

# INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION

## World Water Safety

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## JET SKI OPERATOR

### OPERATOR - PERSONAL WATER RESCUE CRAFT (JET SKI) OPERATOR

#### MINIMUM RECOMMENDED COMPETENCIES

Operator – Personal Water Rescue Craft (PWRC) is a person who will be regularly assigned to protect life and provide safety in an aquatic environment such as a lake, river, estuary, open water or surf beach environment using a PWRC as the rescue aid.

Lifeguards around the world have adopted the recreational Jet Ski into one of the most successful rescue aids of recent times.

The following is the minimum competencies recommended by the International Life Saving Federation for an Operator of a Personal Water Rescue Craft. ILS recognises that many of its Member Federations have standards, which exceed these minimums, based on the circumstances presented in their own countries. ILS encourages the highest possible standards in lifesaving, and merely provides the following as recommended minimum competencies.

ILS also recommends minimum competencies for Lifesaver, Pool Lifeguard, Inland – Open Water Lifeguard, Surf Lifeguard, Rescue Boat Driver and Rescue Diver.

1. Candidates must hold a current ILS (or equivalent) Lifeguard Certificate for either Open Water Lifeguard or Surf Lifeguard.
2. Candidates must hold any necessary Boat Licenses or other requirements/ordinances as applied by local/county/state/province or National Waterways/Port/Coastguard authorities.
3. Candidates must hold a Motor Vehicle Drivers license or meet local requirements to tow trailer or launch the craft.
4. Candidates during training must keep a Training Log Sheet, which shows the dates and hours achieved for the various segments of training. The Instructor or Coach is to verify the log sheet. Instruction and training should take place in as many varied conditions as possible that will simulate actual conditions.
5. During training it is essential that Instructors ensure water conditions do not present any hazards or place the safety of the candidate, swimmers or other craft at risk. It is strongly advised that no PWRC should be operated without a communication system in place. Operators must wear an approved personal flotation device and head protection at all times.
6. The minimum of 10 hours practical driving (operating) driving should be completed, prior to examination or assessment.

7. The amount of training for the maintenance and unit/engine operation component will depend on prior experience and mechanical knowledge.

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 1: Demonstrate knowledge of general safety requirements.**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Personal protective clothing and equipment.
- Launching, retrieval and operating
- Prevention of accidental or unauthorised starting of PWRC

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 2: Demonstrate pre-launch (Boat Ramp or Beach)**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Maintenance and safety gear check including trailer
- Check 'start ' rescue craft
- Transport craft to launch destination
- Identify any hazards at launch area.
- Removing craft from trailer
- Mooring or securing craft in readiness for use

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 3: Perform Driving and operating procedures.**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Identify 'safe zone' path to enter and return
- Entering and Exiting 'Surf Zone' or 'Shore Break'.
- Reversing and quick stopping
- Turning
- Planning and parallel running
- Wave Judgement
- Precision Driving
- Boarding and starting in deepwater
- Returning to shore and beaching

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 4: Demonstrate use of communications and responses.**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Communicate to shore or rescue base.
- Communicate with other craft.

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 5: Demonstrate Search and Rescue Procedures.**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Search patterns
- Weather conditions (wind, current drifts)
- Time factors (fuel reserves, crew fatigue, approaching darkness)
- Available back up rescue units

### **LEARNING OUTCOME 6: Perform rescues, safe approach and determine patient recognition in conditions that are highly applicable area of operation.**

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

- Crew drop-off and pick-up
- Conscious Patient Pick-up
- Unconscious Patient Pick-Up
- Multiple two person Pick-Up – conscious patients

- Mass Rescue – 3 conscious patients (1 patient severely injured)
- Pick-Up near rocks or obstacles
- Transfer patients to shore/beach
- Throwing a rescue line or towrope.
- Pick up object
- Transfer patients to Rescue Boat

### LEARNING OUTCOME 7: Trouble shooting and emergency procedures

#### Assessment Criteria:

- Craft capsize procedures
- Craft submerged procedures
- Re-starting engine
- Clearing weed or debris from jet intake or impeller in deep water
- Towing procedures for inoperative PWRC

### LEARNING OUTCOME 8. Demonstrate PWRC retrieval and post operation checks.

#### Assessment Criteria:

- Secure beach or ramp retrieval area
- Identify hazards at retrieval area.
- Load and secure craft to trailer
- Show knowledge of PWRC operating manuals
- Engine flushing & preventative maintenance
- Final craft and engine checks
- Equipment, sled and gear checks
- Storage – regular and recess periods
- Manufacturers servicing requirements.
- Re-fuelling
- Readiness for use.

### ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

These learning outcomes are best assessed using the following common assessment methods. As many assessment methods as possible should be used to validate the competency of the candidate:

- Observation (personal, video review)
- Oral questioning
- Written Examination (short answer or multiple choice)
- Simulated rescue scenario
- Demonstration
- Self-Assessment
- Third parties

### RANGE OF VARIABLES

Variable	Scope
Facilities	Facilities and use of inland-open water and surf aquatic locations
Venue	Identification of suitable venue that provides the best environment and conditions and the necessary equipment available to conduct training or assessment sessions.
Dress	Candidates may be required to wear their recognised uniform or wet suit along with required personal protective clothing such as helmet and Personal Floating Device (PFD).

**Resources** ILS member organisations will utilise their own materials or those available from other member countries or reference materials approved by the ILS Education Commission.

**Equipment** Patient handling may be with or without a rescue sled attached.

Regulation approved by the ILS Board of Directors in 2004 and ratified by the 2004 ILS General Assembly.