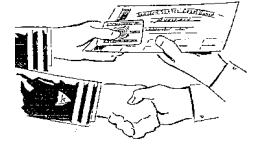

PE

Speed-gram



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John VanOsdol, DC-E

Boating Safely Course—Minimum Time Requirement

The Department of Education is pleased to announce the results of a test program and the resulting change in the minimum time requirements for our *Boating Safely Course* (BSC).

Several Flotillas have been experimenting with the extensive use of Electronic Projections. They have been using PowerPoint presentations in electronic form and overheads produced from PowerPoint. One of the results of using this modern technology is that both instructors and students are better focused. This increases the instructor's efficiency and allows the subject matter to be effectively presented in six to eight hours rather than the eight (minimum) now required. The NASBLA requirements for approval indicate that a basic boating course should require 6-8 hours. Reducing the minimum requirements to six to eight hours will be consistent with NASBLA requirements and the BSC will continue to be NASBLA-approved.

Thus, Flotillas MAY now teach the BSC in six to eight hours. This is not to say that the course MUST be taught in this time frame. Flotillas should take as much time as necessary to ensure that their students are not short-changed—either in scope or depth. Those Flotillas using Electronic Projections may find the new six to eight hour format more efficient.

One of the advantages of this change is that a one-day BSC becomes much more realistic. A one-day BSC class held on the same day each month has proven to be very successful and establishes a convenient pattern in today's marketplace.

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