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United States Coast Guard

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COMMANDANT NOTICE 16794

Subj: CH-1 TO AUXILIARY BOAT CREW QUALIFICATION GUIDE, VOLUME III: PWC OPERATOR, COMDTINST M16794.54

1. PURPOSE. This Notice provides changes to the Auxiliary Boat Crew Qualification Guide, Volume III: PWC Operator, COMDTINST M16794.54.

2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders of maintenance and logistics commands, and commanding officers of headquarters units shall ensure units under their command overseeing or directing Auxiliary operations and Auxiliarists at all levels become familiar with, and adhere to this Notice.

3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. None.

4. SUMMARY. Most of the changes are a compilation of editorial corrections made since the Manual was published. The task requiring capsizing and re-righting a PWC has been changed to allow the Auxiliary member to explain or demonstrate this procedure. The new PWC Facility Inspection and Offer for Use form is now available at ANSC and required for PWC facilities. Polypropylene tow lines are authorized for use with the PWC.

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5. PROCEDURE. Remove and insert the following pages:

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Terry M. Cross /s/
Assistant Commandant for Operations

Encl: (1) CH-1 TO AUXILIARY BOAT CREW QUALIFICATION GUIDE, VOLUME III: PWC OPERATOR, COMDTINST M16794.54

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Appendix A RECORD OF COMPLETED TASKS PWC OPERATOR

Trainee's Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Section A *Crew Efficiency Factors, Risk Factors and Team Coordination*			
Task	**Description**	**Mentor Initials**	**Date**
PWC-01-01-AUX	Crew Fatigue		
PWC-01-02-AUX	Sun And Heat Related Factors		
PWC-01-03-AUX	Team Coordination Training		

Section B *Physical Fitness, First Aid and Survival*			
Task	**Description**	**Mentor Initials**	**Date**
PWC-02-01-AUX	Personal Physical Requirements And Policy		
PWC-02-02-AUX	Crew First Aid Responsibility		
PWC-02-03-AUX	State The Symptoms And Treatment For Shock		
PWC-02-04-AUX	State The Symptoms And Treatment For Anaphylactic Shock		
PWC-02-05-AUX	Demonstrate Direct Pressure, Pressure Points And Tourniquet Method To Control Bleeding		
PWC-02-06-AUX	State The Signs And Treatment For Burns		
PWC-02-07-AUX	State The Symptoms And Treatment For Hypothermia		
PWC-02-08-AUX	Identify Boat Crew Personal Survival Equipment		
PWC-02-09-AUX	Use The Emergency Signaling Mirror		
PWC-02-10-AUX	Operate The Personal Marker Light (PML)		
PWC-02-11-AUX	PFD Swim		

Section C ***Marlinespike Seamanship, Boat Nomenclature and Basic Stability***			
Task	**Description**	**Mentor Initials**	**Date**
PWC-03-01-AUX	Identify The Different Parts Of A Line And The Hitches Used In Line Handling		
PWC-03-02-AUX	Tie Various Knots, Hitches And Bends		
PWC-03-03-AUX	Secure Lines To A Cleat		
PWC-03-04-AUX	State The Operational Limitations And Characteristics Of The PWC		
PWC-03-05-AUX	Conduct A Pre-Underway Check Off On A PWC Facility		

Section D ***Boat Handling***			
Task	**Description**	**Mentor Initials**	**Date**
PWC-04-01-AUX	Dismount And Remount PWC In Deep Water		
PWC-04-02-AUX	Explain or Demonstrate Re-right And Remount A Capsized PWC In Deep Water		
PWC-04-03-AUX	Maneuver Through A Buoyed Slalom Course		
PWC-04-04-AUX	Shallow Water Operations		
PWC-04-05-AUX	Maneuver A PWC In Tight Quarters		
PWC-04-06-AUX	Identify And Describe Accepted Maritime Distress Signals		

Section E ***Communications***			
Task	**Description**	**Mentor Initials**	**Date**
PWC-05-01-AUX	Operate A VHF-FM Radiotelephone		
PWC-05-02-AUX	Use The VHF-FM Radiotelephone To Give A Position Or Ops Normal Report		
PWC-05-03-AUX	Obtain Distress Information And Pass To The Controlling Shore Unit		

Appendix B. PWC Facility Acceptance and Operating Policies

1. **Facility Acceptance**

A Personal Watercraft (PWC) is a small vessel that is propelled by an internal combustion engine powering a jet pump or propeller. It is designed to carry from one to three persons, and operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel rather than sitting or standing inside the vessel.

