

**Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907**  
**Pleasure Boat Licences**

**Conditions:**

**A. Restricted Boatman's Licence**

- (1) A Restricted Boatman's Licence applies to persons/operators on the shore of the sea, rivers, lakes and pools only and does not include the navigation of pleasure craft to be used for carrying passengers for hire.

**Full Boatman's Licence**

- (2) A Full Boatman's Licence applies to persons/operator who assist in the charge and navigation of pleasure boats, craft or vessels to be let for hire or be used for carrying passengers for hire.

In order to qualify for a Full or restricted boatman's Licence an applicant must be:

- (a) Over 18 years of age.
- (b) Have a full knowledge of all statutory rules, regulations and byelaws applicable to navigation on the water or waters for which the Licence is required.
- (c) Possess a life-saving qualification.

**B. Conditions for All Boats**

These conditions apply to sailing dinghies, canoes (kayak-type), mechanically propelled boats or vessels (motor boats), rowing boats, rowing dinghies, canadian canoes, sail boards, sea cycles, water bikes etc.

**Maximum numbers:**

- (1) The maximum number of persons permitted to be carried on any boat to which this licence applies shall not exceed the number specified in the licence applying to such boat.

**Identification sign:**

- (2) An identification number and/or name of the boat shall be permanently affixed in a conspicuous position to the hull of the boat in figures/letters not less than 25mm in height and 20mm in breadth.
- (3) A notice stating the maximum number of persons permitted to be carried in the form of "Licensed to carry persons" together with the licence holder's name shall also be prominently displayed.
- (4) A notice stating the licence-holder's name shall be prominently displayed at the point of hire.

**Condition & inspection:**

- (5) All boats hereby licensed shall be kept in good, sound and safe condition to the satisfaction of the Council's approved boat inspector. Craft may not be used for hire in any calendar year until tested satisfactorily by the approved inspector. Operators are responsible for employing the inspector.

Buoyancy:

- (6) All boats hereby licensed shall have sufficient built-in buoyancy to maintain the boat and passengers afloat in the event of a capsize or accidental holing.

Age limits:

- (9) No motor boat hereby licensed shall be hired to any person or persons under the age of 16 years.
- (10) No sailing dinghy, rowing boat, sailboard, sea cycle or water bikes hereby licensed shall be hired to any person or persons under the age of 14 years unless supervised by a competent adult.

Drink & drugs:

- (11) No boat hereby licensed shall be hired to any person or persons apparently under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Buoyancy aids:

- (12) A suitable buoyancy aid or life-jacket complying with the relevant European standard shall be issued to each person using the boat and as far as is reasonably practicable, the licence-holder shall ensure that each person shall wear a buoyancy aid or life-jacket at all times when on the water. Suitable notices and verbal information for the purpose of bringing this facility to the attention of all persons shall be provided at the point of hire.

Protective clothing:

- (13) A stock of protective clothing shall be available at the point of hire for the use of persons hiring sailboards.

Rescue boat:

- (14) A suitable and sufficient rescue boat must be available and on site at all times.

Safe system of work:

- (15) The licence-holder must demonstrate that a suitable and sufficient system is in place and is operated to ensure that proper records are kept which show how many boats have been hired out at any time, the expected time of return and the emergency procedures to be implemented on the failure of a boat to return.
- (16) All boats hereby licensed shall be insured at all times when in use against third party risks.
- (17) No boat hereby licensed shall be let for hire in rough weather conditions which may pose a threat to the safety of those on board.
- (18) Where, and to the extent relevant, the boat shall comply with the Recreational Craft Regulations 1996 and all other Regulations, Byelaws and statutory requirements.

**C. Canoes**

- (1) No canoe hereby licensed shall be hired unless it is used and operated under the supervision of a qualified instructor and that supervision is in accordance with the regulations of the British Canoe Union.

## **D. Powered Boats**

- (1) Every motor boat under 5 metres in overall length hereby licensed shall carry the following equipment:
  - (i) one lifebuoy of a type approved by the Department of Trade and Industry of a size not less than 610mm in diameter with a buoyant line of at least 10 metres attached with a minimum breaking strain of 115 kilos;
  - (ii) one bailer or receptacle capable of displacing at least 1.2 litres of water, such bailer to be secured to the boat by a nylon line or lanyard; and
  - (iii) one dry powder (or suitable alternative) fire extinguisher, which shall be regularly serviced and inspected in accordance with the manufacturer's directions, of not less than 1.4 kilos capacity with directions for use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions prominently displayed thereon.
- (2) Every motor boat over 5 metres in overall length hereby licensed shall carry the following equipment:
  - (i) 2 lifebuoys of a type approved by the Department of Trade and Industry of a size of not less than 610mm in diameter with a buoyant line of at least 10 metres attached with a minimum breaking strain of 115 kilos;
  - (ii) one bailer or bucket capable of displacing at least 1.2 litres of water, such bailer to be secured to the boat by a nylon line or lanyard, or a manual bilge pump; and
  - (iii) 2 dry powder (or suitable alternative) fire extinguishers, which shall be regularly serviced and inspected in accordance with the manufacturer's directions, or not less than 1.4 kilos capacity each with directions for use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions prominently displayed thereon.
- (3) In the case of motor boats hereby licensed which have an exposed propeller shaft such boats shall be fitted with a suitable shaft cover to the satisfaction of the Council's approved boat inspector.

## **E. Rowing Boats & Dinghies**

- (1) Every pleasure boat hereby licensed insofar as (i) below is concerned shall be fitted with the following:
  - (i) oars with rowlocks of the "pin" type or, alternatively, with oars of a type capable of being secured to the boat by some other means to the satisfaction of the Council's boat inspector; and
  - (ii) rubber bow protectors to the satisfaction of the Council's boat inspector.
- (2) A plaque of at least 150mm in width by 75mm in depth shall be affixed in a prominent position in every pleasure boat hereby licensed bearing the following wording in black or red letters on a white background:  
"DANGER - DO NOT STAND UP, CHANGE PLACES OR SWIM FROM BOAT" or similar wording that conveys the same message or intended meaning.

**F. Sailboards**

- (1) No sailboard hereby licensed shall be hired out by a sailboarding school unless it is used under the supervision of a qualified instructor and that supervision is in accordance with the appropriate regulations of the Royal Yachting Association.

**G. Sea Cycles, Water Bikes and Similar Craft Let for Hire**

- (1) The maximum number of persons permitted to be carried on any sea cycle, water bike or similar craft to which this licence applies shall not exceed the number as specified in the licence applying to that craft, *ie* the number of individual seats fitted.
- (2) A plaque of at least 150mm in width by 75mm in height shall be affixed in a prominent position in every craft hereby licensed bearing the following wording in black or red letters on a white background:  
"DANGER - DO NOT STAND UP, CHANGE PLACES OR SWIM FROM CRAFT" or similar wording that conveys the same message or intended meaning.
- (3) No person apparently under 1.2 metres tall may act as a rider with the pedals in either model.