

# All Hands on Deck Maritime Training

[www.allhandsondeck.com.au](http://www.allhandsondeck.com.au)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What type of training courses do you run?**

[All Hands on Deck Maritime Training](#) conduct the following courses:

- [Recreational Boat & PWC \(Jetski\) Licence courses](#)
- [General Purpose Hand \(Deckhand\) training course](#). This course is an entry level course with no prior experience or qualifications required. It allows a person to work as part of the crew on a commercial vessel up to 80 metres in length nationally.
- [Coxswain training course](#). There are 3 levels of Coxswain qualification (EX38, NC2, NC1) allowing the holder of the certificate to command a vessel up to 12 metres in length. Depending on the Coxswain certificate level the holder may operate from inland/smooth waters up to 15 nautical miles to sea.
- [Marine Radio Licence course](#). A marine radio licence is required by all operators of VHF and MF/HF radio equipment regardless of whether the equipment is in recreational or commercial vessels.
- [Coastal Navigation course](#). This course is a requirement of the Coxswain NC1 certificate. It teaches the basics of coastal navigation.

### **How long have you been conducting Maritime training?**

All Hands on Deck Maritime Training have been conducting maritime training courses since 1997. We were one of the first training organisations to move away from strictly classroom training and invest in a commercial training vessel. Even today we are leading the way by using a commercial vessel to train and assess over 1500 candidates each year in a variety of courses.

### **What experience do your Trainers have?**

Our Trainers have a combined period of experience of over 140 years of working and operating vessel. This includes all types of vessels from recreational motor cruisers and yachts to commercial ferries, charter boats, tug boats, dredging vessels, Customs patrol vessels and Police Search and Rescue vessels.

Our Senior Trainer has received formal recognition for his seamanship skills and been formally awarded certificates of merit for skills in performing difficult rescues at sea.

### **What qualifications do your Trainers have?**

Our Trainers hold the following qualifications:

- Master IV Certificate of Competency
- Marine Engine Driver Grade 2 Certificate of Competency
- STCW 95 Certificate of Safety Training
- Marine Security Identification
- Marine Radio Licence
- GMDSS Certificate
- 1st Aid Certificate
- Life Saving Bronze Medallion
- Training and Assessment Certificate

### **How often do you run courses?**

It depends on the particular course. Some of our courses can be conducted online such as Marine Radio Licence and Coastal Navigation so these courses basically run continuously and have no face to face component. Other course such as Boat and PWC licence are conducted weekly while Coxswain and General Purpose Hand courses are conducted monthly.

### **How long do the courses take?**

Course duration varies from a few hours (Boat Licence) up to 2 days for General Purpose Hand and 5 days for a Coxswain course

### **Are your courses Nationally Recognised?**

Yes. We are a Registered Training Organisation with the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and an Approved Provider with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)

### **Does it matter which state I live in?**

No. With maritime training there are no borders. It makes no difference which state you live in, which state you go to for your maritime training or which state you apply to sit for the final assessment in the case of Coxswain's.

### **Do you offer ongoing support?**

Yes. All of our course involve some online component so we are always available to assist with study inquiries. In addition we are there even after a course has finished as some courses such as Coxswain require a final assessment by the Government Examiner. We are there to assist right up until the marine qualification that is being applied for is obtained.

### **Do you allow use of training resources after a course has finished?**

Yes all of the resources we give candidates access to can be used by them even after a course has finished.

### **Where are you located?**

We are located in Newcastle NSW. Because the practical component of our courses run from only 2-5 days we have candidates who come from all over Australia. Currently 40% of candidates come from Queensland (Thursday Island, Cairns, Townsville, Gladstone, Sunshine Coast, Brisbane and the Gold Coast) 10% from Victoria and WA (Perth, Geraldton, Port Hedland, Bunbury) and about 8% from SA and NT.

### **How do I get to Newcastle?**

Getting to Newcastle is very easy. It is approximately a 2 hour drive from Sydney or 1 hour from the NSW Central Coast. For interstate candidates there are direct daily flights with Qantas, Virgin Australia and Jetstar from Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast

### **I live in Sydney. How do I get a Boat Licence?**

Unfortunately there are not many organisations conducting boat licence courses in Sydney and those that do usually conduct the course over 8-9 hours. We also receive reports that the cost of a Boat Licence in Sydney is very high.

