

# Coastal Navigation for Small Boats

The aim of this course is to provide participants with the skills and knowledge required to safely navigate a boat by day and by night in coastal waters with which they are familiar.

## This course is intended as preparation for;

- Intermediate/ Advanced Powerboat Certificate
- Advanced Small Boat Sailing Scheme Modules (Dinghy, Keelboat, Catamaran)
- General interest and skill building

## Previous Experience

It is recommended that participants have one of the below practical certificates, however this course may be taken as a standalone module by those with a particular interest in this area.

- National Powerboat Certificate
- Improving Skills Certificate
- Competent Crew Certificate
- Helmsman Certificate

## Time Commitment

This course must consist of a minimum of 8-hours contact time.

The length of the course may be extended where it suits, or is necessary, for participants to take a more relaxed approach to the programme.

## Type of Boat

The course is entirely shorebased.

## Evaluation

There is no assessment for this course.

Participants attending the entire course and who have demonstrated an understanding of the principals taught may receive a certificate of completion.



# LEARNING OUTCOMES | Coastal Navigation for Small Boats



## Safety

- 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;
  - ∞ Hypothermia
  - ∞ Sea sickness
  - ∞ Sun stroke
  - ∞ Dehydration



## Chart Work

- Have demonstrated that you can;
  - ∞ Orientate a chart or map using topographical features, navigation marks and / or a compass.
  - ∞ Identify features, including hazards, from a chart.
  - ∞ Identify your position on the chart.
  - ∞ Identify distances from the chart and accurately predict expected progress
  - ∞ Describe the effects of compass deviation and variation.
  - ∞ Use transits to fix position and hold a course.
  - ∞ Plot a course to steer, taking account of the effects of wind & current



## Coastal Knowledge

- Be able to describe the effect tides can have on your activities.
- Be able to identify relevant tidal information on charts and in almanacs.
- Be able to calculate tidal heights and rates of flow for any port and apply these when planning activities



## Passage Planning

- Have devised passage / pilotage plans for;
  - ∞ A coastal passage by day
  - ∞ A coastal passage by night
  - ∞ entering into and departing from a harbour.
- Be able to identify where to obtain the information needed to devise a passage plan.
- Be able to programme a passage plan into a GPS set.
- Be able to accurately predict how much fuel you will need



## Buoyage

- The principal day marks used in IALA A buoyage system and describe their significance.
- Be able to identify these buoys at night.



## Sailing Knowledge

- Be able to identify the type, aspect and behaviour of vessels by day and by night from navigation lights and day shapes.
- Be able to identify the correct navigation lights and day shapes to use on small boats.
- Be able to use and understand manoeuvring (sound) signals.



## Electronic Aids

- Be able to describe the principal features of, and considerations to be made, when using the following equipment to navigate by day and by night.
  - ∞ GPS
  - ∞ Electronic Chart plotter
  - ∞ Radar
  - ∞ Depth sounder
  - ∞ Compass



## Weather

- Be able to identify common weather conditions and describe how they may affect your activities afloat.
- Be able to identify sources of weather forecasts
- Be able to interpret the forecast with regard to planned activities.
- Be able to explain the significance of commonly used terms in marine forecasts.
- Be able to identify the significance to powerboaters of common weather patterns illustrated on synoptic chart



## What Next...

I can describe how to continue sailing, record progress in my logbook and try another SBSS Advanced Module or towards the National Cruising Scheme for more adventures afloat.



**Checklick**

Use Checklick to track your progression.



The Irish Sailing Passport is your online skills tracking, certification and logbook system - powered by Checklick.

