



Chapter 1. Tactical Boat Operator Qualification

Introduction

Tactical operations normally involve high-speed, highly maneuverable boats that typically operate in high-threat environments and are outfitted with Mounted Automatic Weapons (MAW,) long guns and/or small arms. Critical to the success of tactical operations is the ability of the crew to competently and safely operate the boat. The dangerous nature of these operations requires a robust training program to master and sustain skills necessary to safely and effectively maneuver the boat and engage threats. Before operating a tactical boat in an operational capacity, crewmembers should receive appropriate formal and practical training. Crewmembers should attain basic qualifications and complete advanced training in accordance with this Manual.

This Chapter contains a collection of tasks, which must be learned, practiced, and performed by the trainee. These tasks represent the minimum elements of skill and knowledge necessary for safe and effective performance of a Tactical Boat Operator. (TBO).

NOTE

Speed and operating distance between platforms during training evolutions should always be within the capabilities of all individuals involved, and shall be conducted under the direct supervision of a training instructor (as defined in this manual). It is recommended that tactical procedures be practiced at incremental speeds and distances - not to exceed the operational parameters of the boats or experience of crews involved.

In This Chapter

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References for This Chapter

- a. *U.S. Coast Guard Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Manual, Vol. I., COMDTINST M16114.32 (series)*
- b. *U.S. Coast Guard Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Manual, Vol. II., COMDTINST M16114.33 (series)*
- c. *NASBLA Boat Operations and Training Manual, Vol. I*
- d. *NASBLA Boat Operations and Training Manual, Vol. II*
- e. *NASBLA Boat Operations and Training Manual, Vol. III*



Section A. Training and Qualification

Introduction This Section provides an overview of methods of qualification and documentation for maritime law enforcement officers, and in accordance with the National Standard of Boat Operations and Training recognized by the United States Coast Guard.

In This Section This Section contains the following information:

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A.1. Training and Qualification The preferred method of qualification as Tactical Boat Operator (TBO) is to complete the TBO Course (Course Code: 502292) provided by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) as part of its Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program. If unable to obtain a quota to the course, personnel may certify by completing the qualification tasks in this section.

Personnel assigned as TBO instructors should be either graduates of the U. S. Coast Guard's Joint Maritime Training Center, or graduates of the NASBLA Tactical Operator's Course, and it is highly recommended that you seek instructors who have been trained and qualified through NASBLA's National Instructor Certification Program.

A.2. Qualification Succession It is recommended that personnel qualifying for TBO certifications should first complete the certification process for BCM and BOSAR in accordance and as part of the NASBLA BOAT Manual.

A.3. Program Documentation Completed PQS should be documented in the agency's training records, and forwarded to NASBLA for inclusion in the national database of qualified Tactical Operators.



Section B. Task Accomplishment Record for Tactical Boat Operator

NOTE 

Instructor should remove this Section and place it in the trainee's training record/E-training system.

TRAINEE NAME: _____ RATE: _____

INSTRUCTOR NAME: _____ RATE: _____

POSITION/QUALIFICATION CODE TO BE TRAINED FOR: _____

Task	Date Started	Date Completed	Instructor's Initials
TBO-01-01-ANY			
TBO-01-02-ANY			
TBO-01-03-TYPE			
TBO-01-04-TYPE			
TBO-01-05-TYPE			
TBO-01-06-TYPE			
TBO-01-08-TYPE			



Section C. Tactical Boat Operator (TBO) Qualification Tasks

Introduction

The following are the instructions for this Section:

- The purpose of this Section is to provide guidance on the trainee’s progress through the qualification tasks
- The instructor should present the tasks to the trainee in a logical order using the instructions provided in ref (b), Part 1, or ref (c)
- Tasks should be signed, dated, and placed in the trainee’s training record or entered, when the instructor is satisfied that the trainee can consistently perform a task in accordance with all standards and conditions

Instructor Requirements

Instructors authorized to sign qualification tasks should meet the following requirements:

- They should be currently certified as TBO on the platform on which the trainee will be demonstrating the tasks
- They should be a sworn law enforcement officer
- They should be a graduate of the TBO Course (Course Code: 501857) at Joint Maritime Training Center or through NASBLA’s Tactical Operator’s Course (Course Code: 502292)

Prerequisites

A trainee should be certified BCM or BOSAR, and be operating a marine law enforcement vessel in a port area where the enforcement of security zones occur.

In This Section

This Section contains the following Sub-Sections:

Sub-Section	Title	See Page
1	Sample Task	3-79
2	Tactical Boat Operations	3-80



Sub-Section 1. Sample Task

TASK TBO-01-06-TYPE **Use of Force against Non-Compliant Vessels / Standing Rules of Engagement**

References a. This manual
 b. *U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Manual* (MLEM), COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)

Conditions Task shall be performed while underway both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Task must be accomplished without prompting, job aids, references, and casualty to personnel or boat.

