

AIMS SKIPPER CERTIFICATION CHECK OFF SHEET

CANDIDATE'S NAME:

	Comments	Trainer Check Off	Date
1. Prerequisites			
Be a member in good standing of Anderson Island Irregulars and AIMS.			
Possess a Connecticut Safe Boating Certificate.			
Check that crew (and applicant) are wearing PFD's and safety equipment is on board.			
Has taken Mystic Seaport Community Sailing courses or has prior boating experience.			

2. Before Leaving the Dock			
Demonstrate the ability to recognize, find, and forecast prevailing local weather conditions.			
Perform a satisfactory presail check of the boat, its equipment, and safety gear.			
Inventory and check the condition of all required charts, tide tables, GPS, VHS, and navigation equipment.			
Perform a complete inspection of all deck gear: standing and running rigging, lifelines, etc.			
Check the security and operation of all hatches, ports, and companionways.			
Check that all lines are clear and the anchor is preset for emergency operation.			
Check the sail inventory and select the appropriate sails for the conditions.			
Check the overall appearance of the boat and its rigging making sure all halyards are clear.			
Demonstrate the proper rigging of the sails, halyards, sheets, blocks, and winches.			
Check the head systems and make sure they are empty.			
Check the bilge pump system (as applicable to your boat): operation of manual and electric pumps.			
Ensure there is an adequate supply of gas or diesel on board.			
Demonstrate proper filling of gas (gas mixture) tanks and hook up to the outboard motor.			
Demonstrate how to start and use the outboard motors while at the dock.			
Know the time of bridge opening and effect of current on the boat in rivers.			
Fill out AIMS log and float plan.			

AIMS SKIPPER CERTIFICATION CHECK OFF SHEET

CANDIDATE'S NAME:

		Comments	Trainer Check Off	Date
3. Boat Handling Operations and Skills				
	Demonstrate the operation of a VHF radio and calling protocols.			
	Demonstrate ability to tie and use knots for docking and sail handling (bowline, clove, half hitch, and cleat hitch).			
	Demonstrate appropriate helmsman and crew coordination skills for departure and docking.			
	Demonstrate the ability to steer the boat and navigate the channel.			
	Demonstrate the ability to judge the wind, currents, and conditions for sailing the Sound.			
	Demonstrate the ability to set a course and navigate it successfully.			
	Demonstrate the ability to raise sails and rig the boat for sailing.			
	Demonstrate boat handling ability both under sail and power in fair and foul weather.			
	Demonstrate the ability to set and raise the anchor.			
	Explain what to do in the event of a steering loss or engine failure.			

4. Navigation (Piloting)				
	Know how to chart a course using landmarks, visual aids, and dead reckoning.			
	Be totally familiar with how to use a GPS to obtain a position and steer a course to a waypoint.			
	Know how to plot a waypoint or find an aid to navigation from the GPS.			
	Know how to set a series of courses in the GPS.			
	Demonstrate use of compass or GPS bearing to fix your position.			
	Find your way back to port using only the GPS.			
	Demonstrate how to locate your position at all times using visual aids, GPS, depth finder, and/or dead reckoning.			
	Demonstrate your ability to activate and safely follow a preprogrammed GPS route.			
	Demonstrate how you would find your way back to port in the fog using GPS, DR, or fog signals.			
	Explain use of the compass, variation, deviation, and converting magnetic to true.			
	Describe common aids to navigation and rules of thumb for their use (e.g., red right returning).			
	Know how to use tide and current tables to describe local conditions that affect the boat.			

AIMS SKIPPER CERTIFICATION CHECK OFF SHEET

CANDIDATE'S NAME:

	Comments	Trainer Check Off	Date
Describe right of way rules between sailboats, motorboats, commercial craft, and fishing boats.			
5. Heavy Weather Sailing			
Demonstrate how to reef and/or depower sails.			
Demonstrate and explain Overboard Recovery Methods.			
Know how to put the sailboat in the safety position to ride out heavy weather.			

6. Safety and Emergency Procedures			
Explain the procedure for using an approved distress signal.			
Simulate procedures and operation of VHF radio in various emergency situations.			

7. Returning to the Dock or Mooring			
Demonstrate appropriate helmsman and crew coordination for docking.			
Demonstrate deploying fenders and dock lines.			
Demonstrate the ability to successfully pull into the dock using the outboard or under sails.			
Demonstrate setting of dock and spring lines when tying up at the slip.			
Demonstrate proper stowage of sails, anchor, lines, and gear when closing up the boat.			
Check the electrical switches, bilge, and thru hull shutoff for long-term shutdown.			
Ensure gas is disconnected and stowed properly, hatches secured, and boat is locked.			
Demonstrate leaving the boat in a clean, organized and ready-for-use condition for the next member.			
Conduct a final check of dock locks, lines, fenders, and overall boat condition and appearance.			

CANDIDATE'S NAME:	FINAL TRAINER SIGNOFF
AIMS SKIPPER CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST	Name:
	Signature:
	Date: