



CROSSCHOP

The Official Newsletter of the



NORTH BAY ^{Power Sail} SQUADRON

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Off we go...to the Toronto International Boat Show 1999

Who would have guessed this! It's the middle of December and we could still be boating. For everyone who put your boat away early this year....OOPS!

For those of us who did put our boats away and are only dreaming about going boating, how about a trip to the Toronto International Boat show to whisk away those winter blahs!

We once again are planning a bus trip down to the show. Ask anyone who went last year, this is definitely "a trip worth taking". The only complaint last year was that the bus was too small. This year we are planning on taking a Deluxe highway coach (including on board head).

The trip is planned for Tuesday January 19, 1999.

Itinerary:

- Bus leaves Northgate Square * 7:45 A.M.
- Coffee Break in Gravenhurst
- Arrive National Trade Center Toronto 12:00
- Leave Boat Show 5:30 P.M.
- DINNER Sundial (Orillia) 6:30 P.M.
- Arrive back at Northgate 10:30 P.M.

Cost of bus and admittance to boat show: \$40.00 Per Person (Based on a minimum of 35)

***ATTENDANCE MUST BE CONFIRMED & PREPAID NO LATER THAN JAN 05, 1999 ***

NOTE: * The bus is a luxurious highway coach (washroom). Pickup Stops en-route as required (Wasi Rd. Etc.)

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Mandatory Operator Proficiency License

By Caven Ford P 3/Lt/C1 North Bay Power and Sail Squadron
With excerpts from a letter by D/Lt/C Jerome Pilon, II

Mandatory Operator Proficiency, Mandatory Licensing, Boat License, whatever name you've heard it referred to, it is here. By the time you read this, it will be law, maybe. Since I first heard of it, I have heard many stories or versions of what is to take place, what it means and who is affected. Here's, as far as I know, the final word on Boat Operator Licensing:

By Mid December, the government will make law a requirement that, eventually, every person operating a motorized pleasure craft in Canada will require a license. The legislation, when passed will bring into law the requirements of the operator proficiency card. It will be effective April 1, 1999 and will allow for a grace period until Sept 15, 1999 for the first group to require the license.

Who will need the card?

Eventually, everyone but the first year, anyone under 16 years of age will need it. The legislation allows for a phase in period for the other age groups. By the year 2009 anyone operating a pleasure craft, including fishermen, people operating canoes, marina employees moving boats etc will be required to have the operator proficiency card. Further, persons under 16 will not be allowed to operate a Personal Watercraft at all. Persons under 12 will not be allowed to operate any boat powered by a motor over 10 Hp. Yes it appears that, legally, a three year-old can operate a motor boat with a 9.9 on it! Perhaps the legislation will have some minimum age limits.

How do you get one?

The course that allows you to obtain your license is offered by several groups, one of which is the CPS. Your CPS has modified two of its courses to meet the Canadian Coast Guard's requirements for Operator Proficiency Licensing. The Ride Smart and Boat Pro courses are, or will soon be, accredited by the CCG for this purpose.

What if I have already taken a CPS course?

Good news! If you already have a CPS course under your belt, you are in luck. Anyone who has completed and passed the CPS Boating course is automatically eligible to receive his or her license. And to make it even better, if you are a member and pay your 1999 membership dues to CPS and fill out the application you will receive, you won't have to pay anything further for the license. If anyone does not want to renew their membership, they can fill out the application and send it with a \$5.00 fee to Headquarters to get their card. If you have not renewed your membership in the last two years the fee is \$5.00 and if it has been five years or more the fee is \$10.00. This is to cover the administration costs and for looking up your old records.

What about Grand-fathering?

It is my understanding that if you are 55 years of age you will not require a license at all.

I hope this helps clear up some of the mystery surrounding this oftentimes, contentious issue. Of course the FINAL, final word will come when the legislation becomes law and the courts have had a chance to interpret it.

Bridge Meeting Highlights

- > There was a GPS course held in November, 21 persons attended.
- > Eleven people were registered in the boating course. December 14th was the boating course exam for the fall session (good luck students)
- > Our historian is looking for pictures of summer events and highlights (contact Ivan Gough)
- > The bridge meetings are still held the first Wednesday of every month. A reminder that everyone is welcome to attend.



QUALIFY TO JOIN CANADIAN
POWER & SAIL SQUADRONS
THIS WINTER

TAKE A BOATING COURSE 

Registration for spring courses
Saturday, January 9, 1999
11:00 am to 3:00 pm

At Northgate Square

or call
the Information Line 495-4427
or Caven Ford 752-4807
or George Graham 752-3201

Training Officer's Notes

By Caven Ford

Christmas is just around the corner and with it comes, you guessed it, Mandatory Boater Proficiency Licensing! I am told that it will be law by mid December. Your CPS has been hard at work developing and modifying courses to meet the Canadian Coast Guard requirements for operator licensing. This January, look for registration to begin for the Boat Pro course, the first of two courses offered by CPS that will allow you to obtain your license. See the article elsewhere in the newsletter for more information. Mark January 9, 1999 on your calendar. A table will be set up at Northgate Square from 1100 to 1500 for registration in three courses. The Boat Pro course will be accepting registrations for a four night course starting on Tuesday January 26, 1999. Cost for this course is \$30.00 This course runs one night a week for four weeks with the exam being written on the last night. Registrations for the "Winter" Boating course, which runs 20 weeks starting Monday January 18, 1999, will also be accepted. Cost of the Boating Course is \$140.00. Finally, an Advanced Piloting course is being offered on Thursday evenings commencing January 21, 1999.

You are welcome to pre register for any course being offered by contacting me by phone at 752-4807 or by email through our local web page or cavenfor@bigfoot.com.

There were 22 eager GPS users attending the course in November, look for another course to be offered this winter. If you are interested, please contact me so I can put your name on the list. As well, 11 students are about to finish their Boating course. Congratulations and hope to see some new faces in the membership

Here's hoping you have a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. I hope to see you on a course next year and don't forget to save your seat on the Bus, they are going fast! My second Christmas is on January 19, 1999!

C. Ford P
Squadron Training Officer



Commanders Message:

By George Graham

As we end another boating season, we can take time to reflect on the wonderful weather and good times had over the summer and plan for next season. So far the snow has held off, but it is only a matter of time before the weather changes and we will be sitting in front of the fire dreaming of better weather and the boating season to come.

It is time that everyone has his or her wish list in to Santa. I hope that you get all the toys that you are hoping to get for your boat

I would like to take this opportunity to wish every one a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. May the New Year bring you health and happiness.

Commander George Graham P



Advanced Piloting

Will be running beginning in January. Please Contact our Training Officer Caven Ford or Commander George Graham to register or come to the Registration booth on January 9th at Northgate Square.