

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

ROSENSTIEL SCHOOL of
MARINE, ATMOSPHERIC
& EARTH SCIENCE



University of Miami Boating Safety Manual

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University of Miami / Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science
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SECTION 1.00 OVERVIEW

1.01 PREFACE

This safety manual was adapted from Scientific Boating Safety Association (SBSA)¹ guidelines for the operations of non-UNOLS vessels for science and training at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science. As such, it contains:

- 1 Policy that pertains to all vessels operating under the auspices of the Rosenstiel School.
- 2 Guidelines for obtaining and maintaining boat operator authorization.
- 3 Administrative procedures.
- 4 Operational procedures.

1.02 APPLICABILITY

The provisions of these guidelines should be followed whenever University of Miami personnel are using a boat under Rosenstiel School auspices, regardless of ownership of the boat.

Specific examples of boat operations under Rosenstiel School auspices include: persons engaged in research, earning academic credit, employees acting within the scope of their employment; students engaged in any research operation including those receiving or providing boat operation instruction or involved in boating checkouts.

Boats used under Rosenstiel School auspices include:

- 1 Boats owned, supported, or administered by the Rosenstiel School, regardless of ownership.
- 2 Privately owned boats used by the Rosenstiel School (either chartered or donated) for scientific or educational purposes.
- 3 Any other vessels used by the Rosenstiel School for scientific or educational purposes.
- 4 In case of joint operations, the lead institution will ensure that all applicable safety standards are met.

¹ More information about SBSA can be found at <https://scientificboating.org/>

**SECTION 2.00
RESPONSIBILITY**

2.01 BOATING SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Rosenstiel School Boating Safety Committee (BSC) consists of:

- 1 The Chair
The BSC chair has the ultimate responsibility for the proper function of the BSC and fulfillment of its duties.
- 2 The Director of Scientific Diving and Boating (DDB)
The DDB oversees the day to day operations of both the scientific diving and boating programs, including supervising both the Boating Safety Officer (BSO) and Diving Safety Officer (DSO).
- 3 Other Members
Persons who are knowledgeable about boating operations and are ideally users of the Rosenstiel School fleet.
- 4 Boating Safety Officer (BSO) or officers.

2.02 BOATING SAFETY COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITY

- 1 Has ultimate responsibility and authority over the boating program's operation.
- 2 Shall review and revise the boating safety manual.
- 3 Shall assure compliance with the boating safety manual.
- 4 Shall take disciplinary action for unsafe practices and act as a board of appeal.
- 5 Shall recommend the issue, reissue, or the revocation of boating authorizations.
- 6 Shall establish and/or approve training programs through which the applicant can satisfy the requirements of the University of Miami Boating Safety Manual.
- 7 Shall suspend boating operations that are considered to be unsafe or unwise.
- 8 Shall periodically review the Boating Safety Officer's performance and program.
- 9 Shall sit as a board of investigation to inquire into the nature and cause of boating accidents or violations of the organizational member's boating safety manual.
- 10 May grant exceptions to this manual.

2.03 BOATING SAFETY OFFICER (BSO)

The Boating Safety Officer (BSO) or officers serve as members of the Boating Safety Committee (BSC). This person or persons should have broad experience in boating.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1 Reports ultimately to the BSC, but is directly supervised by the faculty Director of Scientific Diving and Boating (DDB) for the conduct of the Rosenstiel School boating

program. The BSO is the operational authority for this program and is responsible for the conduct of training and authorization of operators, and ensuring compliance with this standard and all relevant regulations of the membership organization.

- 2 May permit portions of this program to be carried out by a qualified delegate(s), although the BSO may not delegate responsibility for the safe conduct of the Rosenstiel School boating program.
- 3 Shall have the ability to suspend boating operations considered to be unsafe or unwise.
- 4 Shall maintain an up to date list of all authorized boat operators.

2.04 PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

- 1 Principal investigators and administrative officers (lab managers, staff scientists, course instructors, etc.) are responsible for ensuring that all boat operations that are part of a program under their direction are conducted in accordance with these guidelines.
- 2 Principal investigators and administrative officers should determine that all individuals assigned to boat operations related to their projects are properly authorized as described in section 3.01 of this manual.

