

Proficiency Standard for a Sailing Barge Mate

A competent mate should be able to:-

Understand the setting, stowing and trimming of all sails according to different weather and sailing conditions and to be able to take appropriate action to avoid and to deal safely with gybing.

Make fast ropes on cleats, bollards etc in a safe and secure fashion and to deal safely with surging ropes under heavy strain.

Understand the principles of mooring with breast ropes, springs etc, according to different circumstances, including berths with a heavy tidal rise and fall.

Understand the anchor windlass, how to let go and recover the anchor safely and in accordance with weather and depth conditions. Be able to fleet the chain safely. Understand the principles of getting under way from an anchorage in different weather and tidal conditions.

Deal safely with brail winch and crab winch operation, including appropriate safety guidance to passengers.

Have knowledge of the use, fitting and maintenance of life jackets and other emergency equipment, including life raft, dan buoy, jon buoy, types of flare and their use and location aboard vessel. Have basic knowledge of first aid and Man Overboard procedures.

Be able to steer the barge competently both to windward and running dard and to a compass course. Understand the principles of compass deviation and variation.

Be able to set up rolling vang.

Understand the principles and use of leadline and echo sounder.

Be able to use the VHF radio.

Be proficient in boatwork including competent sculling, rowing and outboard motor operation and how to lower, hoist and secure boat in davits.

Be able to tie basic knots such as bowline, rolling hitch etc quickly and effectively.

Be able to clean and care for oil and electric lamps and set up riding light and navigation lights.

Understand the basics of tidal set and leeway.

Understand the basics of the buoyage system, rules of the road and collision avoidance etc.

Be able to carry out/recognise what needs to be done in way of pre-engine start checks; namely engine oil and water, raw water seacock and strainer and overboard discharge seacock, as applicable; also battery isolator switch, starting procedure, use of throttle, gear lever etc.

Have knowledge of on-board pumps and firefighting equipment.