

Joining Instructions - Things to bring/think about on the day!

Wet weather gear:

Whilst we hope for a warm sunny day for your course the British weather has a habit of conspiring against anyone in a boat!

We will provide good quality waterproof jackets & salopettes however if you have your own boating gear feel free to bring it. Also bring warm tops and a change of clothes just in case you get wet during the day. Shower facilities are available so you would be well advised to bring suitable gear so that you can shower and warm up at the end of the day. If you are undertaking an Advanced Course or are doing a course during the winter then you may want to bring a drysuit with you (if you possess one). Shoes should be deck shoes or deck wellies else bring training shoes. (These are guaranteed to get wet so bring a spare pair!)

NB: On colder days the most common observation we get on feedback forms is about wet feet! (when we go backwards against waves we sometimes get some water into the RIBs) We advise you either invest in some boating wellies (£15 - £20) or not mention the fact you have cold & wet feet!!

NB: Please avoid black soled trainers as these mark the boats, open toed sandals are banned too!

Other things:

Bring sunglasses as the glare from the sea even on overcast days can be intense. Suncream is essential if you have fair skin and/or there is any possibility of the sun making an appearance on the day of your course. The reflection from the sea coupled with wind burn can cause serious problems if you don't take precautions. If you wear reading glasses we suggest that you bring them for the shorebased elements of the course

Medication

As stated on the booking form it is essential that you inform us of any relevant medical condition. Do bring any medication that you will need for the weekend and during your time on the boats. Please inform your Instructor quietly of your condition and he/she will accommodate any requirements that you may have.

Where to stay

There are a variety of places to stay and we have a separate sheet detailing the places that people on courses have stayed before. Many people stay at the RNLI Training College – www.lifeboatcollege.org.uk, you will need to be a member though.

Insurance

As noted in the terms of booking you are not insured for personal injury or loss of any items. You are advised to make direct arrangements with your own insurers if you consider such cover necessary.

Valuables/travelling light

If your course is on a RIB then travelling light is key. You may get wet so you are advised not to bring valuable articles on the boat. If you are on a larger vessel then you might be able to bring a camera etc but ask your instructor on the day. All items are taken on board at your own risk

Arrival time

Unless you are advised otherwise on the first day of the course we will meet at 9.00am. Each day will finish between 4 – 5pm. Advanced courses will finish much later depending on the time of year. We suggest at this stage leaving your gear in your car until we've met and had a coffee etc.

If you have any questions about the day or what to bring please do not hesitate to call us on 01202 686666.