



June 4-9, 2023  
Lexington, Kentucky

*Preparing the new generation of recreational boating safety leaders*

**Sunday, June 4**

5:00 pm Academy Class Meets in Hotel Lobby

5:30 pm Academy Welcome Dinner – NASBLA Headquarters

**Monday, June 5**

7:00 am – 8:00 am Breakfast (provided at NASBLA Headquarters)

7:15 am – 7:30 am Shuttle from Hotel Lobby to NASBLA Headquarters available

8:00 am – 8:30 am Welcome & Introductions - NASBLA Headquarters  
Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA  
John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director

8:30 am – 9:00 am Leadership Academy:  
Student Expectations and Academy Goals and Objectives  
Ron Sarver, CAE, NASBLA, Chief Knowledge & Learning Management

9:00 am – Noon **Management, Leadership, Ethics and Character - CRBP Domain #1**  
**DISC Behavioral & Driving Forces Assessments**  
Stefanie Ashley, CFP, CVF, Director (Invited)  
Eastern Kentucky University Facilitation Center



Whether it's building a team, developing your leadership skills, or increasing overall communication, DISC and Driving Forces can help your professional development. You'll learn about yourself and how you can best communicate with and lead others.

Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch (provided)

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm RBS Management Pre-Assessment

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm



#### **Federal Programs – CRBP Domain #4**

##### **The U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division**

Verne Gifford, Chief, USCG Boating Safety Division (Invited)

A brisk overview of the U.S. Coast Guard's Boating Safety Division and the Program Management & Operations Branch, Grants Management Branch and Recreational Boating Product Assurance Branch and how they guide the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. Some of the topics to be covered include: federal preemption, incident reporting, policy letters, State Guide, NRBSS, desk reviews and corrective action plans, NBSAC, BUI detection, program reporting requirements, and more.

2:30 pm – 3:15 pm



#### **Federal Programs – CRBP Domain #4**

##### **National RBS State Grant Program – A Financial Overview**

Pavlo Oborski, Chief, USCG Grants Management Branch (Invited)

Funding makes the world go around and is a vital part of the State Grants Programs. This session will cover the grant cycle, grant submission, reporting, deadlines, payments, etc.

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm



#### **Boating Law Administration – CRBP Domain #2**

All About NASBLA

Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA

John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA Executive Director

Hannah Helsby, CAE, NASBLA Chief Operations Officer

- Mission, History/ Background/ Organization
- Executive Board/ Leadership
- Policy Committees
- NASBLA Strategic Plan




4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

#### **Leadership Academy Roundtable Discussion**

6:00 pm

**Dinner** (provided)

## Tuesday, June 6

- 7:00 am Academy Class Meets in Hotel Lobby
- 7:30 am – 8:00 am Academy Class Departs in Hotel Lobby for shuttle to KY DFW
- 8:00 am – 8:30 am Breakfast (provided at Salato Wildlife Center, Frankfort, Kentucky)
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- 8:30 am – 8:45 am Morning Welcome – Salato Wildlife Center, Frankfort, Kentucky  
Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA  
John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director  
Shane Carrier, BLA, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources (Invited)  
Marcus Bowling, Boat Education Coordinator, Kentucky DFWR (Invited)
- 8:45 am – 9:15 am **Boating Safety Education - CRBP Domain #7**  
**Updates and Innovations in Boater Education**  
Greg Gulliver, VP of Agency Relations, Kalkomey (Invited)
-  9:30 am – 11:00 am **Federal Programs – CRBP Domain #4**  
**National RBS State Grant Program – A Program Overview**  
Vann Burgess, USCG Senior RBS Specialist (Invited)
-  Certainly, the program side of the State Grants Program is an integral part of the National Recreational Boating Safety Program and an understanding of how the education, enforcement, accident reporting and vessel numbering components and their programmatic reporting requirements -- are essential. In addition, this session will explain the relationships between the states, the Districts, and the RBS Specialists, as well as points of contact and compliance visits. Other items to be addressed include an overview of the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, USCG/State Agreements, and the Vessel Identification System (VIS).
- 11:15 am – Noon **Waterways Management – CRBP Domain #9**  
**Paddlesports, the Impact on State Programs & Waterways Management**  
Ron Sarver, CAE, NASBLA, Chief Knowledge & Learning Management
-  Canoes, kayaks, paddleboards and other human powered vessels have an increasing impact upon state programs. This session will look at the numbers and begin a discussion on how these user groups can be served in your state. And we'll share with you a new tool to help you meet the needs of all boaters.
- Noon – 12:45 pm Salato Wildlife Center Walking Tour
- 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch (provided)
- 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Academy Class Travels to Canoe Kentucky, Peaks Mill, Kentucky

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm



### Experience Paddlesports

Canoe Kentucky, Peaks Mill

This session will be a paddle trip down Elkhorn Creek. Along the way we'll discuss paddlesports, the growth in activity and the impacts on state programs.