We use the internet as a pre-study online component so currently we receive about 40% of Boat Licence candidates from Sydney in our 4 to 4½ hour Boat Licence training courses. The local Roads and Maritime Office is also open on a Saturday so although people come from Sydney and the Central Coast they do so because they know they can usually obtain their Boat Licence by lunch time and legally be out on the water.

## **Do you conduct courses in other States?**

We do travel to other states to deliver group training sessions. In the past we have conducted courses for the following organisations:

- Mermaid Marine in Dampier WA
- The Australian Federal Police on Christmas Island WA
- The Australian Customs and Border Protection Cairns QLD
- Santos Mining Adelaide SA

## **Is there accommodation nearby?**

Yes. Newcastle is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in NSW and there are a variety of accommodation places nearby to our training vessel and classroom. You can also download travel infoation at this link:

[Travel information for GPH & Coxswain](#)

## **I have my ESS can I claim RPL?**

Any claim for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) must be made on an individual basis. Elements of Shipboard Safety (ESS) includes only 4 units of competency from the 8 units of competency that are required under the Maritime Training Package for a General Purpose Hand Certificate. If the ESS certificates are in date and from an approved provider they can usually be accepted which can lead to a reduction in course fees.

## **Does a certificate expire?**

Yes. The following certificates need to be renewed or revalidated as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certificate – every 3 years

General Purpose Hand – every 5 years

Coxswain – every 5 years

Marine Radio Licence – does not expire or require renewal

## **What employment prospects are there?**

Today Australia has a very large near coastal fleet of vessels such as Fishing vessels, Charter boats used for diving and deep sea fishing, Whale and Dolphin watching as well as Research Vessels, Tugs, Ferries, Marine Rescue vessels and government vessels conducting maritime and fisheries patrols. All of them are required to be operated by qualified and certified crew so the opportunities are quite extensive.

## **When I have completed a Coxswain course what else do I need to do to obtain the qualification?**

For a **Coxswain EX38 certificate** you will need the following:

1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certificate if carrying passengers

Marine Radio Licence if operating marine radio equipment

A completed self identification medical form and

An eyesight test

## **There is no sea time or final assessment required for this certificate.**

For a **Coxswain NC2 and NC1 certificate** you will need the following:

1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certificate if carrying passengers

Marine Radio Licence if operating marine radio equipment

A completed self identification medical form

An eyesight test

Evidence of 'sea time' depending on the certificate applied for and

## **Attend a final assessment with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) examiner**

## **When I have completed a General Purpose Hand course what else do I need to do to obtain the qualification?**

For a **General Purpose Hand certificate** you will need the following:

1<sup>st</sup> Aid Certificate

A completed self identification medical form and

An eyesight test

**There is no sea time or final assessment required for this certificate.**

## **What is meant by 'sea time'?**

Sea time basically means evidence of boating experience.

## **How much 'sea time' do I need to have?**

This obviously varies depending on the qualification being applied for.

For a General Purpose Hand certificate and a Coxswain EX38 certificate **no evidence of sea time is required.**

For a Coxswain NC2 certificate 60 days of boating experience (all of which can be recreational experience) is required. This can be reduced down to 7 days with a completed [AMSA Task Book](#)

For a Coxswain NC2 certificate 240 days of boating experience (all of which can be recreational experience) is required. This can be reduced down to 30 days of commercial experience with a completed [AMSA Task Book](#)

## **Can I back date 'sea time'?**

If your boating experience is submitted on a Statutory Declaration and witnessed by a Justice of the Peace (JP) it can include back dated or historical information.

## **What is the purpose of a Task Book?**

A Task Book is an Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) document that allows for a substantial amount of reduction of sea time when it is completed. It contains a number of activities (tasks) that a candidate needs to perform and have the activities signed off by the Master/Skipper/Owner of a vessel.

## **Can I back date a Task Book?**

No. Task Books are designed to be used in a forward training environment and are used as 3<sup>rd</sup> party evidence by the candidate.

## **Where can I obtain a Task Book?**

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Task Books are issued by Training Organisations. Please [click here](#) for more details

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