

The logo for Seaforce Powerboats features the company name in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'SEAFØRCE' on the top line and 'POWERBOATS' on the bottom line. The text is centered within a stylized white graphic that resembles the hull of a speedboat, tapering to a point on the right side.

**SEAFØRCE**  
**POWERBOATS**

# RYA Tender Operator

## Syllabus

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## RYA Tender Operator

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### Aim

To gain confidence in manoeuvring boats safely, smoothly and with precision while carrying passengers onboard. Learn and develop important skills in pilotage and navigation day and night and in the management of passenger carrying tenders, dealing with day to day care and maintenance of the vessels.

### Course Duration

2 days and includes a night passage

### Minimum Age

17 years

### What's Included

- Waterproof gear,
- Lifejackets
- Powerboat logbook
- Modern facilities with hot/cold drinks and refreshments
- Experienced, enthusiastic and approachable instructors who love running this exciting course

### Prior Knowledge and Experience

Candidates should be experienced to the level of Powerboat Level 2 certificate and are strongly recommended to hold first aid certificates and VHF Radio operator's license

### Skills Gained

Confidence in boat handling, working with crew, pilotage, navigation, passenger carriage and management day or night in a ship to shore transfer situation and in dealing with emergencies.

### Opportunities After The Course

When applying for work in the very competitive superyacht industry having the Tender Operators License will make you a more attractive candidate when it comes to skills requirements. If you already work on superyachts having done the course opens many doors for you to become an invaluable member of the crew.

### Suggested Courses

Intermediate Powerboat  
Dayskipper (Theory)  
Yachtmaster (Theory)  
Sea Survival  
SRC (VHF) radio operator course  
First Aid

## Course Content

### Section A: Practical

#### Prepare The Vessel For Sea

- Navigation equipment,
- Bilge pump and alarms
- Essential safety equipment
- Stowage of warps and securing gear
- Pre-departure procedures
- Checking drive systems
- Emergency shutdown procedures for the vessel being used for training
- The need to be familiar with procedures for refuelling on board and at sea
- Communication protocol with mother ship
- Carry out fuel and mechanical checks on the vessel being used for training
- Check engines, cooling and lubrication systems, safely start and shutdown engines
- Diagnose basic engine start problems and check fuel levels

#### Life Saving Apparatus(LSA)

- Sources of information on different types of LSA
- The importance of familiarisation with the use of different types of LSA
- Demonstrate the use of all LSA carried onboard

#### Boat Handling

- The importance of having crew to assist in berthing operations
- How to select an anchorage with due regard to the safety of the vessel and passengers who may be partaking in water sports
- Towing water toys and the need for a spotter
- The importance of boat control in waves and adequate seating to minimise the possibility of injury
- Tidal considerations

#### Rules of the Road (IRPCS)

- Sources of local byelaws
- The importance of adhering to local byelaws
- Demonstrate a good sense of situational awareness including; the ability to conduct dynamic risk assessment given the prevailing conditions and location
- Apply the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea

### Passenger Safety and Comfort

- Sources of information regarding maximum number of people and payload
- When to instruct passengers to wear appropriate LSA
- The importance of boat control in waves and appropriate seating to minimise the possibility of injury
- Requirement to comply with maximum number of people and payload
- The hazards associated with non-compliant passengers and those under the influence of alcohol
- The hazards associated with less mobile passengers and children
- Strategies for ensuring the safety of non English speaking passengers
- The importance of selecting a safe place to meet and greet passengers
- The need to preplan onward land transportation of passengers
- Brief the crew on passage plan and roles and responsibilities
- Give an effective passenger safety briefing
  - Give an effective demonstration of all relevant LSA and location
- Embark and disembark passengers safely
- Drive appropriate to prevailing weather and sea conditions with due consideration to keeping all on board
- comfortable and dry

### Daytime Pilotage

- The benefit of agreeing and lodging the pilotage plan with the Master or Officer of the Watch
- The requirement for a safety margin when using chartplotters and other electronic navigation aids
- The need to use a secondary means of position fixing when using electronic navigation aids
- Using verifiable waypoints
- Consideration for local environmental conditions, hazards and other water users
- The importance of maintaining contact with the mother vessel at all times
  - Safe speed for navigation
- Produce an effective day time pilotage plan
- Use charts and publications Interpret Lateral and Cardinal buoyage System A & B
- Use a chartplotter for navigation afloat Use waypoint navigation
- Use pilotage to enter a port by day

### Night Time Pilotage

- The additional hazards associated with moving passengers by water during the hours of darkness
- Take charge of a power driven vessel during the hours of darkness, including but not limited to
  - short passages between harbour and mother vessel
- Produce an effective night time pilotage plan
- Demonstrate ability to keep a proper lookout by all available means
- Identify position at all times

## Emergency Situations

- Helicopter rescue procedures
- Local safe havens/points of refuge
- Effective management of an emergency situation by day and at night
- Importance of keeping head count of all persons on board
- Fire prevention and fighting
- Action to take in the event of hull damage / loss of watertight integrity
- What to do in a medical emergency
- The principles of towing and being towed
- The danger of cold shock

## Section B: Theory

### Tender Specific Knowledge

- Different types of propulsion systems: outdrive, outboard, jet drive, forward facing drives, shaft drive
- The handling characteristics for various types of common hull forms
- Various methods of launch and recovery from the mother vessel whilst at anchor and stopped in the water Requirement to gain on board type specific training

### Legislation and Guidance

- The requirement to maintain a current MCA Officer of the Watch Training Record Book (Yacht)
- RYA Code of Practice for Safe Water Sports Operations
- RYA Guidance on Small High-Speed Craft Passenger Safety
- The importance of carrying the correct documents

### Vessel Specific Training

- Additional regulated training available
- The importance of vessel and equipment specific training

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

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

**[www.seaforcepowerboats.co.uk](http://www.seaforcepowerboats.co.uk)**

**Gotta Question?**

(We should have the answer on our FAQs page)

**[FAQs](#)**

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