

Permanent Notice to Mariners

No 09

FISHING VESSELS SAFETY TRAINING – EXEMPTIONS & VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES (Updated from 2014)

References

- Shipping (Fishing Vessels – Safety Training) (Jersey) Order 2004 (**the Order**)
- Shipping (Fishing Vessels Safety Codes of Practice) (Jersey) Regulations 2015
- Jersey Fishing Vessels Code of Practice (**the Code of Practice**)
- States of Jersey Law 2005: Delegation of Functions (R.128/2021 - MD-E-2021-0029) (**the Delegation**)

Introduction

1. The Order was introduced solely to improve the safety of all commercial fishermen following a number of fatalities in the UK and around the shores of Jersey. This permanent Notice to Mariners has been developed in consultation with the fishing associations and the Territorial Seas Coordination and Advisory Group (TSCAG) to provide clarification on specific issues relating to exemptions and the validity of sea safety training certificates.

Training requirements

2. The Order requires a person employed or engaged in fishing to be the holder of a valid certificate issued by the Sea Fish Industry Authority in basic sea survival at sea, basic fire-fighting and prevention and basic first aid (together the “Basic Safety Training”). It also allows the Harbour Master to recognise certificates that meet an equivalent or superior standard to that issued by the Sea Fish Industry Authority.
3. Basic Safety Training delivered by the local providers as listed in Appendix A are considered to provide equivalent standards of training to that of Sea Fish. Certificates issued by those providers are therefore satisfactory for the issuance of a fishing vessel safety certificate. Other courses provided by providers which are not listed in Appendix A and the associated certificates issued may be approved by the appropriate delegate as per the Delegation.
4. Locally issued Basic Safety Training certificates will be accepted as valid for **five** years from the date of issue of, and notwithstanding any expiry date quoted on, the relevant certificate, thereby aligning with Sea Fish and STCW standards.

5. Basic Safety Training certificates that have already been issued without an expiry date will continue to be accepted as valid until further notice.
6. In common with any other Jersey registered vessel, a fishing vessel being used to carry recreational passengers for financial gain must have a permit under the Harbours (Inshore Safety) (Jersey) Regulations 2012 and be operated under the conditions of the permit. The permit must be sought from the Harbour Authority.
7. It is the responsibility of individuals to source their own training. Further advice may also be available through the Jersey Fishermen's Association.
8. Owners should present any in-date certificates of training for the skipper and crew at registration or re-registration. It should be noted that an offence is committed in proceeding to sea without the required certificates; checks may be made through inspections at sea or subsequent to a fishing vessel proceeding to sea when certificates of the skipper and crew may be requested.

Equivalences

9. The following may be accepted as satisfactory for a fishing vessel safety certificate to be issued when the Basic Safety Training certificates of a person employed or engaged on a fishing vessel have expired:
 - that the above courses have been completed at least once in the past;
 - the person produces evidence of having completed relevant free online Seafish course(s) as available on the Seafish website, in the form of a screenshot copy to confirm a satisfactory pass rate of at least 70%;
 - confirmation from a local provider of the course(s) concerned that the fisher concerned has booked a refresher course for a particular date;
 - the course offered by local providers must be completed at the earliest available opportunity. Failure to attend the next available course may result in the Harbour Master revoking the fishing vessel safety certificate.



Captain Bill Sadler
Harbour Master, Jersey Harbours

30th April 2025

Appendix A - Basic Safety Training delivered by the local providers considered to provide equivalent standards of training to that of Sea Fish

- ✓ Seafish UK
- ✓ Jersey Fire and Rescue Service
- ✓ St John Ambulance Jersey
- ✓ St Helier Yacht Club (RYA certification)
- ✓ Le Mourier Swim-Sea-Save (RYA certification)
- ✓ Ports of Jersey Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting Service
- ✓ Family Nursing & Home Care
- ✓ STCW basic safety training which is approved by any Maritime Administration which is signatory to the STCW Convention
- ✓ OPITO | Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training (BOSIET) with Compressed Air Emergency Breathing System

Appendix B – Legal background

Shipping (Jersey) Law 2002 (Article 85)

Shipping (Fishing Vessels – Safety Training) (Jersey) Order 2004

Shipping (Fishing Vessels Safety Codes of Practice) (Jersey) Regulations 2015

The Jersey Fishing Vessels Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels

Permanent Notice to Mariners No. 9 - Fishing Vessels Safety Training – Exemptions & Validity of Certificates (updated from 2014)

- Article 2 of the Shipping (Fishing Vessels – Safety Training) (Jersey) Order 2004 states that:

(1) A person must not be employed or engaged on a fishing vessel unless the person is –

- (a) a certificated deck officer or a certificated engineer officer;*
- (b) the holder of a **valid certificate issued by the Sea Fish Industry Authority** that certifies that the person has undergone an approved training course in basic survival at sea, basic fire-fighting and prevention, and basic first aid;*
- (c) the holder of a **valid certificate** which, **in the opinion of the Harbour Master**, certifies that the person has undergone training in the subjects referred to in sub-paragraph (b) that is equivalent to or superior to the training mentioned in that sub-paragraph; or*
- (d) a person exempted under Article 4 who is being employed or engaged in accordance with the terms of the exemption.*

- Section 4.7 of the Jersey Fishing Vessels Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels states that “All crew working on a Jersey registered fishing vessel are required to ensure that **they have undertaken the appropriate training courses¹**”, **as per the below table.**

Course	Experienced Fisherman	New Entrant
1 Day Sea Survival Techniques	X	X
1 Day Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting	X	X
1 Day Elementary First Aid	X	X
1 Day Safety Awareness and Risk Assessment	X ²	
1 Day Health and Safety (safe working practices)		X ²

¹ Further details of these requirements and possible exemptions are available from the Harbour Master at Jersey Harbours.

² The Safety Awareness and Health and Safety courses are recommended but not yet compulsory. They will only become so when the Shipping (Fishing Vessels – Safety Training) (Jersey) Order 2004 is amended or replaced.