



FOREWORD

These regulations are reviewed annually at the end of the season, by the Hovercraft Club Cruising and Coastal Events Committee, and any changes deemed necessary are incorporated for the following seasons events. If you have any comments regarding these regulations, please address them to the secretary of the Cruising Committee or a member of that committee.

Any changes will be made in ***bold and italic print***.

These regulations should be read in conjunction with the publications Hc139 "Guidelines for the safe operation of Cruising Hovercraft". Hc131 "Pilot Qualification for the operation of Cruising Hovercraft". Hc133 "Construction Regulations for Cruising Hovercraft",

1. DRIVER REGULATIONS.

The driver must be a current Premier Plus member or corporate members of the Hovercraft Club of Great Britain and hold a current Hovercraft Club Operating Licence for the Category of event.

The driver must abide by the regulations as laid down by the Hovercraft Club in this publication and by any extra regulations given out at the event Directors briefing.

When taking part in the event the driver and passengers must wear a buoyancy aid to BMIF standards or a lifejacket.

1.1 Driver Qualifications

For all cruising events a PQS licence category one is the minimum requirement. (a current full racing licence MAY be accepted for category one conditions.) The event director will designate the category at the briefing taking into account the tide and weather conditions. For a category 2 event a category 2 licence will be required.

1.2 Novice Drivers

Novice Drivers must prove to an appointed driver assessor that A he/she has sufficient control of the craft to be able to safely take part while supervised.



2. CRAFT REGULATIONS

Craft must conform to the construction regulations for Cruising Hovercraft (HC 133).

2.1 Scrutineering

Every craft must be passed by the designated Scrutineer at the event to ensure it complies with the current Hovercraft Club Regulations. A current Craft Registration Document must be presented to the Scrutineer. If the craft registration Document is not available, a full scrutiny may be called for and the appropriate fee charged.

Any damage repaired during an event must be inspected by the designated scrutineer before the craft operates again. The craft registration number must be clearly displayed on the thrust duct of the craft. Self adhesive car registration numbers are suitable for this purpose.

2.2 Insurance

All drivers must insure their craft at every event before operating. No hovercraft will be allowed to operate without Hovercraft Club Third Party Insurance.

2.3 Noise levels.

Noise levels may be measured by fly by and static methods.

Fly by measurements may be taken at any time during the event by a noise meter set at a distance of 22 – 28 metres from the craft and 1.2 metres from the ground. Craft measuring in excess of 90 dBA may be required to undertake a static noise test.

Static noise measurement will be made at a distance of 25 metres from the craft with a noise meter set at 1.2 metres from the ground. The craft will be operated in a fixed position with all engines on maximum revs. Measurement will be taken at various points around the craft. Craft exceeding 87 dBA may, at the Event Directors discretion, be banned from further operation unless further checks show remedial action has been taken.

A new class of craft named Q craft will be encouraged. To qualify for this class craft must prove that they operate at a noise level below 82dBA static measurement. A Q craft will display the letter Q with the craft registration number on the craft. Some events in noise sensitive areas may be designated for Q craft only.



3. GENERAL

Every Driver must attend the Event Directors briefing. If for any reason a driver misses the event directors briefing they MUST report to the Event Director before operating

3.1 Event Director

The Event Director has overall control of the meeting and his/her word is final, subject only to appeal. The Event Director may prohibit a driver from taking part in the event if he considers that the driver is not competent to take part safely. This may entail the driver completing further assessment before being allowed to take part.

4. APPEALS

Any Appeals on meeting procedure or noise level shall be put in writing to the Event Director with a fee of £25 as soon as possible. The fee will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

The appeal will be considered as soon as is practicable by any three members of the Cruising Committee who are acceptable to both the Appellant and the Event Director. In the event that there are less than three committee members present then experienced cruising members may be acceptable.

The result of the appeal will be made known to the Appellant and the Event Director as soon as is practicable.

Any further appeal can only be made to the Council of the Hovercraft Club of Great Britain, whose decision is final.

CRUISING EVENT REGULATIONS

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