



Operations Bulletin 2022-01 RCMSAR Coxswain Designation Changes

July 15th, 2022

Effective immediately, RCMSAR will be moving away from the use of Temporary Coxswain and implementing updated requirements for coxswain designation. The two-tiered construct and minimum requirements are as follows:

1. **Coxswain Restricted:** Able to operate in daytime (30 min after sunrise to 30 min before sunset) and not permitted to operate in restricted visibility as defined by the International Rules of the Road. Operational restrictions as per vessel platform.
2. **Coxswain:** Operational restrictions as per vessel platform.

COXSWAIN RESTRICTED – Requirements

- MEDA3/SDV-BS or equivalent*
- SVOP or equivalent*
- CLI or RHIOT
- All other minimum certs as per RCMSAR crewing requirements set out in the Readiness Framework
- All SMS Coxswain signoffs
- CLII-B (or equivalent*) **OR** On-the-water evaluation by RCMSAR designated evaluator**
- Minimum Seatime – 100 hrs
 - 20 hrs as “Acting Coxswain” post CLI/RHIOT
- Number of Missions – 10
 - **OR** combination of missions and simulated exercises as “Acting Coxswain” *

COXSWAIN – Requirements

- All certs and SMS sign off requirements as listed above for Coxswain Restricted status
- CLII-B or equivalent*
- Minimum Seatime – 120 hrs
 - 15 hrs as “Acting Coxswain” post CLII-B
- Number of Missions – 15 (of which 5 being night or restricted viz operations)
 - **OR** combination of missions and simulated exercises as “Acting Coxswain” *

**Subject to HQ approval*

***Interim signoff by HQ, future sign off by RTO*

Effective: July 15th, 2022

Updated:

Approved: CEO



Additional Information

- “Acting Coxswain” means that a member assumes the role of Coxswain on the vessel under supervision of a qualified coxswain/restricted coxswain. These leadership opportunities ensure members gain experience and practice in the coxswain role in a semi-controlled environment.
- RCMSAR HQ will look to have a bank of sample missions/exercises available for units to use as simulated scenarios for acting coxswain training.
- If a station has more than one vessel platform, the station leadership can internally designate which platform coxswains/restricted coxswains are authorized to operate, provided the station leadership lay out a path/requirement for that individual to achieve full vessel authority of all station platforms (likely in the form of platform specific sign offs i.e., Jet Boat Operations).
- The station leadership needs to make the request for any designation of coxswain status to RCMSAR HQ by using the Restricted Coxswain/Coxswain Request forms on SMS and completing the supporting information as requested in full.

TEMPORAY COXSWAIN – WAY AHEAD

All existing personnel under the Temporary designation will be eligible for reclassification to a Restricted Coxswain, subject to the following criteria being completed within 6 months:

- If it has been more than a year since the member was assessed by an HQ representative and granted temporary status, they must complete an OTW evaluation conducted by an HQ representative or successfully complete a CLII-B course.
- All Coxswain SMS sign offs must be completed.
- Costs for OTW assessment for Restricted Coxswains are the responsibility of the station. This includes use of vessel, and any travel expenses incurred by regional representative designated to perform the evaluation. (Any cost sharing by HQ based on station readiness needs/availability of regional evaluators needs to be pre-approved by HQ.)