

TRANSPORT CANADA OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY PACIFIC PLEASURE CRAFT COURTESY CHECK BULLETIN

Bulletin 01-08 Jan 14, 2008

PCCC Administrative update for 2008

This Transport Canada, Office of Boating Safety Pacific PCCC bulletin is issued under the authority of the Regional Manager Boating Safety, Transport Canada. This bulletin has been issued to provide clarity and direction to PCCC checkers. The information in this bulletin provides additional and updated information in addition to the TC PCCC manual. **Any questions or enquires concerning this bulletin or any other particulars of the TC PCCC program are to be directed to Boating Safety Officer Mike Mitchell, Officer Primary Interest Transport Canada Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check Program.**

Introduction

During the last two years there have been significant changes to the regulations pertaining to pleasure craft and further changes are expected in 2008 and 2009. These changes, and future changes have already and will further impacted the delivery of the Transport Canada (TC) Office of Boating Safety (OBS) Pacific (P) Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check course (PCCC). OBS is faced with the challenge of keeping the course both up to date and relevant due to the changes that have been implemented and also to provide guidance and direction on upcoming changes. OBS (P) will be providing an enhanced level of support and mentoring to our boating safety partners.

Administrative changes for PCCC course delivery

The following administrative procedures have been implement to the TC, OBS (P) PCCC program. OBS Boating Safety Officers (BSO) will be providing direct course delivery in close partnership with the CCGA for the majority of the 2008 PCCC courses. OBS (P) may not require direct OBS delivery on an individual course basis. This enhanced level of support is desirable and required given the complexities of the current and anticipated changes. The goal is to ensure that the CCGA instructors and students are fully versed and knowledgeable about the regulatory changes so that they can educate the boating public in their communities in an accurate and confident manner.

In addition to internal CCGA requirements all TC PCCC course requests will be coordinated through BSO Mike Mitchell by the CCGA Manager of Boating Safety and the CCGA PCCC Training Coordinator. OBS will ensure that a TC BSO is available to support the course in conjunction with a local CCGA instructor (where applicable). It is imperative that enough lead-time be give to OBS for course planning. A minimum of one-month notice is expected, which still may require rescheduling of the course.

TC OBS (P) is fully committed to providing the training and tools to ensure the success of CCGA Boating Safety Volunteers (BSV's) engaged in the TC PCCC and other sponsored boating safety initiatives.

PCCC Test

A new less arduous multiple-choice and true and false test has been developed, which allows for its completion during the course dates. The TC test will be brought to the course and marked by the TC instructor. All other tests are no longer valid.

TRANSPORT CANADA OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY PACIFIC

PLEASURE CRAFT COURTESY CHECK BULLETIN

Training Certificates

Training Certificates will continue to be issued by TC OBS (P) upon successful completion of the written test and practicable performance objectives.

PCCC competencies

In order for a BSV to remain accredited as an authorized TC PCCC checker they are expected to complete a minimum 5 PCCC's within the calendar year. Checkers who do not meet this minimum requirement but have demonstrated that they have participated in similar events may be exempted for that calendar year at the discretion of OBS (P). Transport Canada, Office of Boating Safety Pacific Dec 11, 2007 Additionally there may be requirements for mandatory refresher training when there have been significant changes either to the regulations or the PCCC program. A standard course or presentation will be developed by OBS to ensure that all the BSV's are given the same training. Depending upon the complexity or scope of the updates or changes this training will be delivered direct by TC OBS, CCGA or in partnership.

PCCC Forms

TC Ottawa will be issuing a new PCCC form for 2008. This form will change only in that the format of capturing the check information will be completed using a 'bubble format' (shading in of circles next to each check item). The forms will be processed through an automated form reader in Ottawa for statistical data. The forms will be not be within a pad but will be a separate two-part carbon set.

Starting in 2008, OBS nationally will require the TC copy of the PCCC form. The completed PCCC sheets are to be sent to Mike Mitchell. This system will capture the hard work, dedication and efforts of the BSV's; it is imperative that these forms be received. The forms can be sent monthly or at the end of Sept which traditionally is the end of the yearly PCCC activities.

Decals

Additional decals have been requested for 2008 and I have requested that they be provided as soon as possible after Jan 1, 2008.

Changes to the PCCC program 2009

It is anticipated that the PCCC program and training will undergo a national review and update for 2009. This may include mandatory refresher training for current checkers.

Three Tier Boating Safety Check Program

TC, OBS (P) is developing and will implement in partnership with the CCGA (P) a three-tier boating safety check pilot program for Pleasure Craft Checks in the Pacific region. A review of the regional PCCC activities and data indicates that the full potential of boating education and key message delivery is not always effective in reaching all recreational boaters. In particular those boaters most at risk of marine incidents and fatalities operate powered or un-

TRANSPORT CANADA OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY PACIFIC PLEASURE CRAFT COURTESY CHECK BULLETIN

powered pleasure craft under 6 metres, and this group of boaters do not typically engage in a PCCC.

The PCCC is the cornerstone boating safety-training tool, which provides TC authorized BSV's the skill set and confidence to promote boating safety, to conduct PCCC's and to educate recreational boaters. This training allows the BSV to check mandatory safety equipment in a consistent manner within the framework of the regulations and the additional goals of TC. This training also allows the BSV to champion and deliver the TC key boating safety messages while at the same time promoting CCGA community based SAR and boating safety activities. Community based boating safety activities remain a key element to the overall success of boating safety education.

More detailed information on the Three Tier Boating Safety Courtesy Check program can be expected in the near future.