2.05 BOAT OPERATOR

- 1 Only authorized boat operators may operate small boats under Rosenstiel School auspices, regardless of whether or not the boat is owned by the Rosenstiel School. Exceptions may be granted by the BSO for vessels run by non-Rosenstiel School owners/operators (charter captains, dive shops, etc.).
- 2 In United States waters, non-Rosenstiel School owners/operators shall comply with US Coast Guard (USCG), state, and local regulations covering chartered vessels. In foreign waters, the responsible Rosenstiel School person should ensure the vessel meets the equipment requirements of this manual.
- 3 The primary operator is responsible for all aspects of boating operations, regardless of any senior personnel present in the boat. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Safety of the vessel and all persons on board.
 - b) Operation of the vessel in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and this manual.
 - c) Safe transport of the vessel to and from the launch site, if applicable.
 - d) The safe operation of all equipment.
 - e) Ensuring that all required operational and safety equipment is on board and that crew members know the location and how to operate safety/survival equipment.
 - f) Report all accidents, incidents, boardings, citations, safety concerns, and issues to the BSO.
- 4 The designated surface support operator(s) is responsible for all aspects of boating operations while the primary operator is in the water, regardless of any senior personnel present on the boat. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- a) Safety of the vessel and all persons on board, including passengers and crew members scuba diving or snorkeling.
 - b) Operation of the vessel in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and this manual.
 - c) The safe operation of all safety/survival equipment and relevant scientific equipment.
 - d) Safe transport of the vessel back to the launch site or emergency services meeting point, if necessary.
- 5 Failure to comply with provisions of the Rosenstiel School's boating policy may be cause for the revocation or restriction of the operator's authorization. However, any operator may deviate from the requirements of the boating safety policy to the extent necessary to prevent or minimize a situation that is likely to cause death, serious physical harm, damage to the vessel, or major environmental damage.
- 6 The operator, or person in charge of a vessel, is obligated by law to provide emergency assistance that can be safely provided to any individual in danger at sea. The operator or person in charge is subject to a fine and/or imprisonment for failure to do so, but should adhere to the guidelines described in section 5.10 of this manual.

SECTION 3.00
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

3.01 AUTHORIZATION OF BOAT OPERATORS

Only current University of Miami (UM) students, faculty, and staff, 18 years of age and older, are eligible to be Rosenstiel School small boat operators, unless an exception has been made by the BSC. To become an authorized boat operator, an applicant should:

- 1 Discuss prior small boat handling experience with the BSO, provide relevant documentation if applicable, and submit proof of training and licensing as described in section 3.06 of this manual. If the applicant does not have prior small boat handling experience, they must enroll in and pass *RSM 664: Scientific Small Boating* in order to gain practical experience and meet the minimum education requirement for operator authorization.
- 2 All operators must be familiar with the administrative and procedural requirements of this manual.
- 3 Final authorization as a Rosenstiel School small boat operator requires successfully completing a two-part process:
 - a) Applicant must first attend briefings/demonstrations on the proper care, operation, and safety procedures that are unique to the particular small boat(s) intended to be used.
 - b) Successful completion of an on-water operational checkout, administered by the BSO, ABSO, or their designee (Appendices 6.01 and 6.02). During the on-water checkout, the applicant will be required to demonstrate knowledge and proficiency in:
 - i. Safe operation of the small boat, including boat specifications and limitations;
 - ii. Location of all safety equipment;
 - iii. Pre-departure checks;
 - iv. Departure from the pier;
 - v. Navigation;
 - vi. Local area knowledge;
 - vii. Boat handling skills;
 - viii. Seamanship;
 - ix. Emergency/troubleshooting procedures;
 - x. Pre-arrival checks;
 - xi. Docking;
 - xii. Post-cruise duties; and
 - xiii. Operation of any specialty equipment and procedures pertaining to the proposed research or academic activity.

Operator authorization is vessel-specific and dependent on the location of intended use.

3.02 MAINTAINING AUTHORIZATION

Rosenstiel School small boat operators must serve as the primary operator, in accordance with the guidelines of this manual, on at least one cruise per calendar year in order to maintain their authorization. A refresher orientation and review of proficiency, covering the items noted above in section 3.01 (3b), will be necessary for boat operators whose authorizations have lapsed, but still meet all other requirements.

