

Dear Advanced Powerboat Instructor / Powerboat Trainer / Principal

Further to the letter of 17 December 2012 on the Powerboat Scheme Review (<http://www.rya.org.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/training/Web%20Documents/RYA%20Training/Training%20centres/Powerboat%20PW%20and%20IW/Powerboat%20Scheme%20Review.pdf>), I am writing to you to explain how some of the developments in the Powerboat scheme affect you as a Powerboat Advanced Instructor.

The RYA Powerboat scheme has undergone some changes in the last year. Teaching boats for advanced powerboat are now required to have 4 individual seats with handholds and they have to comply with the following, from the RYA Recognition Guidance Notes (available in the Resources section of the RYA Training and Courses website).

2.7.4 An RTC's vessel for Advanced Powerboat must comply with the local regulations. In the UK vessels would normally be expected to be certified under the small commercial vessel code of practice to category 5 + 3 (R) for RIBs or category 3 for other vessels. UK centres operating exclusively in categorised waters should contact RYA Training for specific guidance. Vessels operating under other flag states should comply with a comparable commercial standard under their national regulations. Records of vessel compliance must be kept by the RTC. All vessels should carry equipment as detailed in the powerboat training checklist.

To teach the Advanced Powerboat course, all Advanced Powerboat Instructors need an in-date commercial endorsement (an Advanced Powerboat, Yachtmaster Coastal (Power) or Yachtmaster Offshore (Power) would be acceptable).

Information on how to gain a commercial endorsement can be found on the RYA website: <http://www.rya.org.uk/coursestraining/professional/commercialend/Pages/commercialendorsements.aspx>

However, to teach the Intermediate Powerboat course, an Advanced Powerboat Instructor would not need to hold a commercial endorsement, so long as the vessel remained within categorised waters or MCA category 6 water for the duration of the course.

Please see the table below which explains the instructor qualification required to teach:

	Instructor Qualification required
PB 1, 2	PBI (Powerboat Instructor)
Safety Boat	PBI + Safety Boat
PB Intermediate Operating within categorised waters or up to and including MCA category 6	PAI (Powerboat Advanced Instructor)
PB Intermediate Operating further to sea than MCA category 6 or outside the UK	PAI + one of the following commercially endorsed certificates: Advanced Powerboat, Yachtmaster Coastal (Power) or Yachtmaster Offshore (Power)
PB Advanced – all locations	PAI + one of the following commercially endorsed certificates: Advanced Powerboat, Yachtmaster Coastal (Power) or Yachtmaster Offshore (Power)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. I am Advanced Powerboat Instructor, but I don't hold a commercially endorsed Advanced Powerboat, how do I do this?

You require a commercially endorsed Advanced Powerboat, or a Yachtmaster Coastal Power or Yachtmaster Offshore Power.

Information on how to gain a commercial endorsement can be found on the RYA website:
<http://www.rya.org.uk/coursestraining/professional/commercialend/Pages/commercialendorsements.aspx>

2. I have looked at the commercial endorsement part of the website and I seem to fall between the gaps. I am an Advanced Powerboat Instructor which I passed before April 2011. I hold an Advanced Powerboat certificate which I gained after 1 January 2005, but I have not taken the exam as it was not a pre-requisite for the Advanced Powerboat Instructor course until April 2011. I do not hold a Yachtmaster Coastal or Offshore Power certificate of competence. How do I get a commercial endorsement?

There are a small number of Advanced Powerboat Instructors who fall into this category. In a one-off agreement with the MCA, the RYA will endorse their post January 2005 Advanced Powerboat course completion certificate. This one-off agreement only applies to holders of the Advanced Powerboat Instructor certificate. The requirements to gain the commercial endorsement remain the same as in question 1.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your dedication to the Powerboat scheme and I hope that you will continue to deliver good quality Intermediate and Advanced Powerboat training in the future.

Kind regards



Rachel Andrews
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