The paddling trip is appropriate for beginner to intermediate paddlers. This is the most secluded and intimate section of The Elkhorn Creek, full of wildlife. The creek runs over a rock bottom through a series of riffles, small rapids, and calm pools and is between 35 ft. and 90 ft. wide. The creek passes through a scenic, wooded valley scattered with rock beaches and is perfect for kayaking. The put-in is at Knight's Bridge on KY 1900 and the take-out is at Canoe Kentucky in Peaks Mill. It is on Class 1+ water and averages two hours if you paddle straight through (water conditions can change the duration of the trip). Generally, the trip lasts 2-3 hours.

***Wear appropriate footwear (shoes that will stay on your feet – no flip-flops), glasses straps, sunscreen, and hats. Wear clothes you don't mind getting wet (quick drying is best). Life jackets will be provided but you may wish to bring one you are comfortable wearing.***

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

### Return to Lexington

Dinner on own

## Wednesday, June 7

7:00 am – 8:00 am

**Breakfast** (provided at NASBLA Headquarters)

7:15 am – 7:45 am

**Shuttle from Hotel Lobby to NASBLA Headquarters available**

8:00 am – 8:30 am

**Morning Welcome** - NASBLA Headquarters

Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA

John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director

8:30 am – 9:30 am

**Boating Safety Education - CRBP Domain #7**

**RBS Cornerstone: Boater Education and the National RBS Program**

Mark Chanski, NASBLA Education Director



With a wealth of information surrounding us, how can we determine the highest priority topics for boater knowledge? How can you have confidence that a boater visiting YOUR state meets your state requirements? The session will cover the status of the national boater education program with a focus on how national risk-based boating education standards are developed and how courses are assessed for compliance to the standards. The session will also provide an overview of the current system of education data collection and reporting, instructor development and training, and a look to the future of boating education.

9:30 am – 9:45 am

**Break**

9:45 am – 11:00 am



### **CRBP Domains #1 through #10**

#### **Data Resources, Collection, Analysis and Use in RBS Programs**

Deb Gona, PhD – NASBLA Research Director

There are at least a dozen mentions of data or statistics or some analysis of them across the domains of the Certified Recreational Boating Professional program on which your Leadership Academy workshop is based. In this session, we'll talk about your experiences and respective roles in generating, collecting, reviewing, using, and presenting relevant data and statistics for your states and agencies; share principles of data—including some cautionary notes; and introduce information about available resources and projects intended to improve quality and quantity of data that forms the foundation for the states' RBS programs, and ultimately, the national RBS program.

11:00 am – 11:30 am



### **Partnerships – CRBP Domain #5**

#### **Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund**

Tom Guess, NASBLA Past President, Virginia BLA (Invited)

The Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund is a critical funding tool for a diverse set of important state and national recreational fishing and boating programs, including recreational boating safety. Learn where the funding comes from, how it's distributed to state programs and how NASBLA represents the states' interest in Washington, DC for the trust fund.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Lunch (provided)**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm



### **Partnerships – CRBP Domain #5**

#### **Working with Your Legislature**

Tom Guess, NASBLA Past President, Virginia BLA (Invited)

State agencies create and implement public policy. Sometimes that policy requires a change in state law. It is useful to understand how the legislative process works and how you can influence it. Learn from someone who's in the trenches, getting bills passed (or stopped!) and informing legislators about the impacts of laws on their state agency.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm



### **Management, Leadership, Ethics and Character – CRBP Domain #1**

#### **Practical Lessons of Leadership**

Tom Guess, NASBLA Past President, Virginia BLA (Invited)

You serve a vital role in establishing and supporting a culture that is sensitive and responsive to the needs, interests, and values of the entire RBS community. This session provides an overview of what you can do – regardless of your position within your agency – to influence others and develop a sense of camaraderie.