3.03 REVOCATION OF AUTHORIZATION

A boat operator's authorization may be revoked for any action deemed unsafe or unlawful, or for not meeting the procedural requirements of this document. Notification of any such proposed actions shall be provided to the BSC by the Boating Safety Officers, and the BSC will make a final decision on the revocation of the operator's authorization.

3.04 RE-AUTHORIZATION

If a boat operator's authorization is revoked, they may be re-qualified (if deemed appropriate by the BSC) after the operator complies with such conditions as the BSO may impose. The operator should be given the opportunity to present his/her case to the BSC before conditions for re-authorization are stipulated.

3.05 TRAILERING, LAUNCHING, AND RETRIEVING

Trailer authorization involves similar requirements to boating: experience and demonstration of proficiency. UM trailers may only be towed by UM vehicles, therefore the applicant must also be an authorized driver of University of Miami Motorpool vehicles. However, as a general rule, Marine Operations personnel will conduct trailering activities whenever possible, unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by the BSO.

3.06 TRAINING AND OPERATOR LICENSING

The following minimum training and licensing are required for vessel operators:

- 1 Per Florida statute, a Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card is required for anyone born after January 1, 1988 to operate a boat on Florida waters. If applicable, the operator must carry this card with them at all times while operating a Rosenstiel School small boat. Failure to do so may result in a citation by state/local authorities, for which UM is not responsible.
- 2 Class A and Class 1 (<26'): MOTC style course recommended.
- 3 Class 2 (26' - <40'): MOTC style course recommended.
- 4 Class 3 (40' - <65'): The Rosenstiel School does not currently have any non-UNOLS vessels in this class. However, operating one of these vessels would require the above plus some form of USCG licensing or designation as appropriate for the local mission, geography and conditions, operations, crew requirements, and possibility of non-crew on board.

SECTION 4.00
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND RECORD KEEPING

4.01 FLOAT PLANS

Float plans are mandatory and must be submitted for approval at least 24 hours prior to the planned departure, weekends not included (i.e., Monday reservations must be made on Thursday). Operators are responsible for closing float plans upon their return. The BSO and/or designated shore contact will initiate emergency search and rescue protocols if they receive notification that the vessel is overdue and have a genuine concern for the safety or welfare of those on board.

Additional communication arrangements may be necessary as described in section 5.03 of this manual.

4.02 RESERVATION GUIDELINES

Rosenstiel School small boats are available for official University of Miami use by authorized small boat operators. Existing reservations may be viewed on the small boats calendar (users must contact the BSO to request access). To reserve a vessel, the PI, AO, or intended operator must send an email request to the Boating Safety Office and submit a float plan.

The following reservation submission guidelines should be followed:

- 1 At least 1 week prior to departure: Non-UM affiliated passengers and/or crewmembers require Risk Management approval to board Rosenstiel School small boats. To begin the approval process, the PI or AO must send an email with the following information to riskmanagement@miami.edu and smallboats@rsmas.miami.edu:
 - a) A short summary describing the individual's business with UM.
 - b) Signed waiver form (Appendix 6.03)
 - c) Certificate of Insurance (COI) or Letter of Self Insurance
- 2 2 to 5 business days before use: 'Place-holder' reservations that include contingency days for bad weather should be updated to reflect specific days of desired use.
- 3 At least 24 hours before use: Submit the float plan.
- 4 Day-of: An updated float plan must be submitted prior to departure if any last minute changes have been made.
- 5 Cancellations/rescheduling: Schedule changes should be communicated as early as possible. Weather-related cancellations are expected and encouraged for safety reasons. If the forecast looks marginal, operators should always err on the side of caution.

4.03 DAILY RATES

- 1 There are no hourly restrictions on a full-day reservation, provided the culmination of all operations (including refueling, offloading, and washing/clean-up) do not interfere with another user's reservation for the same or next day. However, field operations should only occur during daylight hours unless specifically planned and authorized for night ops.

- 2 A half-day reservation may not exceed 4 hours, and includes the time it takes to refuel and secure the boat. When making a half-day reservation, please specify the time period. Any operations beyond 4 hours will be charged at the full-day rate.
- 3 Full-day rates (which do not include the cost of fuel or boat captain):
\$150: R/V Whaler or R/V Cetacea
\$200: R/V Argus or R/V Bluewater
\$500: R/V Cuvier (Yellowfin)
- 4 Daily rates do not include the cost of fuel.

