

Greetings All,

With the patrol season rapidly approaching I would like to reiterate a policy that I instituted last year for Crewmembers in training.

Background:

I received several complaints from my Qualified Examiners that perspective crewmembers were requesting check rides without having any true on the water experience and failing miserably. Most but not all of these members were coming straight out of crew schools and had not even taken part in a patrol as a trainee before requesting check rides.

This was causing an unnecessary burden on the qualified examiners time and finances.

Policy:

As a result, I created the policy that all Boat Crewmember trainees must participate in at a minimum two patrols as a trainee prior to requesting a check ride for qualification. Below I have listed some questions that have been asked about the policy and the answers to help you gain a better understanding.

Questions and Answers:

Q. Does a member have to be on patrol orders?

A. They must be listed as a trainee on the orders.

Q. What is the minimum duration of each of these patrols? It should be a standard MOM patrol.

A. Normally that is 8 hrs inland and 4 hrs in open water.

Q. What is the minimum duration of time (a week, a day, an hour) between these two patrols?

A. There is no time between patrols. They just cannot be on the same day.

Q. What tasks will the individual be tested/trained on? I do not have any specific training requirements.

A. These patrols are simply designed for the trainee to experience what a patrol is all about. Any training they receive is a bonus and should align with their PQS.

Q. What are the ramifications if the individual fails to satisfactorily perform any/all of the tasks?

A. There are no assigned tasks; therefore, no ramifications.

Q. Who is responsible to administer the training/testing and who will sign off on it?

A. Any training that is conducted should be by qualified boat crew member and signed by the trainees mentor.

Q. To whom does this sign-off sheet get routed after completion, successful or otherwise?

A. There is no additional sign off sheets for these two patrols so nothing to route.

I hope this helps and have a great day.

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