PWCs offered for use as a facility must be of the "sit down" type, designed for at least two riders.

A PWC may be offered for use and accepted as operational facilities, using Form CG-2736C. PWCs do not need to be designated as special purpose facilities.

2. **Required Facility Equipment**

To be accepted as an operational facility and operated on Coast Guard patrol orders, a PWC must carry the following equipment:

- One USCG-approved non-toxic dry chemical fire extinguisher.
- One 30-foot-long 3/8" polypropylene tow line.
- PFD for each rider with required survival equipment attached. PFDs must be impact-rated for the PWC's maximum speed.
- One waterproof marine radio or portable radio in clear plastic waterproof bag.
- One rescue throw bag or rescue heaving line (minimum 50 feet reach).
- One throwable PFD.
- First aid kit and emergency survival blanket.
- One spare safety lanyard ("kill switch")
- An Auxiliary ensign or Patrol Ensign displayed on a five-foot flagstaff. (Optional)

Continued on next page

2. **Required Equipment** (Continued)

- Watch.
- Flashlight.
- Mooring lines (2).
- Knife (3" blade minimum).
- Sponges (2).

The following equipment should be readily available in the patrol area:

- Drinking water.
- Spare spark plugs.
- PWC tool kit. (See Task 03-05-AUX for a complete listing of contents).
- PWC oil (2 cycle).
- Visual Distress Signals (VDS).

3. **Personal Protective Equipment**

The following personal protective equipment (PPE) is required to be carried on patrols:

- Polarized, impact resistant goggles (sunglasses).
- Foot protection (wet suit booties or similar).
- Hat/helmet.
- Gloves with non-slip palms.

4. **Patrol Orders**

PWC facilities are assigned to patrol duty using the standard Patrol Order Form, CG 5132, or any of the alternative means of orders (e.g., OPORDs) described in the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual.

Name: _____

Task PWC-02-11-AUX

Task **PFD Swim**

References Chapter 6, Boat Crew Seamanship Manual, COMDTINST M16114.5 (series)

Conditions This task is not intended to be performed at the dock, afloat or from the beach unless specific permission to do so has been granted by DIRAUX. A swimming pool, (heated if available), should be used. **The candidate must enter the water wearing a PFD.** Candidate must accomplish task without prompting or use of a reference.

Standards In response to the PWC-QE/mentor, the candidate must inspect and properly don a PFD. (**Preferably the approved type of PFD rated for the PWC used on patrol).** The candidate must properly enter the water, float for 5 to 10 minutes, and then swim at least 50 yards. The following tasks must be completed without assistance.

Completed	Performance Criteria
_____	1. Inspected and correctly donned the proper size PFD.
_____	2. Entered the water feet first wearing PFD.
_____	3. Adjusted PFD if needed and floated for 5 to 10 minutes.
_____	4. Swam or used a stroke of the candidates choice to travel through the water at least 50 yards.

Accomplished **Mentor signature**_____ **Date**_____

Section C. Marlinespike Seamanship, Boat Nomenclature and Basic Stability

Introduction

The following are general objectives for Section C:

- **Identify, explain** the use of and be able to **consistently tie** the basic knots and hitches used aboard Auxiliary PWC facilities.
- **Demonstrate** the ability to secure lines of various sizes to several types of deck and dock fittings.
- **Locate** and **identify** equipment carried aboard Auxiliary PWC facilities.

In this section

This section contains five tasks. Qualified coxswains and crew members have completed the tasks marked (*) already and do not need to do them again to qualify as a PWC operator.

Task Number	Task	See Page
PWC-03-01-AUX*	Identify The Different Parts Of A Line And The Hitches Used In Line Handling	2-19
PWC-03-02-AUX*	Tie Various Knots, Hitches And Bends	2-21
PWC-03-03-AUX*	Secure Line To A Cleat	2-22
PWC-03-04-AUX	State The Operational Limitations And Characteristics Of The PWC	2-23
PWC-03-05-AUX	Conduct A Pre-Underway Check Off Of A PWC Facility	2-24

Task PWC-03-05-AUX (Continued)

e. Proper uniform and outfitting of team.

