

Pelagic Sailing Card - Advanced Skills

Boat Handling from the Helm

Under Sail

- Hold course in 25+ knots
- Tack and Jibe in 25+ knots
- Steer for 2 hours in 25+ knots
- Anchor / Pick up anchor
- Cast off/ pick up mooring
- Heave to
- Steer in heavy fog, rain, overnight
- Sail a boat over 45 feet
- Deploy sea anchor

Under Power

- Turn boat around 360 to see how boat pivots
- Thread boat through tight mooring area
- Anchor, moor, and dock boat over 45 feet

Foredeck

- Set Spinnaker and Pole
- Go forward in heavy seas, high winds
to secure or repair items

Navigation

- Know Lightlist, Notice to Mariners, Piloting Books
- Use GPS and Radar
- Plan weeklong trip, factor weather contingencies
- Correct course for drift, currents, tides
- Read Eldridge Charts for flows and ebbs
- Identify buoys etc. at night by lights and sounds
- Celestial Navigation
- Navigate in Fog

Seamanship

- Identify ship bells & whistles for warnings & fog
- Identify Ships lights at night
- Prepare to abandon ship,
(Know sequence and what to take.)
- Take night watch for 2-3 hours

Safety

- Use Jack Lines in heavy weather
- Read directions on EPIRB
- Attend safety at sea seminars
- Locate MOB using GPS in heavy weather
- Learn how to help other boaters in distress

VHF

- Listen and interpret weather information
- Report unusual boat activity to Coast Guard
(Identify boat, location, type of problem)

Maintenance

- Know how to figure electrical amp/hours
- Know battery size and requirements
- Know electrical trouble shooting
- Know engine trouble shooting
- Check bilges for leaks
- Repair pumps
- Bleed fuel lines
- Replace impellers

Skipper for a day

- Plan the cruise
- Plot course
- Perform daily maintenance
- Give clear direction to crew
- Be responsible for decisions