Standards Trainee must demonstrate the duties of the Tactical Reaction Boat and maintain zone integrity while protecting an HVA in accordance with reference (a).

Task Accomplishment Use This Task Accomplishment sheet should be reproduced locally for **each boat type** qualification being pursued. Enter the boat type in the space below.

Boat Type _____

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Determine (Classify) Intent of TOI: a. Compliant vessel b. Non-Compliant Vessel (NCV) c. Vessel posing imminent threat (VPIT)	Day ___ IMU ___ Night ___ JES ___	_10 JUN 08_ _12 JUN 08_
2. Compel compliance from a Non-Compliant Vessel: a. Demonstrate Command Presence b. Employ Low-level Tactics c. Employ Higher-level Tactics, utilizing proper distances d. Employ Warning shots and Disabling fire (See Note) i. Determine where SNO Authority resides ii. Obtain permission for warning shots and/or disabling fire iii. Initiate warning shots, utilizing proper distances iv. Initiate disabling fire, utilizing proper distances v. Utilize standard weapons commands	Day ___ IMU ___ Night ___ JES ___	_10 JUN 08_ _12 JUN 08_
3. Defend self, unit or others from a VPIT (refer to TASK TBO-01-07-TYPE)	Day ___ IMU ___ Night ___ JES ___	_10 JUN 08_ _12 JUN 08_

Instructor (s) BM1 I. M. UNDERWAY (IMU) Ian M. Underway **Date** 13 JUN 08
 BM1 J. E. SMITH (JES) Joe E. Smith

Comments _____

NOTE **The date line above is the date of completion for all tasks. There may be more than one (01) instructor. The instructor that witnesses satisfactory completion of a task should initial the completion block. In this example different instructors initialed the Day and Night Tasks. All instructors must sign the "Instructor(s)" Line.**



Sub-Section 2. Tactical Boat Operations

Introduction

The following are objectives of Sub-Section One:

- Prepare for a Maritime Homeland Security (MHS) Mission
- Complete pre-arrival enforcement procedures
- Demonstrate duties of a Screening Vessel (SV)
- Demonstrate duties of a Reaction Vessel (RV)
- Demonstrate Use of Force against Non-Compliant Vessels (NCVs)
- Secure from a MHS Mission

NOTE

Instructors must ensure that trainees reassess risk at appropriate intervals during evolutions, communicate to the crew, and use the results in decision-making.

WARNING

Extreme caution must be used when practicing and demonstrating these tactics.

A boat's speed and operating distance between platforms during these evolutions should always be within the capabilities of all individuals and under the direct supervision of the training supervisor. It is recommended that these tactics be practiced at incremental speeds and distances – not to exceed the operational parameters of the boat.

When employing the Intercept tactic, the RB will maneuver as quickly as possible between the oncoming Target of Interest (TOI) and the High Valued Asset (HVA) and the course should be as close to bow on as possible.

The unique nature of these tactics is recognized and specifically addressed within Parts 2 and 3 of this Manual.

In this Sub-Section This Sub-Section contains the following tasks:



Task Number	Task
TBO-01-01-ANY	Review Patrol Orders and Participate in Operational Pre-Brief
TBO-01-02-ANY	Complete Pre-Arrival Enforcement Procedures
TBO-01-03-TYPE	Screening Vessel (SV) Duties - Moving
TBO-01-04-TYPE	Screening Vessel (SV) Duties - Stationary
TBO-01-05-TYPE	Reaction Vessel (RV) Duties
TBO-01-06-TYPE	Vessel on Vessel Use Of Force
TBO-01-08-ANY	Secure from Maritime Homeland Security (MHS) Mission



TASK TBO-01-01-ANY

Review Patrol Orders and Participate in Operational Pre-Brief

References

- a. This manual
- b. *U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Manual* (MLEM), COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)

Conditions

Task should be preformed at anytime. Job aids and references are authorized.

Standards

Trainee must complete the task prior to getting underway for Waterside Security Mission in accordance with reference (a) and the approved Operational Commander's mission plan.

NOTE

This manual discusses a lengthy list of sample information that should be included in Patrol Orders and briefings. The below Performance Criteria represents the tasks critically important and necessary regardless of mission scenario.

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Identify Chain of Command: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Authenticate OPCON b. Authenticate TACON c. Authenticate PATCOM d. Identify participating agencies 		
2. Verify Mission Contingency Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pre-diversion risk assessment b. Confirm SAR responsibility c. Confirm asset backup 		
3. Verify Communications Procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirm primary communications method b. Confirm secondary communications method c. Confirm communications contingency plan 		
4. Confirm Use of Force Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirm approval to use weapons (where and when) (required during Pre-Brief) b. Verify status (delegation) of the Statement of No Objection (SNO) authority for warning shots and disabling fire for Coast Guard units. c. Review the U. S. Coast Guard's Non-Compliant Vessel framework d. Review field of fire assignments 		

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____

Comments _____



TASK TBO-01-02-ANY

Complete Pre-Arrival Enforcement Procedures

References

- a. This manual
- b. *U.S. Coast Guard Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security (PWCS) Operations Manual, COMDTINST M16600.3 (series)*

Conditions

Task shall be performed both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Job aids and references are authorized.