Accomplished **Mentor signature**_____ **Date**_____

Section D. Boat Handling

Introduction

The following are the general objectives of Section D:

- **Demonstrate** ability to handle a PWC proficiently during various common maneuvers.
- **Demonstrate** ability to recognize various maritime distress signals

In this section

This section contains six tasks. Qualified coxswains and crew members have completed these tasks marked (*) already and do not need to do them again to qualify as a PWC operator.

Task Number	Task	See Page
PWC-04-01-AUX	Dismount And Remount PWC In Deep Water	2-29
PWC-04-02-AUX	Explain or Demonstrate Re-right And Remount A Capsized PWC In Deep Water	2-30
PWC-04-03-AUX	Maneuver Through A Buoyed Slalom Course	2-33
PWC-04-04-AUX	Shallow Water Operations	2-35
PWC-04-05-AUX	Maneuver A PWC In Tight Quarters	2-36
PWC-04-06-AUX*	Identify And Describe Accepted Maritime Distress Signals	2-37

Name: _____

Task PWC-04-01-AUX

Task **Dismount And Remount PWC In Deep Water**

References

Conditions Performed underway in water deeper than the candidate is tall. Candidate must accomplish task without prompting or use of a reference.

Standards In response to the mentor, the candidate shall disconnect the lanyard key and enter deep water, then reboard the PWC without assistance, connect the lanyard key and start the PWC.

NOTE: Inability to perform this task shall preclude further participation in the PWC program.

Completed	**Performance Criteria**
_____	1. Properly disconnected the lanyard key and safely entered deep water.
_____	2. Able to quickly get bearings after entering the water.
_____	3. Remounted PWC without assistance.
_____	4. Able to restart PWC and get underway.
_____	5. Remained calm and in control during task.

Accomplished **Mentor signature**_____ **Date**_____

Name: _____

Task PWC-04-02-AUX

Task	**Explain or Demonstrate Re-Right And Remount A Capsized PWC In Deep Water**
References	PWC Owner's Manual
Conditions	Performed underway in water deeper than the candidate is tall. Candidate must accomplish task without prompting or use of a reference.
Standards	In response to the mentor, the candidate shall re-right and remount a capsized PWC without assistance.

Completed	**Performance Criteria**
_____	1. Determined which direction PWC must be re-righted in accordance with the owner's manual.
_____	2. Ensure all compartments properly secured and watertight.
_____	3. Safety lanyard disconnected.
_____	4. PWC safely capsized.
_____	5. Swam to side or stern of PWC.
	From the stern:
_____	6. Placed hands on opposite corners of foot deck, (one over and one under).
_____	7. In one quick motion, pushed one side up and the other down while kicking feet for thrust/leverage.
_____	8. Remounted PWC.

Task PWC-04-02-AUX (Continued)

_____ 9. Checked compartments for water.

_____ 10. Restarted PWC.

Using the side rails:

_____ 6. Swim to preferred side in accordance with owner's manual. (Generally the "pipe side".)

_____ 7. Pulled body onto bottom of hull.

_____ 8. Placed feet on side rail.

_____ 9. Grabbed opposite side rail with hands.

_____ 10. Used body weight as leverage to re-right PWC.

_____ 11. As PWC rolls, pushed self clear of PWC hull.

_____ 12. Remounted PWC and checked compartments for water and damage.

_____ 13. Restarted PWC.

Using side rail and scoop grate

_____ 6. Swim to preferred side in accordance with owner's manual. (Generally "pipe side".)

_____ 7. Grabbed scoop grate with palm facing out.

_____ 8. Placed feet on lower side rail.

_____ 9. Used body weight as leverage to re-right PWC.

_____ 10. Released grip on scoop grate and pushed away from PWC as it re-rights.

Task PWC-04-02-AUX (Continued)

_____ 11. Remount PWC and checked compartments for water and damage.

_____ 12. Restarted PWC.

Accomplished **Mentor signature**_____ **Date**_____