

Speed-gram

New Boating Skills & Seamanship Course

A new printing of the *Boating Skills & Seamanship* (BS&S) course--the 2nd printing of the 11th Edition, has been developed. This printing is based closely on the 11th Edition, but incorporates all the changes noted in the various *Speed Grams* and additional material on *personal watercraft* (PWC) and small boats. Although the text changes are not major--which is why this is referred to as a new printing, rather than a new edition--the text has a different look from the present 11th Edition. The layout is very different. The text itself is done in two colors and many more illustrations and photographs are used. This printing gives the BS&S an appearance far more in keeping with our other new products. For this reason, it would not be appropriate to teach classes with a "mixed" set of books.

Instructors should review the new text as well as the Student and Instructors Guides prior to teaching from it. The arrangement of material is not the same and some text has been changed. Also note that there is only one examination and some of the questions are different. Students who need to retake the exam may do so by taking the one exam a second time. Also be aware that there is no longer information as to where answers may be found in the text.

Instructor Guides are three hole punched and will include an unbound copy of the text that is also three hole punched. The major changes in the Student Guide relate to the matching questions, there are only half as many, and the rewording of some of the multiple-choice questions.

Flotillas are reminded that, in order for our BS&S course to retain the approval of the *National Association of State Boating Law Administrators* (NASBLA), it is necessary for Auxiliary units to teach state laws. These laws are not included in the BS&S text in order to save space. However, applicable state laws must be taught! Most states issue a concise guide to their laws that is available without charge from the state *Boating Law Administrator* (BLA). Flotillas should include this as a handout.

Finally, it is reported that some Flotillas are still using the 10th and in one case the 9th Edition of the BS&S in their classes. This practice is not authorized and it does a disservice to the student. The 11th Edition (first or second printing) is the only Edition of the BS&S that is NASBLA approved.