Standards

Trainee must complete the task prior to commencing HVA escort/patrol in accordance with reference (a).

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Establish Communications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish communications with PATCOM (as applicable) b. Establish communications with HVA (as applicable) 	Day _____ Night _____	
2. Inspect Route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify any suspicious activity b. Identify any underwater hazards c. Report to chain of command 	Day _____ Night _____	
3. Inspect Pier (Final Destination Point): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Perform a surface inspection b. Identify potential threats c. Report to chain of command 		
4. Complete Pre-Escort Sweep: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify potential threats b. Report to chain of command 	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____

Date _____

Comments



TASK TBO-01-03-TYPE

Screening Vessel (SV) Duties - Moving

References

- a. This manual
- b. *Tactical Boat Operations*, NTTP 3-20.629M/COMDTINST M3120.18/MCWP 3-35.8
- c. *U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Manual (MLEM)*, COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)

Conditions

Task shall be performed while underway both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Task must be accomplished without prompting, job aids, references, and casualty to personnel or boat.

Standards

Trainee must perform the duties of the Screening Vessel and maintain zone integrity during the escort of an HVA in accordance with reference (a).

NOTE

Screening Vessel (SV) duties are performed in a variety of scenarios (Four-boat, Three-boat, Two-boat, etc.) With the exception of zone and sector positioning, the core SV duties for a moving HVA remain the same. It is not expected that the Boat Operator demonstrate proficiency in each scenario – rather the core SV duties represented below. This approach requires complete understanding of the various scenarios and zone/sector variations.

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Patrol Intercept Zone: b. Maneuver in assigned Intercept Zone c. Perform sector switching d. Maintain communications e. Assume role the Reaction Vessel (RV) when required (refer to TASK TBO-01-05-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	
2. Escort a compliant Target of Interest (TOI) through a SZ: a. Assume tactical position b. Switch sectors c. Loitering hand-off d. Drop back hand-off	Day _____ Night _____	
3. Shadow TOI: a. Maintain (tactical advantage) position between TOI and protected HVA b. Remain in the SZ	Day _____ Night _____	
4. Intercept TOI that encroaches the SZ: a. Maneuver (as quickly as possible) between incoming TOI and HVA b. Communicate existence of SZ c. Classify TOI (compliant, non-compliant, VPIT)	Day _____ Night _____	
5. Remove non-compliant TOI from the Security Zone (refer to TASK TBO-01-06-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	
6. Herd TOI	Day _____ Night _____	
7. Shoulder TOI	Day _____ Night _____	



NOTE	Actual boat-to-boat contact during shouldering (between the TOI and SV) shall be simulated for training/qualification purposes	
8. Take a Vessel Posing an Imminent Threat (VPIT) under fire (refer to TASK TBO-01-07-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____
Comments _____

TASK TBO-01-04-TYPE

Screening Vessel (SV) Duties - Stationary

References

- a. This manual
- b. *Tactical Boat Operations*, NTTP 3-20.629M/COMDTINST M3120.18/MCWP 3-35.8
- c. *U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Manual (MLEM)*, COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)

Conditions

Task shall be performed while underway both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Task must be accomplished without prompting, job aids, references, and casualty to personnel or boat.

Standards

Trainee must perform the duties of the Screening Vessel and maintain zone integrity while protecting a stationary HVA in accordance with reference (a).


NOTE

Screening Vessel (SV) duties are performed in a variety of scenarios (Four-boat, Three-boat, Two-boat, etc.) With the exception of zone and sector positioning, the core SV duties for a stationary HVA remain the same. It is not expected that the Coxswain demonstrate proficiency in each scenario – rather the core SV duties represented below. This approach requires complete understanding of the various scenarios and zone/sector variations.

