

Intermediate Powerboat Certificate

National Powerboat Training Scheme

Get wet, Get on the water!

Objective	<p>The aim of this course is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop boat handling, seamanship, pilotage and navigation skills up to the standards required to plan and execute safely and enjoyably short coastal passages by day, in fair weather conditions, in a planing powerboat. • To handle safely and enjoyably more powerful craft than typically used on a National Powerboat Course. • To be able to support recreational swimming from a powerboat
Previous Knowledge / Experience	<p>Participants must hold the <i>Irish Sailing</i> National Powerboat Certificate or an equivalent certificate and 20 hours driving experience following qualification.</p> <p>A pre-course assessment may be required at the Senior Instructor's discretion. This is to ensure that all participants are at an appropriate skill level to absorb new knowledge and skills.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that participants be certified to <i>Irish Sailing</i> Coastal Navigation for Small Boats standard or higher (skills highlighted in green below).</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that at least one member of a powerboat's crew should hold a first aid certificate and the Short Range Certificate (VHF).</p>
Types of Boat	<p>The course may be conducted in either a planing or semi-displacement boat, capable of more than 17 knots and suitable for use in open sea.</p>
Duration	<p>The <i>Irish Sailing</i> Improving Skills Powerboat Course should ordinarily comprise a minimum of 14 hours contact time. This course can be combined with the Coastal Navigation for Small Boats course, thus increasing it to 22 hours.</p> <p>The length of the course may be extended where it suits participants to take a more relaxed approach to the programme.</p> <p>The course may be broken into modules of less than one day (typically 7 hours). 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 Ratio	<p>6 participants using 2 boats: 1 instructor <u>or</u> 4 participants using 1 boat : 1 instructor</p>

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Minimum Age	As this course uses powerboats capable of more than 17 knots, participation is limited to over 16's in compliance with S.I. No. 259/2004 - Merchant Shipping (Pleasure Craft) (Lifejackets and Operation) (Safety) Regulations 2004
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	<i>By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:</i>
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)	<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
Precision Boat Handling – New Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to 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
Mooring, Anchoring and Swimming from the Boat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to land and recover the boat from a lee shore. • Be able to anchor stern to a quay wall or marina pontoon. • Be able to anchor on an open beach and get ashore. • Be able to identify the hazards associated with swimming from a boat • Be able to recover swimmers back on the boat

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<i>By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:</i>	
Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to identify sources of weather forecasts • Be able to interpret the forecast with regard to planned short term activities (1 day). • Be able to interpret the current forecast and make sound decisions on planned activities in view of expected weather and sea conditions.
Navigation	<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 • Be able to identify the principal day marks used in IALA A buoyage system and describe their significance. • Be able to describe the principal features of, and considerations to be made, when using the following equipment to navigate by day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GPS, Electronic Chart plotter, Smart Phone or Tablet ○ Depth sounder ○ Compass • Be able to demonstrate in practice, use of IALA A buoyage system • Be able to demonstrate the use of the following in navigating the boat by day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One of GPS, Electronic Chart plotter, Smart Phone or Tablet ○ Laminated chart ○ Depth sounder ○ Steering Compass ○ Hand bearing Compass

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	<i>By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:</i>
Coastal Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able, at a basic level, to describe the effect tides can have on your powerboating activities. • Be able to identify relevant tidal information on charts, in almanacs and pilot books (including tidal streams and heights). • Be able to calculate, using data from published or electronic sources, tidal heights for the ports in use on the course, and apply these when planning activities. (Note: secondary port calculations not required)
Passage Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have devised simple passage / pilotage plans for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A short coastal passage by day ○ Entering into and departing from a harbour. • Be able to identify where to obtain the information needed to devise a simple passage plan. • Be able to programme a passage plan into one of: GPS set, Electronic Chart Plotter, Tablet or Smart Phone. • Be able to predict accurately how much fuel you will need • Have devised and implemented passage plans based on the boats, crew and conditions present on the course and its location. • Be aware of and be able to comply with the passage planning requirements of SOLAS V in the context of the boats used. • Be able to use <i>Irish Sailing Safetrx</i>
Passage Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have both with and without the use of electronic navigation aids, skippered the powerboat on a coastal passage by day in waters with which you are not familiar. • Be able to describe what actions to take in the event of arriving later than intended at destination port • Be able to describe what actions to take in the event of returning to port after dark
Applications of the Collision Regulations (IRPCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Be able to identify the type, aspect and behaviour of vessels by day from day shapes • Be able to identify the correct navigation lights and day shapes to use on power-boats used. • Be able to use and understand manoeuvring (sound) signals.

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	<i>By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:</i>
Boat Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to describe the characteristics you would look for in powerboats used for passage making in open sea. • Be able to identify what types of boats, engines and drive types would have these characteristics.
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to demonstrate how to communicate with other vessels. • Be able to describe when and how to summon assistance. • Be able to describe how to manage a medical emergency afloat. • Be able to describe causes, symptoms & remedies for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cold Shock ○ Hypothermia ○ Secondary Drowning ○ Sea sickness ○ Sun stroke ○ Dehydration • Be able to find, return to and recover a 'man overboard' in smooth, slight and moderate conditions. • Be able to demonstrate the correct action to take after recovery of a person from the water • Be able to demonstrate how to prepare for outside assistance from lifeboat or helicopter.
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to demonstrate use of all controls, trim and balance to promote fuel economy and minimal wear and tear on the boat, engine and drive system • Be able to demonstrate awareness of and minimise impact of noise pollution and other nuisance factors • Be able to demonstrate awareness of the environmental impact of powerboating and ways to protect the maritime environment
Care of Boats and Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to prepare and use checklists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Before Launch/Departure ○ After Recovery/Berthing of powerboat • Be able to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Undertake basic fault diagnosis on the engines used ○ Change a propeller ○ Explain how to use alternative means to start an engine

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<i>By the end of this course you will be able to do the following:</i>	
Further training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to identify what further training courses are available and where to find out about them. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VHF SRC ○ Casualty Care ○ <i>Irish Sailing</i> Safety Boat ○ <i>Irish Sailing</i> Advanced Powerboat ○ <i>Irish Sailing</i> / RYA Day Skipper Navigation Shorebased ○ <i>Irish Sailing</i> / RYA Day Skipper Practical (Motor)

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.

With Training Centres based in every corner of Ireland there are plenty to choose from for training close to home or while on holiday.

To find a full list of *Irish Sailing* Training Centres & Courses in your area go to www.sailing.ie/training

To purchase a Small Boat Sailing Scheme Logbook please logon to the *Irish Sailing* shop www.sailing.ie/shop