4.04 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

- 1 Operator records to be kept shall include float plans, incident reports, dates of checkouts and training, and any other pertinent information for each authorized operator.
- 2 Other records kept shall include an up to date record of vessel activity, engine time, and maintenance/repairs for each vessel and for its trailer, if applicable.
- 3 These records may be archived after 5 years, but should be kept indefinitely.

4.05 ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT REPORTING

- 1 All accidents and incidents, domestic and foreign, must be reported to the Boating Safety Office within 24 hours of the incident. The BSO will circulate this report to the BSC. A reportable incident is defined as:
 - a) Someone is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid.
 - b) A vessel breaks down while in use in any manner that is not easily remedied, suffers more than minor hull damage, or is involved in a near-accident or other unsafe event whether on land or in the water (including sinking, capsizing, extensive flooding, grounding, collision, fire or explosion, or damage to seagrass or coral).
 - c) The U.S. Coast Guard, Florida Marine Patrol, or any other regulatory agency contacts or cites the Rosenstiel School about a suspected incident involving a Rosenstiel School boat.
- 2 Any boating accident where there is personal injury requiring medical treatment beyond first aid, death, disappearance of any person under circumstances which indicate death or injury, or if there is damage to the vessel(s) and/or personal property of at least \$2000, must, by the quickest means possible, be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard and state authorities as prescribed by the [Code of Federal Regulations, 33CFR, 173, Subpart C](#).
- 3 The BSO shall investigate and document the incident and related personal injury and/or property damage or loss and prepare a report to be reviewed by the BSC. The BSC shall review the report and determine if any disciplinary/remediation action should be taken, and implement steps to prevent similar incidents in the future.
- 4 Accident reports shall be held indefinitely.

SECTION 5.00 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

- All boats and equipment operated by the Rosenstiel School in U.S. waters, regardless of ownership, shall, at a minimum, conform to U.S. Coast Guard, state, and local requirements and to the standards set forth in this manual.
- All boats operated by the Rosenstiel School outside of U.S. Coast Guard jurisdiction shall at a minimum comply with U.S. Coast Guard regulations in addition to any applicable local requirements and to the standards set forth in this manual.

5.01 STABILITY

No person may operate a vessel loaded in a manner that will jeopardize the stability of the vessel or safety of the operator or crew. All vessels used by Rosenstiel School personnel are required to have an installed data plate that specifies the number of people and weight capacity according to the manufacturer's specifications. If this information is unavailable, the BSO will make a recommendation based on USCG stability standards. It is the responsibility of the operator to stay within these limits and to distribute weight evenly about the vessel so it will trim properly. Any research modifications made to vessels must be approved by the BSO and BSC, and must be tested for stability before being used for research.

5.02 EQUIPMENT

- 1 The operator shall be familiar with the operation of all vessel equipment and shall inspect all emergency equipment prior to departure. Required equipment for Rosenstiel School small boats is listed in Appendix 6.04.
- 2 The operator and/or crewmembers shall notify the BSO of any malfunctioning or missing equipment. It is the responsibility of the principle investigator (PI) or administrative officer (AO) to replace any equipment lost or damaged as a result of negligence or misuse by the PI, AO, or designated operator. In the event of a disagreement as to responsibility for replacing/repairing lost or damaged equipment, the BSC will review the case and assign responsibility.
- 3 The nature of specific operations may require vessels and boating equipment to meet higher standards than these guidelines as determined by the BSO or BSC.

5.03 COMMUNICATIONS

Channel 16 should be monitored continuously on the VHF radio during all small boat operations. In addition, the vessel should be reachable and maintain communication with the shore contact listed on their float plan, as well as a designee from the Boating Safety Office. Cell phones and VHF radio are acceptable means of communication, but must be kept on and be easily accessible/heard by the operator. Any changes in float plans must be communicated to the BSO before being executed.

In addition to float plans, a communication schedule shall be established with the BSO before departure for multi-day trips, trips conducted outside of normal business hours, and/or trips to areas with limited cell phone and/or internet service (e.g., daily text message updates). The BSO

may initiate emergency search and rescue protocols if there is genuine concern for the safety or welfare of any persons who have not checked in as planned.