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Patrol Intercept Zone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maneuver in assigned Intercept Zone b. Perform zone switching c. Maintain communications d. Assume role of the RV (when required) 	Day _____ Night _____	

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
2. Escort a compliant Target of Interest (TOI) through a SZ. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assume tactical position b. Switch sectors c. Loitering hand-off d. Drop back hand-off 	Day _____ Night _____	
3. Shadow TOI.	Day _____	



a. Maintain tactical position between TOI and protected HVA b. Remain in the SZ	Night _____	
4. Intercept TOI that encroaches the SZ. a. Maneuver (as quickly as possible) between incoming TOI and HVA b. Communicate existence of SZ c. Classify TOI (compliant, non-compliant, VPIT)		
5. Remove non-compliant TOI from the Security Zone (refer to TASK TBO-01-06-TYPE).	Day _____ Night _____	
6. Herd TOI	Day _____ Night _____	
7. Shoulder TOI	Day _____ Night _____	
NOTE 	Actual boat-to-boat contact during shouldering (between the TOI and SV) shall be simulated for training/qualification purposes	
8. Take a vessel posing an imminent threat (VPIT) under fire (refer to TASK TBO-01-07-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____
Comments _____



TASK TBO-01-05-TYPE

Reaction Vessel (RV) Duties

References

- a. This manual
- b. *Tactical Boat Operations*, NTTP 3-20.629M/COMDTINST M3120.18/MCWP 3-35.8
- c. *U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Manual* (MLEM), COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)

Conditions

Task shall be performed while underway both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Task must be accomplished without prompting, job aids, references, and casualty to personnel or boat.

Standards

Trainee must perform the duties of the Reaction Vessel and maintain zone integrity while protecting an HVA in accordance with reference (a).

NOTE

Reaction Vessel (RV) duties are performed in a variety of scenarios (Four-boat, Three-boat, Two-boat, etc.) With the exception of zone and sector positioning, the core RV duties for a stationary HVA remain the same. It is not expected that the Coxswain demonstrate proficiency in each scenario – rather the core RV duties represented below. This approach requires complete understanding of the various scenarios and zone/sector variations.

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Patrol the Reaction Zone (RZ). a. Maintain zone integrity b. Maintain Communications, with TACON, SV's c. Keep TOI under observation d. Maintain position between TOI (in the SZ) and the HVA	Day _____ Night _____	
2. Intercept TOI that has moved past the Screening Vessel. a. Maneuver (as quickly as possible) between incoming TOI and HVA b. Communicate existence of SZ c. Classify TOI (compliant, non-compliant, VPIT)	Day _____ Night _____	
3. Remove non-compliant TOI from the Security Zone (refer to TASK TBO-01-06-TYPE).	Day _____ Night _____	
4. Herd TOI.	Day _____ Night _____	
5. Shoulder TOI.	Day _____ Night _____	
NOTE	Actual boat-to-boat contact during shouldering (between the TOI and SV) shall be simulated for training/qualification purposes.	
6. Take a vessel posing an imminent threat (VPIT) under fire (refer to TASK TBO-01-07-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____

Comments _____



TASK TBO-01-06-TYPE **Vessel on Vessel Use of Force**

References

- a. This manual
- b. *Tactical Boat Operations*, NTPP 3-20.629M/COMDTINST M3120.18/MCWP 3-35.8
- c. *Maritime Law Enforcement Manual (MLEM)*, COMDTINST M16247.1 (series)
- d. *Maritime Counter Drug and Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations*, COMDTINST M16247.4 (series)

Conditions

Task shall be performed while underway both day and night within operating parameters of the response boat. Task must be accomplished without prompting, job aids, references, and casualty to personnel or boat.

Standards

Trainee must demonstrate the duties of the Reaction Vessel and maintain zone integrity while protecting an HVA in accordance with reference (a).

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Determine (Classify) Intent of TOI: a. Compliant vessel b. Non-Compliant Vessel c. Vessel posing imminent threat (VPIT)	Day _____ Night _____	
2. Compel compliance from a Non-Compliant Vessel: a. Demonstrate Command Presence b. Employ Low-level Tactics c. Employ Higher-level Tactics, utilizing proper distances	Day _____ Night _____	
NOTE	The actual firing of weapons can be simulated for training/qualification purposes. The use of blank ammunition is dependant upon local policy. Qualification to fire the weapon will be determined through separate Personnel Qualification Standards (PQS).	
3. Defend self, unit or others from a VPIT (refer to TASK TBO-01-07-TYPE)	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____
Comments _____



TASK TBO-01-08-ANY

Secure from Maritime Homeland Security (MHS) Mission

References

- a. This manual
- b. *U. S. Coast Guard Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security (PWCS) Operations Manual, COMDTINST M16600.3 (series)*

Conditions

Task should be preformed at anytime. Job aids and references are authorized.

Standards

Trainee must complete the task upon completion of a Maritime Homeland Security (MHS) Mission in accordance with Ref (a) and the approved Operational Commander's mission plan.

Performance Criteria	Completed (Initials)	Date
1. Secure RV/SV's: a. Moor in accordance with existing procedures b. Secure weapons	Day _____ Night _____	
2. Conduct De-Brief	Day _____ Night _____	
3. Complete Necessary Reports: a. After Action Reports b. Incident Reports	Day _____ Night _____	

Instructor (s) _____ **Date** _____

Comments _____