

SKIPPER TRAINING · EXAM PREPARATION

Practical exam syllabus Restricted & general licence

What the examiner assesses on board: the 7 tests, the points and the eliminating errors.

Restricted

General

Engine and sail

60% per topic

OBJECTIVE

Skipper a pleasure boat (engine or sail) on all Belgian waterways and at sea up to 20 miles from the coast

DURATION

Between 1 and 2 hours per person on board

PASS MARK

At least 60% in each topic

A single practical exam covers both the restricted and the general licence. It ensures the safety of the skipper, the crew and other users through command of the rules of navigation, signalling and manoeuvring.

The 7 tests

Total: 200 points.

1. General safety /40

- Take account of other waterway users and the signs
- Keep a safe and appropriate speed
- Keep a proper and effective lookout
- Take account of the right-of-way rules and react correctly
- Communicate effectively

2. Briefing /10

- Give a safety briefing: location and use of equipment, emergency procedures
- Explain how the forecast weather may affect navigation (eddies, sea breeze / land breeze...)
- Carry out the appropriate pre-departure checks
- Check the fuel supply
- Start the engine and carry out the post-start checks
- Use the kill cord where necessary

3. Harbour manoeuvres: leaving a jetty or pontoon /10

- Describe and apply the use of mooring lines and springs when leaving a berth to windward, with a parallel wind or to leeward
- Manoeuvre the boat safely out of its berth
- Use the fenders correctly

4. Harbour manoeuvres: sailing and turning in a confined space /10

- Straight ahead, starboard turn, port turn, U-turn, reversing
- Outboard engine: trim correction
- Use forward and reverse effectively with the right helm angle
- Keep full control of the boat at all times
- Emergency stop

5. Sailing manoeuvres: recovering a person overboard /20

- Communicate effectively with the crew and the person in the water
- Keep visual contact with the person overboard
- Approach at the right angle and the right speed
- Make proper contact with the person
- Recover them and bring them back on board
- Describe the care to give to a person who has been at risk of drowning

6. Harbour manoeuvres: mooring alongside a pontoon or in a lock /10

- Choose a berth (in a lock: the right side)
- Prepare suitable mooring lines and fenders
- Arrive at the right angle and the right speed
- Use the fenders correctly
- Moor the boat effectively to the pontoon or the lock wall
- Stop the engine and carry out the final checks

7. Sailing manoeuvres: sailing /100

- Prepare the boat, rig, hoist and lower the sails safely and efficiently
- Take in and shake out a reef, reduce or increase sail area
- Choose the right sail plan for the weather conditions
- Triangular course with at least one upwind leg and well-trimmed sails
- Gybe
- Emergency stop
- Heave to

Errors that end the exam immediately

- Not respecting the right-of-way rules
- Not using the kill cord where necessary (motor boat)
- Losing control of the boat
- Making poor contact with the person overboard
- Not knowing how to reef or reduce sail
- Failing the triangular course: points of sail (close-hauled, beam reach, broad reach, running), tacking and gybing

Prepare for the practical exam with us

4 days at sea in Nieuwpoort, on board a JPK 110, in small groups of 3 to 5 people. Practical lessons in English.

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