

Mitigation for Powerboat Risk Assessment
dated Apr 2026

SECTION 5

POWERBOAT USER SOPs (ALL USERS)

1. LSC power boats are the two orange Rigiflex Numatic craft used for:
 - a. All safety boat duties for LSC.
 - b. Mark laying at LSC.
 - c. Recovery of boats and equipment.
 - d. Instructing/training platform.
 - e. Other activities in pursuit of LSC's purposes agreed by the Committee.

For the removal of doubt, they are not to be used as pleasure boats by any member.

2. The boats will be operated by qualified members or by unqualified members only under the instruction/supervision of an RYA Instructor. The required qualifications are:
 - a. Ideally, RYA Safety Boat Certificate (When operating in a safety role in demanding conditions).
 - b. RYA Level 2 (when operating in a safety role in benign conditions and outside of a safety role).
 - c. RYA Powerboat Instructor when used in teaching role.
3. The boats and engines are maintained by local contracted agents, however daily checks on lubricant levels are the responsibility of the qualified boat operators. A record of boat use and emergent problems is to be maintained in the appropriate boat log held in the Bosun's Store. Servicing should be carried out in accordance with the manufacture's operating manual and arranged by the Bosun in consultation with the LSC Committee.
4. Refuelling of boats is only to be carried out by the Bosun or by trained operators. There is to be no smoking in the immediate vicinity of refuelling. All fuel containers are to be stored correctly in the locked inflam. locker. See supplementary SOP before refuelling.
5. All boats operating at LSC are to carry the safety equipment approved by the RYA (pre-packed waterproof container) plus any additional equipment required for the day's activities.
6. Pre start checks are to be carried out prior to launch:
 - a. Check hull condition / integrity and bungs are fitted.
 - b. Check oil levels.
 - c. Check fuel.
 - d. Check deck fittings.
 - e. Check gear and throttle cables are functioning correctly.
 - f. Check power trim operates.
 - g. Check battery.

- h. Check kill cord operates.
7. Launching check list:
- a. Check slip before reversing trailer to launch.
 - b. Be aware of debris in water.
 - c. Be courteous to other users.
 - d. Check weather and tide information.
 - e. Brief the launch team and assign roles. Release painter only when in position and allow the boat to slip off the trailer under control.
 - f. As soon as boat is clear, return the trailer to the storage area.
8. After use procedures:
- a. Give engine, boat and trailer a wash down in clean water.
 - b. Release drain bungs.
 - c. Refuel.
 - d. Run engine down with a clean water flush. Don't forget to re-secure the plug.
 - e. Enter hours run in boat logs.
9. Report any faults or damages to the Bosun LSC immediately.
10. The boats must not be overloaded at any time.
- a. For safety duties there should be a crew of two; one of whom must be dressed to enter the water if required. Wetsuits and buoyancy aids are recommended. Only in extremis should more than two casualties be embarked.
 - b. For training purposes, up to four people can be accommodated; an instructor and up to three trainees in activity-appropriate clothing and PPE.
11. Towing is an essential competence taught to PB2 and safety boat trainees. In the safety boat role, the absolute priority is the recovery of personnel. Vessels can be anchored and marked for later secondary recovery. Only in extremis should more than two casualties be embarked at any one recovery.