

The logo for Seaforce Powerboats features the company name in a white, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a stylized white graphic that resembles a boat's hull or a speed wake, tapering to a point on the right side. The background of the entire page is a gradient from red on the left to blue on the right, overlaid with a semi-transparent image of two powerboats moving across a body of water.

SEAFØRCE
POWERBOATS

RYA Powerboat Level 2

Boat Handling

Syllabus

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RYA PBL2

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Aim

To learn or improve boat handling and seamanship in powerboats, so that you can demonstrate good skills and feel very confident in driving a variety of powerboats, venturing out on exhilarating daytime passages in inland and coastal waters. Although the syllabus has detailed content, making good progress through the course is truly exhilarating! The course may be conducted in a variety of boat types, both planing and displacement.

Course Duration

2 full days

Minimum Age

12 years

What's Included

- Waterproof gear
- Lifejackets
- Start Powerboating handbook
- modern facilities with hot/cold drinks and refreshments
- Very experienced instructors that are passionate about going through the course content with you in a relaxed manner
- A photo ID certificate of competence on successful completion of the course

Prior Knowledge and Experience

No prior knowledge or experience is required to undertake this course!

Skills Gained

Being confident enough in your boat handling, safety and navigation skills to plan and undertake daytime passages on inland waters and coastal waters with passengers onboard.

Opportunities After The Course

The Level 2 certificate of competence (COC) can be commercially endorsed for work in the marine industry. You can convert the level 2 certificate into an International COC valid in many countries. You are qualified and confident to progress in the national powerboat scheme.

Suggested Courses

Intermediate Powerboat
Day Skipper (Theory)
VHF Radio
Sea Survival
First Aid
Jet Ski PW
SRC (VHF) radio operator course

Course Content

Section A: Practical

Launching and Recovery

- Use of a trailer or launching trolley
- Consideration of launching and sea conditions, including hazards and obstructions
- Number of persons required to launch/recover
- Construction, width and condition of slipway
- Steep/slippery slipways, beach launching, lee shores
- Care of trailer bearings, hitch, lashings, ties, lights and winch
- Trailer parking
- Prepare the boat, lines, fenders, safety equipment, fuel tanks, lines and secure gear on board
- Prepare to go afloat
- Tie relevant knots

Preparation of Boat and Crew

- Personal buoyancy and appropriate clothing
- The use of the following equipment: lines, fenders, anchor and warp, bailer, fire extinguisher, pump, paddles or oars, compass, flares, torch, whistle, charts, first aid kit, sharp knife

Boat Handling

- Loading of vessel: effect on handling and performance, effect on balance and trim, CE plate and manufacturer's recommendation
- Handling characteristics of displacement boats, rudder-steered craft and shaft-driven vessels
- Crew members, minimum number in faster craft, keeping a look-out
- The importance of boat control in waves and adequate seating to minimise the possibility of injury
- Awareness of other water users, including effect of wash
- Steering, controls, effect of current or tidal stream
- Handling a boat at low and higher speed, using trim tabs and power trim
- Planing boats: propeller angle and immersion, shallow drive, planing and displacement speed handling, tiller/console steering
- Carry out pre-start checks, engine starting and stopping
- Demonstrate the use of an appropriate length kill cord at all times
- Carry out low speed manoeuvres including turning in a confined area, being aware of the effect of wind on bow and holding off. Demonstrate an awareness of the danger of flooding when going astern

Securing To A Buoy

- Preparation of mooring warp
- Use of a boat hook
- Direction of approach
- Taking way off
- Crew communication
- Approach and secure a buoy and making fast
- Procedure when overshooting

Anchoring

- Types of anchor
- Stowage and attachment to boat
- Preparation of anchor, chain and warp being aware of the depth of water, holding ground and scope required
- Weighing anchor correctly
- Correct approach and anchor correctly in various conditions, checking holding
- Taking way off retrieving the anchor onboard
- Crew communication

Leaving and Coming Alongside

- Preparation and use of lines and fenders, attachment to boat, stowage under way
- Speed and angle of approach
- Wind effect
- Method of approach in tidal stream or current
- Make fast alongside
- Use springs
- Leave – ahead or astern

Person Overboard

- How and when to raise the alarm
- Hypothermia and cold water shock
- Taking immediate action
- Observe the man overboard
- Carry out the correct return with awareness of propeller
- Approach and recover the person in the water
- Switching engine off
- Practical demonstration of drift down and into wind approach method

Section B: Theory

- Advantages and disadvantages of different types of craft and hull forms with respect to sea keeping ability
- Seating arrangements
- Stepped hulls
- Advantages and disadvantages of outboard, inboard and outdrive units, single and twin-shaft drives, choice and use of fuels
- Siting of fuel tanks, fuel lines, batteries, wiring, fire extinguishers
- Routine engine maintenance checks, basic fault diagnosis
- Close down procedure
- Advice for inland drivers about coastal waters
- Use and limitations of GPS/chart plotters
- Application of local byelaws, especially around commercial shipping
- Sources of weather information
- Awareness of other water users
- Communication with other craft
- Disabled craft
- Emergency action, preventing sinking
- Adrift – alternative means of propulsion
- Actions to be taken by a disabled craft and being towed
- Fire precautions and fire fighting
- Distress signals, means of issuing distress, DSC and the Mayday call
- Advice for vessels in restricted visibility
- Application of IRPCS, principally rules 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12-18

Section C: Coastal

- Byelaws and local regulations
- Insurance
- Boat registration schemes
- Pilotage and passage planning
- Charts, chart symbols, buoyage systems
- Tides and tidal streams
- Use of steering and hand bearing compasses
- Application of Section A on coastal waters

Section D

Direct Assessment for Experienced Powerboat Drivers

The candidate should have the equivalent of at least one full season's powerboating-handling experience. The candidate must complete the practical exercise on the water (details will be provided in advance) and satisfactorily answer questions on Section B. Candidates seeking assessment on coastal waters will demonstrate a knowledge and practical application of Section C.

Practical Assessment of all Candidates for Level 2

For The practical exercise candidates are expected to show that they understand the principles of each of the manoeuvres they will be asked to complete. Failure to complete a manoeuvre successfully at the first attempt will not necessarily result in overall failure, but a timely awareness of the need to abort an exercise and try again is important.

A diagram of the manoeuvres required during the practical test will be provided well in advance of the assessment.

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**Like what you see?
Get booked.**

(Last minute booking? Or need flexible dates? Get in touch)

www.seaforcepowerboats.co.uk

Gotta Question?

(We should have the answer on our FAQs page)

[FAQs](#)

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