



# BOAT Advisory Board Rules

## PART I INTRODUCTION

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) is a national, non-profit organization representing the United States' state and territorial recreational boating authorities responsible for administering and enforcing recreational boating laws. Over its 50-year history, NASBLA has provided national leadership to focus policies and resources on reducing risks associated with recreational boating; fostered partnerships and coalitions among key stakeholders in the boating community to ensure safe and secure boating environments; and strived to provide models and standards that support best practices and consistency among the states and territories.

In keeping with the Association's mission, the NASBLA Boat Program Advisory Board was created and charged by NASBLA's Policy Committee on Preparedness and Response in 2011 to function as a consultative board relating directly to training courses within NASBLA's BOAT Program.

## PART II BOAT ADVISORY BOARD OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to the vision statement of the NASBLA Committee on Preparedness and Response, the Board is charged with providing stakeholder input, to audit and make recommendations to the NASBLA BOAT Program Director for potential modifications and enhancements to the BOAT Program, and to further NASBLA's efforts to provide professional delivery of nationally standardized training.

## PART III DEFINITIONS

As used in these Rules, unless otherwise stated:

1. "*ANSI*" means the American National Standards Institute.
2. "*ANSI Essential Requirements*" means the minimum acceptable due process requirements applying to activities associated with developing consensus for the purposes of approving, revising, reaffirming, and withdrawing standards sanctioned as American National Standards. In abbreviated form, the requirements are: Openness; Lack of Dominance; Balance; Coordination and harmonization; Notification of standards development; Consideration of views and objections; Consensus vote; Appeals (procedural); Written procedures; and Compliance.
3. "*Consensus*" means that substantial agreement has been reached by directly and materially affected interests. Consensus requires that all views and objections be considered, and that an effort be made toward their resolution.
4. "*Consensus Body*" means the group that approves the content of a Standard and whose vote demonstrates evidence of consensus.
5. "*Executive Board*" or "*Board*" means the Executive Board of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.



## BOAT Advisory Board Rules

6. “*In good standing*,” for a duly appointed BOAT Advisory Board member, means remaining in compliance with the Panel’s attendance, balloting, conduct, and performance requirements.
7. “*Meeting*” means any gathering of members in person or electronically (through webinar or teleconference or other electronic communication methods open and accessible to all members) to conduct official business.
8. “*NASBLA*” means the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.
9. “*BCM*” means Basic Crew Member.
10. “*BOSAR*” means Boat Operator for Search and Rescue.
11. “*TOC*” means Tactical Operator’s Course.
12. “*PAS*” means Pursuit and STOP Course.
13. “*AOC*” means Airboat Operator’s Course.
14. “*RND*” means Small Vessel Rad-Nuc Detection Course.
15. “*BOAT*” means Boat Operations and Training Program.

### **PART IV BOAT ADVISORY BOARD AUTHORITY, ORGANIZATION, SELECTION, AND INTEREST CATEGORIES**

1. The BOAT Advisory Board shall be the consensus body and have such authority as shall be granted to it by the NASBLA Bylaws and the Executive Board.
2. The BOAT Advisory Board shall be appointed by and report directly to the Chair of the Committee on Preparedness and Response. The Chair of the BOAT Advisory Board shall be elected by the members of the BOAT Advisory Board. A Chair who is relieved of duties by the Chair of the Committee on Preparedness and Response, or who is otherwise unable to serve in that leadership position, may remain an advisory board member, if in good standing, until the completion of their term of office. NASBLA shall designate staff to provide technical, research, and administrative support to the work of the BOAT Advisory Board. Staff may provide additional assistance at the request of the Chair of the BOAT Advisory Board. Coast Guard members serving on the BOAT Advisory Board shall be appointed by the Coast Guard and will not serve as voting members or as the Chair.
3. Membership on the BOAT Advisory Board shall not exceed fifteen (15) members, including the Chair. A minimum number of members in each identified group are as follows: *two (2) State BLA members, two (2) MLEO members, one (1) USCG Boat Forces representative, one (1) Federal Law Enforcement Training representative, one (1) USCG field representative, one (1) NASBLA CEO, and (1) Commercial towing representative. The remaining membership may be distributed amongst any of the groups with no more than two (2) additional members from any of the groups, and/or a category not mentioned here but upon the agreement of the BOAT Advisory Board.*



## BOAT Advisory Board Rules

4. No later than December 15 of any year, the Chair of the Committee on Preparedness and Response shall make appointments to the BOAT Advisory Board for member terms that will expire at the end of the calendar year, and fill any additional vacancies then existing. The Board may solicit and nominate appointments to fill vacancies on the BOAT Advisory Board during regular or special in-person meetings of the Board or by using a communication system open and accessible to all Board members. The BOAT Advisory Chair may then forward such nominations to the Chair of the Committee on Preparedness for final appointment.
5. The regular term of office for a member or chairperson of the BOAT Advisory Board shall be three (3) years, and the members' terms shall be staggered such that one-third (1/3) expire at the end of each calendar year. Coast Guard members shall serve terms as directed by the Coast Guard's Office of Boat Forces.
6. BOAT Advisory Board members in good standing may be reappointed. Members shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms, and may be reappointed after a minimum one (1) year break. This does not apply to Coast Guard members.
7. Any BOAT Advisory Board member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the BOAT Advisory Board Chair and Chair of the Committee on Preparedness and Response, or if the member resigning is the Chair, to the Chair of the Committee on Preparedness and Response. Any resignation shall be effective immediately unless a certain date is specified for it to take effect. Acceptance of any resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
8. In the year of its creation, the appointed BOAT Advisory Board members, other than the Chair, shall draw lots to determine which shall serve one (1), two (2), or three (3) year terms.