

Tender Operator

Aim: To teach tender driving up to the required standard to carry passengers and other crew members to and from the mother vessel by day and night.

Pre-course knowledge: Candidates must hold an RYA Powerboat Level 2 with coastal endorsement. It is strongly recommended that candidates hold a valid first aid certificate and a VHF/SRC operator's licence or equivalent.

Duration: Two days

Minimum Age: Seventeen years old

Section A: Practical

Preparation for Sea

Can:

Prepare the vessel, including:

- Navigation equipment
- Bilge pump and alarms
- Essential safety equipment
- Stowage of warps and securing gear

Pre-departure Procedures

Understands:

- Drive systems
- Emergency shutdown procedures for the vessel being used for training
- The need to be familiar with procedures for refuelling onboard and at sea
- Communication protocol with mother vessel

Can:

Carry out fuel and mechanical checks on the vessel being used for training, including:

- Engines, cooling and lubrication systems
- Safely starting and shutting down engines
- Diagnosing basic engine-start problems
- Fuel levels

Life-saving Apparatus (LSA)

Knowledge of:

- Sources of information on different types of LSA

Understands:

- The importance of familiarisation with the use of different types of LSA

Can:

- Demonstrate the use of all LSA carried onboard

Boat Handling

Understands:

- The importance of having crew to assist in berthing operations
- The importance of boat control in waves and adequate seating to minimize the possibility of injury
- How to select an anchorage with due regard to the safety of the vessel and passengers who may be partaking in water sports
- Towing water toys and the need for a spotter
- Tidal considerations

Can:

- Demonstrate the correct use of the kill cord at all times when under way

- Demonstrate berthing and docking skills in the following situations: beam to; bow to, and stern to, carried out with a crew member and shorthanded
- Helm considerably at planing speed
- Recover an MOB by day and night
- Anchor the vessel safely

Rules of the Road

Knowledge of:

- Sources of local byelaws

Understands:

- The importance of adhering to local byelaws

Can:

- Apply the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS)
- Demonstrate a good sense of situational awareness including the ability to conduct dynamic risk assessment given the prevailing conditions and location

Passenger Safety and Comfort

Knowledge of:

- Sources of information regarding maximum number of people and payload

Understands:

- When to instruct passengers to wear appropriate LSA
- The importance of boat control in waves and appropriate seating to minimise the possibility of injury or ejection
- The requirement to comply with maximum number of people and payload
- The hazards associated with non-compliant passengers and those under the influence of alcohol
- The hazards associated with less-mobile passengers and children
- Strategies for ensuring the safety of non-English-speaking passengers
- The importance of setting a safe place to meet and greet passengers
- The need to pre-plan onward land transportation of passengers

Can:

- Brief the crew on passage plan, roles and responsibilities
- Give an effective passenger-safety briefing
- Give an effective demonstration of all relevant LSA and location
- Embark and disembark passengers safely
- Drive appropriate to prevailing weather and sea conditions, with due consideration to keeping all onboard comfortable and dry

Daytime Pilotage

Understands:

- The benefit of agreeing and lodging the pilotage plan with the Master or Officer of the Watch
- The requirement for a safety margin when using chart plotters and other electronic navigation aids
- The need to use a secondary means of position fixing when using electronic navigation aids, including the use of verifiable waypoints
- The need for consideration of local environmental conditions, hazards and other water users
- The importance of maintaining contact with the mother vessel at all times
- Safe speed for navigation

Can:

- Produce an effective daytime pilotage plan
- Use charts and publications

- Interpret Lateral and Cardinal buoyage systems A and B
- Use a chart plotter for navigation afloat
- Use waypoint navigation
- Use pilotage to enter a port by day

Night-time Pilotage

Understands:

- The additional hazards associated with moving passengers by water during the hours of darkness

Can:

- Take charge of a power-driven vessel during the hours of darkness, including but not limited to short passages between harbour and mother vessel
- Produce an effective night-time pilotage plan
- Demonstrate ability to keep a proper look-out by all available means
- Identify position at all times

Emergency Situations

Knowledge of:

- Helicopter rescue procedures
- Local safe havens/points of refuge

Understands:

- Effective management of an emergency situation by day and at night
- The importance of keeping an up-to-date headcount of all persons on board
- Fire prevention and fighting
- What action to take in the event of hull damage/loss of watertight integrity
- What to do in a medical emergency
- The principles of towing and being towed
- The danger of cold shock

Can:

- Simulate a distress alert by all available means

Section B: Theory

Types of Tender

Knowledge of:

- Different types of tender
- Different types of propulsion systems: outdrive; outboard; jet drive; forward-facing drives, shaft drive

Understands:

- The handling characteristics for various types of common hull forms

Launch and Recovery

Knowledge of:

- Various methods of launch and recovery from the mother vessel while at anchor and stopped in the water

Understands:

- The requirement to gain onboard type-specific training

Legislation and Guidance

Knowledge of:

- The requirement to maintain a current MCA Officer of the Watch Training Record Book (Yacht)
- RYA code of practice for safe watersports operations
- RYA guidance on passenger safety on small commercial high-speed craft

Understands:

- The importance of carrying the correct documents

Vessel-specific Training**Knowledge of:**

- Additional regulated training available

Understands:

- The importance of vessel- and equipment-specific training