

Coastal Skipper Standard

ASA Standard: ASA106 Advanced Coastal Cruising

ISSA Standard: Yacht Level 3

General Certification Requirements

Coastal Passage Making graduates will have successfully demonstrated their ability to responsibly skipper and crew an inboard auxiliary powered cruising sailboat during passages on coastal waters, in all weather conditions, including all levels of visibility and all hours of the day and night.

Certification requires the successful completion of the knowledge and skill requirements expected to be performed safely with confident command of the boat, for a legs of at least 50 nautical miles upon coastal waters, with wind speeds of at least 15 knots, including an overnight passage. The total distance should exceed 350 nautical miles.

Course formats

The course completion is a combination of practical and a written theoretical examination.

Recommended Equipment

It is recommended that Coastal Passage Making Certification courses and examinations be conducted on 30' to 50' sloop-rigged cruising keelboats with wheel steering and auxiliary diesel power, and with adequate equipment to complete the voyage in safety and all required certification outcomes.

Prerequisite

Bareboat Cruising and Coastal Navigation Certifications and command experience.

- It is recommended that all candidates have current First Aid/CPR certifications.

Skills

The successful Coastal Passage Making Candidate will have demonstrated a high level of leadership and seamanship abilities while performing all of the following skills:

Planning

- Thorough knowledge of Skipper's responsibilities.
 - Safety
 - Navigation Rules
 - Laws pertinent to your operation
 - Procedures for Foreign Departure/arrival
- Detailed passage plan to include:
 - Course plots and distances
 - Fuel consumption
 - Provisioning and Water
 - Weather forecasts
 - Strategies and tactics for potential conditions
 - Navigation strategies.
 - Specify a watch schedule and crew responsibilities

Weather

- Five sources for gathering accurate weather
- Cloud formations, and weather associated with fronts, warm & cold.
- Function of a barometer and barograph relevant to weather forecasting.
- High and low pressure systems and how they generate wind
- Geographic effects on wind and weather.
- Different factors for formation of fog.

Navigation (Piloting)

- Proper use of a ship's log.
- Correct plotting procedure.
- Use of tide and current tables.
- Use of the Light List and Coast Pilot.
- Taking fixes.
- Use of navigational way points.
- Plot danger bearings.
- Use Transits/Ranges
- Confirming chartwork with electronic navigation

Yacht Ownership/Management Skills

Equipment and Maintenance

- Hull
- Spars & Standing Rigging
- Deck Equipment & Running Rigging
- Engine - Systems and Controls
- Mechanical and electrical systems.
- Head systems
- Fresh water systems
- Navigation systems
- Anchoring systems
- Bilge Pump Systems,
- Galley systems and provisions
- Equipment Stowage

Management

- Insurance
- Day to Day Care/Supervision
- Berthing
- Routine Maintenance
- Periodic/Annual Maintenance
- Antifouling
- Steering
- Rigging
- Polishing and Painting

Preparation to Sail

- Inspect the vessel:
 - Hull, spars, deck, rigging, hardware, sails, engine, internal mechanical and electrical systems, head systems, fresh water systems, navigation systems, anchoring systems, galley and provisions, and stowage.
- Check the inventory:
 - locate and check condition of all required safety and
 - emergency equipment, tools, spare parts and sails.
- Conduct Crew briefings with responsibilities and set watch systems.
- Stow equipment and correctly lash the life raft or dinghy and deck equipment.

Crew Operations and Skill

Confirm:

- Knowledge of onboard systems and their maintenance
- Types of distress flares
- Contents and stowage of an abandon-ship "grab bag".
- Correct operating of electronic equipment as: Loran, GPS and radar
- A high level of seamanship skills
- Ability to:
 - Direct the crew
 - Make decisions pertinent to safe operations and passage goals
 - Shorten Sail
 - Awareness of when to refer to the Skipper
 - Act in Crew welfare
 - Apply correct Navigation procedures
 - Update the log correctly
 - Act correctly in Safety related occurrences
 - Make a Distress Call

Leaving the Dock

- Develop a departure plan for the vessel and crew
- Appropriate helmsman and crew coordination skills.

Boat Control

Confined Waters

- Boat control in close quarters in adverse conditions (actual/simulated) leaving harbor.
- Visual and anticipated shallow depths
- Mast Clearance from over-head obstruction

Open Water

- Command and control of the vessel under all wind and sea conditions encountered.
- Demonstrate leadership skills.
- Consider issues:
 - Lee shores
 - Dangerous Currents
 - Breaking waves in inlets
 - Shoals and bars

Heavy Weather Sailing

- Working on deck at night or under heavy weather conditions (actual or simulated)
- Using a safety harness and jacklines.
- Use of a boom preventer and its inherent dangers.
- Dangerous and uncomfortable sea states.

Overboard Recovery Methods

- Quick-Stop and Lifesling methods of overboard recoveries, both day and night.
- Methods of getting an overboard recovery victim back on deck.
- Overboard recovery should be done under power.

Safety and Emergency Procedures:

- Plan of action and safety considerations should your vessel be in danger due to:
 - Fire,
 - Holing by a submerged object
 - Water intake
 - Dismasting
 - Steerage failure
 - Proper procedures for protection against lightning strikes.
 - Procedures involved in an air rescue operation.

Anchoring Techniques:

- Anchor or recover anchor while the vessel is under sail.
- Mediterranean Mooring.
- Use of a tripline/anchor buoy.
- Plan of action for anchoring in high wind
- Anchor watch schedule and responsibilities.

Returning to the Dock:

- Approach plan for the vessel and crew
- Returning to the dock in adverse conditions.

Securing the Boat Properly:

- Stowing of equipment
- Cleaning of the vessel after returning
- Vessel Check the before leaving the dock – check and report:
- Inventory Depreciation - Loss or Use
- Any maintenance required:
 - Operational problems with equipment
 - Docklines
 - Spring lines and fenders
 - Through-hull valves
 - Electrical system
 - Engine
 - Bilge pumps
 - Overall security of the boat.