5.04 WEATHER

The small boat operator shall review marine weather forecasts, radar, and tides with respect to operational areas, vessel limitations, and mission requirements prior to and during operations. Unless a specific exemption has been made, vessel operations should not take place during small craft advisories. While specific circumstances including vessel and crew should be considered in go/no-go decisions, the BSO has ultimate authority to cancel any field operations due to weather or environmental conditions.

Recommended sources for forecasts and radar are:

- 1 [NOAA Marine Weather Forecast](#) for offshore Miami;
- 2 [Fowey Weather Station](#) for real-time offshore wind speeds; and
- 3 [Virginia Key-Bear Cut Tide Information](#).

5.05 FUELING

Users are to receive vessels with a full tank of gas. The Boating Safety Office is responsible for refueling all vessels when the Rosenstiel School fuel cell is available on-campus. Fuel charges will be billed to the PI along with vessel usage. In multi-day trips away from the Rosenstiel School campus, or in the event that the fuel cell is empty or out of order, the operator will be responsible for re-fueling the vessel before return to port. If time of day or inclement conditions prevent this, all reasonable arrangements must be made by the user to refuel at the soonest time possible. Except in emergency circumstances, all fueling/refueling must use non-ethanol infused (REC-90) fuel. The re-fueling plan (location, frequency, etc.) should be discussed with the BSO before departure.

5.06 VESSEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The Boating Safety Office is responsible for covering the cost of routine vessel and engine maintenance, in addition to any repairs that may be attributed to normal use and exposure. However, damage in the excess of normal wear and tear, and/or damage resulting from negligence or misuse by the PI, AO, or designated operator must be paid for by the PI or AO. In the event of a disagreement over responsibility for repair, the BSC will review the case and assign responsibility.

5.07 SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Special operations include, but are not limited to: trips to foreign waters, scuba diving, trawling, live boating, night operations, special equipment deployment, etc. These activities should always be listed in the float plan, along with an appropriate emergency plan. With the exception of scuba diving, all special operations should be discussed with the BSO when reserving a vessel in order to facilitate transparency and ensure that proper safety protocols are followed.

Any persons scuba diving from a Rosenstiel School vessel are required to observe the provisions of the University of Miami Diving Safety Manual and must have prior approval from the UM

Diving Safety Officer. All dive plans must be approved by the DSO, and an authorized surface support operator must be onboard at all times during both anchored and drift diving operations.

5.08 AREA AND OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS

Rosenstiel School small boats have the following operational restrictions:

- 1 The R/V Whaler and R/V Cetacea should not be operated more than 1 mile offshore or outside of protected bays.
- 2 All other Rosenstiel School small boats shall be operated within 12 miles (within U.S. territorial waters) of the coast of Florida unless prior approval is given.
- 3 Rosenstiel School small boats should only be operated within a 200 mile radius of the Rosenstiel School campus unless prior approval has been granted by the BSO and BSC.
- 4 All small boats shall be operated in accordance with environmental conditions, fuel capacities, and other pertinent factors.
- 5 Float plans will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for other possible operational restrictions.

5.09 PROHIBITED ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

Drugs and alcohol are not permitted on any Rosenstiel School boats or in any Rosenstiel School vehicles. Recreational activities such as fishing/lobster diving (unless research-related), surfing, water skiing, and racing are also prohibited.

5.10 SAFETY CHECKS

Prior to departure the primary operator shall:

- 1 Perform a functional inspection of the boat and equipment, including VHF radios and USCG-required safety items.
- 2 Assess all environmental conditions (weather, water conditions, etc.).
- 3 Review emergency procedures and methods of seeking assistance with everyone onboard. All passengers should be briefed on the location of PFDs, sound signaling device(s), visual distress signals, handheld VHF radio, and fire extinguishers.
- 4 Establish a communication schedule and inform shore contact and Boating Safety Office of departure (if applicable).

Upon returning:

- 1 Close the float plan and/or contact the BSO to inform them of safe return if additional communication arrangements have been made per section 5.03 of this manual.
- 2 Immediately inform the Boating Safety Office of any lost or damaged equipment, damage to the vessel, or mechanical issues.
- 3 Thoroughly rinse the vessel (and trailer if applicable) with fresh water including the engine, both externally and internally.

