

Friends of MV Freedom

Skipper Recruiting & Qualification Policy

Background

The Charity require a number of skippers in order to operate a full schedule of trips. The MCA require that minimum qualifications are held by anyone skippering the boat. The safety of passengers and crew are paramount, and the Charity's reputation must be protected by having experienced, competent and qualified skippers.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set the level of qualification that the charity requires from its skippers and to ensure compliance, transparency, fairness, and consistency when recruiting and retaining skippers.

Qualifications.

Due to the vulnerability of our clients and the volunteer status of our crews the Charity consider that a Day Skipper Qualification is insufficient to meet the specific needs of the Charity. An MVF skipper must hold the following current in date qualifications:

- Minimum, RYA Yachtmaster, Coastal Skipper, commercially endorsed or RYA Advanced Power Boat commercially endorsed.
- Current RYA approved First Aid Certificate
- VHF Radio Licence
- RYA or MCA Sea Survival Qualification
- RYA Professional Practices & Responsibility Certificate
- ML5 or ENG 1 Medical Certificate

Experience

An MVF Skipper must have a minimum of 2 years relevant experience on a similar vessel. A similar vessel will be a motor vessel of similar length to the current Freedom and relevant experience will be in coastal tidal waters and include a significant period of time as master or skipper of a vessel.

Induction

Before being authorised to skipper the boat new skippers will complete a period of shadowing with a current skipper. This period will be for the new skipper to become familiar with the boat, procedures, policies and cruising area and for the Charity to be satisfied with the skippers suitability for the Charities specific needs.

Skippers Responsibility

It will be individual skippers' responsibility to ensure that all relevant time limited qualifications are maintained and updated. The Charity will undertake to pay for first aid re-examination

Adopted: 13 January 2022

Amended to include Advanced Power boat and adopted 9th March 2023