



## WEALDEN SAILABILITY

# POWERBOAT SAFETY HELM ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

### Overview

It is the policy of Wealden Sailability (WS) that any person directly helming a powerboat during an active Sailability Session must be able to demonstrate the minimum level of competency deemed necessary by the trustees. This will be achieved either through the full participation on the course detailed below, or for experienced helms by a session of Direct Assessment carried out by one of our RYA Qualified Powerboat Instructors who has experience of delivering this course.

This course is designed specifically to address the practical needs of WS operating at Chipstead Sailing Club. It is based on the RYA Powerboat Level 2 (PB2) and Safety Boat (SB) syllabi but it strips out all of that material that is not relevant to WS. It is then adapted to cater for the specific operating characteristics of the WS Keelboat fleet. It is taught by RYA Powerboat Instructors and the relevant sections are taught and assessed to the PB2 and SB standards.

Successful Volunteers will then be invited to join the WS RIB Squad and / or the WS Commando Squad depending on the nature of the assessment. Squad membership details will be maintained by the Squads Leader and kept by the WS Secretary.

To helm the Pioner those Volunteers chosen to do so will require sufficient time on the water to familiarize themselves with handling and mooring the boat, as well as understand how to load wheelchair bound Participants onto and off the boat. Such training can be carried out on the water with Wheelchair bound Participants on board subject to there being a trained helm/Instructor carrying out the training.

### Syllabus

#### 1. Boats and Equipment

Responsibilities as RIB Safety Coxswain	(T)
Responsibilities as Commando Support Boat Coxswain	(T)
Boat types and engines at CSC	(T)
Boat storage, kit and key locations	(TP)
Radios: Location, storage and use	(TP)
Fuel storage, key location	(TP)
Boat preparation and checks	(TP)
Engines and fuel; handling, securing, filling	(TP)
Boat kit: First Aid Kit, radio, binoculars, boat hook, paddle, painter, personnel towing strop, towing lines, anchor and warp.	(TP)

## 2. Personal kit

Suitable clothing for prevailing and possible weather conditions; (TP)  
Waterproofs, hat, buoyancy aid. (T)  
Hot/cold drinks; food

## 3. Boat Launching and Recovery

Use of painters, electric winch etc (P)  
Engine starting and running checks (P)  
Radio checks (P)

## 4. Boat Handling Skills

Proper positioning of helmsman and crew (P)  
Use of steering and gears (TP)  
Leaving and coming alongside: (T)  
    Pontoon (P)  
    Buoy (P)  
    Boats (P)  
Picking up mooring (P)  
Turn in restricted space (P)  
Holding off (P)  
High speed operation including S & U turn (RIBs only) (TP)

## 5. Recovery Techniques

Approach (speed, wash and stern wave) (TP)  
Transferring clients between PB and Sailing boats (TP)  
Moving sailing boats between pontoons (P)  
Man overboard/recovering casualty from water (TP)  
Towing: alongside, astern (TP)  
Releasing a grounded boat (P)  
Lee shore recovery (P)

## 6. End of session

Responsibilities (T)  
Stow away and tidy up (P)  
Report log (T)

T indicates theory instruction

P indicates mostly practical instruction and practice.

TP indicates some additional preparatory theory instruction prior to practice.

**End**