The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) developed the Seal of Safe Boating Practices to encourage producers of boating media to adhere to the highest standards in quality boating safety information. NASBLA feels it is important to provide recognition and endorsement for worthy boating publications, videos, CD ROMS, brochures and other media. Due to the nature of the products, boating safety courses are not eligible for the Seal of Safe Boating Practices.
Show all people on board vessels wearing life jackets.

Lifejackets should fit properly and be zipped up or fastened. All persons should be shown wearing life jackets at all times. This includes persons on the dock getting into or out of a boat. Life jackets should be suitable to the activity being depicted.

Boats and equipment used should be in optimal condition.

Proper registration numbers should be displayed on all boats and documented vessels should display the proper name and hailing point. All other safety equipment, such as life jackets, flares, and fire extinguishers should be visible and meet or exceed the minimum Federal Guidelines.

Show safe body positions for operator and passengers.

The operator should be shown properly located at the control station while the vessel is under way. Passengers should be seated in small vessels or properly secured. Engine cutoff-switch lanyards or other safety devices should also be used. Small vessels should not be overloaded with passengers and/or equipment. If people must move about the boat while it is in motion, they should stay low and go slow while maintaining three points of contact.

Show boats operating in a safe manner.

Boats should not be shown operating too close to people, docks or other structures. Boats should be operated at safe speeds for existing conditions. If boats are shown operating at high speeds or in choppy or inclement weather to demonstrate capabilities, a disclaimer should be include stating that the boat is operated by a professional.

Do not show alcohol consumption.

Alcohol use is a contributing factor in many boating accidents. This problem is not restricted to vessel operators alone because intoxicated persons can easily fall overboard and drown. In the interest of public awareness of this problem and to set a positive example, we require that no alcohol be consumed aboard boats.
Production considerations.

Regardless of the intent of the demonstration or use of watercraft, safe boating practices should be highlighted. If unsafe behavior is shown to make a point of boating safety, that point should be clear. All professional stunts or competitive practices should be identified as such and should be followed by a disclaimer.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES

1. To avoid confusion with NASBLA approval of boating safety courses, NASBLA does not review boating courses for the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices. Courses should be submitted according to established course review and approval procedures found on NASBLA’s website (www.nasbla.org).

2. There is no charge for reviewing materials submitted for the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices.

3. The NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices is limited to boating safety educational materials and products. General water safety items such as pool or swimming safety materials will not be included.

4. The NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices will not endorse any product or equipment such as boats, motors, life jackets, boating accessories, supplies, fuels, etc. The only product endorsement would be when an educational publication, video, film outdoor sports program, etc. is the actual product a company produces.

5. The NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices cannot be used in direct advertising or promotions. However, it may be used on posters and written materials where it would benefit the public to know that the content has been found to be beneficial to recreational boating safety. NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices videos and outdoor sports programs.

6. Material will be reviewed by the NASBLA Education & Outreach Committee to ensure that the materials comply with adopted standards and guidelines. The chair of the Education & Outreach Committee will appoint a three-person subcommittee to review the application and the material and recommend either approval or disapproval.

7. The NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices will not be considered "certification" or NASBLA-approval as a boating safety course. It will imply only that the information is deemed by NASBLA to be beneficial to safe boating.

8. A company, business, or individual who wishes to have the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices will sign an agreement with a sunset date at which time the materials would be resubmitted for review.
GUIDELINES FOR NASBLA SEAL OF SAFE BOATING PRACTICES REVIEW

Methods of Submitting an Application:

Submit Item for Review Through On-line Application:
To submit the application and item for review electronically, please complete the electronic application form found on the Seal of Safe Boating page on the NASBLA website (www.nasbla.org/sosb).

Submit Item for Review by Mail:
Note: If submitting a hard copy of the item to NASBLA you are required to submit three (3) copies of the materials (videos, brochures, etc.) for which endorsement is requested. Copies will not be returned.

Please complete the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices application electronically through the on-line form found on the Seal of Safe Boating page on the NASBLA website (www.nasbla.org/sosb) and indicate in the form that a hard copy of the item will be mailed to NASBLA.

OR

Print and complete the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices application then mail the application and supporting material to NASBLA.

If submitting multiple items for endorsement, a separate application form must accompany each item. We ask that new materials be submitted in draft form for review rather than existing books, pamphlets, videos etc., unless the already-published materials are due for editing and reprinting in the near future. This allows the reviewers to make suggestions to ensure the final product is worthy of the Seal and make it possible to display the Seal on the finished product.

The applications and materials will be forwarded to the Seal of Safe Boating reviewers. After receiving the recommendation from the reviewers, NASBLA will notify the applicant of approval or disapproval. If approved, the applicant will be furnished with a copy of the Seal of Safe Boating logo, which can be used and reproduced on approved materials.
STEPS FOR THE APPEALS PROCESS

The appeal must be in writing and submitted to the chair of the Education & Outreach Committee within thirty (30) days. If the applicant does not accept this action, he/she may do one of the following:

1. Request in writing a review by the full Education & Outreach Committee at its next business meeting and its recommendation submitted to the NASBLA Executive Board for concurrence.

2. Resubmit, in writing, an appeal to the NASBLA Education & Outreach Committee Chair within ten (10) days and at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual conference. During the business meeting at the annual meeting the Education Chair will advise the entire NASBLA membership of the situation and the recommendations of the Education & Outreach Committee will open the floor for a motion and any discussion, and call for a vote on the issue. A simple majority of the voting members present will decide the issue. This decision will be final.

The purpose of the NASBLA Seal of Safe Boating Practices is to encourage producers of boating media to adhere to the highest standards in quality boating safety information. NASBLA feels it is important to provide recognition and endorsement for worthy boating publications, videos, CD ROMS, brochures and other media. Due to the nature of the products, boating safety courses are not eligible for the Seal of Safe Boating Practices.

Upon publication, a sample of the finished product displaying the Seal must be sent to NASBLA archiving in the NASBLA library. If the materials are not provided to NASBLA within 90 days, the Seal will be withdrawn.
National Association of State Boating Law Administrators
Seal of Safe Boating Practices
APPLICATION FORM:

Mail application and materials to:

NASBLA
Attn: Seal of Safe Boating
1648 McGrathiana Parkway, Suite 360
Lexington, KY 40511-1338

Phone: 859.225.9487
E-mail: info@nasbla.org

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<th>Provider Information:</th>
<th>Warranty of Content: By submitting this application for endorsement, Applicant represents and warrants to NASBLA that all content is either (a) original material, including all text, pictures, drawings, and other intellectual content, such that Applicant has or is eligible to copyright same in its name, or (b) material which is in the public domain and is not subject to copyright(s) held by others.</th>
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Signature of Contact Person

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Date