



## **Licensed Boat Operator Conditions**

Boat Operators' Licences are required by all businesses in the charge of or navigation of pleasure boats and vessels to be let for hire or to be used for carrying passengers for hire on Ullswater. It is the duty of Boat Operators to ensure that they comply with the licence conditions as well as fulfilling their duty of care to ensure the safety of members of the public whilst using their services.

### **1. Licences**

- 1.1 The Council issue two types of Boat Operator Licence, namely:
- 1.2 Full Boat Operator's Licence - issued to businesses assisting in the charge and navigation of pleasure boats and vessels to be let for hire or used to carry passengers for hire on Ullswater.
- 1.3 Restricted Boat Operator's Licence - issued to businesses assisting in the charge of pleasure boats and vessels to be let for hire. This type of licence does not cover the navigation of pleasure boats and vessels to be used for carrying passengers for hire and is intended for those persons hiring and operating the pleasure boats and vessels from the shore or pier only.

### **2. Full Boat Operator's Licence**

- 2.1 In order to qualify for a Full Boat Operator's Licence an applicant:
  - 2.1.1 must have attained eighteen years of age;
  - 2.1.2 shall not suffer from any physical disability which is likely to affect his/her mobility or fitness which may restrict his/her ability to discharge their duties in the control or operation of pleasure boats or vessels let for hire;
  - 2.1.3 must complete a declaration to certify if they have ever suffered from any of the following medical conditions: epilepsy, cardio-vascular complaints including angina, insulin dependent diabetes, profound deafness, alcoholism, drug addiction or Parkinson's disease;
  - 2.1.4 must be capable of reading a standard vehicle registration mark in good daylight at a distance of 20 metres;
  - 2.1.5 must have a good and sufficient knowledge of the provisions of:
    - a. Lake Ullswater (Collision Rules) Order 1966
    - b. The Lake District Lake Ullswater Byelaws 1978
    - c. The Council's Boat and Licensed Boat Operator Conditions
    - d. Rules under Health and Safety at Work Regulations
  - 2.1.6 must have a relevant qualification such as:
    - a. Maritime and Coastguard Agency Boatman's Certificate, or
    - b. Royal Yachting Association Yacht Master Certificate, or
    - c. Any equivalent qualification.

- 2.2 If aged sixty-five years or over, the Boat Operator must produce a relevant certificate signed by a medical practitioner as to their fitness to carry out the duties of a Boat Operator.

### **3. Restricted Boat Operator's Licence**

- 3.1 In order to qualify for a Restricted Boat Operator's licence an applicant:
- 3.1.1 must have attained eighteen years of age;
  - 3.1.2 shall not suffer from any physical disability which is likely to affect his/her mobility or fitness which may restrict his/her ability to discharge their duties in the control of pleasure boats or vessels let for hire;
  - 3.1.3 must complete a declaration to certify if they have ever suffered from any of the following medical conditions: epilepsy, cardio-vascular complaints including angina, Parkinson's disease;
  - 3.1.4 must have a good and sufficient knowledge of the provisions of:
    - a. Lake Ullswater (Collision Rules) Order 1966
    - b. The Lake District Lake Ullswater Byelaws 1978
    - c. The Council's Boat and Licensed Boat Operator Conditions
    - d. Rules under Health and Safety at Work Regulations

### **4. Boat Hiring**

- 4.1 The Boat Operator shall display their relevant licences and boat schedules at or near the point of hire or launch point of their pleasure boats and vessels so as to be visible to the public.
- 4.2 The Full and Restricted Boat Operator Licences are valid for twelve months from 1 May to 30 April, are non-transferable and cannot be backdated. Any licence issued after 1 May in any year will be issued for the remainder of that year to 30 April and the fee will be charged on a pro rata basis for the proportion of the year to 30 April remaining.
- 4.3 The Boat Operator shall notify the Council within seven days of any change of address, operating changes or alteration of any pleasure boat or vessel from that tested.

### **5. Insurance**

- 5.1 The Boat Operator shall have in force a policy of insurance to cover public liability and associated risks with a reputable insurance company.

### **6. Safety**

- 6.1 The Boat Operator must be able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council their emergency procedures should any pleasure boat or vessel fail to return at the appointed time or they become aware of any emergency involving any pleasure boat or vessel for hire.
- 6.2 The Boat Operator shall provide a safety boat at the point of launch ready to respond to any emergency involving any pleasure boat or vessel for hire or recovery of any persons in danger in the water from a capsized pleasure boat or vessel, fire or engine breakdown or confirmation in writing to the satisfaction of the

Council that another Boat Operator has agreed to provide a safety boat which complies with these conditions on their behalf.

- 6.3 The safety boat pilot must be over 18 years of age.
- 6.4 The safety boat must carry the following essential equipment:
  - a. life rings
  - b. a minimum of two throw lines
  - c. boat hook
  - d. knife
- 6.5 In addition to 6.4 above, it is recommended that the safety boat carries the following equipment:
  - a. fire extinguisher
  - b. first aid kit
  - c. blankets
  - d. torch or flares
  - e. mobile phone
  - f. water pump
- 6.6 A comprehensive first aid kit shall be available at the point of hire at all times.

## **7. Boat Testing**

- 7.1 The Boat Operator shall be responsible for arranging to have all the pleasure boats or vessels to be used for public hire and their safety boat tested annually by the Council's appointed approved boat inspector. The Boat Operator shall not hire any pleasure boat or vessel that is not passed by the Council's boat inspector or does not conform to the licence conditions. The Boat Operator shall maintain all pleasure boats and vessels in a serviceable and safe condition to the satisfaction of the boat inspector during the term of the licence.

## **8. Operating Schedule**

- 8.1 The Boat Operator shall have in place at the point of hire/launch a board or record of hire of pleasure boats and pleasure vessels to include:
  - a. date and time hired/date and time returned
  - b. boat name or number
  - c. number of persons hiring

## **9. Liability**

- 9.1 The Council may suspend or revoke a licence at any time whenever they deem such suspension or revocation to be necessary in the interests of public safety.