MANNING & EQUIPMENT LEVELS FOR CLUB PATROL CRAFT
Yachting New Zealand Recommended Guidelines

MARITIME TRANSPORT ACT 1994 (RULE 46: MAINTENANCE AND SURVEY)
Under the blanket ‘maintenance & survey’ exemption issued by the Maritime New Zealand, YNZ affiliated yacht clubs do not have to register their patrol craft in a “Safe Ship Management Scheme”, normally a requirement under the Act for all non-private ownership and operation of vessels.

Compliance with the requirements of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 is the responsibility of individual Clubs. Yachting New Zealand strongly urges Club Safety Officers to follow these recommended safety and maintenance procedures for all patrol craft.

The onus is on the owner of the boat (i.e. the club) to provide safety equipment and training (as outlined below) and the skipper to ensure that the equipment is all aboard each time the boat is used.

What are the implications of clubs not following the guidelines and not complying with the Act?

In the event of an incident or accident involving club patrol craft and where a club has not followed the recommended guidelines, the club risks penalties of up to $10,000, and it may also affect insurance.

Maritime Transport Act, section 65: “Every person commits an offence that causes or permits any ship to be operated in a manner which causes unnecessary danger or risk to any other person or property irrespective of whether or not in fact any injury or damage occurs.”

Maritime Transport Act, section 19: “The Master of a ship shall be responsible for the safe operation of the ship and the safety of all passengers and crew.”

(NB: “Ship” includes all boats regardless of size)

Club Safety Officers should also take into consideration the type of craft and areas in which they operate when specifying that the vessel is “suitable for purpose”.
MANNING REQUIREMENTS
The Safety Officer should be satisfied that the crew/person in charge is adequately experienced to handle the type of boat and conditions that may be encountered.

It is recommended that crew have the appropriate first aid skills for the activity they are under-taking. Crew should have knowledge of the collision prevention rules, appropriate rescue and recovery techniques, danger of overloading, local conditions and hazards, etc.

This may involve training, practical demonstration of ability and/or formal qualification, e.g. Yachting New Zealand Learn to Sail Coach (Dinghy) Course or Coastguard Boating Education ‘Club Safety Boat Operator’ or RYA Powerboat Level 2.

For more information on training opportunities contact Yachting New Zealand, www.yachtingnz.org.nz

MAINTENANCE
Clubs are required to keep a maintenance log for patrol craft. A simple notebook with appropriate entries should be adequate.

An entry should be made in the logbook every time each patrol boat is checked, or a defect becomes apparent. It is important to include the date and name of the person making the entry.

In the case of any accident or incident, the ability to produce such a record may be the only acceptable means of demonstrating the club is operating in accordance with MNZ requirements.

In the event of a more serious incident, clubs are advised to complete a “Accident or Incident Report Form” which can be found here, http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Publications-and-forms/Accidents-and-investigations/Recreational-boat-craft-accident-incident-report-form.pdf.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT
A. Craft operating in sheltered waters (harbours / lakes) or close to shore

1 lifejacket or equivalent personal buoyancy device per crew-member.

   * YNZ strongly urges that these to be worn at all times whilst on the water.

   - Adequate bailer or pumping system
   - Anchor and adequate chain and warp
   - Paddles or oars (or alternative propulsion)
• Signaling equipment - whistle/horn
• Throw rope
• Shackle Spanner
• Screw Driver
• Knife

B. **Craft operating in more exposed waters (out of sight of clubhouse) or on exposed shorelines**

As above, however, extra thought should be given to carriage of:
• VHF (and appropriate operator’s certificate)
• First aid kit
• Fire extinguisher
• Correct navigational lights and torch if operating at night
• Flares
• Suitable fastening for towing

This may involve training, practical demonstration of ability and / or formal qualification, e.g. Yachting New Zealand Learnt to Sail Coach (Dinghy) course, or Coastguard Boating Education ‘Club Safety Boat Operator’ course.

*For more information, contact Yachting New Zealand, www.yachtingnz.org.nz*