

### RYA Personal Watercraft Course Syllabus

The RYA's Personal Watercraft course is designed for first time & experienced riders alike. Increasingly this certificate is required for launching in UK harbours, but is also needed if you want to use your PWC here in Mallorca.

Most courses take place over one day. By taking your course at an RYA Recognised Training Centre you can expect to be taught by an experienced, qualified instructor. Courses can be taken on your own Jet Ski or a rented craft if you do not have one.

The course teaches you how to use your PWC safely, responsibly & with confidence, ensuring that you get the best out of your craft. It covers high & low speed riding skills, essential safety information, collision avoidance & orientation at sea.

Children aged between 12 & 16 can take the course. Their certificates will be endorsed to show that they must use PWs only under the supervision of a responsible adult.

### Instruction Ashore

#### **Introduction**

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

### **Instruction afloat**

- Launching & familiarisation
- Launching from a trailer; board in shallow water & start engine.
- Control at slow speed. Balance & trim.
- Falling off & re-boarding. Capsize & righting.
- Control at speed. Stopping distances.
- Orientation
- Following a planned route, identifying buoys & marks.
- Collision avoidance
- Recognising potential collision situations & taking correct avoiding action.
- PWC Control at speed
- Slalom exercise
- Emergencies
- Towing a PWC- knots, bowline, round turn & two half hitches.

Students receive a copy of their Personal Watercraft Proficiency Scheme Record Card on completion of the course. This card serves as a temporary licence until the official PWC licence arrives from the RYA in the UK.

Each student must provide 2 passport photos and fill in the Record Card clearly with full details. The PWC licence fee is 15GBP per person (daily exchange rate is used in order to pay in Euros €)

RYA Members receive their licence Free of Charge provided the RYA Membership number is provided on the record card.

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