5.11 RENDERING ASSISTANCE AND MIGRANT ENCOUNTERS

Rosenstiel School small boats should only be used to render assistance in the event of medical emergency or imminent threat to life. Despite good intentions, the blame for damaged property and/or bodily injury can be placed on the operator and/or the university. Therefore towing non-Rosenstiel School vessels is prohibited (Seatow and TowboatUS are on call to assist in most cases).

Use best judgment and always contact the USCG before rendering any level of assistance in an emergency, especially if/when migrants are encountered. Contact the Boating Safety Office if there is any doubt.

SECTION 6.00
APPENDIX

6.01 SURFACE SUPPORT OPERATOR CHECKOUT LIST

Perspective surface support operators must demonstrate their ability to perform the following tasks and receive authorization from the Boating Safety Office in order to independently sit topside while divers are in the water.

- Locate and describe the use of the following safety equipment:
 - Type II and type IV PFDs
 - Fire extinguishers
 - Visual distress signals
 - Sound signals
 - EPIRB (if applicable)

- Demonstrate and explain how to use both the mounted and handheld VHF-FM radios:
 - Mayday vs. Pan-Pan vs. Sécurité
 - Emergency communication protocols
 - Distress button
 - Squelch

- Check the weather via VHF-FM radio, smartphone, and/or radar
- Recall divers
- Independently retrieve a slipping anchor
- Independently retrieve a set anchor and/or anchor abandonment
- Live boat to fixed point (diver retrieval)
- Live boat to moving point (compromised diver retrieval)
- Independently navigate back to the Rosenstiel School campus/emergency services meeting point
- Safely dock the vessel with minimal prompting

Once checked out, primary operators must also:

- Add boating and diving safety officers as contacts in personal cell phone

6.02 PRIMARY OPERATOR CHECKOUT LIST

Perspective primary operators must demonstrate their ability to perform the following tasks without prompting and receive authorization from the Boating Safety Office in order to fulfill the role of operator in charge.

- Locate and describe the use of the following safety equipment:
 - Type II and type IV PFDs
 - Fire extinguishers
 - Visual distress signals
 - Sound signals
 - EPIRB (if applicable)

- Demonstrate and explain how to use both the mounted and handheld VHF-FM radios:
 - Mayday vs. Pan-Pan vs. Sécurité
 - Emergency communication protocols
 - Distress button
 - Squelch

- Identify and describe relevant vessel-specific characteristics, equipment, systems, “quirks,” and/or limitations

- Conduct pre-departure checks:
 - General equipment check (navigation/anchor lights, boat hook, fenders, dive flag, etc.)
 - Engine, batteries, and fuel check

- Check the weather via VHF-FM radio, smartphone, and/or radar

- Demonstrate safe boat handling skills, good judgement, and proficiency navigating while underway:
 - Plotting a course
 - Knowledge of Rules of the Road
 - ATONs
 - Trim tabs
 - Responsibility for wake
 - Familiarity with potential medical emergency evacuation points

- Tie a bowline, clove hitch, and cleat hitch; properly coil and hang lines
- Proficiently dock and undock the vessel
- Secure the vessel at campus, flush engines, and meet vessel cleaning standards
- Proficiently operate any specialty equipment and/or execute additional procedures pertaining to the proposed research or academic activity

If anchoring:

- Demonstrate and/or explain proper anchoring techniques and considerations (bottom characteristics, scope, effects of wind/current, etc.)
- Independently retrieve a slipping anchor
- Independently retrieve a set anchor and/or anchor abandonment

If conducting dive operations:

- Recall divers
- Live boat to fixed point (diver retrieval)
- Live boat to moving point (compromised diver retrieval)

Once checked out, primary operators must also:

- Submit copy of FL Boating Safety ID Card to the BSO if born after January 1, 1988
- Add boating and diving safety officers as contacts in personal cell phone
- If applicable, add relevant emergency/safety stop locations as waypoints on vessel chart plotter(s)

6.03 WAIVER FORM FOR NON-UM SMALL BOATS PASSENGERS

UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI



ADULT FORM
(for participants at least 18 years old)

[Small Boats fieldwork/activities] AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

**CONSENT, WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

IN CONSIDERATION for being permitted to participate in the **small boats fieldwork/activities** (the “Event/Program”), being held **aboard Rosenstiel School Small Boats** at the University of Miami [on/during/from insert specific date, semester, or date range], I, _____, hereby agree as follows:

