Recreational Skipper’s Ticket (RST)

The person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of 2hp or less (i.e. 5.45 kilowatts) is not required to hold a Recreational Skipper’s Ticket (RST).

A person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor greater than 2hp (5.45 kilowatts) is required to hold an RST.

You are required to carry your RST card when boating.

Age restrictions

A person under 10 years may not drive a motor boat. RST holders over 14 but under 16 years of age are restricted to operating during daylight hours at a speed less than 6 knots.

How to get an RST

If you would like to get an RST, you will need to pass an assessment delivered by an RST provider. The RST provider may also conduct training, but this is not compulsory. You can choose to study on your own, using the RST Workbook, and then take an assessment with an RST provider.

Once you pass, the RST provider will issue you an RST Intern Certificate. Your RST card will be sent to you through the post, once your details have been verified and processed by the RST provider.

RST skills recognition and equivalents

If you hold a qualification from another state or country that is equivalent to the RST, or have a commercial certificate of competency, you may be eligible for exemption from the RST assessment and can receive an RST through skills recognition.

For further information visit our website: www.marine.transport.wa.gov.au/boating

General speed limit restrictions:

It is illegal, in any navigable waters, to drive a motor boat at a speed exceeding eight knots, water ski or water-ski raft:

- through an arch of a bridge;
- in or through a mooring area;
- in any water having a depth of less than 3 metres;
- within 15 metres of a vessel underway;
- within 40 metres of:
  - a vessel with passengers;
  - a person in the water;
  - a water skier or raft;
  - a river bank or low water mark.

Vessels less than 7.5 metres

Vessels less than 7.5 metres in length can’t be taken greater than their face width plus 50 centimetres forward and 50 centimetres astern.

However, you can operate the vessel within one nautical mile of an island located more than five nautical miles from the mainland.

Obstruction of navigation aids, channels and leads

Deep nets, fishing nets, marker buoys or other obtrusive objects cannot be placed or allowed to remain in any channel or fairway, in any port or harbour, in any channel, fairway or passage in any navigable waters without the permission of DoT.

Also, you can’t anchor or moor a vessel in any channel or fairway, unless the vessel is in distress.

Paddle craft

Recreational canoes, kayaks, surf skis, inflatables or similar paddle craft must comply with WA marine laws including carriage of safety equipment. For more information call 13 11 56 or visit our website.

Wake and windkiting:

With the onset of the sea breeze windsurfers and kitesurfers increase their activity at times. Boaters must take due care to ensure their activities are conducted with regard to the prevailing conditions and circumstances and to avoid obstructions. Ski and windsurfers operating more than 400 metres from shore must carry safety equipment.

For more information call 13 11 56 or visit our website.

Personal water craft

To operate a personal water craft (PWC) at a speed greater than 8 knots you must be at least 16 years of age and hold an RST.

Every person onboard a PWC must wear a lifejacket at all times and at times carry safety equipment:

- While operating the shore – Level 100 or 150 or 300;
- Between 2 and 5 km – Level 100 or 150 only and an in date inshore distress flare kit;
- Between 5 and 10 km – Level 100 or 150 only and an in date inshore distress flare kit and emergency position indicating radio beacon;
- Freestyling and water jumping is prohibited:
  - within any speed restricted area;
  - within 50 metres of another vessel or person in the water;
  - PWC may operate when towing a water skier;
  - when towing a water skier all vessels shall be required to carry an observer at least 14 years of age; Observers must wear a lifejacket;
- PWC not engaged in water skiing must at all times remain clear of the take off and landing area and any vessels engaged in water skiing.

Lake Quallilup

Lake Quallilup water skiing rules:

- Water skiing is to be carried out in an anti-clockwise direction.
- Persons driving a speed boat towing a water skier must be at least 16 years of age and must be accompanied in the boat by a person of at least 14 years of age.
- Water skiing is prohibited between sunset and sunrise.
- Vessels landing skiers have right of way over vessels taking off.
- Take off and landing water skiers is prohibited except within the lake take off and landing area.
- Take off and landing will be between the marked signs on the southern shores and yellow buoys 50 metres off shores.
- Do not get closer than 50 metres when following another skier.

Lake Quallilup: 9442 8600

Contact details:

Department of Transport
Email: marine.transport@transport.wa.gov.au
Website: www.marine.transport.wa.gov.au

Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 55

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development
Phone: 1800 306 160

Police
Phone: 9937 6869
Emergency Mobile: 0431 353 958

Volunteer Marine Rescue Services
Ph: 1300 135 950
Fax: 1300 135 951
Email: info@vmrs.org.au
Website: www.vmrs.org.au

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Ph: 1300 135 950
Website: www.bca.wa.gov.au

For further information visit our website: www.marine.transport.wa.gov.au/boating

Information contained in this publication is provided in good faith and believed to be accurate at time of publication. The Department shall in no way be liable for any loss sustained or incurred by anyone relying on the information.

For Further Information Call 1300 135 950 or Visit Our Website www.competencywa.com.au/rst

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Water skiing:
Water skiing involves being towed over water at a speed of 15 knots or more by a motor boat supported on the surface by a ski or skis, an aquaplane or other apparatus, or your feet.

It takes at least three people to go water skiing:
1. A driver of at least 17 years of age, or a person with a Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST),
2. An observer of at least 14 years of age,
3. The person being towed by the vessel.

Vessels less than 3.75 metres in length:
- Is required to wear a lifejacket.
- Is required to wear a whistle.

Age restrictions:
- Motorised vessels:
  - A driver of at least 17 years of age for vessels of 15 metres and over in length.
  - A driver of at least 14 years of age for vessels less than 15 metres in length.
- Non-motorised vessels:
  - Any person.

RST and licensing:
- A marine radio must be carried if operating more than 5 miles from the mainland.
- Two parachute flares may be carried. Two parachute flares may be carried.
- An efficient anchor and line must be carried.
- Cooling appliances must carry an H.O.M.
- A 406 MHz EPIRB registered with a coast station must be carried.
- A fire extinguisher with more than 1kg of powder must be carried.
- A lifejacket must be carried.
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