

Maritime Safety Queensland

BoatSafe Information Bulletin - 006

COVID-19

Purpose

This BoatSafe Information Bulletin (BIB) relates to the controlled environment that is required in order to recommence BoatSafe training and assessment. BIB-06 also repeals the previously approved operating conditions contained in BIB-005.

Requirements

Situation

The BoatSafe Information Bulletin further describes the framework under which BoatSafe trainers may complete service delivery, based on current Chief Health Officer advice. It is a condition of your BoatSafe training authority that all BoatSafe related activities are conducted in line with any published BIB's.

COVID-19 Operational requirements

Approval to complete BoatSafe training and assessment has been received from the State Health Emergency Crisis Centre (SHECC). This is on condition that social distancing is maintained 'as far as practicable'.

To meet this condition, you will need to tailor your individual operations accordingly. Each trainer will be solely responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirement.

Operating Conditions

These conditions apply to all authority holders from **15 May 2020**.

BoatSafe providers must ensure that 'as far as reasonably practicable' social distancing guidelines are adhered to.

This includes the following measures related to general health and hygiene, pre-training and assessment health, pre-training and assessment and post training ship and PWC cleaning.

General health and hygiene

In conducting BoatSafe training and assessment, it is a health requirement that social distancing be followed as far as is practicable. To achieve this the following measures are implemented:

- Clean hands regularly with liquid soap and water or alcohol hand rubs, including after ship cleaning actions.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or bent elbow when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of any unused tissues immediately in the bin and clean hands with liquid soap and water or an alcohol hand rub.
- Avoid touching your face, nose and mouth. Do not shake hands.
- Stay home if you are sick. Seek medical advice about returning to work after illness.
- Practice social distancing, which includes staying at least 1.5m away from others as much as you can.

Pre-training and assessment

Prior to commencement of the training and assessment, the following processes shall be followed:

- Undertake customer screening questionnaire including whether the customer:
 - Is displaying any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue and/or shortness of breath). Training and/or assessment of the student should not proceed if a student answers yes to any of these symptoms.
 - Has travelled back from overseas, or from a COVID-19 hotspot, or impacted by health contract tracing alert or self-quarantine order.
- Written declaration to be completed and signed by the customer.
- BoatSafe trainers and students are to clean their hands with liquid soap and water or alcohol based hand rub prior to the commencement of activities.

Pre-training and assessment ship and PWC cleaning

All common areas of the ship are to be cleaned before and after the ship and PWC is used with a suitable cleaning wipe or a hospital grade disinfectant solution. Common areas include;

- Ships wheel or tiller
- Throttle controls
- Gunnels and/or handrails - particularly at point of embarkation and disembarking.
- Seats, pedestals or standing position hand holds.
- Any training materials the trainer or the student is required to touch. For example, buoys, fenders and lifejackets.
- Any other surface that trainers or students can reasonably be expected to touch while entering, occupying or using the ship or its equipment.

A box of tissues, a waste receptacle for used tissues and hand sanitiser is to be available onboard the ship during the training and assessment.

Personal protective equipment during practical training and assessment

The following equipment is to be available for the trainers and students to use:

- An alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains either ethanol or isopropyl with a concentration greater than 60% concentration.
- Disposable gloves for the purposes of cleaning.
- Limiting personnel on a vessel to ensure social distancing is maintained as far as practicable.

BTOs found to be not complying with the conditions of the BoatSafe Information Bulletin 006 as required, may be subject to suspension or cancellation of their authority.

Further Information

For further information contact the BoatSafe Team by email boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au or by phone 07 30663881.