into the water.
- Start the engine using the electric start or starter pull cord.
- Check the engine cooling system is working by ensuring a jet of water emanates from the tell-tale nozzle at the rear of the engine.
- Carry out radio check with the Shoremaster.
- Carry out a short test drive on the water.

Recovery

The following actions should be completed to recover the Safety Boat:

- At least two recovery crew members are required in addition to the tow vehicle operator. **All are to wear personal flotation devices.**
- Summon a qualified tow vehicle driver to assist.
- Drain the inner hull by removing the drain plug and refit.

Boat Storage

The following actions should be completed to de-rig the Safety Boat:

- Put the Safety Boat back in the container.
- Enter any defects or problems in the defects book and to report these to the Shoremaster.
- Refueling; see **SOP 01 Petrol Storage & Safety**