

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT COURSE SYLLABUS

The one-day personal watercraft course covers the topics set out below and is usually taught in the order shown, however the order may be changed due to local conditions or the weather on the day.

Minimum of 2 students (maximum of 3)

### SECTION 1: INSTRUCTION ASHORE

1. Layout of a PW; controls; propulsion and steering system; fuel and oil; stowage compartment(s)
2. Personal equipment, wet suit/dry suit, personal buoyancy, head and eye protection
3. Pre launch checks
4. Essential safety information. Kill cord, safe speed, local hazards
5. Collision avoidance
6. Rules of the road applied to PW
7. Lookout
8. Safe speed
9. Priorities between different classes of vessel
10. Overtaking, crossing and end-on approach rules
11. Local rules, speed limits, prohibited areas.
12. Orientation at sea
13. Charts, scales, direction and distance
14. Representation of land, shallows and deep water. Buoys, lateral and cardinal
15. Avoiding shipping channels, special buoyed areas for water skiing etc
16. Tides, high and low water and tidal streams
17. Weather, safety, courtesy to other water users
18. Sources and significance of weather forecasts
19. Lee and weather shores
20. Safety and emergency equipment
21. Courtesy to other water users
22. Avoiding pollution and disturbance to wildlife habitats

### SECTION 2: INSTRUCTION AFLOAT

1. Launching and familiarisation
2. Launching from a trailer; board in shallow water and start engine
3. Control at slow speed. Balance and trim
4. Falling off and re-boarding. Capsize and righting
5. Control at speed. Stopping distances
6. Orientation
7. Following a planned route, identifying buoys and marks
8. Collision avoidance.
9. Recognising potential collision situations and taking correct avoiding action
- 10 PW Control at speed
11. Slalom exercise
12. Emergencies
13. Towing a PW- knots, bowline, round turn and two half hitches

On completion of this practical exercise, recover PW from water and prepare for trailing and storage.