1. I acknowledge and expressly consent to my participation in the Event/Program being held **aboard Rosenstiel School small boats** at the University of Miami [on/during/from insert specific date, semester, or date range].
2. I acknowledge that my participation and presence at the Event/Program may expose me to risks and dangers, some being inherent in the nature of the activity, some resulting from human error and negligence on my part and/or on the part of other personnel working or participating in the activity. I acknowledge that any of the above-referenced risks and dangers may cause damage or loss of personal property, personal injury and even death, and I fully assume and accept these risks and dangers.
3. I understand that my participation in Event/Program activities is entirely voluntary on my part and I agree that it is my responsibility to (1) act within the limits of my ability; (2) heed all warnings about participating in any activity; (3) control my person, equipment and devices used to participate in an activity; and (4) not act in any way that may cause injury/death or contribute to the injury/death of others or of myself while participating in any activity.
4. I hereby agree to assume and take on behalf of myself, my family, heirs and personal representative(s), all of the risks and responsibilities in any way associated with my participation in the Event/Program. I hereby agree to release, waive, indemnify and hold harmless the University of Miami, its officers, directors, trustees, employees, faculty, students, volunteers, agents and representatives (collectively, referred to as the “University”) from any and all claims, demands, damages, causes of action, suits, whether in law or in equity or however caused, against, including without limitation, any damage to or loss of personal property, any personal injury and/or death, which I may have or may acquire as a result of my presence and participation in the Event/Program, including, without limitation, damage, loss, injury and/or death caused by the negligence, in whole or in part, of me, the University or any third party.
5. I understand and agree that this Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement applies whether the University of Miami is at fault or not.

6. I hereby authorize the University of Miami, its employees, agents, contractors, sub-contractors, volunteers, vendors and staff members to take such photographs, video recordings and/or live transmission(s) of myself in whole, or in part, as they may wish (the “Images”). These entities listed herein may use and publish the Images in such places, including without limitation, any printed or electronic media or publications, television, cable, the World Wide Web, and any other media. I hereby waive any rights I have or may have to inspect, edit, modify and/or approve the finished product that may be used hereunder or the specific use to which it may be applied.
7. I understand and agree that the University of Miami may not have medical personnel available at the location of the Event/Program. I hereby grant permission to the University of Miami to authorize emergency medical treatment, if necessary, and agree that such action by the University of Miami shall be subject to the terms of this Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement. I understand and agree that the University of Miami assumes not responsibility for any injury or damage which might arise out of connection with such authorized emergency medical treatment.
8. I understand that in securing the execution of this Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement, the University of Miami is acting as agent or trustee on behalf of or for the benefit of its respective employees, agents, officials, faculty, students, servants and representatives, whether paid or unpaid, who shall to this extent be, or be deemed to be, parties to this Agreement.
9. This Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement shall serve to benefit and bind the University of Miami and myself and our respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.
10. This Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, and any dispute arising from or relating to this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Miami-Dade County.
11. I certify that I have read the terms of this Consent, Waiver and Release Agreement and understand its contents, and that I wish to be bound by its terms.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE RISKS OF INJURY INVOLVED IN MY PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENT/PROGRAM AND I VOLUNTARILY ASSUME SUCH RISK. IT IS MY INTENTION BY SIGNING THIS CONSENT, WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT TO EXEMPT AND RELIEVE THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI FROM LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, OR WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY MY NEGLIGENCE, OR THE NEGLIGENCE OF ANY OTHER PERSON(S) PARTICIPATING IN, OR AFFILIATED WITH, THE EVENT/PROGRAM.

I affirm that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Address

6.04 SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Minimum equipment requirements for Rosenstiel School small boats:

- Type II PFD for each person on board
- Type IV PFD
- Fire extinguisher(s) that meet or exceed USCG standards
- Visual distress signals that meet or exceed USCG standards
- Horn, whistle, or other sufficient sound signaling device
- Proper vessel registration and documentation
- VHF radio
- Cell phone
- Navigation lights/anchor light
- Anchor(s)
- Chart plotter or handheld GPS
- Bilge pumps (when applicable)
- Dock lines (at least 4)
- Fenders
- Boat hook
- Dive flag
- Throw bag

Additional, recommended equipment:

- Type V PFD for each person on board
- Emergency repair kit and/or spare tools
- Compass
- Spare boat plug
- First aid kit
- EPIRB