



EDMONTON ROWING CLUB

Motorboat Safety Equipment

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Table of Contents

Purpose	2
Application	2
Policy Statement	2
Definitions	2
Responsibilities	2
Certification	3
Proof of Certification	3
Obtaining Proof of Certification	3
Replacement PCOC	3
Required Motorboat Equipment	3
References	4
Questions	4

Purpose

1. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the ERC is consistently operating motorboats in a safe manner and in compliance with the *Canada Shipping Act (2001) Small Vessel Regulations*.

Application

2. This policy applies to everyone within the ERC community including but not limited to members, coaches, staff, volunteers, parents, and program participants.

Policy Statement

1. The ERC is committed to operating in a safe manner. Rowing, like other water activities, presents various risks. The ERC enacts this policy to ensure we are operating a safe sporting environment in accordance with the *Canada Shipping Act (2001) Small Vessel Regulations* to manage associated risks.

Definitions

2. For the purpose of this policy, a PFD refers to an inflatable or inherently buoyant personal flotation device that is approved by Transport Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, or Ocean and Fisheries Canada.

Responsibilities

3. The motorboat operator is responsible for ensuring themselves and any passengers are wearing a PFD.
4. The motorboat operator is responsible for bringing their pleasure craft operator card (PCOC) or equivalent with them for every outing.
5. The motorboat operator is responsible for ensuring the maximum number of people in a motorboat at any time is 4.
6. The motorboat operator is responsible for ensuring all required safety equipment is taken for every outing.
7. The motorboat operator is responsible for ensuring that all equipment and PFDs used during a session are put back in their respective bags.
8. The motorboat operator is responsible for driving the motorboat in accordance with Transport Canada standards.
9. Motorboat passengers are responsible for following all instructions of the operator.
10. The Club Manager will arrange regular checks of all motorboat and PFD bags to ensure they are fully stocked.
11. The Club Manager will arrange regular visual inspections of all PFDs to ensure they remain in good condition.

12. The Club Manager and Safety Director arrange annual dunk tests of all PFDs to ensure they remain in good condition.

Certification

Proof of Certification

13. All motorboat operators with the ERC are required to provide proof of certification. Documents that may serve as proof include:
 - Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC). Note that a paper or electronic version of a PCOC is not acceptable,
 - certificate from a Canadian boating safety course completed before April 1, 1999,
 - professional marine certificate or equivalent, or
 - for a visitor to Canada, an operator card or other document that meets the requirements for their home state or country.

Obtaining Proof of Certification

14. ERC coaches are expected to obtain their Canadian PCOC.
15. To obtain a PCOC you must pass a boating safety test. All boating safety courses and tests that lead to the issuance of a PCOC are delivered by course providers accredited by Transport Canada. To find accredited course providers see Getting Started - Safe Boating.
16. A PCOC does not expire.

Replacement PCOC

17. If the PCOC is lost or destroyed, an individual can request a replacement from the accredited course provider that issued the card. If the course provider is unknown or no longer exists, the individual should contact the Transport Canada Boating Safety Infoline at 1-800-267-6687 or email pcoc-ccep@tc.gc.ca.

Required Motorboat Equipment

18. The following equipment must be on board a motorboat in use on the water:
 1. An inherently buoyant PFD on the body of the operator and each passenger,
 2. PCOC (or equivalent) on the operator's person,
 3. 1 paddle,
 4. 1 ladder,
 5. 1 grey motorboat bag containing:
 - 5 inherently buoyant PFDs (for operator, maximum 3 passengers, and 8+ or 4+ coxswain if an 8+ flips),

- 1 bagged tow rope,
 - 1 first aid kit (in red drybag with a headlight),
 - 1 bailer,
 - 1 whistle.
6. Black PFD bags (for crews on the water, 4 per bag):
- 1 bag when the largest crew on the water is a 4+,
 - 2 bags when the largest crew on the water is an 8+.
7. Navigation lights when operating 30 minutes prior to sunrise and/or 30 minutes after sunset. Light must be steady state and not flashing.
- White light on the stern,
 - Green light on starboard side,
 - Red light on port side.

References

19. Canada Shipping Act, Small Vessel Regulations: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2010-91/index.html>
20. Transport Canada Boating Safety Infoline: 1-800-267-6687 or email pcoc-ccep@tc.gc.ca
21. Transport Canada Education Resources for Recreational Boaters: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/marine/getting-started-safe-boating/find-education-resources-recreational-boaters.html>
22. Transport Canada Proof of Competency for Recreational Boaters: https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/debs-obs-paperwork-paperwork_operator-360.htm#s1
23. Transport Canada Safe Boating Guide (2019): <https://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/marinesafety/TP-511e.pdf>

Questions

24. Questions about this policy can be directed to the [Club Manager](#).