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

**Depart for Kentucky Historical Water Tour**

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Kentucky Historical Water Tours**

Dinner (provided)

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm      **Return to Hotel**  
7:30 pm

## Thursday, June 8

7:15 am                      **Academy Class Meets in Hotel Lobby for shuttle**  
7:30 am – 8:00 am      **Academy Class Departs in Hotel Lobby for shuttle to TBA**  
8:00 am – 8:30 am      **Breakfast** (provided at TBA)

8:30 am – 8:45 am      **Morning Welcome** – TBA, Kentucky  
Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA  
John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director

8:45 am – 9:45 am



### **RBS Cornerstone:**

#### **Marine Law Enforcement & the Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program**

Dave Considine, NASBLA BOAT Program Director

The Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program establishes a U.S. Coast Guard recognized national standard for the training, qualification, credentialing and typing of marine law enforcement and emergency first responders. Adoption and implementation of the program provides a true national standard for maritime interoperability at all government levels. Standardization ensures maritime agencies can interact together and will bolster their ability to act as force multipliers nationwide.

9:45 am – 10:00 am      **Break**

10:00 am – 10:30 am      **Intro to Partnerships/ Key NASBLA Partners and How We 'Fit' Together**

John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director

Effective leadership within your agency's recreational boating safety (RBS) program requires a national network of partnerships. Learn what role you play within this RBS community and how you can strengthen your program by being an active participant. "When you need a partner it's usually too late to go make a new one."

10:30 am – 11:15 am      **Vessel Numbering, Titling and Vessel Identification System –  
CRBP Domain #10**



#### **Federal Vessel Numbering Requirements and State Implementation**

Rick Barrera, NASBLA Vessel Identification, Registration & Titling Committee Staff

This session will present an overview of Federal requirements for boat numbering including Hull Identification Numbers (HIN), reporting and compliance, and how state registration and titling fits within this process.

11:15 am – 11:30 am      **Break**

11:30 am – 12:30 pm  
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm

**TBA**  
**Lunch (provided)**  
**Class Photo**

2:30 pm – 3:15 pm



**Federal Programs – CRBP Domain #4**  
**How to Work with Your District RBS Specialist**

Walt Taylor, 1st District RBS Specialist, U.S. Coast Guard (Invited)

Have you ever needed a local Coast Guard contact concerning a recreational boating safety initiative, had questions about local enforcement of federal recreational boating regulations, or simply need someone regarding a varying number of possible issues that involve local recreational boating activities, planning, or other topics but just don't know who to call? Well now you do... District Recreational Boating Safety Specialists are the "go-to" advisors on matters concerning recreational boating safety for Coast Guard units and Coast Guard Auxiliary units within a Coast Guard District. Exceptional subject matter experts because of their specialized boating backgrounds and experience, they are the glue that binds the National and District recreational boating safety programs together. Knowing who your District Recreational Boating Safety Specialist is and how they can help you will make your job easier and more effective.

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm



**Partnerships – CRBP Domain #5**  
**Working with Advocates/Survivors to Advance Your Legislative & Outreach Goals**

Alex Otte, MADD National President (Invited)

Using boating safety advocates and survivors of boating incidents can bring home your program efforts with legislators and the public. The first survivor to serve as MADD National President and three experienced BLAs will share how they've worked around the country to advance boating safety efforts.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
8:00 pm

**TBA**  
**Dinner (provided)**  
**Return to Hotel**

**Friday, June 9**

7:30 am – 8:00 am  
7:30 am – 8:30 am

**Shuttle from Hotel Lobby to NASBLA Headquarters available**  
**Breakfast (provided at NASBLA Headquarters)**

8:30 am – 9:00 am

**Morning Welcome – NASBLA Headquarters**  
Susan Stocker, NASBLA Chair, Iowa, BLA  
John Johnson, CAE, NASBLA CEO/Executive Director

9:00 am – 9:30 am



**Certified Recreational Boating Professional Certification**

Curt Lewis, CRBP, NASBLA Board Member, Illinois BLA (Invited)

The Certified Recreational Boating Professional (CRBP) certification is a voluntary credential for recreational boating professionals being developed by NASBLA. The credential is broad-based and addresses boating professionals' knowledge, performance and career achievements in the identified program domains.

9:30 am – 10:15 am

**Partnerships – CRBP Domain #5**

**Connect & NASBLA Resources**

Ron Sarver, CAE, NASBLA, Chief, Knowledge & Learning Management Systems

Join Ron as he takes on a tour of NASBLA's digital resources from the website to our online community to our eLearning Center

10:30 am – 11:00 am

**Review**

11:00 am - Noon

**Certificate in RBS Management Assessment**

Noon – 12:30 pm

**Closing Roundtable Starter Topics**

What are your challenges? What's next? Where do YOU go from here? Where should WE go from here?

12:30 pm

Lunch (provided)

1:00 pm

**Departures**

Agenda subject to change. Updated November 6, 2022.